

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish

Yarra Junction & Warburton



The Epiphany of the Lord (Year B)

7 January 2024

Readings

Next Week

1 Sam 3:3-10
Ps 39:2, 4, 7-10
1 Cor 6:13-15
Jn 1:35-42

in a nutshell

They offered him gifts. For some Christians the Feast of Epiphany is the day on which gifts are exchanged. As we observe the wise men opening their treasures in today's Gospel and offering gifts to Jesus, we can ask: what precious gifts can we offer Jesus today? We may not have gold, frankincense or myrrh but we have our love, our fidelity, our time. We can give these to Jesus by giving them to those in need.

we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend: Margaret Marshall, Margaret Broderick, Fida Rees, Margaret Moore, Pauline Bennett.

For those who have died recently: and those whose anniversary occurs at this time.

of special note

Parish office closed for the next two weeks.

More information inside!

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) 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. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

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

Communion Antiphon

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

The Parish of Sacred Heart

Parish Priest

REV. MICHEL G CORRIVEAU

Parish Secretary

Janine Meades

Parish Office Hours

Thursday
9:00am-4:00pm

Weekly Schedule

Sunday Mass

Warburton: Saturday—4:30pm (EST)
7:00pm (EDST)
Yarra Junction: Sunday—8:30am

Weekday Mass

Wednesday—9:00am Yarra Junction
First Friday—11:30am Warburton

Reconciliation

Thursday 6:00pm-6:45pm
Thursdays at Yarra Junction
First Thursday at Warburton

Exposition

Thursday at 6:00pm
Thursdays at Yarra Junction
First Thursday at Warburton

Weddings

Please contact the office

Baptisms

Please see Father after Mass

Parish Primary School

Principal: Nick Boyhan

Website:

www.sjyarrarjunction.catholic.edu.au

Parish Office: 58 Clegg Rd, Mount Evelyn VIC 3796
Tel: (03) 9736 2850

Website: melbcatholic.org/s/upperyarra

Email: moutevelyn@cam.org.au

Child Safety

Child Safety is everyone's responsibility. Our Parish is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, and vulnerable people in our community. Remember children should be accompanied by an adult to the toilets.

Safeguarding Committee

Fr Michel
Janine Meades
Michael Fahey
Paul Latham
Mary Ryan
Enzo Torresan
Nino Troiani

Working With Children

There are a number of parishioners whose Working With Children Check has expired. Could you please check your cards and update if necessary.

Bulletin notices by 12:00 noon Thursday please

mountevelyn@cam.org.au

For positions vacant within the Diocese visit:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

Parish Meetings: Wednesday, 7 February

Finance Committee	7:00pm
Parish Safeguarding	7:30pm
Parish Council	8:00pm

Parish Notices

Office Closure

The parish office will be closed until mid January. The office will reopen the week of 15 January 2024.

Fr Michel will be away for two weeks in January

Fr Michel will be away the weeks of 8 January and 15 January. All weekday liturgies are cancelled. Weekend Masses remain the same.

Unexpected Maintenance Expenses—Donations needed!

Due to plumbing leaks and repairs needed to toilets we have a bill of \$5387.00. This is a major and unexpected expense to the Parish.

Also needing repairs was the security lighting at Warburton at a cost of \$902.

If you can donate towards covering these expenses it would be appreciated. Contributions can be made via direct debit using the bank details listed below (use the reference 'repairs') or by cash/cheque in an envelope marked repairs. Thanks to those who have contributed to this appeal: **donations to date \$1620**

Sacred Heart Parish Church

BSB# 083347 Account number 670642723

Adoration of the Eucharist — Resumes 25 January

Jesus has made Himself the Bread of Life to give us life...He is there, if you really want to grow in love, come back to the Eucharist, come back to that Adoration. (St. Teresa of Calcutta)

Confession: Conversion is not the question of a moment or a time of the year, it is an undertaking that lasts one's entire lifetime. Indeed, this is our life: to rise again continuously and resume our journey. (Pope Francis)

Adoration, spend time in the presence of the Holy Eucharist: Yarra Junction, Thursday nights at 6:00pm except first Thursday (Warburton). Confessions available during Adoration. Friday mornings 8:00am Mount Evelyn

Stewardship Corner

"They fell down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." - Matthew 2:11

Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!

Church Flowers—Donations

Donations can be made at any time in envelopes marked 'Flowers' or 'Altar Society'.

St Mary's Prayer Group— Now Every Week

The Prayer Group meet every Friday in the church from 2-3 p.m. Come and join us! "Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God" (St. John Damascene). All Welcome!

Parish Sacramental Program

For Children, not attending the Parish School, wanting to receive the Sacraments, Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation, instructions are available through our Parish.

Contact the parish office or annevan.tilburg@gmail.com Contact Anne by mid-December for 2024 enrolments. Please note classes are held at St Mary's.

Something to bring a smile

The trouble with jogging is that by the time you realise you're not in shape for it, it's too far to walk back.

Why shouldn't you marry a tennis player? Because Love means nothing to them.

Have you heard the one about the bad pole-vaulter? It never goes over very well.

I'm not good at sports, but I like parallel parking. Unlike sports, the worse you are at parallel parking, the more people you have yelling their support for you.

Readings Reflection

[Newborn King](#)

Today the child born on Christmas is revealed to be the long-awaited king of the Jews.

As the priests and scribes interpret the prophecies in today's Gospel, He is the ruler expected from the line of King David, whose greatness is to reach to the ends of the earth (see Micah 5:1-3; 2 Samuel 5:2).

Jesus is found with His mother, as David's son, Solomon, was enthroned alongside his Queen Mother (see 1 Kings 2:19). And the magi come to pay Him tribute, as once kings and queens came to Solomon (see 1 Kings 10:2,25).

His coming evokes promises that extend back to Israel's beginnings.

Centuries before, an evil king seeking to destroy Moses and the Israelites had summoned Balaam, who came from the East with two servants. But Balaam refused to curse Israel, and instead prophesied that a star and royal staff would arise out of Israel and be exalted above all the nations (see Numbers 22:21; 23:7; 24:7, 17).

This is the star the three magi follow. And like Balaam, they too refuse to be tangled in an evil king's scheme. Their pilgrimage is a sign—that the prophecies in today's First Reading and Psalm are being fulfilled. They come from afar, guided by God's light, bearing the wealth of nations, to praise Israel's God.

We celebrate today our own entrance into the family of God, and the fulfillment of God's plan that all nations be united with Israel as co-heirs to His Fatherly blessings, as Paul reveals in today's Epistle.

We too must be guided by the root of David, the bright morning star (see Revelation 22:16), and the light of the world (see Isaiah 42:6; John 8:12).

As the magi adored Him in the manger, let us renew our vow to serve Him, placing our gifts—our intentions and talents—on the altar in this Eucharist. We must offer to Him our very lives in thanksgiving. No lesser gift will suffice for this newborn King.

[Dr. Scott Hahn](#)
stpaulcenter.com

The Epiphany or the “Manifestation” of the Lord.

Today we are celebrating the Solemnity of the Epiphany, the “Manifestation” of the Lord. The Gospel tells how Jesus came into the world with deep humility and hiddenness. St Matthew, however, mentions the episode of the Wise Men who arrive from the East, guided by a star, to worship the newborn King of the Jews. Every time we hear this account, we are struck by the stark contrast between the attitude of the Magi, on the one hand, and that of Herod and the Jews on the other. In fact, the Gospel says that on hearing the words of the Magi “Herod the king ... was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him” (Mt 2:3). There are various ways in which this reaction can be understood: Herod is alarmed because he sees in the one the Magi were seeking a rival to himself and his children. On the other hand, the elders and inhabitants of Jerusalem seem amazed, rather than anything else, as though they had been woken from a certain lethargy and needed to think. Isaiah had, in reality, foretold: “To us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called “Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Is 9:6).

So why should Jerusalem have been worried? It seems that the Evangelist almost desired to anticipate what was later to be the attitude of the high priests and the Sanhedrin, as well as of the people, toward Jesus during his public life. Certainly, it becomes clear that knowledge of the Scriptures and of the messianic prophecies does not lead everyone to open themselves to him and to his words. It comes to mind that Jesus with his Passion approaching wept over Jerusalem because it had not recognized the time of its visitation (cf. Lk 19:44). Here we touch on one of the crucial points of historical theology: the drama of the faithful love of God in the person of Jesus, who “came to his own, yet his own did not accept him” (Jn 1:11). In the light of the whole Bible this attitude of hostility, or ambiguity, or superficiality represents that of every person and of the “world” in the spiritual sense when closed to the mystery of the true God, who comes to meet us in the disarming docility of love. Jesus, the “King of the Jews” (cf. Jn 18:37), is the God of mercy and fidelity. He desires to reign in love and in truth and asks us to convert, to abandon wicked deeds and to set out with determination on the path of good.

Hence in this sense “Jerusalem” is all of us! May the Virgin Mary, who welcomed Jesus with faith, help us not to close our hearts to his Gospel of salvation. Rather, let us allow ourselves to be conquered and transformed by him, the “Emmanuel”, God who came to dwell among us to offer us the gift of his peace and his love.

Pope Benedict XVI, Angelus, 6 January 2009