

## GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*The Magi seek out Jesus and do him homage.*

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."

When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet:

*And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel."*

Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance.

He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child.

When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage."

After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Volunteering with CatholicCare

Interested in volunteering to help seniors or children? Based at Liverpool or Lewisham office? Call Careline on 13 18 19 to find out more.

## Fight poverty with your used stamps!

We are currently helping Mary MacKillop International collect used postage stamps to help with poverty overseas. If you have some mail with used stamps on them please cut off the stamp, leaving a generous margin of the envelope all around the stamp and bring them in to the Parish Office. We will be collecting until the end of January.

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 phone 9390 5812.

**Catechist & Friendship Group:** Bev Lamaro 0409 710 703; **Choir:** Line Collet 0410 568 103;

**Youth :** Alison De Sousa 0421 660 187; **Pastoral Council:** John Sarkis 0400 606 297;

**St Vincent de Paul:** John Ashe 9796 1055; **Bankstown Josephite Associates:** Robyn Molloy 9707 1292;

**Children's Liturgy:** Marie El-Chaar 9709 3451; **Cemetery Committee:** Maureen Vincent 9790 4217;

**Sacramental co-ordinator:** Gloria Booby 0413 294 224; **Safeguarding Officer:** Anthony Chadrawy 9790 1933;

**Polish Priests:** 8783 0533; **De La Salle Brothers:** 9708 2692;

**St. Felix Primary School:** 9796 7875 Frances Bonanno - Principal;

**LaSalle Catholic College:** 9793 5600 Mr Michael Egan - Principal;

**Archdiocesan Website:** www.sydney.catholic.org.au



# St Felix deValois Parish

550 Chapel Road, Bankstown, NSW 2200, Australia

Fr Van Nguyen, Parish Priest

Deacon Ronnie Maree

Marie Caldereri, Secretary (Tues, Wed, Thurs)

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### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

**Saturday:** 6pm (Vigil),

**Sunday:** 8am,  
10am (Children's Liturgy),  
6pm, 12noon (Polish).

### THIS WEEK'S MASSES

**Tuesday** - 8.00am

**Wednesday** - 8.00am

**Thursday** - 8.00am

**Friday** - 8.00am

**Saturday** - 8.00am

### Nursing Home Masses

NIL

### Vietnamese Mass

7 pm - 1st Thurs of each month.

### DEVOTIONS

**Benediction:** Saturday 7.00am.

**Rosary:** Saturday 8.25am.

### Divine Mercy Prayer:

6.30pm - 1st Wed of each month.

### SACRAMENTS

#### Reconciliation:

Saturday 4.30 - 5.30 pm

Or by appointment.

**Marriages:** By arrangement with at least 6 months notice.

**Care for the Sick:** Any time. Please call the Presbytery.

**Baptisms:** Preparation classes are held in the Presbytery on the 1st Sunday of each month after 10AM Mass .



### Responsorial Psalm

R. Every nation on earth shall worship the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.

**Alleluia!**

**Comm Antiphon:** We have seen his star in the east, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

**This weeks readings** - Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6; Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

**Next Weekend:** *The Baptism of the Lord - Year C.*

**Readings:** Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7; Gospel Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

# The Epiphany of the Lord - Yr C - 6 January 2019

### Josephite Associates Meeting

The next Josephite Associates Meeting will be on Sunday 13th January commencing at 2.00pm in the presbytery meeting room. All welcome.

### Trip to Wollongong Botanic Gardens

**Sunday, 13th January, 2019** - The trip will include morning tea at Stanwell Tops with its spectacular views; time to enjoy the gardens and feed the ducks and lunch at the Fraternity Club Bistro. Cost is \$55.00 per person. The coach will depart from St Brendan's Church at 8.30am. For bookings and further information, please contact Venero or Catina on 9707 1403 or 0403 852 811

### Pro-Life Training Day with Brendan Malone

Internationally renowned speaker Brendan Malone will run workshops on how to effectively participate in campaigns to defeat anti-life parliamentary bills and how to spread the pro-life message with clarity and compassion. We are expecting a new abortion up to birth bill in NSW parliament soon. We must prepare to combat this. \$30 per head includes morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. Saturday February 16, 9am to 5pm at St Paul of the Cross Parish, 532 New Canterbury Rd. Dulwich Hill. RSVP essential: [www.trybooking.com/ZZAZ](http://www.trybooking.com/ZZAZ)

### Mass Intentions:

**Recently Deceased:** Marcia Shanahan; Matthew Chu Van Tuynh

**Anniversary:** Bernard Danh; Eugenie Thien Tai Tran; Bernie Goodwin; George Sultana; Stella Briffa; Phero Khoa.

**Deceased:** John Field

**Sick:** Max Goodwin, Jason Timbs & Bart Hennely, Dau (Xuan); Gerard Go; Fatima Fernandes; Rukmani Krishnan; Catherine & Lourdes Raspanti; baby Alan Dien Quan Nguyen; Monina Rodriguez Pineda; Tenshi Asriel Magdaleno Arcenas; Rose Nuner; Maria Carta; Dinh Thi An; Teresita Martinez; Georgina Omeros; Maria Kovatsun; Frannie; Teresita Tenorio; Madelyn Nicole; Andrew Nguyen; Jun Ibarra; Adelle Tulay; Emlyn Beale.

### Weekly Rosters

**Altar Society: 13/1/19 Group 2:** Robyn Molloy, Rosa House, Jeannette Chong, Anna & Willy Gabut, Hien & Vu Bui (*Florist*)

**St Vincent de Paul:** 13/1/19 Andrew Nguyen 20/1/19 Thom Pham

**Church Cleaners: 11/1/19:** Charbel Karam **Children's Liturgy:** SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

**Weekend Choirs: 13/1 Saturday 6pm** - St Anne's Choir.

**Sunday 8am** - Singing Servants of God **10am** - St Felix Choir. **6pm** - Youth Choir.

### Readers & Ministers

	Sat 6pm	6 JANUARY	8am	10am	6pm
C	Emmanuel Icard	Maxwell Asuzu	Helen Vujevic	Lucia Mezentsef	
R	Kalisiana Mar	Imelda Dela Cruz	Jessica Vujevic	Kathleen Mezentsef	
A	Joseph Bui (A)	An Dang (A)	Anthony Joseph (A)	Thanh Vu (A)	
M	Cindy Hoang	Mesake Mar	Rosa House	Amelia Mezentsef	
M	Gloria Booby	Robyn Molloy	Jeannette Chong	Jacinta Eltarraf	

### 13 JANUARY

C	Patrick Abourizk	Philip Castillo	Thu Ha Kim	Elias Eltarraf
R	Gloria Booby	Ligaya Castillo	Anthony Rowe	Charbel Eltarraf
A	Tuyen Tran (A)	An Dang (A)	Thong Tran (A)	Thanh Vu (A)
M	Emmanuel Icard	Thao Nguyen	Ala Pesamino	Paul Ngoc
M	Cindy Hoang	Melanie Campisi	Joe Luongo	Loreto Eduardo

Reflection

### Jesus, our Saviour

The tradition of giving gifts at Christmas is thought by some to be rooted in the gift giving of the Magi. In many cultures, gifts are not exchanged at Christmas, but rather on the feast of the Epiphany. Whenever you exchange your Christmas gifts, take some time to reflect on this tradition of gift giving at Christmas. Think of the best gift you have received. What was it? What made it special? Was it the gift itself, the thought that went into it, or the person who gave it to you?

Read today's Gospel, Matthew 2:1-12. The gifts of the Magi—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—have come to be understood as symbols of Christ's royalty, divinity, and eventual suffering and death. They are special because in giving them, the Magi acknowledge who Jesus was to be: our Saviour. We pray that we will acknowledge Jesus as Saviour in all that we do and say. Conclude by singing together "We Three Kings."

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### The Epiphany

The feast of the Epiphany, which was kept in the East and in certain Western Churches before being observed in Rome, seems to have been originally a feast of the nativity; January 6, for those churches where it was kept, was the equivalent of Christmas (December 25) in the Roman Church. The feast was introduced at Rome in the second half of the sixth century and became the complement and, so to say, the crown of the Christmas festival.

Epiphany means manifestation. What the Church celebrates today is the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world; after being made known to the shepherds of Bethlehem He is revealed to the Magi who have come from the East to adore Him. Christian tradition has ever seen in the Magi the first fruits of the Gentiles; they lead in their wake all the peoples of the earth, and thus the Epiphany is an affirmation of universal salvation. St. Leo brings out this point admirably in a sermon, read at Matins, in which he shows in the adoration of the Magi the beginnings of Christian faith, the time when the great mass of the heathen sets off to follow the star which summons it to seek its Saviour.

That is the meaning, too, of the wonderful prophecy from Isaias which the liturgy appoints to be read in the first nocturne at Matins and at the Epistle of the Mass. This same thought of universal redemption the Church returns to as she sings, in the antiphon to the Magnificat at 2nd Vespers, applying the words to herself, of the union with Christ typified by the wedding feast at Cana, by the baptism of her children foreshadowed by that of Christ in the waters of the Jordan. Formerly the Epiphany was an additional day for solemn baptisms.

### St Bakhita's Day – Ethical Sourcing Seminar and Expo

Don't miss this important seminar (8 February) to ensure your business is prepared, informed and ready to take action to address forced labour, slavery and exploitation in supply chains.

Executives from across the corporate and public sector are invited to attend the seminar at St Mary's Cathedral. The Expo will bring together international best practice, modern slavery survivor testimony, local case studies and practical step-by-step guidance to support ethical sourcing practices as part of a robust procurement framework. Program of speakers released later in January 2019.

Event contact and to RSVP: Alison Rahill, Anti-Slavery Taskforce, Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney E: [alison.rahill@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:alison.rahill@sydneycatholic.org) M: 0439 482 290