



Welcome to

Noarlunga/Seaford Catholic Parish

St Luke's, Noarlunga and Seaford Ecumenical Centre
(Part of the Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island Cluster of Catholic Parishes)

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - YEAR B

Vol 9 : No 07

NOARLUNGA/SEAFORD CATHOLIC PARISH CENTRE

Cnr Goldsmith Drive and Honeypot Rd, (PO Box 406) NOARLUNGA, SA 5168 Phone: 8382 1717

(Please leave a message outside office hours and we will get back to you as soon as we can)

Email: nswcp@tpg.com.au

Web: www.noarlunga-seafordparish.org.au

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday
10.00am - 3.00pm

PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

• PARISH PRIEST

Fr Josy Sebastian (8382 1717;
in an emergency 0452 524 169;
jponnambal@gmail.com)

• ASSISTANT PRIESTS

Fr Prathap Katta
(8382 1717)

Fr Arul Dev
(8382 1717)

• PARISH MANAGER/ NEWSLETTER

Mrs Toni Fishlock - 0417 801 241;
fishlock11@tpg.com.au

(Please submit newsletter items to the Parish Office by 11.30am each Wednesday)

• SEAFORD

Sr Bernie Sontrop SGS – SEM
(Catholic Community Coordinator
- 0400 035 462)

CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection Unit 8210 8159



FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

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

Matthew 2:1-12

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:

(Continued page 2)

COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

(Current - updated 14 December)

- Attendees at Mass must maintain social distancing of 1:2 sqm.
- Funerals are capped at 200 people, whilst maintaining 1:2 sqm.
- Weddings are capped at 200 people, whilst maintaining 1:2 sqm.
- No beverage or food consumption (ie cup of tea after Mass)
- Singing as a congregation is to be avoided.
- Except for families and household groups, people should socially distance. There should be no physical contact outside one's family or household group.
- There should be no shaking of hands or holding hands during the Mass.
- Every gathering must record contact details - either with the QR code for smart phones, or the handwritten log - both located at the entrance to the Church.
- Hand sanitizer is to be available at church entrances.
- Offertory procession will be omitted. Communion is given only in hands. Precious Blood will not be distributed
- Collection plates will not be passed around but a single drop point is provided at the churches.
- Holy Water is not available at the doors of churches.
- All surfaces should be cleaned at least daily, with special attention given to frequently touched surfaces.
- Sick and high risk/vulnerable people should be encouraged not to attend.
- Care should be taking at the dismissal and on leaving the church to minimise social contact.
- The obligation for Sunday Mass for the laity HAS NOT BEEN RE-INVOKED at this stage.

KANGAROO ISLAND PARISH

Phone 8553 2132
(www.kicatholic.org.au)

NOARLUNGA/SEAFORD PARISH

Phone 8382 1717
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WILLUNGA PARISH

Phone 8556 2132
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(Continued from page 1)

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.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The word 'epiphany' means 'manifestation' or 'showing'.
- The gifts brought by the Magi (probably astrologers from Persia) reveal many things about Jesus. The gold signifies his kingship, the frankincense, his priestly role, and the myrrh suggests the spices and ointment with which his body is anointed and wrapped at his death which brought salvation.
- You will note from the text that the number of Magi is not mentioned. A later tradition developed that there were three, probably based on the three gifts, and later still they were given names!
- In some countries and cultures gifts are given on this feast rather than on Christmas Day.

EXPLORING THE WORD

This is a wonderful story about who recognises Jesus and who does not. The Magi are from the East; they are not members of the chosen people of

God, and yet they recognise the signs of a momentous birth and set out to find the child. The king of the Jews, Herod, as well as the chief priests and scribes, the very people who should be looking for the Messiah, have not seen the signs. The positive and joyful response of the gentile Magi is contrasted with the opposite reaction from those who should have known better. The Magi fall in homage to a small child in an inconspicuous house. They have recognised the divine in the ordinary and bow before him as they would a king. In Matthew's community, many were struggling with the fact that the Jews reject the proclamation of the gospel while the gentiles accept it and come to faith in Christ.

SHARING THE TRADITION

This feast of the Epiphany originated in the Eastern Church and took hold in Rome some time during the fourth century. The main focus given to the feast was that of celebrating the coming to faith of the gentiles. Over time, the Magi of the gospel became the three kings of folklore and eventually even developed names: Balthasar, Melchior and Caspar. These three are often depicted as Asian, African and European, representing the three known continents of the time. What is important in this later development is that it retains the original meaning: that Christ came to all nations and is the salvation of all people who recognise him.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(04 - 10 January)

- **Monday, 4:** Weekday of Christmas Time (1 Jn 3:22 - 4:6; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25)
- **Tuesday, 5:** Weekday of Christmas Time (1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44)
- **Wednesday, 6:** Weekday, Christmas Time (1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52)
- **Thursday, 7:** Weekday of Christmas Time (1 Jn 4:19 - 5:4; Lk 4:14-22)
- **Friday, 8:** Weekday of Christmas Time (1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16)
- **Saturday, 9:** Weekday of Christmas Time (1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30)
- **Sunday 10:** BAPTISM OF THE LORD (1s 55:1-11; 1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11)

PASTORAL CARE

If you need a Priest for anointing of the sick or last rites contact: Noarlunga/Seaford (8382 1717), Willunga (0488 287 552), Victor Harbor/Goolwa (8552 1084), Kangaroo Island (0418 819 078).