



THE BULLETIN

5 JANUARY 2025

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Wise Men Still Seek Him by Mark Missman



We have come from the East to worship the king.
This Sunday's Gospel – Matthew 2:1-12

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GLAD YOU'RE HERE

Welcome

A very warm welcome to you, especially to anyone new and 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 Our Lady of Dolours please contact us at 02 9410 9000 or email us at chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au - we would love to hear from you!

Shorter bulletins will carry us through until the weekend of January 25-26, when we'll resume our full-length bulletin.

Fr David is currently on leave and sends his warmest regards to everyone!

First Saturday Rosary returns this Saturday at 3 PM in the forecourt.

Lunar New Year Tickets for pre-purchasing food and drinks are now available—skip the queue! Don't forget to join the raffle for a chance to win amazing prizes.

Thank you to Lourdes Davies for sponsoring this week's beautiful flowers in remembrance of her husband, David Davies, and her mother, Inocenta Bohol Castillo.

Special thanks also to Mega Tio for sponsoring the lovely flowers for the church during Christmas.

For any inclusions to next week's bulletin, please email your content to Olivia at Olivia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au by the close of business on Wednesday.



On the sacred lands of God, under the faithful custodianship of the Cammeraygal people.

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD / C

5 JANUARY 2025

THEY OFFERED HIM GIFTS. For some Christians the feast of Epiphany is the day on which gifts are exchanged. As we observe the wise men opening their treasures in today's Gospel and offering gifts to Jesus, we can ask: what precious gifts can we offer to Jesus today? We may not have gold, frankincense and myrrh but we have our love, our fidelity, our time. We can give these to Jesus by giving them to those in need.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

cf. Mal 3:1; 1 Chron 19:12

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

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom: Lord have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You come in word and in sacrament to strengthen us and make us holy: Christ have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You will come again in glory with salvation for your people: Lord have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

GLORIA

Glorify God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT

P. O God, who on this day revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in your mercy, that we, who know you already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isa 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

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 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.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 71:1-2, 7-13

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

Eph 3:2-3, 5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

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.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 2:2

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

GOSPEL

Mt 2:1-12

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

We have come from the East to worship the King.

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

**I believe in God, / the Father almighty, /
Creator of heaven and earth, / and in
Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, /
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, /
born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under
Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and
was buried; / he descended into hell; /
on the third day he rose again from the
dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is
seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty; / from there he will come to
judge the living and the dead. / I believe
in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic
Church, / the communion of saints, / the
forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of
the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*After the priest raises the paten with the bread
and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to
each prayer:*

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that
my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to
God, the almighty Father.

**R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at
your hands for the praise and glory of his
name, for our good and the good of all
his holy Church.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Look with favour, Lord, we pray, on these
gifts of your Church, in which are offered
now not gold or frankincense or myrrh, but
he who by them is proclaimed, sacrificed and

received, Jesus Christ. Who lives and reigns
for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE OF EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

After the Preface, we sing or say:

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

**All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.**

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by
divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray . . .

**All: For the kingdom, the power and the
glory are yours now and for ever.**

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said . . .

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace

LAMB OF GOD

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world, grant us peace.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who
takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are
those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**R. Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *cf. Mt 2:2*

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Go before us with heavenly light, O Lord,
always and everywhere, that we may
perceive with clear sight and revere with true
affection the mystery in which you have
willed us to participate. Through Christ our
Lord.

R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

FOLLOWING THE STAR

In the ancient world, stars were seen as living creatures. They had their own energy and life cycle, offered navigational movement and were gazed upon and studied for life's direction. Our story today is taken up with star gazers seeking the one to whom one particular star ("his star") refers. For the Israelites, God controlled astral energy and movement. These easterners, perhaps Zoroastrian Persian astrologers, called "Magi", follow "his star" which directs them to the newborn Jesus. He is the focus of their search. Consultation with the Jewish scriptures through Herod's appointees confirms the direction of their astral search—to Bethlehem.

While Matthew notes Herod's jealousy towards any other claimant to royalty, a fact which the first-century Jewish writer, Josephus, also affirms, our attention, like that of the Magi, is on the star. It halts over a house where the birth of the child has taken place. Jesus, like all Jewish babies, is born in a house, albeit the stable of a house, an important reminder at Christmas time when St Francis' crib scenes are displayed in our churches.

The Magi offer him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, symbols of Jesus' nature: his royalty (gold), divinity (frankincense) and mortality (myrrh). The three gifts later gave rise to the thought of three Magi, who eventually become named (Melchior, Caspar, Balthazar) with one (Caspar) being dark skinned. This later development affirms the attraction of all people to Jesus, including non-Jewish and those of oriental backgrounds. Like the Magi, we, too, are attracted to stars. We are all on the search to follow that star that leads us to Jesus.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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IN OUR PRAYERS WE REMEMBER:

Our loved ones who have **recently passed away**:

Laurie Wilson (husband of Trish); Vosita Katonivere (aunty of the Lee family).

Our loved ones who are **sick**:

Anne Avery; Mila Fidel; Onni Wong; Victor Chun Kau Ng (husband of Dilia Ng); Eileen Swinsburg; Su de Sousa; Xu He Ooi; Carmel Villanueva; Marianne (Binnie) Tan; Mr Gurung (father of Om Gurung); Colleen Baker (sister of Margaret Day); Delfin Mendoza; Karen Forbes; Irene Margaret; Ying Leong Fong; Laila Haddad; Linda Yip; Lonnie Chu; Minnie Walshe; Maria Taylor; Ban Le Llamas; Sally Luxton; Sr Marie Dayton; Giselle Clark; Judith Ryan; Thomas West; Lucy Rodriguez; Gillian Hawkins; Donna Fernandez; Allison Roberts; Zac Vlasic; Helen Coutts-Trotter (sister of Terry Meagher); Teddy Malapira; Kristen O'Loan; Mitch East; Victor Villanueva Herriquez; Johnson Siu; Joseph Bonnici; Bill Piper; Frank Hallissy; John O'Brien; Gerard De Leon; Carlos De Leon; Mary Kin-Soon Ng; Bonnie Leung; John Tiorg and family; Esther Grant and family.

Our loved ones, **at rest with God, whose anniversaries fall at this time**:

George Menzalopian; departed souls within the Gazoyan, Zarkarian and Menzalopian families; Wibowo Haryanto (father of Yuliana); Mollie Curtin (mother of David Curtin); Christopher Dignam (son of Maureen & Michael Dignam); Theo Cowell; David Davies (husband of Lourdes); Inocenta Bohol Castillo (mother of Lourdes).

Lunar New Year 2025 Raffle Prizes

Raffle drawn on 2 February 2025 around 12:00 noon at the forecourt of Our Lady of Dolours Church Chatswood

- 1st Prize: \$500 Coles Gift Card
- 2nd Prize: A night for 2 at Fairmont Resort Blue Mountain
- 3rd Prize: 1 Day Spiritual Retreat for 2 at JISA Pymble
- 4th Prize: \$300 Myers Gift Card
- 5th Prize: Whale Watch for 2 in Sydney
- 6th Prize: \$200 Uniqlo Gift Card
- 7th Prize: \$150 Voucher Mr Fat Duck Restaurant Chatswood
- 8th Prize: 1.5 hour Spiritual Retreat for 2 at JISA Pymble

Trybooking QR code for buying raffle available now



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RAFFLE PRICES

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AT CHURCH FOYER BEFORE AND AFTER
WEEKEND MASS FROM 16 NOV 2024

Contact: amelia.lee@bbcatholic.org.au or 9410 9032

Head to Try booking to pre purchase your food and drink tickets
and beat the lines on the day!

Please Join Us
in taking down our
Christmas decorations

Wednesday
January 8 6PM

with Fr Joey!

FAMOUS CHINESE BIBLE QUOTE

他們走進屋內，看見嬰兒和他的母親瑪利亞，遂俯伏
朝拜了他。
瑪竇福音2:11

On entering the house they saw the child with
Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves
and did him homage. **Matthew 2:11**

JANUARY FORMATION FOR ADULTS

In late January we will be running a formation
retreat for adults. Although this course is aimed
at adults interested in learning this wonderful
way to support children in their faith formation,
it is also suitable for anyone interested in
nurturing their relationship with God in a retreat
like, contemplative environment.

We would love to have more catechists
involved in supporting children at the Atrium
here in Chatswood, so if you know of anyone
who might be interested in attending, please
pass this on to them. Or if you are interested in
finding out more about the formation course,
please feel free to contact Angela at the above
email or at the parish email address:
angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au

Or go to the following link to access the course
brochure: <https://tinyurl.com/2ae5kzuh>

PLAYGROUP IS BACK!

Join us for the first playgroup session of the year
on **Thursday, January 9th at 1:00 PM** in the
Magnificat Room, opposite the church.
We can't wait to see everyone again!



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Full house at 5:30pm Christmas Eve Mass!

