



Parish of Gosford

The Shrine of St John Paul II

The Communities of St Patricks East Gosford, Mangrove Mountain Community & Holy Trinity Spencer Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.



Year of PRAYER



REFLECTION ON THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

The Solemnity of the Epiphany celebrates God's desire to be known by all peoples. In the Gospel, Matthew presents the Magi—wise men from distant lands—who are drawn toward Jesus by a mysterious star. They do not belong to Israel, yet they recognize that something extraordinary has occurred. Their presence reminds us that Christ is not only for a chosen few but is a gift for the whole world.

The Magi are seekers. They pay attention to the signs around them and are willing to leave behind comfort and familiarity in order to follow the light they have been given. Their journey is marked by uncertainty. They do not have a map, only a star. This reflects our own spiritual lives. God rarely reveals the entire path at once. Instead, He gives us enough light for the next step, asking us to trust Him along the way.

In contrast, King Herod and the religious leaders respond very differently. Herod feels threatened by the news of a newborn king and seeks to destroy him. The scribes know the Scriptures and can identify where the Messiah is to be born, yet they remain unmoved. This contrast invites honest self-reflection. At times, we may resemble the Magi, open and searching. At other times, we may be more like Herod, resisting God when His presence challenges our control or comfort.

When the Magi finally encounter the child Jesus, their response is worship. They kneel before Him and offer gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These gifts symbolize who Jesus is—King, God, and Savior—but they also represent the offering of the Magi's own lives. True worship is not just about words or rituals; it is about placing ourselves before God in humility and trust.

The Gospel concludes with a quiet but powerful detail: the Magi return home "by another way." Their encounter with Christ changes them. They are physically redirected, but more importantly, they are spiritually transformed. An authentic meeting with Jesus always leads to a new way of living, seeing and loving.

Epiphany invites us to ask ourselves: What stars is God placing in our lives to guide us toward Him? Are we willing to follow, even when the path is unclear? And when we meet Christ, will we allow Him to change our direction? This feast reminds us that the light of Christ still shines, calling every heart to seek, to worship, and to be transformed.



Pope Leo XIV - Prayer Intention for January
For Prayer with the Word of God

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.



Blessed Francis Jordan

A Happy New Year - New Courage!... Welcome into the New Year! Let us work together again! Let us not become discouraged!
BL The Missionary Magazine 1885/01/11 in ES note 130

FATHER BRONEKS BIRTHDAY

Next Sunday, 11/01/2026, we will be celebrating Fr Bronek's birthday! Please join us for Mass at 9:30am, followed by morning tea and fellowship. It will be a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community, share in prayer, and celebrate Fr Bronek's special day with joy, friendship, and gratitude. We look forward to seeing you there!

A NOTE FROM THE PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

Fr Greg will soon be moving to Currumbine in Western Australia as he begins focusing more fully on his recently appointed role as Superior of the Australian Region of the Salvatorians.

As we prepare to say goodbye, we take this opportunity to reflect with gratitude on the many blessings his ministry has brought to our parish community.

We are deeply grateful for his faithful ministry, his generous service, and the many ways he has shared Christ's love with our community. His dedication has strengthened our faith and enriched our life as a parish.

If you would like to express your personal gratitude, you are invited to make a monetary gift of appreciation. Contributions may be placed in the envelopes found in the pews this weekend and placed in the collection plate, delivered to the parish office or given directly to Fr Greg.

These gifts will help him as he transitions to his new ministry and will serve as a heartfelt reminder of the affection and esteem of our parish community that he has served so faithfully.

Please continue to keep Fr. Greg in your prayers during this time of change. May the Lord reward him abundantly for his ministry among us and bless him with joy, strength, and renewed zeal as he begins this next chapter of his priestly service.

Members of the Parish Finance Committee

FAREWELL FR GREG - SATURDAY JANUARY 17TH

As Fr Greg moves to WA in the second part of January to lead the Salvatorian head office as Superior of the Australian Region of the Salvatorians, we invite you to join us for Mass at 5pm followed by a joyful farewell dinner at 6pm in the Parish Hall, with international style food, and music. Tickets will be available in the church foyer after all weekend Masses starting from December 27th & 28th. Join us in thanking Father Greg for 7 wonderful years of hard work and service as Parish Priest! Dress code: WHITE



Father Greg's farewell Party

Adult \$20 Child \$10 Family \$60
2 Adults and 3 kids

Join us as we come together as a parish
community to celebrate of time with
Father Greg & to wish him all the very best!

Please bring a plate of food to
share and BYO drinks

Saturday January 17th 2026- 6pm



BLESSED NEW YEAR 2026!

As we begin this new year, may God truly be at the centre of our lives, guiding our thoughts, choices, and actions each day. Let us entrust ourselves fully to Him, trusting in His holy will and loving plan for our lives. May He grant us peace in our hearts, strength in times of difficulty, and gratitude for every blessing we receive. May this year be a time of renewed faith, deeper prayer, and sincere love for one another. May the Lord walk with us in every moment and fill 2026 with hope, grace, and joy for all.

Happy New Year

Fr Greg and Fr Bronek

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Please note from 5 January to 9 January, the office will be open on reduced hours: 9.30am – 1.00pm.

PREPARATION FOR FATHER GREG'S FAREWELL

Father Greg's Farewell Committee are currently planning the celebrations for January 17th. They have decided on a dinner party with an international food theme. Please send an email to the Parish office patsgos@acs.net.au by January 10th to confirm what you would like to bring for this special event. Thank you in advance!

JORDAN ROOM COFFEE SHOP CLOSURE JANUARY

Please note that there will be no coffee shop in January.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the volunteers who helped raise money for charity organisations on all Saturdays in 2025. Your time, effort, and generosity have made a real difference, and we are truly grateful for your support. Thank you all.

TAKE THE CHILD AND HIS MOTHER AND FLEE TO EGYPT



ENTRANCE ANTIphon

Cf MALACHI 3:1; 1 CHR 29:12

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

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

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 your 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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13, R. SEE 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.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

SECOND READING

EPHESIANS 3:2-3, 5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

MATTHEW 2:2

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

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 2:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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.

COMMUNION ANTIphon

Cf MATTHEW 2:2

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

PARISH MEMORIAL WALL NICHES

The Parish Memorial Wall, located at the rear of St Patrick's Church, offers a sacred and peaceful place of remembrance for our dearly departed. The wall contains niches available for purchase for yourself or for loved ones, providing a lasting memorial within the grounds of our parish.

Each year, the Memorial Wall and its niches are Blessed by the Parish Priest during a special ceremony, often attended by family members and parishioners who gather to remember, pray for, and honour those who have passed away.

The surrounding gardens are lovingly maintained by our parish volunteers, creating a tranquil space for quiet reflection and prayer throughout the year.

This area stands as a visible sign of our faith in the Resurrection and our continuing bond with those who now rest in the peace of Christ. For further information about purchasing a niche please contact the Parish Office on 4325 1042 or email patsgos@acs.net.au



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