



# MANLY FRESHWATER CATHOLIC PARISH

## Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist Churches

The Epiphany of the Lord – 2nd January 2022



**Reflection:** The story of the astrologers and the star of Bethlehem is unique to Matthew's Gospel. Note that Matthew does not call them "kings" or does he give their names or reports where they came from – in fact, Matthew never even specifies the number of magi (because three gifts are presented to the Child, it has been a tradition since the fifth century to picture "three wise men"). In stripping away the romantic layers that have been added to the story, Matthew's point can be better appreciated.

A great many First Testament ideas and images are presented in this story. The star, for example, is reminiscent of Balaam's prophecy that "a star shall advance from Jacob" (Numbers 24: 17). Many of the details in Matthew's story about the child Jesus parallel the story of the child Moses and the Exodus.

Matthew's story also provides a preview of what is to come. First, the reactions of the various parties to the birth of Jesus parallel the effects Jesus' teaching will have on those who hear it. Herod reacts with anger and hostility to the Jesus of the poor who comes to overturn the powerful and rich. The chief priests and scribes greet the news with haughty indifference toward the Jesus who comes to give new life and meaning to the rituals and laws of the scribes. But the magi – non-believers in the eyes of Israel – possess the humility and the openness of mind and heart essential to faith that leads them to seek and welcome the Jesus who will institute the Second Covenant between God and the New Israel.

Secondly, the gifts of the astrologers indicate the principal dimensions of Jesus' mission:

- **Gold** is a gift fitting for a king, a ruler, one with power and authority;
- **Frankincense** is a gift fitting for a priest, one who offers sacrifice (frankincense was an aromatic perfume sprinkled on the animals sacrificed in the Temple);
- **Myrrh** is a fitting "gift" for someone who is to die (myrrh was used in ancient times for embalming the bodies of the dead before burial).

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LIVE STREAMING OF MASS

**Livestreaming on Facebook** of Sunday 8:30am Mass  
**[manlyfreshwaterparishfacebook/videos](https://www.facebook.com/manlyfreshwaterparishfacebook/videos)**

**Presbytery phone out of order – Emergency contact 0499 910 010**

LET US PRAY FOR

2nd January 2022

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary:

Prayers for the sick in our parish: "Lord, grant them and their carers strength and courage" Meg and Wayne Storey, Gavin Greenwood, Mark Taylor; Kay Flenady; Leon Cochrane; Prionsias Kearney; Brian Davies; Debbie Vernon; Lauren Hannahan; Rosalba Galuis; Judith McKenzie; Jonathan Keil; Wayne Smedley; Margaret BurrIDGE; Jill Carmichael; Stephen Robertson; Richard & Cynthia Connolly; Maureen Williams; Gerry Wybrandt; Amy Farrow; Patricia Duffy; Florencia Lira; Ken Waller; Mary Helen Fogarty; Sheila Lee; Chrissy Brunsdon; Belinda Nicholls; Jacqui Dawson; Marty O'Donnell; Pat Smith; Gerry Ring; Zacchaeus Ratnam;

January 2022

Year C

Mon 3/1 - Christmas Time 1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Ps 2:7-8,10-11; Mt 4:12-17,23-25
Tue 4/1 - Christmas Time 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 71:1-4,7-8; Mk 6:34-44
Wed 5/1 - Christmas Time 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 71:1-2,10-13; Mk 6:45-52
Thurs 6/1 - Christmas Time 1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Ps 71:1-2,14-15,17; Lk 4:14-22
Fri 7/1 - Christmas Time 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15,19-20; Lk 5:12-16
Sat 8/1 - Christmas Time 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6; Jn 3:22-30
Sun 9/1 - The Baptism of the Lord Is 40:1-5,9-11; Ps 103:1-2,3-4,24-25,27-30; Titus 2:11-14,3:4-7

PARISH SOCIAL MEDIA

Parish facebook:

facebook.com/manlyfreshwaterparish

Parish website:

bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater

Visiting sick at home - If you, or if you know of anyone who are unwell and would like a home visit please contact the parish office 9977 5822 to organise for Communion or Anointing.

Manly Freshwater Parish promotes SAFEGUARDING which involves the implementation of proactive, common sense and practical ideas that ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults in our community

COVID REQUIREMENTS

Please remember you need to...

- QR code before entering the Church
• Wear a mask for Mass
• Cleanse your hands
• Observe social distancing

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL REOPEN ON MONDAY 10TH JANUARY 2022



CHRISTMAS OFFERING envelopes are available on the pews. This is a special collection to support the sick and retired priests of our Dioceses of Broken Bay. Thank you for your generous support.

Christmas Offering



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2nd collection Parish Bank Account

Funds the running of the Parish
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Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank
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1st collection Parish Bank Account

Supports our Priests
Account: Manly Freshwater Parish Pastoral
Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank
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Thank you for your ongoing support

The three wise men had to search for Jesus. Where are some of the places we can find Jesus in our world today?
[Three empty white boxes for answers]

# The Epiphany of the Lord

## First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6 (JB)

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.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 (JB)

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

O God, give your judgment to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgment. R.

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.

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.

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** Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6 (JB)

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 the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 2:2 (JB)

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*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.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



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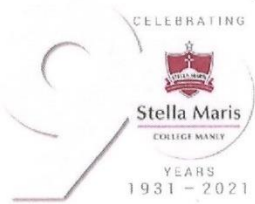
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**Parish Priest:** Fr David Taylor  
[manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au)

**Assistant Priest:** Fr John Puliparambil  
[john.puliparambil@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:john.puliparambil@bbcatholic.org.au)

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Eliseus Shin  
[eliseus.shin@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:eliseus.shin@bbcatholic.org.au)

**Seminarian:** Martino Hoang

**Parish Secretaries:** Jenny Beninati & Paula Martin

**Pastoral Coordinator:** Michelle Ellis

**Mary Immaculate Church**  
6 Raglan St, Manly NSW 2095

**St John the Baptist Church**  
cnr Johnson & Oliver St, Freshwater NSW 2096

**Administration Office:** 9977 5822 (Parish Office)

**Email:** [manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au)

**Website:** [www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater)

**Presbytery:** Phone out of order

**Emergency contact:** 0499 910 010

**Weekend Masses:**

**Manly:** Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am, 6:00pm

**Freshwater:** Saturday Vigil 5:00pm & Sunday 9am

**Weekday Masses:**

**Manly:** Tuesday – Friday 9:15am

**Freshwater:** Tuesday – Friday 9:15am

**Baptisms:** please contact the parish office

Manly 4th Sunday of the month

Freshwater 2nd Sunday of month

**Reconciliation:** Manly Sat 10am – 11am

**Parish Pastoral Council:** Paul Pervan (Chair),  
Ian Press (Deputy Chair), Margaret Dent (Secretary),  
Ivica Covic; Joanne Druery; Robert Marshall;  
Michael McGrath

**St Mary's Primary School** 9977 2225

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**St John the Baptist Primary School** 9939 6699

Principal: Alicia van der Merwe

**St Paul's Catholic College** 9977 5111

Principal: Michael Reid

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