

ST MARY'S PARISH SWAN HILL BULLETIN

Priest: Fr. Marcello Colasante PP
Parish Secretary: Glenda Klabbbers
Presbytery: Nola O'Bree
Parish Council Chair: Michelle Haeusler
St Mary's School Principal: Greg Lane
St Mary MacKillop Principal: Michelle Haeusler
Parish Office: Wednesday 10.00 am — 2.00 pm
Friday 10.00 am — 2.00 pm



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Year C

3rd January 2016

Presbytery: 62 Splatt Street Swan Hill 3585
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The Parish of Swan Hill comprises the faith Communities of: St Marys Swan Hill, St Joseph's Nyah West, St Joseph's Lake Boga

Mass Next Weekend:

Vigil: **7.00 pm** Swan Hill Sunday: **10.30 am** Swan Hill

Mass This Week:

Tuesday: 5.30 pm
Wednesday 10.00 am
Thursday: 10.00 am
Friday: 12.00 Noon
11.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Anniversaries: We remember Len Day, Jacqueline Borgelt, Patricia Davies, Ellen Bell, Lilliana Rovere, Gennaro Mase, Vito Isgro, Concetta Isgro, Robert Isgro, Joe Maggio, Ray Leschke.

Prayers for the Sick: Monica Nolen, Moira Higgins, Erin Coburn, Brooke Kennedy, Brian Mulcahy, Ronald Duryea, Dorothy Burgess, Jarrod Crimmins, Margaret Sinclair.

If you would like a sick person prayed for, please ask for their permission. After one month names will be deleted from the list unless otherwise advised.

FIRST READING *from the prophet Isaiah*

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.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13, R. see v.11*

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

SECOND 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

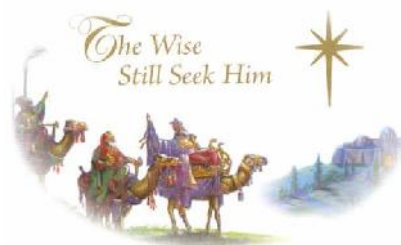
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Mt 2:2*

Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

READINGS NEXT WEEK 10th January 2016

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Through Baptism we welcome into our faith Community Kade Threadgold son of Shaun and Ellen and Ezra Neuschafer son of Michael and Hayley.



STATE OF THE NATION

Presbytery Account: (1st Basket)	24th/25th Dec	\$ 2,467.95
	26th/27th Dec	\$ 564.70
Christmas Offerings: to date		\$ 1,730.35
<i>(Support of Priests & Bishop)</i>		
Parish Account: (2nd Basket)	Envelopes	\$ 1,815.95
<i>(Support of the Parish)</i>	Credit Card	\$ 0.00
	Direct Debit	\$ 170.00
	Loose Plate	\$ 180.05
		\$ 2,166.00
Diocesan Christmas Appeal: to date		\$ 1,765.60

Thank-You!

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MINISTRIES for Next Weekend 10th January 2016

Ministers of the Word:

Vigil: Glenda Klabbbers, Michelle Haeusler
10.30am. Doreen Greenham, Bernice Murray

Ministers of Communion:

Vigil: Ursula Phyland, Josh Klabbbers, Michelle Haeusler, Marilyn Foley.
10.30am. Ken Smith, Jocelyn Ingram, Damien Kelly, Dorothy Bishop, Brenda Ford.

Music: Vigil: Joe Taverna
10.30am The Choir & Alison Wright

Presentation of Gifts:

Vigil: Shane & Julie Noonan
10.30am Scott & Carolyn Zambelli

Counters Vin & Kerry Dullard. Kieran Brennan

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GOSPEL REFLECTION:When I was a child one of my favourite stories of the Christmas period was the Coming of the Magi. The statues, when they arrived at the crib, were large and quite exotic. There was something mysterious, too, about the way they spent such a short time at the crib before disappearing for another year. The second chapter of Matthew is filled with movement. It starts in Bethlehem and ends in Nazareth by way of Egypt. These stories are unique to Matthew, who focuses on the fulfilment of Scripture. The writer draws parallels with the story of Moses. At the beginning of the book of Exodus we read about the birth and boyhood of Moses. Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, orders the killing of male infants. Moses is saved through the intervention of wise women. In fear for his life Moses runs to the desert. Later, when the threat is over, the Lord bids him return to save his people.

Matthew tells us that from his birth Jesus bears the likeness of the ancient saving figure. Jesus will exceed the work of his ancestor and bring about liberation in a new and unique manner. The evangelist ends his Gospel with the great commission. "Go make disciples of all the Gentiles, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold I am with you all days until the end of the age."

We can now see the magi in the context of the words of Isaiah Chapter 60. The whole chapter is a glorious song of freedom and renewal. The glory of the new creation is for all, without distinction. Here are some images for our reflection.

"You shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow." To become aware of God working in the world is like love at first sight. To become aware of God's presence is like looking into a sunrise. "The riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you." For most of us it is difficult to appreciate the wealth of life in a rock

pool. The sea is a mysterious storehouse of unimaginable delights. "All the vessels of the sea are assembled... to bring your children home with their silver and gold."

This great reunion of all the family of God is marked by gift giving. The silver and gold of discipleship is Christ who touches the world through us. "No longer shall your sun go down, or your moon withdraw, for the Lord will be your light forever."

Christ, Light of the World, fulfilled his commission in the incarnation through service and fidelity to God to his death. To put on Christ is to wear the saving prophetic mantle of Christ. Epiphany, or the showing forth of the presence of God in Jesus, is not the commemoration of a past event but an ever new call to continue the showing forth in our time, in our place, among our people. Paul in Ephesians 3 continues the Epiphany message. "Through the gift, God in his goodness bestowed on me by the exercise of his power, I became a minister of the Gospel. To me, the least of all believers was given the grace to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ." And so in us the showing forth continues. *Patricia Stevenson rsj.*

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Kimberley Catholic Volunteer Service: Volunteers Workers Wanted The Diocese of Broome, WA, requires volunteers to assist with the work of the local Church on Aboriginal Missions. There are various important voluntary tasks—administration, building maintenance, gardening, shop staffing, cooking, cleaning, etc. Placements are preferred for a period of 6 months plus. For further details, and an application form, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Anneliese Rohr, ph. 08 9192 1060, email: volunteers@broomedioocese.org web: <http://www.broomedioocese.org> or mail PO Box 76, Broome WA 6725

Misericordiae Vultus – The Face of Mercy

In his announcement about the Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis declared that "no-one can be excluded from the mercy of God."

He went on to say that the Church was "the house where everyone is welcomed and no-one is rejected. Her doors remain wide open, so that those who are touched by grace may find the assurance of forgiveness."

In coming weeks, we will share extracts from the document *Misericordiae Vultus* (it translates from the Latin as "The Face of Mercy"). This "bull of indiction" focuses on the theme for the Jubilee Year, namely "Merciful Like the Father". In it, Pope Francis reminds that we are each called to a journey of "spiritual conversion".

"The greater the sin, the greater the love that must be shown by the Church to those who repent," the Pope said in his announcement.