

The community of St Mary's Catholic Parish and Dutton Park Catholic Parish acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which our parishes stand.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 8th January 2023 - Year A

Where did the faith of the Magi come from?

The Season of Christmas includes the celebration of the arrival of the magi from the East. Let's consider the humble adoration of the magi for the Christ child. The magi were Gentiles, and the Greek word "magi" meant oriental scientists. Despite sometimes being translated as "astrologers", their visit to the manger does not validate astrology.

Because they were not Jews, their determination to meet the Jewish savior says much about what the word "epiphany" means. The magi are good examples of believing in the importance of Jesus even without understanding what it would mean to them personally or to the rest of the world.

They worshiped Jesus as a King-Messiah before they knew how he would become king or how his kingship would save the world from evil. As scientific scholars, they had studied religious writings from beyond the scope of their own culture. Then, they acted on faith in response to the Spirit of God who activated them, and it changed their lives. Only the Spirit of God can move someone to have faith, because faith is a gift of the Holy Spirit (see 1 Corinthians 12). The word "epiphany" means discovery, a revelation that changes our lives. Epiphanies are gifts from God as he collaborates with our desire for new growth.

We can imagine how the magi felt when they experienced an epiphany in the presence of the Christ child. Although they did not understand how this baby from a poor family could become king, they remembered him for the rest of their lives and listened for news from the land of Israel about Jesus. We know that they heard about his crucifixion and learned what his followers were teaching about it, for they became Christians -- their relics have been venerated since very early times.

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Welcome to New Parishioners Please make yourselves known to our Priests and to the parishioners who greet you as you arrive. For more information about our parish or how to volunteer in the Church ministry or our activities, please contact the Parish Office below. MASS TIMES PARISH ADMINISTRATION **St Mary's** (20 Merivale St, South Brisbane) Parish Priest: Fr. Joshy Parappully OFM Cap Email: <u>pp.southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au</u> Mon-Fri: 7am | Sat: 8am (Rosary after Mass) Sunday: 9am and 5pm Parish Deacon: Deacon Adam Walk Email: <u>walka@bne.catholic.net.au</u> Pastoral Coordinator: Sr. Salvation Bunao SFI Parish Secretary: Niken Westerman Finance Officer: Kevin Bhasin Parish Youth: couthbrichene@bno.catholic.net St Francis of Assisi (47 Dornoch Tce, West End) • Sunday: 9am St Ita's (Pope St, Dutton Park)Saturday (Vigil): 5pm Parish Youth: southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au Sunday: 10.30am (Indonesian) Safeguarding Officers: Our Lady of Perpetual Succour • St Mary's Church : Chris Bolger (0407 480 205) (Victoria St, Fairfield) • St Francis of Assisi: Liam Cunnane (0477 306 166) Sunday: 7am • St Ita's Church: Liam O'Rourke (0411 033 321) CONFESSION • OLPS Church: Vania Lobo (0435 935 925) **St Mary's Church** Sat: 8.30am-9am | Sun: 4.15-4.45pm Office: 47 Dornoch Tce, West End, Q 4101 Telephone: 07 3844 2744 Postal: PO Box 3857, West End, Q 4101 Emails: - <u>southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au</u> St Ita's Church By appointment (contact parish office) stitaspar@bne.catholic.net.au **More information:** Websites: - <u>www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au</u> ST ITAS'S PRIMARY SCHOOL 247 Gladstone Rd, Sutton Park, Q 4102 Phone: (07) 3838 8400 Email: pduttonpark@bne.catholic.edu.au Web: www.stitasduttonpark.qld.edu.au - www.duttonparkcatholic.org.au FB: - www.facebook.com/stmaryssouthbrisbane/ www.fb.me/duttonparkwestendcatholicparish

READINGS AT MASS

First reading: Isaiah 60: 1-6

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.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 71(72): 1-2,7-8,10-13

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. **R/**

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. **R/**

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. **R/**

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 . ${\bf R}/$

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

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 Jesus Christ, through the gospel

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

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.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Mt 2: 2

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

(Excerpts from: The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commision on English in the Liturgy (ICEL) and Universalis © 1996-2018 Universalis Publishing Limited.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

What sign from God, like the star that the magi followed, are you waiting to see? What signs is God already showing you?

These are evidence that he is working in your life. What epiphany -- new understanding -- is Jesus giving you about what God is doing in your life?

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THIS WEEK'S Psalm Responses

Monday 9th: Feast (The Baptism of the Lord) The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Tuesday 10th: *You gave your Son authority over all your creation.*

Wednesday11th: The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Thursday 12th: *If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.*

Friday 13th: Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Saturday 14th: *Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.*

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st reading: Is 49: 3, 5-6

2nd reading: 1 Cor 1: 1-3

Gospel: John 1: 29-34

TWO MINUTES CATECHISM

What does "epiphany" mean? Epiphany has several meanings, including "manifestation" or "sudden insight." In the context of the feast it means that the God-man Jesus Christ was manifested to the world, as represented by the Magi and the different peoples from whom they came.

Is Epiphany the 12th day of Christmas?

Yes, but this is not the final day of the Christmas season. The Twelve Days between Christmas and the Epiphany complete the celebration of the Nativity and the events directly connected to it.

When is the last day of Christmas?

In the Ordinary Form of the Latin Rite the last day of the Christmas Season is the Baptism of Our Lord, when His hidden life ended and His public ministry began. The following day the Church begins "Ordinary Time."

However, the Extraordinary Form of the Latin Rite which uses the traditional liturgical calendar and forms, continues the celebration of Christmas through February 2nd, the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple and Purification of Mary, also called Candlemas.

What is the spiritual meaning of Epiphany?

On the Solemnity of the Epiphany in 2019, Pope Francis said,

It is not enough to know where Jesus was born, as the scribes did, if we do not go there. It is not enough to know that Jesus was born, like Herod, if we do not encounter him. When his place becomes our place, when his time becomes our time, when his person becomes our life, then the prophecies come to fulfilment in us. Then Jesus is born within us. He becomes the living God for me. Today we are asked to imitate the Magi. They do not debate; they set out. They do not stop to look, but enter the house of Jesus. They do not put themselves at the centre, but bow down before the One who is the centre. They do not remain glued to their plans, but are prepared to take other routes. Their actions reveal a close contact with the Lord, a radical openness to him, a total engagement with him. With him, they use the language of love, the same language that Jesus, though an infant, already speaks. Indeed, the Magi go to the Lord not to receive, but to give. Let us ask ourselves this question: at Christmas did we bring gifts to Jesus for his party, or did we only exchange gifts among ourselves?

Taken from https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/seasons-andfeast-days/

We invite you to share your thoughts on how you access

Catholic content in our survey.

The Archdiocese of Brisbane would appreciate your feedback by completing this short survey about how you access Catholic content.

Your answers to the survey will help the Archdiocese do a better job of connecting you with the content you would like to see more of. http://bit.ly/3VHEkcl

ST MARY'S PRAYER GROUP

St Mary's Prayer Group will resume on Tuesday, 10 January 2023 at 6.30pm in the Church.

All are welcome.

ST MARY'S LUNAR NEW YEAR MASS Sunday, 22 January 2023

You are invited to join in celebrating Lunar New Year on Sunday, 22 January at St Mary's 9 am and 5 pm Masses.

All are encouraged to wear traditional dress or the colour red.

Please bring a plate of food to share for morning tea or supper following the Masses.



ST FRANCIS' TABLE - NEWS UPDATES

- Monday, 30 Jan 10am: Volunteers training
- Monday, 6 February 2023 10am: The Ministry will resume

This is a fantastic ministry for the elderly and they enjoy coming to meet up with friends and spend a little time in prayer together.

Please invite your family, neighbours and anyone in our Parish who would benefit from this Ministry.



Inspired by the Catholic parish dances held around Brisbane during the 1950s–1970s (ask your parents and grandparents about them!), the St Francis Social will be a good ol' fashion dance/social mixer for young adults in their 20s and 30s, with a bit of fundraising for local charities thrown in for good measure. GOOD TUNES + GOOD DANCING + GOOD PEOPLE + FOR A GOOD CAUSE = A GOOD NIGHT OUT



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SACRAMENT OF PENANCE 2023 ENROLMENT IS NOW OPEN!

If you have a child who is currently in Year 5 or older and has received the sacrament of First Holy Communion, and would like to enroll for this sacramental program, please complete the enrolment forms and return to the Parish Office by Monday, 6 February 2023.

> Information evening: Wednesday, 8 February at 6pm St Ita's Church, Dutton Park

Please download the forms from our websites: www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au or www.duttonparkcatholic.org.au

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION Spread across the Archdiocese of Brisbane Our 24/7 prayer engine for the world

In January 2023, St Mary's will join with other Churches within the Archdiocese in sharing Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration. Each Church exposes the Blessed Sacrament on a set day of the week for a continuous 24 hour period. St Mary's period will commence following the 8.00am Mass on Saturdays until before 9.00 am Mass on Sundays.

You are encouraged to become a Dedicated Adorer – having a regular hour(s) on roster, or as a Casual Adorer – helping to fill vacancies. Both are vital for the continuation of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration.

If you wish to be included in the roster, please complete the registration sheet at St Mary's.



Enquiries: Dianne mob: 0411869017.

When was the last time you reviewed your will?

HopgoodGanim Lawyers is a Brisbane-based law firm which was founded in 1974. We can help you with:

wills & estate planning; and

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estate administration & disputes.

Contact - Greg Cox 3024 0331 g.cox@hopgoodganim.com.au

www.hopgoodganim.com.au

PARISH ACTIVITIES 2023

BAPTISMS

• 2nd Saturday of the Month - 9.30am: St Mary's (Booking is essential.)

PRAYER & ADORATION

- Tuesday 6.30pm: St Mary's Church
- Sunday 4pm: St Mary's Church

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

- 1st Friday 7am: St Mary's Church
- 1st Saturday 5pm: St Ita's Church
- 1st Sunday 7am: OLPS Fairfield

CHILDREN'S LITURGY (School Term Only)

- Saturday 5.00pm: St Ita's Church (Vigil Mass)
- Sunday 9.00am: St Mary's Church

FAMILY MASS (School term only)
4th Saturday - 5pm: St Ita's Church

ST FRANCIS TABLE - Ministry to the Elderly On hold - resume 6 February 2023

 1st and 3rd Monday: 10am -1pm St Francis Hall, 47 Dornoch Tce, West End

ST MARY'S CHURCH RESTORATION FUND

Many thanks to all who have supported the restoration of St Mary's Church over the past years. There is still an opportunity to sponsor a Perpetual Pew. This provides a way to not only remember your loved ones but also assists with the funding of our restoration projects.

To sponsor a pew; \$1,000 for small pew and \$1,200 for long pew (long pew is no longer available).

Please transfer to: Acc. Name: St Mary's `Restoration Fund' BSB no.: 064-786

Acc. No.: 007230101



Please note donations are not tax deductible.

A plaque will be engraved in Perpetuity "In Memory of ..." or "In Honour of ...", and affixed to the pew.

For more information or to order the plaque please contact the Parish Office or the Church Co-ordinator.

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PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

Please consider giving to our planned giving program.

Your continued support for our Parishes is appreciated. If you'd like to use direct debit please download one of the form below, complete and email back to the parish office directly.

St Mary's Parish download: <u>St Mary's Parish Direct Debit Request Form</u>

Dutton Park Parish download: Dutton Park Parish Direct Debit Request Form

Other ways of giving direct internet transfer:

St Mary's Parish South Brisbane BSB: 064-786 Acc No: 100 009 890 Ref: <u>Your Last Name and Collections</u>

Dutton Park Parish: BSB: 064-786 Acc No: 100 022 825 Ref: Last Name and Collections

We also have **Tap n Go** see Church Coordinator at Mass.

SAFEGUARDING

St Mary's Catholic Parish and Dutton Park Catholic Parish have zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and are committed to safeguarding everyone involved in their activities, ministries and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.



To make an anonymous report call 1300 304 550 For more information visit <u>brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding</u>