

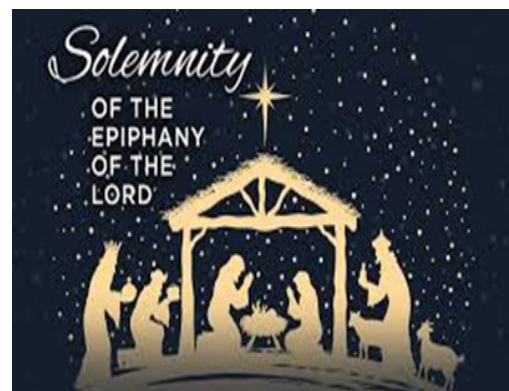
Looking at the Readings

The Prophet Isaiah, most quoted in this Advent Christmas season, presents one of the major themes of the Epiphany mystery: Light "Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come." With this light we are able to see around us and see the glory of the Lord.

Epiphany Symbols

The Star: Gives light and guidance. Christmas lights remind us of the Light of Christ. The Star on top of the Christmas tree brings God's creation and Christ's salvation into our hearts and minds.

Three Gifts: Gold a gift from a king to the King; Incense is burnt to honour God. The gift of incense is given to honour the divinity of Christ; Myrrh is an ointment for anointing the dead. It reminds us of Christ's humanity and our mortality.



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Parish Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9am - 1pm

St Mary's Parish Centre

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PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekend Masses: 3rd & 4th January 2026

Saturday: 6.00pm Mass

Sunday : 9:30am Mass

Weekday Masses: 5th - 9th January 2026

Wednesday: 12.00pm Mass

Reconciliation: Approach Fr Novie before Mass

Baptism: Every Second weekend of the Month

Weddings: By Appointment with the Parish Priest

Sophia Sisters: Every Monday 1:30pm (Parish Centre)

Men's Group: Every Saturday 9am (Parish Centre)

Playgroup: Every Friday 9am (Parish Centre)

Children's Liturgy: G'day Sunday

Sunday School: G'day Sunday

Ladies Drinks: 4th Wednesday 5:30pm (Parish Centre)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Yorta Yorta Nation. This land is sacred, this land is gift, this land is thousands of years old. We acknowledge the immense beauty of this land and the dreams of the Yorta-Yorta People. We pay our respects to elders past and present and acknowledge the lessons the Yorta-Yorta people teach us about care, respect and justice for mother earth.

If you wish to assist in "further supporting the Parish" we offer different ways of giving... direct debit, credit card or planned giving envelopes. Please ring the office for more details.

PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:

St Mary's Echuca: BSB Number: 083-543

Account Number: 45-782-9206

Child Safety: Through our policies and practices, we protect the right of children to feel safe and to be safe. We promote the well-being and inclusion of all children. For more information, contact the parish office and look for the Child Safety Officer Mel Slattery.

PARISH CALENDAR

12th January:	2.30pm Social Club Meeting	Please note new date
26th January:	9:30am Australia Day Mass	
28th January:	3:15pm Schools Combined Staff Mass	
14th/15th February:	G'day weekend	
18th February:	12noon and 6pm Ash Wednesday Masses	
24th February:	5:30pm Ladies Drinks	
28th February:	"Save the Date" Ladies Breakfast	

Could all Groups please send through their 2026 calendar dates for the diary. Thank you

Liturgical Jottings

Epiphany and Ourselves

It is easy to regard the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord as a past event, a cultural festival and as a liturgical presentation. The Feast is rich with symbolism, curious in its origins and its personages and deeply theological in the mysteries of Christmas, Epiphany and Baptism of the Lord.

But where do we fit with it other than in Christmas pageants? We may ask the questions: "What are the Magi (the wise men) to us today? How can we relate to the incarnation of the Lord? What are the demands on us?"

The Magi fulfil the prophecies of Old that all nations will acknowledge the power and reign of God. We are in the mix of the nations and its people to recognise God with us and that he has become flesh and bone like us. The incarnation teaches God lives with us and Christ's divinity teaches us we have that spark of divine life within us. Every Christian is to be a wise person in their time and space. Every Christian is to be a light to the world, and to follow the star and the cross of Christ to eternal life.

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GIFTS

Gold. Frankincense. Myrrh. Each of the gifts given by the Magi to the Christ child have a symbolic meaning as He is revealed to the world as King, Priest, and Prophet. Gold honors Jesus because it represents that He is Christ the King. Frankincense pleases Jesus as it is used to worship Him, and it reveals that He is Christ the High Priest. Myrrh is a perfume used to anoint dead bodies, and it is symbolic of His death for the sake of the truth, as Christ the Prophet.

Considering the special gifts given to Jesus causes me to pause and think about their significance this Christmas season and compels me to bow down and worship Jesus, our Prophet, Priest, and King!



Quote of the Saints

It concerns the salvation of all humanity that the Infancy of the Mediator between God and human beings was now being made known to the whole world, even while it was still confined to this meagre little village. He had chosen the nation of Israel and—from that nation—one family, in particular, as the one from which to take up the nature of all humanity. Still, he did not want the beginnings of his appearance to remain hidden within the confines of his mother's house. Instead, he wanted to be acknowledged right away by all, since he had seen fit to be born for all.

Pope St Leo I, sermon 31 on 6 January 441

On the Lighter Side

As well as a major Feast Day, epiphanies can happen at any time. "I never made any one of my discoveries through the process of rational thinking."

Albert Einstein

A Note from the Editor-in-Chief

Printed copies of Revelations are available at the church entrance and parish office, and a digital version can also be viewed on our website.

May this magazine inspire us and remind us of our shared journey in faith, hope, and love, guiding us as a parish family growing in faith together.

With gratitude and prayers,

Cindy Narvasa



Christmas Mass envelopes are available at the back of the church. Thank you.



CARITAS AUSTRALIA



CHRISTMAS APPEAL: Be a

light in the darkness for

families facing adversity this Christmas

Caritas is inviting Australians to “be a light in the darkness” for families living through the trauma of war, displacement, poverty and natural disaster. The intensity of the conflict in Ukraine has increased and more people are experiencing displacement and poverty. The people of the Philippines, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka are devastated by typhoons and floods. With your support, we can bring hope to these families. Caritas is on the ground working hard to support people on the ground.

As a practical way for us to be Lights of Hope, the theme for St Mary’s Christmas Eve Family Mass 2025 is the Light of Hope in the Darkness.

Our Christmas Mass collections will support these Caritas appeals but to bring hope immediately, you can donate today via QR code or at www.caritas.org.au/christmas-appeal/be-the-light-in-darkness/ or www.caritas.org.au/asia-storms or call 1800 024 413

ROSTERS THIS WEEK

3rd & 4th January 2026

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Christine Sebire, Dominic Karunanayake, Rose Quinn

9.30am: Barb Green, Julie Moyle, Noela Boyer

Ministers of the Eucharist:

6.00pm: Leah Williams, Tania Dixon

9.30am: John Moyle, Margaret Hart

Prayers of the Faithful: Mary Atkins

St Anne’s Church Cleaners: 3rd

Lee Pethybridge, Cindy & Jonas Narvasa

Setting up the Church: 3rd Rose Quinn

Setting up the Church: 4th Kate Bruty

Baptism Preparation: Holly Morris

Counters: 6th Eileen Pineo & Lois Williams

Hospital Visiting: 4th Carmel Mackenzie

Gardening: Rob Morris & Bob Cooper

ROSTERS NEXT WEEK

10th & 11th January 2026

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Chris Lee, Nick Lee, Terry McKiterick

9.30am: Noela Boyer, Judi O’Farrell, Rob Morris

Ministers of the Eucharist:

6.00pm: Rose Quinn, Tharaka de Silva

9.30am: Loretta Holman, Mel Slattery

Prayers of the Faithful: Terry McKiterick

St Anne’s Church Cleaners: 10th

Jan Tarr, Gabe Phelan, Jenny Morris

Setting up the Church: 10th Christine Sebire

Setting up the Church: 11th Noela Boyer

Baptism Preparation: Holly Morris

Counters: 13th Brendan, Andrew, Peter

Hospital Visiting: 11th Barb Green

Gardening: Rob Morris & Bob Cooper

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

Sick: Patricia Vogeale, Bruno Barbera, Monica Beckwith, Dan Carey, Howard Clark Jnr, Pat Davey, Chloris Dignan, Caroline Farley, Fred Molluso, Murray Perrett, Meredith Ryan (Maddick), Maureen McKenner, Lenny Reid, Alistair Corman, Elizabeth Kyne (Weekly), Meaghan Broom (Byrne), Maurice O’Connor, Antonia Molluso, Carmel Murphy, Judy Cooling (Dwyer), Dominga Cabantac, John & Elaine Farley, Margaret McMahon

Anniversaries: Ken Marwood, Isahia Coghill, Bill Quinn, Mary Sidorow and Vincent Connellan.

Recently Deceased: Patrick McMahon

***If you have an addition to our overall prayer list or require someone to be removed from our sick list please email admin.*

First Reading*Isaiah 60:1-6***A 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
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.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13***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 when they call,
the poor and those who have no helper.
He has pity on the weak and the needy,
and saves the lives of the needy. **R.**

Next Week: The Baptism of the Lord, Year A**10th & 11th January 2026**

1st Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Responsorial Psalm: 28:1-4, 9-10

2nd Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

Second Reading*Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6***A 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 the same promise has been
made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*Matthew 2:2***Alleluia, alleluia!**

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

Alleluia!**Gospel***Matthew 2:1-12***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during
the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to
Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the
Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have
come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this
he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem.
He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of
the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was
to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for
this is what the prophet wrote: And you, Bethlehem, in
the land of Judah you are by no means least among the
leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him
privately. He asked them the exact date on which the
star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go
and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you
have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and
do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to
say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star
they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the
place where the child was. The sight of the star filled
them with delight, and going into the house they saw
the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees
they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures,
they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and
myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back
to Herod, and returned to their own country by a
different way.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.