#### The EPIPHANY of the LORD

#### FIRST READING

Is 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come,

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;

and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;

camels in throngs will cover you,

and singing the praise of the Lord.

everyone in Sheba will come,

bringing gold and incense

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

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.)
- 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** Eph 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.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## **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

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

Next Week: The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Feast)

Readings: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21; Lk 2:41-52

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# ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH

## St Benedict's Church

Corner Justin & Neville Street
SMITHFIELD

#### Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm;

8.00am (Italian); 10.30am; 6.00pm.

#### Weekday Masses:

9.15am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday; 7pm Wednesday

Weekday Public Holidays: 10.30am

## Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Adoration:

Wednesdays after evening Mass with Novena to St Benedict until 8.30pm; Saturdays from 4.45pm—5.45pm; & Fridays after the 9.15am Mass

First Friday of the Month:

7pm Mass & Adoration

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Tuesdays after Mass



## Parish Priest Fr Jarek Zan OSPPE

#### **Assistant Priest**

Fr Wojtek Sliwa OSPPE

## St Theresa's Church

Corner The Boulevarde & Stella Street FAIRFIELD WEST

#### Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 5pm (Vietnamese); 7.30am & 9.00am; 12 noon (Spanish); 5pm (Arabic)

## Weekday Masses:

Mon - Fri 7.00am; Saturday 8am Weekday Public Holidays: 8.00am

## First Friday of the Month:

First Saturday of the Month:

## 7am Rosary 8am Mass

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Tuesdays after Mass

## The EPIPHANY of the Lord

## 6 January 2019



#### We pray for the sick of this parish

John Denniss, Santina Ponili, Kartia Grace Russell Gino Mifsud, Rina Favotto, Ivy Fernandes, Alina Przewoznik, Philomena Greenwood,

Bless our sick today so that they may bear their illness in union with Jesus' sufferings and restore them quickly to health

#### Please remember in your prayers

Mario Micallef, Zofia Jarzyna, Betty Stepkovitch, Antonio Mammone, Carmela Stivala, Vita Blanda Achille (Frank) Pavone, Giuseppe Brunetta, Pasquale Berardinelli, Domenic Lagudi, Allanah Cassar Falappi, Immacolata Carioti

#### Recently Deceased

And for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time :

Nicola Capolupo, Giovanni Caruso, Renato Almici Maria Todaro

## PARISH INFORMATION

#### Parish Office:

6 Justin St, Smithfield
Tuesday-Friday 10am - 2pm
Phone: 9604 1199 Fax 9609 6585
Email: office@stgertrude.org.au
Website: www.stgertrude.org.au

## Parish Council:

Denise Namroud

## Finance Committee:

Tan Do

**Catechists:** 9725 4317

Mimi Romeo: catechist@stgertrude.org.au

Sacraments: 9725 4317 Helena Mertin sacraments@stgertrude.org.au Reconciliation/Eucharist/Confirmation

Liturgy: 9725 4317 Anna Kleibert

liturgy@stgertrude.org.au

Adult Sacraments (RCIA) Mariola Herbert Every Sunday at 8.30am in the Crying Room (in front of St Benedict's) Contact Mariola: 0421 944 051.

## Children's Liturgy

Mariola Herbert

## Reconciliation:

Smithfield - Sat 4.45—5.45 pm (or by appointment)

Baptisms: Parish Office 9604 1199 1st Sundays of the month during the 10.30am Mass at St Benedict's Church; & Every 3rd Sunday at 12noon St Benedict's

Marriages: Parish Office 9604 1199
By appointment only (6 months required)

**Sick Calls:** 9604 1199

Any Time

## Novena to St Benedict

Every Wednesday after the 7pm Mass with Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament



Reconciliation is available during this time.

Everyone is encouraged to

participate!

# **GOSPEL FOCUS**

# **Going home**

The wise men, or Magi, are warned in a dream not to go back to Herod and they go home by a different way. How could they do anything but go home another way – indeed, go home as different people? They are changed by their encounter with the child Jesus and they go home a different way; in a different state; in a whole different frame of mind. When we genuinely encounter Jesus – in scripture, in life, in prayer, in ourselves – then we cannot go home the same way; we must go home by a different way as the Magi did.

## Church Cleaners

Week ending 5 January 2019 ~ Group D: Grace & Pina, Helen, Suong

#### **Weekend Parish Collections**

If there are people wishing to give to the parish through the envelope system, envelopes are available through the parish office.

Forms are available from the parish office when the office reopens Monday 7th January.

# The EPIPHANY of the LORD Sunday 6th January



The Epiphany of Our Lord is the Christian feast observed on Jan. 6, 2019. The word "epiphany" comes from the Greek epiphainen, a verb that means "to shine upon," "to manifest," or "to make known." Thus, the feast of the Epiphany celebrates the many ways that Christ has made Himself known to the world, mainly the three events that manifested the mission and divinity of Christ: the visit of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12), the baptism of Jesus (Mark 1:9-11), and the miracle at ( ana ( John 2:1-11).

The visit of the Magi is emphasized on Epiphany Day, and Christ's baptism is celebrated the first Sunday that follows.

# Blessing of Chalk

Epiphany (also known as Twelfth Night, Theophany, or Three Kings Day) marks the occasion of a time-honored Christian tradition of "chalking the doors." The formula for the ritual — adapted for 2019 — is simple: take chalk of any colour and write the following above the entrance of your home: 20 + C + M + B + 19.

The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi - Caspar, Malchior, and Balthazar who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the atin phrase, Christus mansionem benedicat: "May Christ bless the house." The "+" signs represent the cross, and the "20" at the beginning and the "19" at the end mark the year. Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request for Christ to bless those homes so marked and that He stay with those who dwell therein throughout the entire year.

## Novena

9 day Novena to St Paul the First Hermit starts today, the 6th January. Litany will be said after each weekday Mass during this time. Everyone welcome

## Visitation

The Pauline Fathers will have a visitation from their Fr General from the 11th January.

## **Parish Office**

The Parish office will re-open on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January.

## St Gertrude's Parish Fund

New sets of envelopes will be available to pick up at the end of February.

Please contact the parish office on 9604 1199 if there are any changes to be made to your envelopes, (contact details etc) prior to distribution

Anyone wishing to use envelopes for St Gertrude's Parish Fund can please complete the following form and return to the parish office

as soon as possible. Thank you for your support!

## REQUEST FOR ENVELOPE FORM

Please complete this form and place it in the collection plate or post to

## St Gertrude's Parish, 6 Justin Street, Smithfield.

Yes, I would like a set of weekly envelopes

## **2019 PARISH FACILITY BOOKINGS**

(Smithfield & Fairfield West Church & Hall) Attention ALL groups wanting to use the above facilities for 2019, please book your dates and times, in writing, to the parish office as soon as possible. Thank you.

## **SACRAMENT NEWS!**

FIRST RECONCILATION / FIRST HOLY COMMUNION **ENROLMENTS 2019:** Enrolments are now complete. The

Parent Information Evening will be held on: Wednesday 13th March 2019.

SACRAMENTAL OFFICE: Please be advised the Sacramental Office is now closed. It will re-open in February 2019. For all enquiries please email: sacraments@stgertrude.org.au or call 9725 4317 and leave a message. If you wish to see Helena face-toface, please email/call the Sacramental Office to make an appointment. Thank You.

## YOUTH MASS & YOUTH GROUP

Youth group Mass, meetings and music rehearsals will re-commence in February.

A big Thank You to our Youth Leaders for their continued help and guidance throughout the year.

## ~ Altar Servers~

No Altar Servers meeting throughout the school holidays

## House for Rent

The property next to the Church Carpark on Neville Street, will be available for rent in 2019. Please direct any interest to the parish office.

## St Gertrude's Parish Playgroup

Playgroup is closed during the school holidays and will re-open when the new school term begins Contact: playgroup@stgertrude.org

#### **SAFEGUARDING NEWS**

The Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office, in conjunction with the Parish Support and Development Team, has identified the following require a Working with Children Check (WWCC): Youth ministers, children's liturgy, children's choir, Catechists, Sacramental group leaders, readers, acolytes, senior altar servers, extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion, Parish counters & collectors and ministers to the homebound. Please note that some ministries that did not previously require a WWCC, now need one, please visit the RMS before the end of November to obtain a WWCC, otherwise you will need to cease your ministry until this requirement is met.

Volunteers who have not yet completed a Code of Conduct please visit the Parish ASAP.

If you have not attended Safeguarding induction training, please speak to Maria or Helena to arrange a time safeguarding induction training is mandatory for all volunteers. The training can also be completed online, please contact us to ask us how!

All volunteers - please check the expiration date of your WWCC. If it is due for renewal please visit the RMS. Once renewed please notify the Parish Office.

Thank you for your continued co-operation to ensure our Parish meets Safeguarding requirements. For more information, please contact the Parish Office or email

psso@stgertrude.org.au

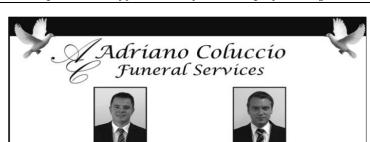
The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully; offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on ph 02 9390 5812.



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