

Sunday 7 January—Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Welcome!

A very warm welcome to anyone visiting our parish. It is good to have you with us.



The Parish of Chatswood 94 Archer Street Chatswood NSW 2067

A Reflection on the Epiphany by Deacon Kevin Hale

If the frantic pace of the Christmas season has dulled your spiritual instincts, try meditating on the Magi. They were completely caught up with looking for Jesus. They weren't even Jewish, but they pored over the Scriptures to find out where he would be born.

They brought with them costly gifts, not even knowing if they would ever reach their destination. And when they finally found him, they "offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh". What unusual presents to bring to a little baby! The gifts they gave to Jesus were about the costliest items you could find in the ancient world. Not only that they were exactly suited to their recipient: Gold, a precious metal that was meant for royalty; frankincense, an oil used for worship; and myrrh, a perfume used in anointing the departed, pointing toward Jesus' passion and death.

So what about us? What can we give to Jesus today and in the year ahead? Actually, we can offer him something much more valuable than what the Magi gave. **We can give ourselves!** Jesus came to earth for us. He lived, died, and rose from the dead for us. The "pearl of great price" that Jesus gave everything for was us! How can we give him anything less than our lives?

Unfortunately, many of us have a hard time seeing how valuable we are to the Lord. Instead of a shiny, "giftwrapped" present, we may see ourselves as a dull, brown-paper package full of weakness and sin. But God is an expert at recycling! He doesn't waste anything; even our flaws and our greatest failures can be the raw material he uses to teach us, to form us, and to accomplish his plans in us. We only have to look at St Paul. Christ revealed himself to Paul, converted him and he became one of the greatest of Apostles. And as St. Paul wrote with such confidence, in the letter to the Romans, "All things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose".

Let's not discount the treasure we have in these earthen vessels. We can give the Lord the gold of our talents and gifts, the frankincense of our prayer and worship, and even the myrrh of our sufferings and heartaches. We can release our pain to him, let him take it to his cross, and give us the healing we most need.

The key is that we give control of our lives to him. Like all those who have gone before us, the revelation of Christ in our hearts should compel us to lay down our lives before him in worship and adoration. As we do, we will be changed. And we will become a gift to our brothers and sisters, and we will also change their lives!

Masses This Week

Monday	8 January	12.30pm	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord—End of the Christmas Season
Tuesday	9 January	9.00am and 12.30pm	Weekday of First Week in Ordinary Time
Wednesday	10 January	9.00am, 12.30pm, 6pm	Weekday of First Week in Ordinary Time
Thursday	11 January	9.00am and 12.30pm	Weekday of First Week in Ordinary Time
Friday	12 January	9.00am and 12.30pm	Weekday of First Week in Ordinary Time
Saturday	13 January	9.00am and 5.30pm	Weekday of First Week in Ordinary Time
Sunday	14 January	Usual times	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our flowers this week are donated by Falentina—Dedicated to her marriage with husband Rudi

Please Remember in our Prayer

For those recently died:

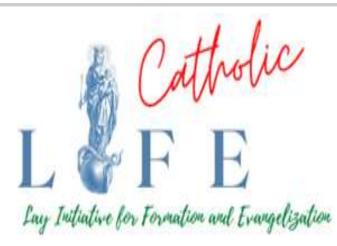
Vlasta Novacek, Susan McGrath, Loredana Santi, Ksenija Bosnich, George Souama, Fr Bill Aliprandi, Chunguang Lin (father of Mary Lin)

For those who are sick:

Clinton Grant, Maria Taylor, Bruce Meppem, Mor Har Yip, Bill Piper, Frank Hallissy, John O'Brien, Gerard De Leon, Carlos De Leon, Mary Kin-Soon Ng, Bonnie Lueng

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Juliana Chee (20 January), Paul Hung (13 January), Michelle Linton (8 January) Bertha Dayton (8 January), Frederick Abenales (4 January), Theodore Cowell. Lawendy Morgan and Sanjora Abraham (31 December), Michelle Linton (8 January) Vicki Shields, Christopher Dignam (20 December), Mollie Curtin (19 December), Christopher Dignam (20 December).



Catholic L.I.F.E. stands for Catholic Lay Initiative for Formation and Evangelization. It is a formation program for lay people based on John Paul II's apostolic exhortation, Pastores Dabo Vobis which is for the formation of priests, but taken in the context for the laity. It incorporates the four foundational pillars of formation which are: Spiritual Formation, Intellectual Formation; Human Formation and Pastoral Formation.

It also aims to build a community for the support and encouragement of its members. Catholic LIFE requires these minimum commitments: Daily Spiritual Exercises; Monthly Class, Small Group Meeting, and Parish Ministry/Apostolate; Two Annual Retreats

Program will start on February. If you are interested, please email Fr. Joey at joey.frez@bbcatholic.org.au

Music Reading Lessons in January

Throughout January, I will be giving music reading lessons to all parishioners who are interested. Lessons take place in the Magnificat Room on Thursdays 5:30-7:00pm and Saturdays 11:00-12:30pm. Everyone is welcome to come to as few or as many as they'd like – a perfect opportunity to get a better understanding of the music we sing! No signup required. Titus Grenyer, Director of Music

在小事上忠信的,在大事上也忠信;在小事上不義的,在大事上也不義。路加福音16:10

The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones; and the person who is dishonest in very small matters is also dishonest in great ones. Luke 16:10

Report from St Vincent De Paul Society

Chatswood received two requests for help in December. The first was from an Afghan refugee who has recently moved his children to Australia. He was referred by another agency who had helped find accommodation for them. Help with furnishing was sought and we supplied some basic furniture and referred him to our No Interest Loans scheme so he could obtain less urgent items himself.

The other request was from a person we recently assisted to move into new digs. We helped her with obtaining some additional essential furnishing. Funds of some \$1300 were expended on providing varied assistance in December. With the help of some parishioners we provide 29 Christmas hampers to people we had assisted during the year. These hampers had been generously donated by our local schools.

Our Christmas Appeal received over \$12000 from the Parishioners for which we give heartfelt thanks as we were significantly over budget for the year . These funds will enable the requests for assistance to continue to be met.



CHATSWOOD Men ALIVI

Chatswood menAlive is part of a National Catholic Mens Movement these past 20 years and is represented in 26 dioceses throughout Australia and New Zealand encompassing some 25,000 men.

The purpose of menAlive is to help men discover God at work in their lives, a God who is walking beside them on their own personal journey.

Chatswood menALIVE meets twice monthly to discuss men's topics, leading to in-depth personal reflection & prayer with a scriptural basis.

In addition to regular monthly meetings, other events include:

- A National Conference (menAlive MAX)
- State of Origin Nights
- Sydney Camino Walk
- Men's Masses & Bar B Q's
- Men's Breakfast
- Men's Movie Nights

MEETINGS EVERY 2ND & 4TH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH MAGNIFICAT ROOM

PARISH MEETING ROOMS ONR OF ARCHER & KIRK ST, CHATSWOOD DPPOSITE OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CHURCH

MEETINGS COMMENCE AT 7 PM

ALL MEN WELCOME FOR MORE INFO

PETER WOO: 0433 030 016

SCOTT SULLIVAN: 0406 512 425



Our Season of Christmas ends with the Feast of the Lord's Baptism on Monday 8 January, Mass will be celebrated at 12.30pm



OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD / B

7 JANUARY 2024

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 Chr 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

Glory to 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

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. 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

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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

R. Thanks be to God

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, Mand the Holy Spirit.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

"YOUR LIGHT HAS COME"

Wait! Don't pack up your Christmas tree and crib just yet! Today's feast is the celebration of the coming of the magi with their gifts. They come, as we hear in our Gospel today, because they "observed his star at its rising" (Matt 2:2). Their seeking of the child who has been born the king of the Jews takes us as hearers on the journey to see the revelation, the epiphany, of Jesus as the Messiah.

Following the star, the magi will be brought to a house where, on entering, "they saw the child with Mary his mother" (v.11). Coming from the East they are Gentiles who recognise who Jesus is and fall to their knees and pay him homage.

From the outset of Matthew's Gospel in the unfolding of the genealogy it is clear that "Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham" (1:1) is enfolded in the covenant of God with Abraham where God makes him the ancestor of a multitude of nations (Gen 17:4-6). This Gospel will conclude with the sending out of the eleven disciples to "make disciples of all nations" (Matt 28:19). The first worshippers of the Lord bring out their gifts of treasure. Through this child the treasures of the kingdom of heaven will be revealed. What can it mean to us to realise "your light has come" and to recognise and worship our Lord among us? How do we encounter the treasure of the kingdom of heaven in our lives today?

Dr Rosemary Canavan

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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We Prepare for Lunar New Year—Sunday 11 February 2024

LUNAR NEW YEAR TICKETS

Lunar New Year tickets for food, drinks, and the raffle are now on sale online!

Lunar New Year is a wonderful celebration centred around removing the old and bad of the previous year, and ushering in a new year of goodness! In our parish, culture and religion intersect peacefully by celebrating the Lunar Year as a time of renewal, excitement, and community.

On Sunday February 11th the Chinese Catholic Association of Chatswood invites you and your loved ones to join us at Mass at 10:30am and then for celebrations out on the forecourt where you can taste the food of our cultural communities, have a go at the lucky dip, watch the lion dancers, and get yourself a ticket into our raffle!

This year we are fundraising to help meet our parish's \$64,730.00 allocated auota for Pastoral Works Broken Bay (PWBB) which supports the work of two key Diocesan ministries: our catechists, and Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Program. PWBB also supports St Lucy's School and St Edmund's College for students with disabilities and the Ephpheta Centre which supports the deaf community.

Get your tickets at https://www.trybooking.com/COAXT or scan the QR code! Cash payments can be made at the parish office during opening hours.





First Prize - \$800 Coles Gift Voucher Second Prize - \$200 Westfield Gift Voucher 3rd Prize - \$100 Movie Voucher!



Scan for tickets!



We Prepare for Lunar New Year—Sunday 11 February 2024



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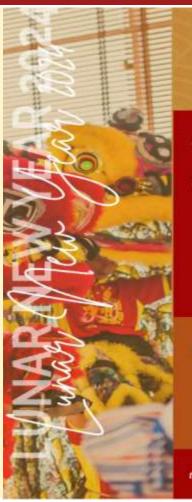
CELEBRATION ON THE FORECOURT

LION DANCERS | RAFFLE DRAWN BY FR DAVID | LUCKY DIP | FOOD STALLS | PLANT STALL I



Tickets \$10 for 1 \$15 for 2 and \$20 for 4 All proceeds go to the Pastoral Works Fund

BUY YOUR TICKET BY CONTACTING THE PARISH OFFICE OR AMELIA AT CHATSWOODOFFICE@BBCATHOLIC.ORG.AU 02 9410 9000



DONATIONS WANTED

Do you have any gift prizes that you can donate to our Chinese Lunar New Year celebrations?

We are currently seeking large gift for the raffle ticket prizes and small gifts for the Lucky Dip draws.

Gifts can be droped off to the Parish Office on Monday - Wednesday from 9:00am - 4:00pm from now until December 20. Then again from January 10 - 31.

Donations towards celebration programs are welcomed and to Parish Working Account:

Chatswood Parish Working A/C 062-784 100001609 Ref: Your Name LYN donation

All funds raised for LNY 2024 will go towards the Parish's \$64,730 allocated contribution for the Pastoral Works Broken Bay Fund.

Parish Contact Information

PO Box 1446 Chatswood NSW 2057 Office Hours Monday to Thursday 9.00am—5,00pm Office Phone: 9410 9000 Emergency Calls: 0473 046 906

Parish Priest: Very Rev Dr David Ranson VG

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Book-keeper: Amelia Lee amelia.lee@bbcatholic.org.au

9410 9032

Sunday Masses

5.30pm Saturday evening Vigil Mass

7.30am (followed by Morning Tea on 1st Sunday of the month)

9.00am (Includes Children's Liturgy of the Word on 1st, 2nd & 4th Sundays, except on long weekends).

10.30am

11.00am at St Peter's Green Aged Care Facility, North Lane Cove (note this is for residents only)

5.30pm

Filipino Culture Mass

12noon, 1st Sunday of the month

Spanish Culture Mass

12noon, 3rd Sunday of the month

Indonesian Culture Mass

7.00pm, 3rd Sunday of the month

Weekday Masses and Devotions

Monday: 12.30pm

Tuesday: 9.00am and 12.30pm

Wednesday: 9.00am and 12.30pm and 6.00pm

(Sacrament of Anointing is celebrated after Mass on the 3rd Wednesday of

the month)

Thursday: 9.00am and 12.30pm Friday: 9.00am and 12.30pm

Saturday: 9.00am

Morning Prayer: Tuesday to Saturday: 8.45am

Rosary

Monday: 11.45am (preceded by Divine Mercy Chaplet at

11.30am); Tuesday to Saturday 9.30am

Thursday Adoration After 9am Mass. Ends with Divine Mercy Chaplet at midday followed by Benediction.

Thursday Holy Hour with Exposition and Reconciliation 7.00pm

First Friday of the month: 6.30pm Divine Retreat Centre Heal-

ing Mass and Prayer

Saturday Morning: Reconciliation from 9.30am.