

# BULLETIN

## St Pius X Church

### The Epiphany of the Lord - Year C

2 January 2022



Christ our Anchor

## Manning Parish

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

23 Paterson Street, Manning WA 6152

Parish Telephone: 9313 3251

Parish Email: manning@perthcatholic.org.au

Parish Website: manningparish.org.au

#### New Testament Commentary Mary Coloe PBVM



There are many key images in today's Gospel that have their background in the Scriptures. Bethlehem is the small village in which David, the great king of Israel was born, and later anointed by the Prophet Samuel (1 Sam 16). For this reason Matthew quotes the prophet Micah who speaks of a new leader, a shepherd like David to be born in Bethlehem.

The images of the star and Magi look back to the time of Moses. When the people of Israel escaped from Egypt they wandered in the Sinai wilderness before moving up into the region now known as Jordan. This is on the east bank of the Jordan River. In order to travel into the land of Canaan, they had to pass through the region of Moab and the king of Moab did not want this large group to travel through his land. The king called on his seer (magus) to place a curse on the Israelites, but the seer instead pronounced a blessing. This magus from the eastern land of Moab proclaimed, 'I see him but not now; I behold him but not near; a star shall come out of Jacob and a sceptre shall rise out of Israel' (Numbers 24:17). In this episode we have the symbols used by Matthew – a magus in the East, seeing a star, the symbol of kingship. By use of these images Matthew continues to show the links between his new Christian community and the more ancient religion of Israel. Like much of the Gospel narrative, we are challenged to move from reading literally

to reading these narratives seeking their theology rather than history.

Once again I suggest you make the distinction between the joy-filled narrative of Luke, and the threatening atmosphere of Matthew so that the community recognise two different, symbolic narratives. Children in school could even bring Christmas cards and separate the cards that depict Matthew's gospel, from those depicting Luke's story, and those that have mixed them up. This sort of exercise can help even young children learn to look beyond a literal reading.

In the eastern churches this Feast is celebrated as Christmas, for in today's feast Christ is revealed to the Gentiles, the non-Jews. By having foreigners come to the nativity and honour the child, Matthew looks ahead to the later Christian church which by the 80s, when Matthew is writing, has expanded beyond Judaism into the gentile lands. This is our festival, for as non-Jews, we have been brought into the blessing promised to Abraham and extended through the people of Israel to us. This is the message we find in Paul's letter to the Ephesians. God's gracious love has come to the gentiles (the pagans). Paul calls this a mystery – something that reveals the power of God at work – God has come to all people.

The Gospel contrasts wisdom and power. The Magi from the east are called wise and they come searching for Jesus in order to offer homage. It takes wisdom to acknowledge the truth of who we are before the mystery of God's ways. In humility they kneel before a child, seeing here a sign of God's presence. Herod acts with power. He commands and expects obedience. He is the King in Judea and will not tolerate another called 'king of the Jews'. Even the words of the Magi and the prophecies from the Scriptures fail to change his grasp on power. Herod's hands cling to his rule while the hands of the Magi open with gifts for the child.

Grant me this wisdom God, to live with open hands and a heart that seeks your presence.

**Fr Patrick Lim**  
Parish Priest  
Mobile: 0424 979 187  
Email: patrick.lim@perthcatholic.org.au

**Antonia Chandrasegaran**  
Parish Secretary  
Office Telephone: 9313 3251  
Email: manning@perthcatholic.org.au

**Office Hours**  
Tuesday to Friday 9am to 12 noon

## SCHEDULES

### Confession

Saturday 5.00 to 5.30pm  
Or anytime by appointment

### Normal Weekend Masses

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass  
Sunday 7.30am, 9.00am Mass  
& 11.00am Chinese Mass

### Normal Weekday Masses

Monday 8.00am Communion Service  
Tuesday to Saturday 8.00am Mass  
(Check Parish Calendar for Variations)

### Sacrament of Baptism

Saturdays at 10.30am  
**No Baptism during Lent  
Other Time**  
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### Sacrament of Marriage

By appointment with Fr Patrick  
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### SPX Safeguarding Officers

To ensure the safety of children, young people and the vulnerable in the Catholic Church

6pm Vigil Mass – Ryan Gonsalves 0423 708 777

7:30am Mass – Jeevan Joseph 0434 038 353

9am Mass – Barbara Thompson 0408 955 859

11am Chinese Mass

Gregory Lo 0435 383 417, Augustine Lai 0402 185 248, Juliana Tseng 0438 864 689

Email: safeguarding@manningparish.org.au



### St Pius X Primary School

Cnr Ley St and Cloister Ave,

Manning WA 6152

Phone: (08) 9416 5600

Fax: (08) 9416 5601

admin@stpiousx.wa.edu.au

### Melissa Vranjes

New Principal 2021

### Our Motto

At St Pius X Catholic Primary School, the values lived by Jesus Christ are the foundation for everything we do.

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## Office Business OPD

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ROSTER		Weekend 1/2 January	Weekend of 8/9 January
<b>Special Ministers</b>	Sat 6.00pm	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
	Sun 7.30am	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
	Sun 9.00am	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
<b>Readers</b>	Sat 6.00pm	Edwin Carvalho	Krystyna Henderson
	Sun 7.30am	Les Price	David Jenaway
	Sun 9.00am	Shirley Whitfield	Vincent Whyte
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Sat 6.00pm	Volunteers	Volunteers
	Sun 9.00am	Volunteers	Volunteers
<b>Counters</b>		Kas Luczak, G Shankar	Terry & Meagan Scanlan

Parish Calendar		
Jan Mon 3	8.00am	Communion Service (Weekday of Christmas Time) Church
Tue 4	8.00am	Mass (Weekday of Christmas Time) Church
Wed 5	8.00am	Mass (Weekday of Christmas Time) Church
Thu 6	8.00am	Mass (Weekday of Christmas Time) Church
Fri 7	8.00am	Mass (Weekday of Christmas Time) - Church
Sat 8	8.00am	Mass (Weekday of Christmas Time) - Church
	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (Baptism of the Lord - Year C) Church
Sun 9	7.30am	Sunday Mass (Baptism of the Lord - Year C) Church
	9.00am	Sunday Mass (Baptism of the Lord - Year C) Church
	11.00am	Chinese Mass (Baptism of the Lord - Year C) Church



**Line Dancing Classes**  
 Mondays and Wednesdays  
 10am - 12noon - \$5 per session  
 All proceeds go to the Parish  
 This is a community building initiative to keep you fit and active with the help of Francis & Hellen Tay  
 All are welcome; no age limits.  
 Classes recommence Monday 10 Jan 2022



**Tai Chi Group**  
 There will be no Tai Chi Class as of Monday, 13 December and will recommence first week of February 2022.  
 For more information, please contact or text Maurice on 0408 782 224

# Thank You



A sincere thanks to all who gave gifts, cards and greetings for Christmas and the New Year. Thanks for the Christmas Dues that you gave.

Thanks to all who helped with the Christmas Masses - the choirs, the flowers and attendances.

To all Volunteers who made life easier for me during 2021—Pastoral, Finance and Social Committee Members, Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers (we will recommence rostering into Nursing Homes again in 2022), Altar Servers, Choir, Projectionist, Readers, People who wash the church linen, Morning tea providers, Counters, Gardener, and all other helpers.

Your help is very much appreciated.

Wishing all Parishioners and your Families a Safe and Happy 2022.

Fr Patrick



The Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life and the Diocese of Rome are organising the 10th World Meeting of Families, which will take place in 2022 from June 22 to 26.

As the Holy Father underlined in his recent video-message presenting the event, the Meeting will take place following a never-before-seen and multi-centric format. While Rome will in fact remain the main designated location, each diocese will be able to be the centre of a local meeting for families and communities, thus allowing everyone to feel like protagonists.

For more information please check our website for the documents and links if you are interested to participate.



## Manning Parish Youth Quest Youth Ministry

Guiding our youth on a Quest to know, love and serve the Lord.

The youth ministry for the parish is open to youth aged in High School or University, and meet every second Saturday after mass.

Get in touch with us by finding us online at  
<https://www.facebook.com/youth.manningparish/>

**PLEASE TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME - DON'T LEAVE IT BEHIND (COVID-SAFE RULE)**

## First Reading

*Isaiah 60:1-6*

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

## Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13, R. see v.11*

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,  
to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice  
and your poor in right judgement. (R.)
2. In his days justice shall flourish  
And peace till the moon fails.  
He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to earth's bounds. (R.)
3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts  
shall pay him tribute.  
The kings of Sheba and Seba  
shall bring him gifts.  
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,  
all nations shall serve him. (R.)
4. For he shall save the poor when they cry  
and the needy who are helpless.  
He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor. (R.)

## Second Reading

*Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6*

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

## Gospel Acclamation

*Matthew 2:2*

Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

## Gospel

*Matthew 2:1-12*

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

## Reflection for Young People

By Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

The astrologers in the Magi story went through quite a journey in search of the baby Jesus. They obviously believed in him and had faith in the star.

Have you ever 'followed a star'? Have you ever gone after a dream or an ideal you believed in? Are you still going after it? What gives you the energy to keep going? How do you know it is worth it?

The gifts brought by the Magi have significance.

Gold is a symbol of wealth and fidelity.

Frankincense is burned to purify the atmosphere by releasing an aromatic and pleasing smell. For centuries, indigenous people in many countries have burned smoke in order to bless and purify themselves, and monks have watched incense rise to the sky as a symbol of their prayers ascending to God.

Myrrh is a kind of resin or oil used for anointing and embalming. It is a symbol of comfort and soothing (who doesn't enjoy a rub-down?) but it is also a foreshadowing of death.

How were these gifts symbolic for Jesus?

What three gifts would be symbolic of you and your life so far? Explain the symbolism.

## Next Sunday Readings

9 January 2022

The Baptism of the Lord - Year C

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

Help the wise men find their way to Bethlehem - watch out for King Herod!

