

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.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD / B

03 JANUARY 2021

SAVIOUR OF ALL PEOPLE

Today's feast of the Epiphany is the only Sunday in the three-year cycle in which the readings remain exactly the same. That in itself should lead us to take seriously Isaiah's summons to lift up our eyes, look around, and see that all people are called to sing God's praises as equals.

Changing our point of view is not always easy, and the process of seeing, understanding and accepting the point of view of the other person is challenging. What is really our attitude to those who see the world differently to ourselves?

The people of Israel were encouraged to see themselves as the people specially favoured by God. They had suffered much at the hands of foreign nations who were more likely to destroy their Temple than worship in it. Isaiah's entreaty to see the nations around them as people who were also searching for the living God required a significant change of perspective.

Paul continues to develop Isaiah's vision as he seeks to open the eyes of Jewish Christians to the fact that the mystery of God's plan is now revealed in Jesus Christ. Now the old barriers which had existed between Jews and Gentiles have been torn down. Now all people can share in the same inheritance, promises, and relationship with God. It is Matthew who gives the forceful reminder that the first people to recognise Jesus' kingship were outsiders. It is not only their presents but their presence that provides a precious gift.

Christopher Monaghan CP

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.

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

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

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

3 Jan 2021
Year B Epiphany

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org/>



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Ms Di Bolitho

St Joseph's School
Principal Mrs Katie Hanes 67654079

Sacristan Mrs Elaine Smyth

We must teach more by example than by word. (1867)



SOCIAL DISTANCING - **PLEASE**

- ** REGISTER TO ENTER USING EITHER QR CODE AT ENTRANCE OR PAPER REGISTER AT ENTRY TO CHURCH
- ** SANITISE HANDS ENTERING AND LEAVING
- ** STICKER MARK YOUR SEATING & **KEEP YOUR DISTANCE



WELCOME: We welcome Father Maunsell who will be celebrating our Masses for the coming week. We hope your stay is pleasant and rewarding.

REMOVAL OF DISPENSATION FROM SUNDAY MASS: Please see the Bishop's letter on the notice board. With the re-opening of our churches and the updating of NSW Regional restrictions, regarding the capacity of our parish churches, everyone now has opportunity to attend Sunday Mass. Bishop Michael Kennedy has lifted his dispensation effective 18th-19th Dec, 2020.

CHRISTMAS DUES: Thank you for your generosity with Christmas Dues. During these challenging times the level of generosity was wonderful.

NEW YEAR ROSTERS: As 2020 is all but behind us we would love to see more of our previous volunteers and new ones come back to assist with what can be done during Masses particularly readers and cleaners after Masses. If you can assist please call the office or let Father know.

ORIENTATION TO NEW PARISH CENTRE: A planned orientation to the new Parish Centre will be held on a Sunday towards the end of January. This is an opportunity for you to see the new facilities which will allow us to provide for large and small Parish functions. This is an exciting time and Fr Anthony looks forward to you all embracing a bright future for the Parish.

WEEKEND MASSES Vigil: Sat: 5.30pm Sun: 9am and 5.30 pm

CONFESSIONS
Sat: 4.30-5.15pm
*Or by appointment

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon: 9 am	Tues: 9 am
Wed: 12 noon	Thurs: 9 am
Fri: 9 am	Sat: No Mass

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

May God have mercy on all those asked to be remembered in prayer:

Recently Deceased: John Buckley, Janice Press, Sr Helen Cooke, Thomas Brown.

Anniversaries: Pauline Gatt (2/1), Mary Sampson (2/1), John O'Brien (3/1), Rod Kelly (20/1), Lawrence Vella (23/1).

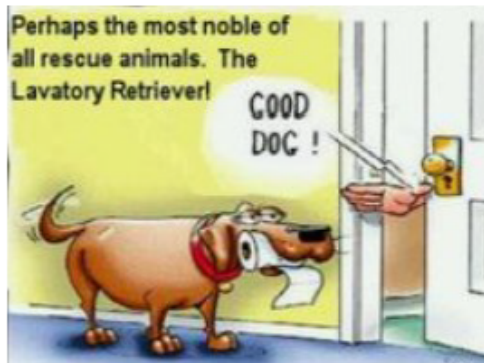
Deceased: Stuart Betts (Syd.), Doanh Tran (Vietnam), Sr Eleanor Dawson (rsj), Max MacDonald, Joan Ryan (Sydney), May and Tom Kennedy, Dudley Ryan, Jack Sampson, Hugh O'Brien, Dalis O'Brien, John O'Brien, Beth Galvin, June Foley.

Sick: Mimmie Bennett, Norm Moran, Bob Worthington, Kim Myers, Rachel MacPherson, Judy Cummins, Shirley Hobbs, Jenny Crawford, Sr Pat Bartley, Brindley Cavallaro, Elaine White, Deacon Peter Harrison, Maureen Harrison, Linda Bourke, Peggy Bussell, Margaret Doyle, Christopher Struck, Graeme Bussell, Jack & Marge Attard.

CRACKERS TAILS



Many of you will know that Fr Anthony's faithful companion Cracker has had failing health. Sadly, on the final day of 2020 Cracker was put to rest after many years of bringing joy and happiness to such a lot of people. He will certainly be sadly missed.



Perhaps the most noble of all rescue animals. The Lavatory Retriever!

GOOD DOC!



WEEK 2

3/1/2021

Vigil: R C Greer P Bamford

9am Sun: R R Paull M Donaldson 5.30pm Sun: R M and J Murray

Sat Cleaning: 9/1/2021 M Vella and R Pace 16/1/21 B & B Lane

Altar Linen: E Smyth

WEEK 1 ROSTER: 10/1/21

Vigil: R D Gowing G Styman

9am Sun: R S Nichols S Brown 5.30pm Sun: R M and J Murray

Sat Cleaning: 16/1/21 B & B Lane 23/1/21 K O'Brien and J Cunningham

Altar Linen: H Reid

ROSTER:

Wherever

You

Are,

Be

All

There

COMING EVENTS

3 Jan Feast of the Epiphany 26 Jan Australia Day

First Collection WEST TAMWORTH PRESBYTERY
Second Collection WEST TAMWORTH CHURCH

BSB 082105 Acc 001023642
BSB 082105 Acc 001041198