

# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD / B

03 JANUARY 2021

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 to Jesus today? We may not have gold, frankincense and myrrh but we have our love, our fidelity, our time. We can give these to Jesus by giving them to those in need.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Mal 3:1; 1 Chr 19:12

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

### GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**R. Amen.**

P. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**R. And with your spirit.**

### PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom: Lord have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

P. You come in word and in sacrament to strengthen us and make us holy: Christ have mercy.

**R. Christ, have mercy.**

P. You will come again in glory with salvation for your people: Lord have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**R. Amen.**

### GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

### COLLECT

P. O God, who on this day revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in your mercy, that we, who know you already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

Isa 60:1-6

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

*The glory of the Lord shines upon you.*

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.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

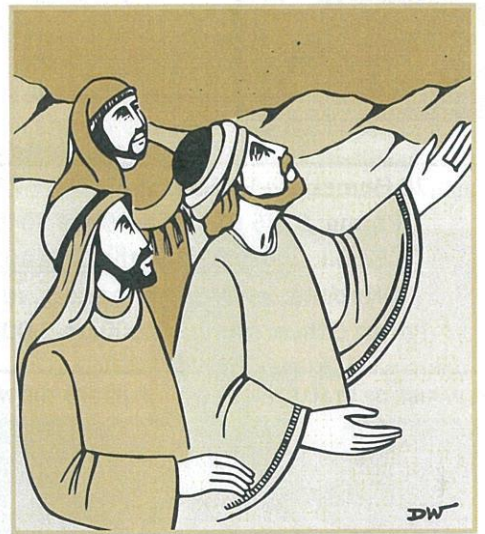
Ps 71:1-2, 7-13. R. v. 11

**R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

1. 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.**

2. 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.**

3. 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.**

4. 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.**

### SECOND READING

Eph 3:2-3, 5-6

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians**

*The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.*

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 Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 2:2

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

### GOSPEL

Mt 2:1-12

P. The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**

*We have come from the East to worship the King.*

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east.

# ST MARTHA'S PARISH STRATHFIELD



Parish Administrator: Fr Jacek (Jack) Cichy

Administration Coordinator: Nicolle Mazzaferro (Mon-Thurs) [admin@stmarthas.org.au](mailto:admin@stmarthas.org.au)

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Music Ministry: Marcella Ayoub & Agnes Lee

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Rachel Suriano

Plenary Council Ambassador: Helena O'Neill

Youth Ministry: Jessica Gereis [youth@stmarthas.org.au](mailto:youth@stmarthas.org.au)



**'We have come from the East to Worship the King' ... Matthew 2**

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Parish Office: Mon- Fri 9.00am-3.00pm



St Martha's School: 9764 1184

Email: [info@stmstrathfield.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stmstrathfield.catholic.edu.au)

Principal: Carolyn Parsell

Assist Principal: Steven Belcastro

REC: Attilia Kazacos

THE PARISH OF ST MARTHA'S ACKNOWLEDGES THE WANGUL PEOPLE AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND ON WHICH THE CHURCH IS BUILT

## **Vision:**

**Welcoming  
Eucharistic  
Transformed by the Word  
Full of Grace  
Proclaiming Good News**



*Please  
continue  
to support the  
St Vincent De Paul Society  
through the Church  
Poor Boxes.*

## **Mission:**

**Alive with the Spirit  
Inspired by St Martha  
We Celebrate & Witness  
God's love  
Using our Gifts & Talents**



## **MASS TIMES**

Tuesday: 7.30am

Wednesday: 9.10am

Thursday: 9.10am

Friday: 9.10am

Saturday: 9.10am, 5pm Vigil Mass

Sunday: 8.00am; 10.00am & 6.00pm



### **1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every month:**

8-9am Adoration, 9am Benediction, 9.10am Healing Mass and  
Anointing of the Sick,  
followed by reconciliation

### **RECONCILIATION:**

Saturday after 9.10am Mass or by appointment.

### **BAPTISM:**

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month at 11.00am  
by appointment only.

(One months' notice is required).



### **Next Preparation Session:**

7<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in the Parish Hall

Contact the Parish office for more information.

### **MARRIAGES:** By appointment only.

(6 months' notice is required).



**ROSARY:** Tuesday & Saturday after morning Mass, Wednesday, Thursday  
& Friday 8.30am and 7.30pm on Fridays in conjunction with Marian  
Movement of Priests Cenacle and Divine Mercy Chaplet.

### **PRAYER GROUP / ADORATION AT**

**ST MARTHA'S CHURCH:**

Mondays 10.30am – 11.30am

Resumes February 2021

**Please support our Catholic Press  
Copies of the Catholic Weekly \$2  
& Catholic Leader \$2.50  
are available at the Church Entrances.**



## **SAFE GUARDING**



A reminder to parents that the Notice-Board located at the side  
entrance contains various resources for children regarding  
Safeguarding.

### **A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY.**

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or  
anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can  
contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at 9390 5810 or  
[safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish  
Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance.

The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Please be aware that if you "TAG" St Martha's in photos on your  
Facebook page, the images also appear on an "unofficial" St Martha's  
Facebook page. This "unofficial" page was created automatically by  
Facebook and is not controlled by St Martha's. We kindly remind you to  
take care when uploading photos of any children without parent consent.



Office of the  
Children's Guardian

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

IF YOU PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING MINISTRIES YOU ARE  
REQUIRED TO **SIGN IN** - ACOLYTES; READERS; EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS;  
CHOIR; CHILDREN'S LITURGY (LEADERS & CHILDREN) & SACRAMENTAL  
PROGRAM (LEADERS & CHILDREN). SIGN IN FOLDERS ARE KEPT IN THE  
SACRISTY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.

ALTAR SERVERS ARE **NOT** PERMITTED IN THE SACRISTY WITHOUT A  
PARENT/TEACHER. THE SIGN IN FOLDER IS LOCATED IN THE CORRIDOR  
OUTSIDE THE SACRISTY.

### **'Sharing the Word'**

**Mondays at 7 pm in St Martha's Church.**

**Everyone is Welcome.**



GLUTEN FREE HOSTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ANY CELIAC  
PARISHIONERS. IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE HOLY  
COMMUNION PLEASE TELL THE CHURCH WARDEN OR SEE  
AN ACOLYTE IN THE SACRISTY PRIOR TO MASS.

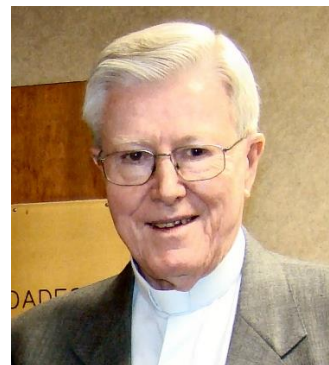


## During January the Parish Office will be open on Wednesdays and Thursdays only.

Dear Parishioners,

As you will have heard, the Archbishop has now appointed a permanent Parish Priest for St Martha's, Fr John Hayes, who will begin his ministry here at the end of January. As I have explained previously, this appointment arises out of many changes across the Archdiocese over the next two months. Fr John Hayes is one of the most experienced pastors in the Archdiocese, most recently at Pagewood and Maroubra for many years. The Archbishop's policy is that parish

priests normally move after 12 years in order to both share their gifts with other parishes, and to allow for renewal within parishes. He is very grateful to Fr John for his willingness to take up this new ministry. This change will give Fr Jack Cichy the chance for overdue sabbatical leave. We are very grateful to Fr Jack for his conscientious ministry at St Martha's over the past few years. As a former parishioner myself, I know that St Martha's parish has a wonderful tradition and great potential; however, it has in recent times been marred by internal tensions that have affected the unity of the parish, and undermined good will towards some of the parish staff. A very small minority of people have made unfounded, and often defamatory, criticisms of some staff. Such conduct will not be tolerated in any parish in the Archdiocese. I urge those who have been responsible for these issues to take a step back and to begin to help restore harmony and Christian charity within the community. This change comes at an important time in the life of our Archdiocese. I trust that all parishioners will welcome Fr Hayes, and work with him to continue the renewal of St Martha's parish in keeping with the Archbishop's new Mission Plan, Go Make Disciples. Once again, on behalf of the Archbishop, I thank Fr Jack very sincerely for his ministry at St Martha's, and I wish him well as he now enjoys time for renewal in preparation for his next appointment. with prayers and best wishes for the New Year. **Fr Gerald Gleeson, Vicar General.**



**It is with much sadness that we advise of the death of**

**Bishop Geoffrey Robinson during the week.**

*Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.*

*May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Recently Deceased:

Bishop Geoffrey Robinson, Betty Rooney, Ann-Maree Leydon, Roxann Astruc, Patrick Griffith, James Brady, Patricia Wilson, Norma Shore, Sr Pauline Smith rsm, Marie Verschuer, Enid Wynne.

### Repose of The Soul:



Fr Adrian Horgan, Fr Paul Ryan, Br Ray Dowding, Gerald Wilson, John Ferguson, Daniel Lucich, James Brady, Ken Fraser, Connie Wong, Mary Bentley, Aldo Amarino, Salvatore (Phillip) Puglisi, William (Bill) & Dorothy Starr, Roger O'Reilly, Stefano, Estelle Thurn, Anne Cecilia Glass, Reginald & Agnes Glass, Gerald & Frances Gleeson, Faado & Alice Herro, John, Doreen & Des McNamara Patrick & Janet Reynolds, Jim Reynolds, Ken Rich, Monica & Patrick Ryan, Stephen Maxwell Stewart & Christopher John Stewart, Dr Stephanie Winfield, Philip Winfield, Tom O'Rourke, Norman & Christine Coorey.

### Anniversaries:

Gerald Gleeson, John McManus, Des McNamara, Alice Herro, John Behringer, Monica Ryan, Beryl Erskine, Michael Donegan, Elisa, Patrick & Mereani Chang, Declan & Redmond Dower, Thomas Kenny, Dorothea Francis Starr, William (Bill) Starr, Harry Thorpe, John Harrington, John St George.

### Sick Intentions:

Neale Apps, Pat Fraser, Tony Grace, Baby Alice Ladd, Margaret Davidson, Marc Kayrouz & Peter Starr.

### Special Intentions:

Margaret, Meredith & Hannah Apps, Siva Sothy, The Pagano & Colagiuri Families, May & Frank Grieves, Eileen Givney, Anne Goodrick. For Deceased Friends & Benefactors of the Dominican Order.

## 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> January

### VIGIL

### 8AM

### 10AM

### 6PM

#### Special Ministers

Tandiono Family

Gian Surjadinata

Helen Williamson

Theresa Kuk

Tandiono Family

Artha Surjadinata

Jackie Romanous

Mary L'Estrange

Rachel Suriano

### VIGIL

### 8AM

### 10AM

### 6PM

#### Readers

Czarina Mendoza-Cruz

Greg Glass

Anne Marrins

Miriam Redolfi

Marianna Soo

Paulina Roncevic

Claudia Elias

Joanne Govorcin

### VIGIL

### 8AM

### 10AM

### 6PM

#### Altar Servers

Sebastian A.

Thomas C.

Michael S.

Lawrence X.

Cassandra G.

James T.

Anthony S.

Jayden Y.

Nathan C.

**Volunteer Needed**

Aidan M.

**Volunteer Needed**

Sophie C.

**Volunteer Needed**

**Volunteer Needed**

**Volunteer Needed**

#### Wardens

### VIGIL

### 8AM

### 10AM

### 6PM

Anne Chow

Georgette Sahyoun

Trudie Rogers

Phil Robinson

**If you are unable to attend your rostered Mass kindly organise a replacement.**

**Planned Giving via Credit Card – we advise that the January donation will be processed in early February**

'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.

**R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## HOMILY

**PROFESSION OF FAITH** APOSTLES' CREED  
*Or the Nicene Creed May be said.*

**I believe in God, / the Father almighty, /  
Creator of heaven and earth, / and in  
Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, /  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, /  
born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under  
Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and  
was buried; / he descended into hell; /  
on the third day he rose again from  
the dead; / he ascended into heaven, /  
and is seated at the right hand of God  
the Father almighty; / from there he  
will come to judge the living and the  
dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the  
holy catholic Church, / the communion  
of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, /  
the resurrection of the body, / and life  
everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

### LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*After the priest raises the paten with the bread  
and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to  
each prayer:*

**R. Blessed be God for ever.**

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that  
my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to  
God, the almighty Father.

**R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at  
your hands for the praise and glory of his**

**name, for our good and the good of all  
his holy Church.**

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Look with favour, Lord, we pray, on these  
gifts of your Church, in which are offered now  
not gold or frankincense or myrrh, but he who  
by them is proclaimed, sacrificed and received,  
Jesus Christ. Who lives and reigns for ever and  
ever.

**R. Amen.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. Lift up your hearts.

**R. We lift them up to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**R. It is right and just.**

## PREFACE OF EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

*After the Preface, we sing or say:*

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he  
who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

**All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your resurrection  
until you come again.**

## COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by  
divine teaching, we dare to say:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...**

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray ...

**All: For the kingdom, the power and the  
glory are yours now and for ever.**

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said ...

**R. Amen.**

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*All exchange a sign of peace*

## LAMB OF GOD

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of  
the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of  
the world, grant us peace.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who  
takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are  
those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**R. Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word  
and my soul shall be healed.**

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Cf. Mt 2:2*

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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Go before us with heavenly light, O Lord,  
always and everywhere, that we may  
perceive with clear sight and revere with

true affection the mystery in which you have  
willed us to participate. Through Christ our  
Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. May almighty God bless you,  
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy  
Spirit.

**R. Amen.**

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

## BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

### SAVIOUR OF ALL PEOPLE

Today's feast of the Epiphany is the only  
Sunday in the three-year cycle in which  
the readings remain exactly the same.  
That in itself should lead us to take  
seriously Isaiah's summons to lift up our  
eyes, look around, and see that all people  
are called to sing God's praises as equals.  
Changing our point of view is not  
always easy, and the process of seeing,  
understanding and accepting the point of  
view of the other person is challenging.  
What is really our attitude to those who  
see the world differently to ourselves?

The people of Israel were encouraged to  
see themselves as the people specially  
favoured by God. They had suffered much  
at the hands of foreign nations who were  
more likely to destroy their Temple than  
worship in it. Isaiah's entreaty to see the  
nations around them as people who were  
also searching for the living God required  
a significant change of perspective.

Paul continues to develop Isaiah's vision  
as he seeks to open the eyes of Jewish  
Christians to the fact that the mystery  
of God's plan is now revealed in Jesus  
Christ. Now the old barriers which had  
existed between Jews and Gentiles have  
been torn down. Now all people can share  
in the same inheritance, promises, and  
relationship with God. It is Matthew who  
gives the forceful reminder that the first  
people to recognise Jesus' kingship were  
outsiders. It is not only their presents but  
their presence that provides a precious  
gift.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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