

WELCOME TO THE CATHEDRAL PARISH OF SAINTS MARY & JOSEPH

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- Faithful to the Teaching of the Apostles
- Faithful to Prayer
- Faithful to the Breaking of the Bread
- Alive in the Community of the Spirit
- Sharing what we have with those in need
Acts 2:42-46

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (C/2)

Sunday 3rd January 2016



Making Church matter

Seeking Out those who Belong.....

LITURGY THIS WEEK

SAT: 9.15AM; 6PM VIGIL MASS

SUN: 8AM; 10AM; 5.30PM

MON: 7AM; 12.30PM Cathedral

TUE: 7AM; 9.15AM Cathedral

WED: 9.15AM; 12.30PM Cathedral

THU: 7AM; 9.15AM Cathedral

FRI: 9.15AM; 5.40PM Cathedral

SAT: 9.15AM; 6PM VIGIL MASS

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

FRI: 5-5.30PM

SAT: 11.30AM-12NOON; 4.30-5.30PM

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord – Pope Francis Homily.....

6 January 2015

That child, born in Bethlehem of the Virgin Mary, came not only for the people of Israel, represented by the shepherds of Bethlehem, but also for all humanity, represented today by the wise men from the East. It is on the Magi and their journey in search of the Messiah that the Church today invites us to meditate and to pray.

These wise men from the East were the first in that great procession of which the prophet Isaiah spoke in today's first reading (cf. 60:1-6): a procession which from that time on has continued uninterrupted; in every age it hears the message of the star and finds the Child who reveals the tenderness of God. New persons are always being enlightened by that star; they find the way and come into his presence.

According to tradition, the wise men were sages, watchers of the constellations, observers of the heavens, in a cultural and religious context which saw the stars as having significance and power over human affairs. The wise men represent men and woman who seek God in the world's religions and philosophies: an unending quest. The wise men point out to us the path of our journey through life. They sought the true Light. As a liturgical hymn of Epiphany which speaks of their experience puts it: "Lumen requirunt lumine"; by following a light, they sought the light. They set out in search of God. Having seen the sign of the star, they grasped its message and set off on a long journey.

It is the Holy Spirit who called them and prompted them to set out; during their journey they were also to have a personal encounter with the true God.

Along the way, the wise men encountered many difficulties. Once they reached Jerusalem, they went to the palace of the king, for they thought it obvious that the new king would be born in the royal palace. There they lost

sight of the star and met with a temptation, placed there by the devil: it was the deception of Herod. King Herod was interested in the child, not to worship him but to eliminate him. Herod is the powerful man who sees others only as rivals. Deep down, he also considers God a rival, indeed the most dangerous rival of all. In Herod's palace the wise men experience a moment of obscurity, of desolation, which they manage to overcome thanks to the prompting of the Holy Spirit, who speaks through the prophecies of sacred Scripture. These indicate that the Messiah is to be born in Bethlehem, the city of David.

At that point they resume their journey, and once more they see the star; the evangelist says that they "rejoiced exceedingly" (Mt 2:10). Coming to Bethlehem, they found "the child with Mary his mother" (Mt 2:11). After that of Jerusalem, this was their second great temptation: to reject this smallness. But instead, "they fell down and worshiped him", offering him their precious symbolic gifts. Again, it is the grace of the Holy Spirit which assists them. That grace, which through the star had called them and led them along the way, now lets them enter into the mystery. Led by the Spirit, they come to realize that God's criteria are quite different from those of men, that God does not manifest himself in the power of this world, but speaks to us in the humbleness of his love. The wise men are thus models of conversion to the true faith, since they believed more in the goodness of God than in the apparent splendour of power.

And so we can ask ourselves: what is the mystery in which God is hidden? Where can I find him? All around us we see wars, the exploitation of children, torture, trafficking in arms, trafficking in persons... In all these realities, in these, the least of our brothers and sisters who are enduring these difficult.

Across the Generations.....

Gospel Reflections for Married Couples in the Jubilee of Mercy.....3 January – The Epiphany of the Lord

In this week's Gospel, the wise men visit Jesus bearing gifts. Take a moment this week to reflect, as a couple, on the wise men and women (couples) in your life to whose marriages you aspire. As you reflect on these couples think about the qualities (gifts) they embodied. What did you admire in their marriage? How did it bear witness to committed married love? How could you bring these gifts to life in your own marriage? (*A Reflection by Karen and Derek Boylen*)

SUPPORT YOUR PRIESTS AND YOUR PARISH:

1ST COLLECTION (supports the clergy):

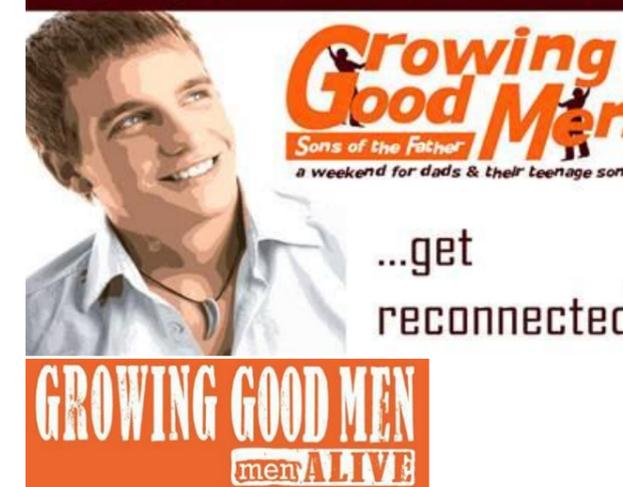
BSB: 082-105 Acc. No: 001023527

2ND COLLECTION (supports the Cathedral and parish):

BSB: 082-105 Acc. No: 001006225

(Reference with your Planned Giving Number and your name)

The journey to manhood should not be taken alone!



Growing Good Men weekend, Lake Keepit, 1-3 April 2016 facilitated by menAlive. Contact droff@oconnor.nsw.edu.au Father/son weekend next year. The weekend is a diocesan event and has been endorsed by the Bishop. All father/sons (Grades 8-11) welcome.

<http://www.menalive.org.au/events/growing-good-men/>

Awakening the Faithful.....

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Nikki O'Donnell, Juanita (Nita) Clair, Paul Johnstone, Regina Newberry, Margaret Gross, Tony Parramore, Irena Kalinowski

ANNIVERSARIES: Keith Hutchinson, Leszek Wojno, Colin Wright, Patricia Blanch, Sidney Gwynne, John Pigram, Mick Beresford

SICK: Ghodsi Amini, Mark Norman, Geraldine Giannikas, Susan Maye, Michael Zhu, Michael Moloney, Aeron Ryan, Helen Hesketh, John Fleming, Laurie Fahy, Blake Ross, Gemma Milliken, Joseph O'Brien, Lorraine Gray, Deacon Peter Harrison, Frederic Koelmeyer, Natasha Scully, Kay Robertson, Sandra Devine, Maureen Veitch, Maria Selvey, Russell Wicks, Eleanor Pankhurst, Kay Goodwin, Michael Hartmann

ROSTERS THIS WEEKEND 3RD JANUARY 2016

WELCOMERS: 6pm Vigil: K McMahon 8am: D Miron 10am: McGrath Family 5.30pm: D Steller **READERS:** 6pm Vigil: R Clark, W Clark, C Doherty 8am: L Stephen, G Stephen, G Burton 10am: M Allen, M Edgley, A Herden 5.30pm: A Wicks, T Hanrahan, S Hansen **EM's:** 6pm Vigil: E Lankester 8am: K Barrett 10am: C West 5.30pm: D Steller **COUNTERS:** G Stephen, L Stephen, W Nano **CLEANERS:** L Allen Team

ROSTERS NEXT WEEKEND 10TH JANUARY 2016

WELCOMERS: 6pm Vigil: W Clark 8am: L Fitzgerald 10am: S Bristow, B Prior 5.30pm: Volunteer **READERS:** 6pm Vigil: D Fittler, K McMahon, J Atchison 8am: S Fleming, F Miron, M Barrett 10am: L Herden, L Quast, L Tindale 5.30pm: I Hosking, K Hosking, P Boston **EM's:** 6pm Vigil: G Stephen 8am: K Barrett 10am: S Bamford 5.30pm: K Steller **COUNTERS:** C McLoughlin, J Crawford, C McLeod **CLEANERS:** Majellan Mothers