



HOLY FAMILY PARISH, MT DRUITT

Under the care of the Australian Jesuit Province

252 -254 Luxford Road, Emerton NSW 2770

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land this Church was built.



Parish Office:

Located in the Holy Family Centre
(via 11 Emert Pde, Emerton NSW 2770)

Postal Address:
PO Box 86, Mt Druitt NSW 2770
Ph: (02) 9628 7272 OR 0497 966 277

Office Hours:

The Parish Office is currently closed.
We will reopen on Tuesday 7th January, 2025.

Find us on 

Holy Family Parish, Mt Druitt
<https://fb.me/HFPMtDruitt>

Or visit our website:
www.holyfamily.org.au

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr Nguyen Van Cao SJ
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Assistant Priest: Fr Renato Zecchin SJ
renato@holyfamily.org.au

Pastoral Associate: Sr Carlene Allen
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Site Manager: Ray Donaldson
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Parish Secretary: Malia Lolesio
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Book-Keeper: Malinda Toms
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Music Director: Etuate 'Eddie' Paunga
kosilio_loleehotmail.com

**Parish Pastoral Council
Chairperson & Children's Liturgy**

Coordinator: Marissa Logronio
logroniom23@gmail.com

Sacramental Coordinator:
Lorraine Gordon

SRE Co-ordinators:
Maureen Freeburn & Lorraine Gordon

Finance Committee Chairperson:
Kevin Johnson

Holy Family Young Adult Leaders:
Monica Vave, Fololina Mafi, Burt Tukala
hfytmtdruitt@gmail.com

Mass Times at Holy Family, Emerton

Monday - Saturday
9.00am only

Saturday: Vigil 5.30pm
Sunday: 9.00am & 10.30am

Mass at Willmot
No Masses at Willmot over the
Christmas Break.

7.30am Sunday Masses to continue
from Sunday 26th January, 2025.

Mass and Anointing

2nd Saturday of every month:
9.00am

Holy Hour - Emerton

Saturdays from 9.30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays: 9.30am - 10.00am OR
by appointment.

2025/ Issue No. 1// Sunday 5th January 2025

Reflection from Fr Renato for the

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

"COME AND ADORE"

Today we celebrate the second manifestation (showing, revelation) of God in our midst through the person of Jesus Christ. The word epiphany comes from the Greek and it means a "showing" or manifestation by God. The first was the birth of his son in Bethlehem when God revealed himself in the form of a helpless newborn infant. Born homeless, in poverty, surrounded by the poor and outcasts (that is who the shepherds represent.) The third Jesus at the age of 30 years standing in the Jordan river with a multitude of remorseful sinners)

By the voice of God "You are my son, the beloved, with you, I am well pleased." The fourth in John's Gospel at Cana. The changing of the water (symbolising the Old Covenant) into wine (symbolising the New Covenant) to be signed and sealed on the cross of Calvary. The Epiphany is a story. It is not history. In any Scripture story, including the Gospel the truth of the story is in its meaning. This is very important for us to understand. So what is the story of today's Gospel tell us?

The Magi were understood to represent the whole non-Jewish, Gentile world which came to Christ. "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- the gifts foreshadowed the death of Jesus. Because there were three kinds of gifts three names were given to the Magi-. And they were also given names - Caspar, Balthazar, and Melchior. Caspar was represented as black and thus.

(Matthew 2:9-12) It was the wise men from the East, and not the local wise men, who recognised the light that led to Jesus.

God, in the person of Jesus, is reaching out to the whole world. More than that, the religious leaders of his own people - the chief priests and experts in the scriptures, although clearly aware of where the Messiah would be born, made no effort whatever to investigate. Yet Bethlehem was "just down the road", so to speak, from Jerusalem.

King Herod, an ambitious and ruthless man (and that is a fact of history), was prepared to travel there, but only to wipe out even the remotest threat to his own position. These pagan foreigners, on the other hand, went to great lengths to find the "King of the Jews" and "pay him homage".

All in all, today's feast is telling us that for God there are no foreigners, no outsiders. From his point of view, all are equally his beloved children. We all, whatever external physical or cultural differences there may be between us, belong to one single family which has one Father, "our" Father. It means that every one of us is a brother and sister to everyone else. There is no room for discrimination of any kind based on nationality, race, religion, class or occupation. There cannot be a single exception to this position.

Where are the stars? Finally, we might ask ourselves, Where are the stars in my life? The wise men saw the star and followed it. The people in Jerusalem did not. How, and to what is God calling me at this time? Where does he want me to find him, to serve and follow him? It is not too late to look for our star and begin following it from where we are now.

Prayer for the New Year

Give us the kindness to hear with compassion,
to offer support,
loving comfort, and care.

Give us the courage
to do what is needed,
the wisdom to choose
what is right and fair.

Give us the vision
to see what is possible.

Give us the faith in Jesus - the Risen One -
that will help pave the way
for a present that is hopeful,
a future that is peaceful
Give us a prayerful heart
to bring joy to each day.
Amen.



WISE MEN
Still
SEEK
Him



- Pope Francis' Prayer
Intention for January -
- For the Right to an
Education

Let us pray for migrants,
refugees and those affected
by war, that their right to an
education, which is
necessary to build a better
world, might always be
respected.



SCRIPTURE READINGS - YEAR C

The Epiphany of the Lord

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

**Collect:**

O God, who on this day revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in your mercy that we, who know you already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you! For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 71 (72): 1-2, 7-8, 10-13, R.v.11

R: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.
May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice. R.

In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
May he have dominion from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth. R.

May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute,
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.
May all kings fall down before him,
all nations give him service. R.

For he delivers the needy one who calls,
the poor and the one who has no helper.
He has pity on the weak and the needy,
and saves the lives of the needy. R.

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS

BAPTISM: We welcomed in the community, Maile Queensell, who was baptised last Sunday 29th December, 2024.

LIST OF THE SICK: John Murray, Lemisio Fa'ulua, Lourdes Bustamante, Antony Pepin, Pippa O'Neal, Maureen Clements, Mathew Sieders, Jose Manalo, Fely Dela Paz Manalo, Maria Barbara, Sylvia Greene, Tualau Vave, Mayda Attachian, Faye Iffland, Tim Meagher, Zarouf Mallouk, Gloria Cutcliffe, Emma Lawrence, Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Fara Vargas, Fe Llave, Stella Edwards, Boyet Llave.

RECENT ANNIVERSARIES:

RECENT DEATHS:

Second Reading: Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6

Brothers and sisters: Surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind as it has now been revealed to his holy Apostles and Prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East,
and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the Prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "God and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Prayer After Communion:

Go before us with heavenly light, O Lord, always and everywhere, that we may perceive with clear sight and revere with true affection the mystery in which you have willed us to participate. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

