



*Sunday 7 January—Solemnity of the Epiphany*

## **Holy Name Catholic Parish**

DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

35 Billyard Avenue Wahroonga 2076

Web | [www.holynamewahroonga.com.au](http://www.holynamewahroonga.com.au)



### **Welcome!**

A very warm welcome to anyone visiting our parish. It is good to have you with us. If you have any questions or would like to know more about our community at Holy Name please visit our parish website at [www.holynamewahroonga.com.au](http://www.holynamewahroonga.com.au).

We hope you enjoy your time here at Holy Name Wahroonga. Please visit us again soon.

What may have happened to the resolutions we made last weekend? As we know New Year resolutions often fade as quickly as they are made. In some ways, they are little like the great flares we saw on New Year's Eve itself. The rocket into prominence but they do not endure; they provide a great blast of spectacular energy but they ever so quickly become but a memory. Indeed, after the extravaganza of New Year's Eve it is good for us to make a distinction between stars and flares. A star endures; a flare extinguishes itself almost as quickly as it lights up the sky. Flares also make it very difficult to see the true stars.

In our own life, are we relying on flares? Or are we following a star? And what star are we following?

The true star that we follow as disciples of Jesus, born for us now as yesterday as forever, is the Kingdom of God. This is the start that guides us, on which we keep focussed and which helps us negotiate our way through the Herodian politics of our own time. It is the star which also helps keep us to our true course in the midst of our own grand plans and our own Herodian plans of how things should be. As followers of Jesus, this is the star which shines more brightly than all the others.

Yet, in the Christmas story, it is important for us not to forget where the star which guides our life, leads us. The star the wise men are following leads them to an unexpected place: it leads them to a stable – not quite the place kings would expect go find something. So, in our own search for Jesus, we are led to the stables of our own life. The star, the light of Jesus, which guides us must lead us to those places in our society, in our family, in our personalities which, at first, seem so ordinary, almost disdainful, where we would not expect to see the splendour of God. Where would we least expect to find God in our own personalities and in our life together? Maybe that is where the star of the Kingdom of God comes to rest. It is these places that we must approach with reverence and expectation, just as the wise men from the East walked into the stable at Bethlehem and recognised in the fragility of a baby the wonder of God's presence, and in the insecurity of a stable, the palace of a Kingdom beyond imagination. At these places in our life where we would least expect to find God, a hidden truth awaits to reveal itself. We need to spend time at these places waiting, deeply attentive to what might manifest itself there which invites us into vitality and freshness of spirit. This is slow soul work. It is searching work and involves a journey of our spirits as it did for the men from the East. Are we prepared to set out on a journey along with the men from the East? Or do we prefer to stay in the comfort of our past, fearful of where the star might be leading us? In the midst of all the flares going off around us, and within us, let us keep our eyes and our journey fixed on one star, the Kingdom of God, whose court forever remains a stable. Let us go there with those who are wise in humility and with a great sense of wonder. Is it not amazing that this is where our star should lead us? Is it not amazing that this is where God himself reveals himself, indeed, as our saviour?

Fr. David

*We seek to grow as a Welcoming and Inclusive Community,  
supporting Life's Journey,  
through God's Grace and Mercy*

## *Parish Masses This Week*

Monday	8 January	9.15am Mass	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. <b>The End of the Christmas Season</b>
Tuesday	9 January	9.15am Mass	Weekday of Ordinary Time 1
Wednesday	10 January	9.15am Mass	Weekday of Ordinary Time 1
Thursday	11 January	9.15am Mass	Weekday of Ordinary Time 1
Friday	12 January	9.15am Mass	Weekday of Ordinary Time 1
Saturday	13 January	5.00pm Mass	Vigil of the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday	14 January	9.15am, 5.30pm Mass	2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



**Our Children's Liturgy Resumes in 2018**

## *Please Remember in your Prayers*

### **RECENTLY DECEASED**

Margaret Couch (Paul's mother, 25 December, aged 93), Dr Tom Macken, Molly Goldsworthy (sister of Chris Madden, 19 December), Joan McNalley (mother of Greg, 19 December, aged 100), Joe DeGuara, (Father of Damian), Neville (George) Thornton (Jackie's father in law, 15 December, aged 98), Barry Fields (brother of Helen Tysoe), Yvonne Pickup (14 December), Priscilla Sebastian (2 December), Frances Sim (30 November), Brian Muir (former parishioner, 30 November, friend of Jennifer and Barry Clibborn), Theophilus Allen, Marie Shortis (27 November), Kathleen Bosch (24 November, in USA, sister of Mike), Adrian Forsyth, Swarna Perera (Lucian Wijetunga's sister, 14 November), Winifred (Wyn) Grainger (sister of Dennis Robson, died in England, aged 96 years), James Gray (grandson of Edda Fragiaco and son of Sylvia Fragiaco/Gray), Martin Flood Snr (husband of Gai, father of Marty and Gemma, died 20th October).

### **RECENT ANNIVERSARIES**

Jacqui Hunter (birthday on 11 January), Tim O'Brien (8 January), Emila Nassa (7th anniversary, 6 January), Mario Severino (26 December), Tony Coutinho (4th anniversary on 16 December), Muemile Nassar (anniversary 6 January), Elisha Foti (4 January), Terry Goldrick (Chris' father, 3rd anniversary on 7 December), Angela Papaluca (20th anniversary on 10th November), Toufic Kassis (father of John Kassis, 50th anniversary on 16 November), Samir Nader (brother in law of John Kassis, 12th anniversary on 29 November), Hamid Marzouki (brother in law of John Kassis, 28th anniversary on 1 November), Raj Hugh Cooray (brother of Eleanor Cooray, 1st anniversary 27 October), Melba Cincotta (Trish Maiolo's mother, 4th anniversary on 23 October), Dr Joseph Couch (Paul's father, 8th anniversary on 25 October), Genevieve Mangos (granddaughter of Pam Gallagher, 6th anniversary on 20 October), Dr Anthony Lopes (brother/brother-in-law of Quinnie & Tony Machado-3rd anniversary on 19 October), John Vince (Cecilia Kean's father, 32nd anniversary on the 9 October), Monica Foote (Patrice Buzinskas' Mum, 8th Anniversary on 9 October).

### **PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Mary Salter, Liz Rodgers (friend of the Waldron's in Melbourne), Steve Ralph, Rose Paton (friend of Pam Gallagher), Doris Buzinskas, Christopher Anderson, Vera Priestley (mother of Candy Cosgriff), Pat MacMillan, Alex Koroknay (Pam's husband), Lucy Chee (David's mother), Jim Clayton (Fran's father-in-law), Gus Almgren, Madeleine Ryan, Gabrielle Flood, Mary Greco (friend of Eleanor Cooray), Grant Jepson, Noeline Mannix, Madeleine Reicher (granddaughter of Patricia Cox), Philip Stanley, Thomas Nash, Raymond McGarry (brother of John), Catherine McManamey, Donna Lucas, Andrew Watson, Ross Truda, Frances Hall, Anne Sutcliffe (Walter's wife), Brian Macmillan (Pat's brother in NZ), Jack Graham (son of Peter and Ali Graham), Khanh Nguyen (brother of Judy Bohlsen, in the US), Helen Gait (wife of Tom), Matthew Ho (father of Caroline Ho), Maggie Henriks, Kevin Madden (brother of Chris), Priya Amernath, Ferdie Moraza (nephew of Rose Planas), Fay Partridge, Sandra Perera and Wilma Arndt (friends of Sri Wijetunga), Gamini Beneregama (Eleanor Cooray's brother in law in Melbourne), Katie Amor (grand-daughter of Norma and Athol Higgins), Lillian Whitty, Mary Gibbs, Chad Walkaden, Noelene Burke, Eunice Spangaro, Maureen Ritchard, Margaret Comensoli (Bishop Peter's mother), Martin McCreton (brother and brother in law of Conor and Leila McCreton), Ricki Hayes (friend of Cecilia Kean), Margaret Hayes, baby Kendal, Reginald Broderick, Denise Waudby (Patrice Buzinskas' sister), Michael Walsh, Caoimhe Browne, Murray Howe, George Dunne, Sue Roche.



## Parish Diary in the Coming Week

Monday	8 January	9.15am	Mass for the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Anniversary of Tim O'Brien
Tues-Wed	9-10 January		Fr David in Tasmania
Friday	12 January		No Holy Hour through the month of January

### *Epiphany in the Eastern Church*

by Very Rev Nicon D Patrinos

In the Orthodox calendar the feast of the Epiphany is called 'Theophania', meaning the manifestation of God. Epiphany is the most ancient feast, after Easter, relating to the Lord and is observed by the Christian Church on January 6. The first evidence attesting to the feast of the Epiphany comes from Clement of Alexandria who died about 215 AD. He relates that a Gnostic group observed the Baptism of our Lord on January 6 believing that it was at the time of Baptism that Divinity took the flesh in Christ. The date of January 6 was selected because according to some ancient reckoning the day began to grow longer on that date and so it was celebrated by pagans as the day of victory of light over darkness. In Rome, though, the day of the birth of the Invincible Sun was celebrated on December 25. In both East and West and practically at the same time, these two pagan festivals were replaced by a Christian feast signifying the epiphany (manifestation) 'of the sun of justice' and 'of the true light of the world'.

The 25th of December began to be celebrated in Rome as the day of the Epiphany (Nativity), while in the East January 6 remained as the Epiphany day including both the Nativity and Baptism of our Lord. By the end of the 4th century, the 25th of December as the day of the Nativity was adopted in most of the East, and January 6 remained as the feast of our Lord's Baptism. When the Eastern Epiphany day was introduced in the West, the already celebrated Nativity on December 25th remained as such, and January 6th, although accepted as the day of Baptism, took the character of manifestation of Christ's Divinity to the pagan world. Hence, the Magi, figuratively representing the entire heathen world, were taken to be the recipients of the saving grace of the newly manifested Christ. It is only the Armenian Church in the East that still celebrates the Nativity and Epiphany together on January 6.

The most characteristic feature of the Orthodox day of Epiphany, or Theophania, is the sanctifying of waters by invoking the Spirit that appeared in the form of a dove over Christ at the time of His Baptism. The Orthodox receive sanctified water at the end of the special service of Epiphany and with it sanctify their homes, gardens, and other possessions while some preserve it for the entire year partaking of it at times of illness and other personal or family adversities. The twelve days between the Nativity of our Lord, December 25th, and the day of the Epiphany, January 6th, is called Dodekaemeron (twelve festal days) and is considered to be one continuous festive period. On December 26th, the Virgin Mary who gave birth to our Lord is honoured, and on January 1, the day of Circumcision of our Lord is celebrated. The festive character of the period is observed by abolishing all kinds of fasts, apart from the day prior to the Epiphany when the service of the Great Agiasmos is performed.

#### **Lord and God!**

**You created us for a lifelong journey to you.**

**Each one of us takes a different path, over mountains and through valleys, through joy and sorrow and need.**

**May the three Holy Kings guide us in our wanderings, as their faith, knowledge and determination guided them through many perils on their journey to you.**

**They saw you, knelt before you, offered up their gifts, and paid homage to you. They were filled with the joy of finding you.**

**Lord and God!**

**We thank you for granting us the freedom to seek and find you, our life's goal.**

**Grant us the faith, strength and trust we need to follow in the path of the three kings.**

**Give us the courage when we are at risk of taking easier but false paths.**



# Parish Contact Information and Mass Times

Parish Priest	Fr David Ranson PP, VG	david.ranson@dbb.org.au
Parish Secretary	Mrs. Jackie Thornton	secretary@holynamewahroonga.com.au
Sacramental Coordinator	Mrs. Sally Oong	sacrament@holynamewahroonga.com.au
Office Hours	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8.30am—5pm	
Phone	(02) 9489 3221	
Postal Address	P O Box 385 Wahroonga NSW 2076	
Prouille School	5 Water Street Wahroonga NSW 2076	
School Principal	Mrs. Susan Bevan	
Phone	(02) 9489 3233	
School Website	www.prouilledbb.catholic.edu.au	
Sacristan and Co-ordinator Altar Society	Mrs. Rosalie Talty	
CCD Coordinator	Mrs. Cecilia Kean	
Eucharist Ministry to the Sick Coordinators	Mr. John Boswell; Mr. Chris Madden; Mr. Paul Sutherland (Housebound)	
Weekend Ministries Coordinator	Mr. Chris Goldrick	goldrick@bigpond.net.au/ 0450 963 596

## Weekend Masses:

Saturday 5.00pm

Sunday 9.15am and 5.30pm.

**Mass on Tuesday to Friday:** 9.15am

Rosary after Mass on Tuesday

Morning Tea after Mass on Wednesday

Special Intercessions/intentions remembered at Friday Mass.

**Friday evening:** Holy Hour from 7.00pm (not in January)

## Mass is also celebrated:

Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara: Monday 9.30am

St Leo's College: 12.55pm Friday during school terms

## Eucharistic Adoration is available in the Aquinas Chapel:

Tuesdays and Fridays from 10.00am – 6.00pm

(Vespers with Dominican Lay Chapter 3.00pm on 2nd Sunday)

## Baptism:

Every second and fourth Sunday of the month at 11.00am.  
Please make an appointment through the Parish Office

## Marriage:

By appointment, at least six months in advance.

## Sick Calls:

Any time day or night.

Please call 0408 350 885 out of office hours

## Confessions:

Saturday 11.30am or by appointment

## Sacrament of Anointing:

Last Thursday of the month following the 9.15am Mass  
At Hammond Care, North Turramurra monthly

## Parish Pastoral Council in 2018

Ken Laing, Kerri Donovan, Rachel Mitchell, Lauren Montgomery, Tim Quilty, Janet Walker, Gemma McDermott, Tom Waugh, Lucian Wijetunga, Giovanna Flores-Clarke, along with Sue Bevan (Prouille) and Vanessa Dillon (St Lucy's)

## Parish Finance Committee in 2018

Marinela Mendes, Tony Monardo, Brian McGarry, Robyn Elizondo

## Parish Fundraising Committee

Noel Kean (Chair), Alan Amodeo, Meredith Baume, Kevin Figueiredo, Jo Karaolis

**Thank you for your financial contribution to the support of our Parish Community and its priests—it is very much appreciated.**

- The 1st Collection taken up at Mass goes to the Clergy Remuneration Fund for the financial support of the priests.
- The 2nd Collection taken up at Mass is for the upkeep of the Parish.

We invite you to help our Parish by committing to a Planned Giving scheme. Please see the parish office for the way you can participate in this. Another way to assist our parish is to consider a gift in your will. Your gift of any size will help our parish continue our good works & outreach. Please contact the parish office for a confidential discussion or more information. (Alternatively see the "giving" pages at [www.dbb.org.au](http://www.dbb.org.au))

## Donation by Electronic Transfer

Wahroonga Catholic Parish Account BSB: 062-784 Account No: 1389 8001 CBA- 48 Martin Place, Sydney

**EFTPOS Available in Parish Office**

**Do be sure to take a copy home of "Our Sunday Celebration" available at the entrances to our church.**

Inside there is much wonderful reading for our spiritual nourishment.

Would you like to receive our Parish Bulletin by email? Please contact our Parish Secretary  
[secretary@holynamewahroonga.com.au](mailto:secretary@holynamewahroonga.com.au)

Do you need a lift to Mass? Be sure to let our Parish Office know and we will seek to assist you.