



MOYNE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

St Patrick's Parish, Port Fairy

Infant Jesus Parish, Koroit

www.moyneatholic.org.au



The Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd January, 2021

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Above you the glory of the Lord appears
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 Ps 71(72):1-2,7-8,10-13

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

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/.)

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

It has now been revealed that pagans share the same inheritance

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 Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 2:2

V/. Alleluia!

R/. Alleluia!

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

R/. Alleluia

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

The visit of the Magi

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 FAITHFUL DEPARTED

We pray for **Norm Brooks, Peter Cox, Noreen Dalton, Maureen Healey, Tess King, Joyce Lane, and Morgan McAlinden**, all of whom died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they, and all the faithful departed, rest in peace.



WELCOME TO 2021

As of this weekend our Ministry District is without the services of Fr Michael Linehan who, we hope, is now enjoying retirement. We thank him for his 17 years of pastoral care at St Pius X, Warrnambool West.

This retirement will necessitate some

change in the Ministry District. To give us time and space to make the required changes, Fr Bill van de Camp will preside at the 6.30pm Koroit Vigil Mass for the following three weeks, enabling Fr John Corrigan and Fr John Fitzgerald to celebrate the other six Masses in the four parishes of the Ministry District.

There is a commitment to celebrate the weekly Sunday Eucharist in each of the four parishes. There will be fixed times for the Eucharist. Thus the previous alternate times for the Koroit and Port Fairy Masses have ceased.

The two retired priests (Fr Bill and Fr Michael) will not be scheduled on the week-end Mass roster but they have expressed their willingness to assist when needed. It's important we respect their retirement.

A challenge this year is the ‘catching up’ on the celebration of the children’s sacraments of Confirmation and the Eucharist. It wasn’t possible to celebrate these sacraments in 2020 due to the coronavirus. It will be important for the five Catholic schools to work together in a creative way to achieve this outcome.

We have new principals appointed for St Patrick’s, Port Fairy (Olga Lyons) and St John’s, Dennington (Ben van de Camp) commencing late January, 2021. We wish them well in their new appointments.

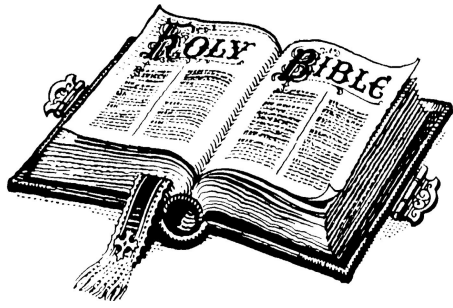
Parishes would be familiar with the fact that if there is a funeral to be celebrated it replaces the weekday Mass if one is scheduled. This past week we have celebrated three funerals in our Ministry District. This week we also have three funerals.

The new Ministry District also incorporates three Aged-Care Homes which are an important part of parish life.

It’s also worth noting that the priests have zone and diocesan commitments from time to time as well as their annual retreat and the priests in-service (plus a holiday)!

May God’s blessing be upon us all in our pastoral endeavours in this new year.

Fr John Fitzgerald
& Fr John Corrigan



Reflection on today's Mass

by Fr Francis Fernandez

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

At the beginning of the new year, we like to wish each other a good year. To tradesmen, neighbours, everyone we meet, we say "Happy New Year!" They wish the same to us and we thank them.

But, what do most people mean by Happy New Year? Doubtless they mean a year free from illness, pain, trouble or worry; that instead, everyone may smile on you, that you flourish, that you make plenty of money, that the taxman doesn't get you, that you get a rise in salary, that prices fall, and that the news is good every morning. In short, that nothing unpleasant may happen to you.

It is good to wish these material good things for ourselves and others so long as they do not make us veer away from our final goal. The new year will bring us our share of happiness and our share of trouble, and we don't know how much of each. A good year for a Christian is one in which both joys and sorrows have helped him to love God a little more. It is not a year that comes, supposing it were possible,

EPIPHANY CHALK AND BLESSING

Blessed chalk and a short ritual can be collected after Mass so that you can impart the traditional Epiphany blessing on your home and family. The Epiphany blessing evokes the hospitality of the Holy Family, who welcomed the Magi (who represent all Gentiles) into their home.

After blessing the house with holy water, the head of the household "chalks the door" by inscribing numbers, crosses and letters above the front door:

full of natural happiness that leaves God to one side. A good year is one in which we have served God and our neighbour better, even if, on the human plane, it has been a complete disaster. For example, a good year could be one in which we are attacked by a serious illness that has been latent and unsuspected for many years, provided we know how to use it for our sanctification and that of those close to us.

Any year can be *the best year* if we make use of the graces that God keeps in store for us and which can turn to good the greatest misfortunes.

For the year just beginning God has prepared all the help we need to make it a *good year*. So let's not waste even a single day. And when we happen to commit sin, or fall into error or discouragement, let us immediately begin again, in many cases through the sacrament of Reconciliation.

May we all have a good year, so that when it is over we can come before God with our hands full of hours of work offered to him, apostolate with our friends, innumerable acts of charity with those around us, many little victories over our self love, and unforgettable meetings with Our Lord in Holy Communion.

Let us resolve to convert our defeats into victories, each time turning to God and starting once again.

And, finally, let us ask Our Lady for the grace to live during this new year with a fighting spirit, as if it were the last that God was going to give us.

20 + C + M + B + 21

The letters are the initials of the Magi — Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar — who visit Jesus in today's Gospel. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*: "Christ bless this house." The letters and crosses are book-ended by the current year, invoking God's blessing over the home and family, and any guests who pass through the front door, throughout 2021.



THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

St Joseph never thought too highly of himself. Even in Scripture, in Matthew's genealogy at the beginning of the Gospel, the Gospel writer lists all of the people in the genealogy as the "father of" so-and-so — except for Joseph. When we come to Joseph's introduction into the genealogy, we read that Joseph was not the "father of" anyone, but instead the "husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ" (Matt 1:15-16).

Many saints served a mission which attracts the world's attention. But for most saints, the life of grace involves a much lower profile and a death to self which requires an immersion into the most ordinary of circumstances. St Joseph is the exemplar of the humble and ordinary saint.

Pope Francis' Prayer to St Joseph

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

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WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday: 10am, St Pius X
Tuesday: 9:30am, Our Lady's
Wednesday: 9:30am, Our Lady's
10am, St Joseph's
**1pm, St Patrick's
Tess King's Requiem**
Friday: 10am, St Joseph's
**2pm, St Patrick's
Morgan McAlinden's Requiem**
Saturday: 9:30am, Our Lady's

CONFESSION TIMES

Monday: 5pm–6pm, St Pius X
Tuesday: 5pm–6pm, St Pius X
Friday: 10am, Our Lady's
5pm–6pm, St Pius X

COVID-SAFE PROTOCOLS

- Masks are again mandated.
- Everyone in attendance is obliged to record their first name and a phone number, to facilitate contact tracing.
- Fonts are empty of holy water.
- We won't 'pass the plate,' so please leave offerings in baskets at the doors.
- No sign of peace.
- No communion from the chalice.
- Every second pew is roped off to assist the 1.5m social distancing rule.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

The Baptism of the Lord

FIRST. *Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7.* Here is my servant, in whom my soul delights.

SECOND. *1 John 5:1-9.* Jesus Christ came by water and blood.

GOSPEL. *Mark 1:7-11.* 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

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