



HOLY FAMILY COMMUNITY



UNDER THE CARE OF THE AUSTRALIAN JESUIT PROVINCE

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2023/Issue 2 HOLY FAMILY PARISH WEBSITE: www.holyfamily.org.au 8th January 2023

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

Parish Priest
Assistant Priest
Pastoral Associate
Site Manager
Secretary
Music Director
Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson

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Fr Patrick Mullins, SJ
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MASS TIMES - HOLY FAMILY CHURCH - EMERTON

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

JOHN TERRY CHAPEL (DAY CHAPEL)

Monday 8.30am Mass
Tuesday 6.00pm Mass
Wednesday 6.00pm Mass
Thursday 8.30am Mass
Friday 9.00am Mass
Saturday 9.00am Mass



MASS AT WILLMOT CHURCH

Sunday 7.30am
Cnr Pelsart & Carteret Ave Willmot

RECONCILIATION AND HOLY HOUR—EMERTON

Saturday from 9.30 am to 10.00 am

REFLECTION FROM THE PARISH PRIEST FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

In many parts of the world, this feast of the Epiphany is known as “Little Christmas”, as it is a commemoration of God reaching out to all the nations. With the visit of the Magi – and their return home to ‘pagan’ nations – God is revealed to more than just the Israelites.

Starting with Jerusalem, the light of God is made manifest to all the nations of the world. What starts in Jerusalem, and with the Israelite people, is now set as a beacon for the nations of the world. The light is God is known in the ways in which the most vulnerable in the city are cared for and acknowledged. We can ask ourselves whether today we serve as such a beacon in the ways we treat our poor and vulnerable?

Another theme today is Christ as the Light to the nations. Led by a star, the astrologers come in search of the infant king. They have read the signs in the heavens. They represent all who search for truth in the wonders of creation and in the wisdom of their cultures of origin. Because they searched with eyes of faith they were able to recognize the gift of God when they found him, even though he did not conform to their initial perception of a royal heir. We can ask ourselves this Christmas about who it is that we seek? What is our expectation of finding Christ?



A third theme is the new relationship that develops between the Jewish and gentile believers because of Jesus. The Magi who come in faith to worship the child represent the multi-ethnic and cultural diversity in civic and parish situations as well as the many religions of the world. We can see such diversity in our own community and diocese. This is a living out of the New Testament where God not only deals with Israel, but also influences and speaks through foreign kings and rulers. Now, all people, regardless of race or ethnic origin, can be co-heirs with Christ in the reign of God.

Fr Gregory

SCRIPTURE READINGS—YEAR A THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60: 1-6

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

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.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6

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, "Go 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.



They bowed down and worshiped him

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 15th JANUARY 2023
MARY, the HOLY MOTHER OF GOD



1st Reading: Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6
2nd Reading: I Corinthians 1: 1-3
Gospel: John 1: 29-34



*Rest in God's eternal Love and Peace,
Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI
1927 - 2022*

United with Pope Francis and Christians throughout the world, the Church in Sydney and Australia mourns the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, one of the greatest theologian-popes in the Church's two-thousand-year history. For more than 70 years, as priest-theologian, bishop-pastor, cardinal-prefect, teacher-pope and finally pope-emeritus, Joseph Ratzinger selflessly served Christ and his Church.

A man of towering intellect and deep piety, he was influential as a peritus (expert adviser) at the Second Vatican Council and in the subsequent interpretation and implementation of the Council.

As Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, he was a close collaborator with Pope John Paul II and shared his enthusiasm for a "new evangelisation", as much directed toward disconnected Christians as to those who have not yet heard the Gospel.

He was elected Pope in 2005 at a stage of life when most would expect to be retiring. He humbly accepted the decision of the conclave and embraced the task, giving himself to teaching through homilies and writings, to pastoral journeys around the globe, and to initiating important reforms in the Church, including in the area of child protection.

Having spent himself in these efforts for eight years, he retired in 2013, devoting himself to praying for the Church.

Whilst saddened by his death, we can all be grateful for the blessing of his long life and the lasting contribution he made to our faith.

Pope Benedict XVI holds a special place in the hearts of Catholics in Australia where he is remembered as 'the World Youth Day Pope'. In 2008 he gathered with hundreds of thousands of young pilgrims in our harbour city for catechesis and worship. He was received by the young people as a loving spiritual grandfather and 14 years later we are still reaping the fruits of that visit. In addition to his beautiful preaching at that time, I have many happy memories of private moments with Pope Benedict then and later as he reminisced about his time with us.

Pope Benedict's connection to Australia was strengthened in 2010, when he canonised St Mary of the Cross Mackillop as Australia's first recognised saint.

In his homily he spoke of the importance of prayerful teachers in leading people to salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. Like Mary Mackillop, Benedict XVI led many people to Christ by his teaching and example.

He was surely one of the finest minds and most faithful souls to fill the chair of St Peter in the last two millennia. His unique command of the truths of Christian doctrine and his singular ability to make those truths come alive homiletically and catechetically were a great gift to the Church in troubled times. As a great lover of the Sacred Liturgy his profound theology was developed not in his desk chair so much as on his knees.

Again and again, Pope Benedict called us back to the foundations of our faith in the Holy Scriptures and Tradition, the Word of God alive and active in our day, ever ancient and ever new. He was convinced that Catholic truth speaks volumes to our times and hundreds of those volumes were his own.

His writings have already inspired generations and will undoubtedly be studied for centuries to come. As with St John Paul II, I think we can expect that Pope Benedict will one day be acknowledged as a Doctor of the Church.

At his election as Pope in 2005, Benedict famously referred to himself as "a simple and humble labourer in the vineyard of the Lord" and entrusted himself to the prayers of the faithful. I witnessed that simplicity and humility—indeed real holiness—up close on several occasions. Today the universal Church prays that that humble servant of the Lord, Benedict XVI, be welcomed into the loving embrace of the God he served so well.

- Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, 01/01/2023

The Parish Office is currently closed, and will reopen on Monday 9th January 2023.

The office will be closed on Wednesday 11th January, due to Holiday Program.

Normal Weekday Mass times will resume from Monday 9th January 2023.