

WELCOME TO

# ST BRENDAN'S CATHOLIC PARISH



St Brendan's Parish is a Child Safe community. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all and a zero tolerance to child abuse.

## The Epiphany of the Lord

7 January 2024

### First Reading Is 60:1-6

*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 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.)*
2. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon falls. 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

*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.

### 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

*We have come from the East to worship the king.*

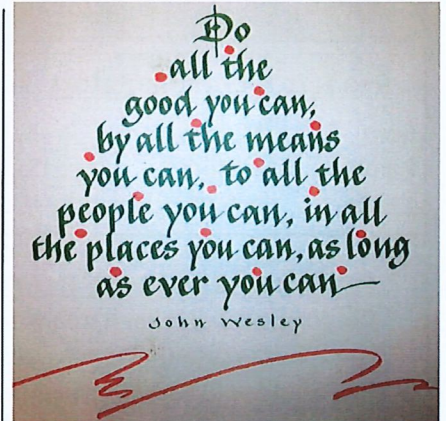
After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the 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.



Why did Jesus die?  
Alpha is coming again,  
are you ready?  
<https://www.alpha.org.au/try>



### Reflection by Greg Sunter

The gospel of Mark, the first of the four canonical gospels to be written, does not bother at all with the question of the birth of Jesus. Written some ten or more years later, the gospels of Luke and Matthew both present a version of the circumstances surrounding the birth of Jesus. The gospel of John, written later still, also avoids details of Jesus' birth. The two accounts of the infancy that we do have from the gospels tell very different stories because they have each been used to place the rest of the gospel in a particular context. Unfortunately, the two stories have been mashed together so much that we now have one notion of the Christmas story that is a poor amalgam of the two unique narratives.

In the gospel of Luke, Joseph and Mary are living in Nazareth and travel to Bethlehem and are forced to give birth out in a field because there is no room at the only inn in Bethlehem. The ones who bear witness to the birth in this account are shepherds - some of the lowest of the low - as the gospel of Luke identifies Jesus as having a preferential option for the lowly ones. In the gospel of Matthew, Joseph and Mary are living in Bethlehem and give birth in their own house. They later flee to Egypt and then settle in Nazareth. The two towns need to be included in both accounts because they are named in some of the ancient prophecies about the Messiah. In the gospel of Matthew, the witnesses to the birth are wise men, dignitaries from another land. The Matthew writer wants to emphasise the 'kingship' of Jesus and it is fitting that foreign dignitaries present gifts on the birth of a king.

The two stories deserve to be dealt with uniquely and should be unravelled from the muddled, entwined version that dominates our Christmas imagery.

# ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS



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 Deacon: Francois Baguma  
 Office Manager: Diane Teitzel  
 Child Safe Officer: Jason Giuliani Ph: 5821 2633  
 Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9am - 2pm



*Christ in community ...  
 the heart of our faith*

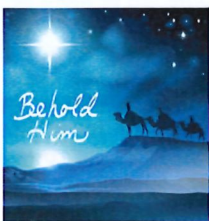
## Readers & Commentators January 13 & 14, 2024

6pm	M. Keyte	B. Lindsay
8am	P. White	S. White
11am	P. Richardson	L. Richardson

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of years. We pay respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside Aboriginal Australians in truth and justice.

### Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord



Born of a virgin, he came forth from the womb as the light of the whole world in order to shine on all men. His light is received by those who long for the splendor of perpetual light that night can never destroy. The sun of our daily experience is succeeded by the darkness of night, but the sun of holiness never sets, because wisdom cannot give place to evil. *St Ambrose*

**TAP N GO** - THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to the \$1,824 collected during December.



### Billabong Nursery Cafe Cuppa

All Sacristans and those who help around the church  
 Saturday 14th January @ 10am  
 Enq: Kath Smyth 0409 003 420.



### CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS TO GO TO

- ⇒ Voice for Silent People—\$1,000
- ⇒ Monsignor Gerard Kalumba Seminary, Uganda - \$1,000
- ⇒ St Mary's Church, Derimbat, Manus Island - \$1,000

**LOST AND FOUND** Due to the number of items left in the Church after Masses, a box is kept in the main entrance of the Church (Narthex). These items will be kept for 1 month before being disposed of. Please check the box in case one of these items belong to your family.



**Recently Deceased:** Carmel Campbell, Frank Scott

**Anniversaries:** Fr Frank Hart, Fr Ted Harte, Carmel Lewis

## Parish Bookkeeper at St Mel's

### Part Time Position Available

An experienced bookkeeper is needed for a part-time role at a Parish in Shepparton South. The bookkeeper will report to the Parish Priest and be responsible for the financial administrative functions of the parish. Building relationships and working collaboratively with the Parish Team and volunteers will be an important part of the job. The successful candidate should be motivated to work for the Church and have a strong commitment to its practices and values. It is also essential for the bookkeeper to recognize and respect the pastoral aspect of the Parish. The role will be approximately two full-days per week, depending on workload, with some flexibility in the required hours. The terms and conditions of the position are governed by the Diocese of Sandhurst.

Email: [rene.ramirez@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:rene.ramirez@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)  
 Applications close on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> of January 2024



Locally owned business servicing Shepparton for 35 years. For all your eye care needs, you can contact Ashley and Vanessa Madeira at The Eye Shop.

Phone 5821 0311

[enquiries@eyeshopshepparton.com.au](mailto:enquiries@eyeshopshepparton.com.au)

