

Reflection

The Epiphany is meant to change our Hearts

The wise men's star is on a par with the other images Matthew uses in his Gospel. At the centre of each of the first three chapters of his Gospel there is an extraordinary event. In chapter one Joseph hears the message of an angel in a dream. In chapter two the wise men find Jesus by following a star. And by chapter three the heavens open and God speaks at the baptism of the Lord. By any standards that's quite an opening to a biography! It's all about the manifestation, or epiphany, of God's glory in the world.

The glory is revealed in the first instance to Joseph while he's in bed asleep. The second is to gentile astrologers who, by reporting their news to Herod, set up an immediate threat to Jesus. The third instance is to all those Jews who were coming to hear John the Baptist. Within three chapters of Matthew's Gospel the circles of God's glory revealed in Jesus become more public and change lives. The lives of Joseph, the star gazers, John the Baptist and those who heard Jesus preach will never be the same again.

The Feast of the Epiphany is about how God's glory changes human hearts. T.S. Eliot got this point in his poem 'The journey of the Magi'.

*'Birth or death? There was a Birth, certainly,
We had evidence and no doubt. I had seen birth
and death but had thought they were different; this
Birth was Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death,
our death. We returned to our places, these
Kingdoms, but no longer at ease here, in the old
dispensation, with an alien people clutching their
gods. I should be glad of another death.'*

This feast is meant to change our hearts and enable us to die to self so we can be born to God's glory that shines through us. May we remember that this epiphany is not meant for us alone, but that we are called to go public with it and demonstrate our belief in today's feast by the way we live, the world we help create, and the one we strive to recreate.

Resource used: *Homily*, by Richard Leonard SJ

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MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 6:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am, 6:00pm

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9:30am

Liturgy of the Word with Communion:

Tues 9:30am

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Matthew Garton

Pawsey Circuit Florey

Phone: 6258 3592

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www.sjaps.act.edu.au



Parish Office

will re-open on

Monday 4 January 2021

A New Year Blessing

May I live this year -

Compassionate of heart,
Clear in word,
Gracious in awareness,
Courageous in thought,
Generous in love.

Adapted from *Matins*, in *Benedictus*, by
John O'Donohue

Heart Spirituality

The MSC Spirit

The particular spirit of the Missionaries of the Sacred heart is attachment to the Heart of Jesus, shown by working for his glory especially in the sanctification of souls.

This aim comprises all apostolic works; it extends to community life in a religious house, to the life of a priest in parish ministry.

The Heart of Jesus wants to reign over all souls. His Missionaries should help this reign come about by making use of all people of goodwill according to each one's situation.

Jules Chevalier msc,
(Les Missionnaires du Sacré-Coeur de Jésus, p.10
Bourges, 1866)

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be
everywhere loved.....forever!

Stewardship

Today, we celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord. The Gospel account of the three magi traveling to meet Baby Jesus is one that we know well. Yet, when we pause to reflect on this moment when these men met Christ for the first time, we recognize that there is much to be said for us still today.

When the magi entered the house, it says, "they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage." Clearly these men knew that they were in the presence of their King. They also came bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, which symbolize Christ's kingship, divinity, and humanity.

Christ is still manifesting Himself to us today. We enter God's house weekly, and we are in His presence. When we meet Him, do we offer Him our gifts — our time, talent, and treasure? As Christian stewards, we are called to respond with love, reverence, and gratitude.

Let us prepare our hearts to receive Christ's many manifestations in our lives. We just need a grateful disposition to receive them.

www.catholicsteward.com

THE LIVING REALITY

"No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known". John 1:18

We humans can recognize things only from their opposites. Thus, we see light by its contrast, darkness. So, too, the light of Christ's coming and of his future becomes especially evident by way of contrast with the dark state of the present world. Such contrast brings the nearness of Christ's coming: The light shines into the darkness, which does not receive it; yet neither can the darkness overcome the light.

In the book of Revelation John describes how he beheld the approaching day of judgment and in contrast to it, God's throne of light, the throne of his world of stars, the throne of the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders, the throne in whose midst the Son of man, the Lamb of God, is revealed as the being of light, of all eternal light.

In his vision we see the forces emanating from this throne, the fiery torches and the seven spirits of the Holy Spirit, the crystal sea, and the entire revelation of God's will and of God's heart. We witness how the Spirit of the future lifts-up the humble throng of believers. What was given to Mary, the faith given to her to receive the eternal Word by the action of the Holy Spirit, this action is identical with the Spirit's action in the church. Jerusalem, the city of the dwelling places above, the holy city-church at God's throne, the city which at the end of John's Revelation was shown to be the kingdom of God – this city is now at God's throne in the heavenly dwelling places.

And from this city on high, from this church above, we receive the life of Christ, the true life that is from God. It is from there that we receive forgiveness of sin and the true gathering and uniting in God's peace. From there we receive the actual possibility of making God's kingdom a reality on this earth.

The Living Reality, by Eberhard Arnold [1883 – 1935], is taken from: *When the Time was Fulfilled*. NY, Plough Publishing.

2021 Calendar

January

Friday 8	Parish Office Closed Staff 2021 Planning day
Sunday 10	The Baptism of the Lord
Friday 15	Men's Group
Sunday 17	Installation Mass for Fr. Kimi
Monday 18	Pins & Needles
Tuesday 26	Australia Day Holiday
Friday 29	Anointing after Mass


February

Monday 1	School Returns
Sunday 7	Baptism during 10:00am Mass
Saturday 13	PPC Planning Morning
Monday 15	Pins & Needles
17	Ash Wednesday
Friday 19	Men's Group
Mon 22- Fri 26	Frs. Kimi and Michael Away

BOOKING FOR WEEKEND MASSES

To assist the parish office, manage COVID-19 regulations we need parishioners to do two things.

1. Use CBR App
2. Use Trybooking to register

1.  CBR App helps ACT Health with tracking the spread of Coronavirus.

2.  registration for attendance at mass assists the parish office in the management of numbers allowed to attend Mass within the available space in the church whilst maintaining physical distancing of 2 square metres.

We need you to use both.

Please register for Mass using the Trybooking link and sign in using the CBR App and the sign in sheet.



Recently Deceased:

Terry O'Gorman, [husband of Pauline deceased]

Anniversary: Margaret McCallion, Hannah Mecham, Joseph Davis, Nita Smith, Clarice O'Callaghan, Kevin McMahon, Geoffrey Bogg, Willy Raadts, Florence Anthony, Kathryn Jones, Charles Taylor, Therese Markham, Barry Dwyer, Ken Lorraway, Pauline Burt, Cooper McDonald, Jamie Bourke, Mary Gorey, John Machin, John Burt, Mary Costelloe, Edna Lydon, Virginia Policarpio

Christmas Thank you.....

The Liturgy team would like to thank all those who were involved in the Christmas Masses for 2020. A thank you also to the flower ladies for the beautiful flower arrangements during Advent and Christmas, and to the parish team for all their support during 2020.

Blessings and peace for 2021

Sabina Van Rooy - Liturgy Coordinator

Tribunal of the Catholic Church

Marriage breakdown is usually a traumatic experience for all those concerned with many divorcees unsure of the validity of this marriage within the Catholic Church. The Church reaches out in support of those whose marriage has broken down, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. If you are divorced or in the process of finalising your divorce and would like information about the annulment process, please contact the Tribunal on 6239 9813 or by email tribunal@cg.org.au. All enquiries remain confidential to the Tribunal.

January Baptisms

We welcome Amira Ding, daughter of Vivien and Kane.

Amira will be Baptised during the 10:00am Mass.



"Be on earth the Heart of God"

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Baptisms	1st & 3rd Sun during 10:00am Mass
Reconciliation	Sat 5:00pm – 5:30pm
Sacramental Program	Contact Parish Office
School of Religion (Parish Centre)	Sunday 9.15am during school term

PRAYER LIFE

Charismatic Prayer: Maida: 0423 658 326	Thursday 7:30pm Rosary 7:00pm
Meditation	Friday 6.15-7.15 pm
Rosary	Monday – Friday 9:05am
Eucharistic Adoration	1 st Friday of the Month 8:00pm – 9:00pm
Adult Choir	Wednesday 7:30pm

SOCIAL LIFE

Coffee Club	Fourth Sunday after 10:00am Mass
Over 45's	Last Wednesday of the Month 9:30am Mass and morning tea
Pins & Needles	3 rd Monday of the Month 7:15pm Parish Library
Book club	3 rd Sunday of the Month 3:00pm Parish Library
Women's Breakfast	4 th Tuesday of the Month 7:30am Lucky Shot Espresso Bar Kippax
Youth Group	AGAPE - First & Third Sunday after 6:00pm Mass Parish Centre
Men's Group	3 rd Friday of the Month 6:00pm Parish Centre

SMOKE FREE ZONE

There is a 4-metre smoke free zone from the entrance and exits of the church buildings. Thank you



Hearing Loop: in the central body of the church.



TAP & GO –

The donation amount is set at \$10. As Tap & Go is anonymous, we have no way of identifying who has made the donation, so we are unable to provide a tax receipt



Donations to the 1st & 2nd Collections at St John the Apostle Parish can now be made using **Qkr**

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East;
And have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

Readings – 10 January 2021

First Reading	Is 55:1-11
Psalm	Is 12:2-6
Second Reading	1 Jn 5:1-9
Gospel	Mark 1:7-11

10 January Reading Roster

6:00pm	Mary French, Therese Kercher
8:30am	Sigrid Kropp, Mariana Rollgejser
10:00am	Erin Trevaskis, Dennis Puniard
6:00pm	Brian Mahony, Joe Ots

10 January Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Anthony and Chitra Jayawardena
8:30am	Brian Green, Margaret Stanford, Shane Murtagh, Peter Polkinghorne
10:00am	Anthony Noakes, Frank Colley, Margarete Gill
6:00pm	Marian Crowley, Margaret Curry, Andrew Webster, Andrew Luck

10 January Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Jenny Maher
8:30am	Mandy Lalor
10:00am	Judy Kenny
6:00pm	Kay Dwyer

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	4 Jan	Margaret Ferguson
Grounds	9 Jan	Allan Laycock, Rob Breen, Mike Blyth, Dennis Puniard
Church Cleaning:	4 Jan	John O'Heir, Pat Keenan, Debbie and Ted Milne

On a Lighter note

The 3 stages of man:

He believes in Santa Claus.

He doesn't believe in Santa Claus.

He is Santa Claus.

Apparently, thieves missed the "Thou shalt not steal" part of the Ten Commandments. According to experts, the Bible is the most commonly stolen book.