ST JOSEPH'S PARISH - WARRNAMBOOL

Parish Office: 5562 2231 Fax: 5562 2230 E-mail: warrnambool@ballarat.catholic.org.au Diocesan website: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

PARISH STAFF: Fr John Fitzgerald (Parish Priest)

Barry Wolff (Business Manager) Leanne McElgunn (Secretary) Pat Negri (Gardening/Maintenance)

Office Hours: Monday to Friday: 9.00am - 1.00pm; 1.30pm - 4.00pm

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS: Michael Gray (St Joseph's School)

Peter Morgan (Emmanuel College)

WEEK-END LITURGIES: Sunday: 8.30am - 10.30am - 6.00pm

Purnim: 11.00am (Eucharist on 2nd and 4th Sundays)

(Assembly of Word with Communion on 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays)

WEEK-DAY LITURGIES: Tuesday to Friday: 10.00am (Eucharist)

Friday: 10.30am (Reconciliation)

NB: A funeral normally replaces the Mass of the day

Deaths: Frank McCarthy, Colleen Ryan, Errol Hutton, Frank Coghlan (Melbourne)

Anniversaries: Lucas Alvarez, Maria Mendez, Nora Veronica Mugavin, Irvine Guy

Baptism: Next preparation evening is this Wednesday at 7.30pm (Gathering Space).

Please book in at the Parish Office prior to the evening.

New Offices: Parish staff moved into the new facilities recently. We will advise you of an up-coming 'Open Day' followed by an official Opening by Bishop Paul Bird. You will also notice a few changes with the car parking. Please be **extra** careful as you exit the parking area onto Raglan Parade.

Defibrillator: The parish has been gifted with a Defibrillator. We are seeking volunteers who would be willing to learn how to use it. Please leave your name, or if you need further information, with Leanne (Parish Office).

Child Safety Standards: We have displayed the Child Safety posters and the Commitment Statement to Child Safety in the Gathering Space. The parish Safeguarding Officer, Anne Maree Mugavin, will speak to us on Sunday 22nd January

Stewardship - Finances

Stewardship: Weekly average contributions for the month of December

Parish: \$3,166.00 Pledged Amount: (per week) \$2,820 Presbytery: \$2,097.00

NB: Parish contribution consists of envelopes, credit cards & direct debits

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



The Feast of Symbolism

We, the **hearers** of the story, are invited to **recognise** ourselves in the scene. There is a natural inclination to **interpret** the Gospel stories in a far more **literal** way than they were ever **intended** to be received.

We are encouraged to reflect on the **meaning** behind these stories.

Just as the **magi** from the East came in **search** for Christ; We too are on a search (journey of faith).

We have a 'star' to follow (Christ); We have 'gifts' to bring.

We encounter the deviousness of the 'Herod' within us; And like the magi we can go home a 'different' way (the Christian way).

Annual Christmas Appeal

"Our Christmas Appeal is one way by which the diocese can respond to the many communities from near and far who turn to us for assistance... I hope the Ballarat diocese can continue to support this particular Appeal...Yours sincerely in Christ" (Bishop Paul Bird)

NB: This Appeal will be taken up at all Masses today (2nd collection)

See Notice Board re where the 2015 Appeal was distributed.

Thank you: To the very generous people who contributed to the Community Christmas Day Lunch held at the Warrnambool Uniting Church. We rely on volunteers and contributions, both physical and financial, to make the meal a success. Many financial contributions were anonymous so we are unable to thank them personally