



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH

The Epiphany of the Lord

Year B Cycle II

7 January 2024



Our Journey

In this Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 2:1-12, we hear the story of the wise men who travelled from the East to bring gifts to the newborn King, Jesus. This passage reminds us of the importance of giving and receiving gifts, especially during the holiday season and the start of the new year. However, there is also a deeper message in this passage about the role of community in our lives. The wise men did not travel alone, but as a group, supporting each other on their journey and working together to find the Christ child. Their shared sense of purpose and faith not only brought them to the manger but also brought them closer to each other as a community.

As we begin a new year, we can reflect on the importance of community in our own lives. We cannot journey alone but need the support and encouragement of those around us to help us reach our goals and fulfil our purpose. We can give and receive gifts not only as individuals but also as members of a larger community, sharing our talents and resources to make a positive impact on the world.

Let us take inspiration from the wise men and their journey and seek to build strong and supportive communities in our own lives. May we be generous in giving and receiving gifts, and may we work together towards a common goal of our parish becoming a beacon of Faith, Hope and Love.

Colleen Smith *Pastoral Associate*

Welcome Visitors!

A very warm welcome to anyone visiting our parish this Christmas. It is good to have you with us. Our parish family wishes everyone the blessings of the Season, for your time at The Entrance. We hope you enjoy the lovely surrounds of the Central Coast.

If you have any queries during the holiday break please speak to our Parish Priest, Fr Brian, our Assistant Priest, Fr Joshi, our Deacon, Paul, or our Seminarian, Rosan, after the Masses. For any other enquiries, the parish office is open Monday to Friday 9:30am to 5pm.



Feast Days this Week

The Baptism of the Lord

Monday 8 January

Mass will be celebrated at 9am instead of a Communion Service.



Welcome

to the Richardson Cannane & Tofilau families for the Reception of their children for the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Catholic Weekly

The Catholic Weekly

Now on sale on the Church tables.
\$2 to the poor box please.



Quote for the Week

*Action is the
antidote to
despair.*

Joan Baez

The World has been Changed

In the Christmas story, we discover our identity as a people who follow Jesus and are his disciples. The beauty of the scene at the manger captures the hope of the Christ Child and the joy that is proclaimed each Christmas.

Twelfth Night is the night when people traditionally take down the Christmas trees and put away the time-honoured decorations for another year. It is a moment often tinged with sadness as families and visitors have now departed. The Three Kings, who have been moving towards the crib, now take their proud place near Jesus, Mary and Joseph. This intimate scene is explained to children who wonder at the sight of the crib.

Caspar bears the gold for a king, Melchior the frankincense for a deity, Balthasar the myrrh whose scent leads us towards the tomb at Easter. Yet the cold of the tomb will give way to Christ's glorious rising from the dead.

The Magi bearing their gifts have followed the star that appeared as a mysterious sign in the night sky. They travelled from the East over mountain and desert. In their longing to understand the meaning of this twinkling light, they persevered on their hard journey through very long, cold nights and short days. Tiredness and weariness must have been part of their wintry journey.

They enter the house of the Holy Family where they see the Child with his mother Mary and his protector Joseph. Their house has the welcome and warmth of a home that is full of love. They are offered hospitality in the Eastern custom. They bow low and offer their gifts to the innocent and fragile Child who is utterly dependent on his mother and St Joseph. They pay homage to the new king. They see both a baby and a king. There is a poverty in the simple scene but also a richness, because the presence of the Christ Child fills the whole room. They recognise him as their God.

They know that their world has been changed and they no longer fit into the world in the same way. They are not sure what this will mean for their future. They begin to find the meaning of the Messiah who will save his people in the Jewish scriptures. They know in their hearts that this is the Child they have met. All people have been sent a redeemer who will free them from their sins. He has been born in poverty in Bethlehem and will proclaim the coming of God's kingdom. The Magi learn that he will save all people by his death and resurrection and that they will have life in this world and eternal life in the next.

As we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, we affirm our belief in Jesus Christ, true God and true man, light of the nations. We confess our belief that he is the Saviour of all people. We unite as Christians of East and West in our belief that the message of Christ gives hope and joy to all who believe. We bow down and pay him homage.

We thank God for the faith that has been handed down to us, whether from grandparents, within families, by friends, or by helpful priests and religious. We name in prayer those people who have sustained us in our faith and helped us in the difficult times.

As we move into the new year, let us make our new resolutions, perhaps to read the scriptures daily, to pray the rosary, maybe to be generous in almsgiving. Let us choose to deepen our faith and love this new year.

Sunday Living Word Majellan Media

Our Broken Bay Priests' Christmas Lunch

The Priests, a Bishop, Deacons and Seminarians of our Central Coast Deanery, retired and active, headed by Fr Brian (31 in total), celebrated a joyful Christmas lunch together in December in our parish centre. It is good for them to enjoy their brotherhood at this special and very busy time of the year. We wish them all a blessed year for 2024.



Pope's Prayer Intentions for January

The Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer his request and join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention.

For the gift of Diversity in the Church:

We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.

Catholic Mission Appeal next Weekend



With Timor-Leste's fragile infrastructure, reliance on local health practices, and limited access to medical care, many health conditions only worsen, and sadly can result in death.

Next week Catholic Mission will offer you the opportunity to partner with the Sr Carolina and the Salesian Sisters in Venilale, Timor-Leste, where your gift can help continue a life-saving program to address this reality.

We hope you will take this opportunity to make an incredible impact for those in need. Envelopes will be available on the pews and may be added to the collections or Freecall 1800 257 296 or catholicmission.org.au/timor

Please Note

Divine Mercy Retreat Centre Residential Retreats

The Divine Mercy Centre at Sommersby has a full schedule of Residential Retreats for 2024. Please see information tables and noticeboards.

Classes for Seniors

CatholicCare will be running Brain Games and Gentle Exercises again on Mondays. Brain Games from 11.00am-12.00pm, Let's Get Moving from 12.15pm-1.15pm. Classes will be held in the Brogan Room. You can join any time and a free trial lesson is available for all parishioners. Bookings essential (02) 9481 2659.



Low Gluten Hosts

Please see one of the Priests before Mass if you are a coeliac.



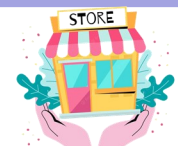
Offertory Procession

Children are encouraged to take part in the Offertory Procession. Come to the Offertory Table when invited by the Acolytes.



Kneeler Warning

If you are long-legged you may like to place the kneeler down behind you to avoid it being knocked down on someone's toes.



Shop Locally

Please support the shops in the Carnival Hall building in the Town Centre. These shops support our parish.

THE ENTRANCE PARISH DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

A beacon of Faith, Hope and Love

PARISH PRIEST & DEAN OF THE CENTRAL COAST Fr Brian Moloney **ASSISTANT PRIEST** Fr Joshi Naduppura
DEACON Paul Simmons **SEMINARIAN** Rosan Mathew **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE** Colleen Smith
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Leanne McGill **PROPERTY MAINTENANCE MANAGER** Karen Green
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Email info@ourladyoftherosary.org.au **Facebook** Our Lady of the Rosary Parish The Entrance
OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PRIMARY SCHOOL Tel 7256 2115 **ST PETER'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE** Tel 4351 2344

Mass & Devotions

Sunday Masses Saturday Vigil 5:00pm Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am (11am at Reynolds Court, Bias Ave Bateau Bay)

Weekday Masses Monday - Thursday 9:00am Friday 11:45am Saturday 9:00am

Reconciliations Saturdays 9:30-10am and 4-4:30pm

Liturgy of the Hours Saturday 8:40am **Rosary** Monday-Thursday 8:35am Friday 11:20am Saturday 9:30am

Cenacle Prayer Group Wednesday 9:30am **Christian Meditation** Friday 10:30am-11:30am Reynolds Room

The Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

Entrance Antiphon: Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

Responsorial 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!

Communion Antiphon: We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

Keep Us In Your Prayers *There is no gift more precious than prayer - Fr Benedict Groeschel*

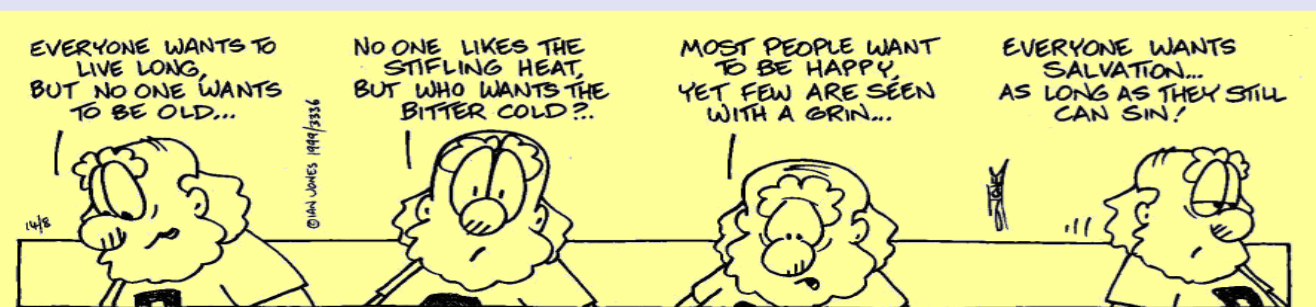
Recently Deceased: Fr Bill Aliprandi, Jill Trotter, June Marsh-Hughes, Carolyn Finch.

Remembrances: Pat Smith, Marie Powell, Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, Terence & Josephine Smith, Terry Howard, John Giutronich, Frank & George Grech, Joe Bond and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Families: Grech, Zahra, Grima, Cassar, Sciberras, Camilleri, Falzon, Patterson.

Sick: John McClement, Margaret Falzon, Martin Ghirxi, Susan Simmons, Barbara Greaney, Anne & Trish Knoke, Lyle Dunn, Paul Smith, Anne O'Rourke, Collette O'Grady, Emma Horton, Marc Sabat, Linda Read, Peter O'Grady, Tanya Doorn, Kelly Will, and all with serious illness.

Pearly Gates Revisited



Our Lady of the Rosary

GIFT
CENTRE

For all your devotional needs...

We Are Back!

The Gift Centre is open again each weekend before and after the 5pm Vigil Mass on Saturdays, and before and after the 9:30am Mass on Sundays.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Enquiries 4332 2216