



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Year A — 5 January 2020

The community of the Cathedral of St. Stephen acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which our parish stands.

*Embracing
Villa Maria Centre
and
St Patrick's
Fortitude Valley*



**Most Reverend
Mark Coleridge**
Archbishop of Brisbane

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*They saw his star as it rose
and came to praise him.*

Readings for today: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Dear friends,

Pope Francis offers us these reflections on the Feast of the Epiphany:

Three actions of the Magi guide our journey towards the Lord, who today is revealed as light and salvation for all peoples. The Magi: *see the star, they set out and they bring gifts.*

Seeing the star. This is where it starts. But why, we might ask, did the Magi alone see the star? Perhaps because few people raised their eyes to heaven. We often make do with looking at the ground: it's enough to have our health, a little money and a bit of entertainment. I wonder if we still know how to look up at the sky. Do we know how to dream, to long for God, to expect the newness he brings, or do we let ourselves be swept along by life, like dry branches before the wind? The Magi were not content with just getting by, with keeping afloat. They understood that to truly live, we need a lofty goal and we need to keep looking up.

Setting out. The second thing the Magi do, is essential if we are to find Jesus. His star demands a decision to take up the journey and to advance tirelessly on our way. It demands that we free ourselves from useless burdens and unnecessary extras that only prove a hindrance, and accept unforeseen obstacles along the map of life. Jesus allows himself to be

found by those who seek him, but to find him we need to get up and go, not sit around but take risks, not stand still, but set out. Jesus makes demands: he tells those who seek him to leave behind the armchair of worldly comforts and the reassuring warmth of hearth and home.

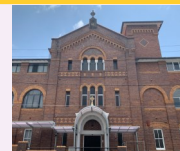
Bringing gifts. Having come to Jesus after a long journey, the Magi do as he does: they bring gifts. Jesus is there to give his life; they offer him their own costly gifts: gold, incense and myrrh. The Gospel becomes real when the journey of life ends in giving. To do good without counting the cost, even when unasked, even when you gain nothing thereby, even if it is unpleasant. That is what God wants. He, who become small for our sake, asks us to offer something for the least of his brothers and sisters. Who are they? They are those who have nothing to give in return, the needy, the hungry, the stranger, the prisoner, the poor. We give a gift pleasing to Jesus when we care for a sick person, spend time with a difficult person, help someone for the sake of helping, or forgive someone who has hurt us. These are gifts freely given, and they cannot be lacking in the lives of Christians. Dear brothers and sisters, let us imitate the Magi: *looking upwards, setting out, and freely offering our gifts.*



**Cathedral of
St. Stephen**
249 Elizabeth St
Brisbane



St. Patrick's
58 Morgan St
Fortitude Valley



Villa Maria Chapel
171 St Pauls Tce
Spring Hill

Cathedral Parish Mass Times this week

Monday to Friday 8.00am Chapel; 10.00am Cathedral; 12.30pm Cathedral; 5.10pm Chapel
Saturday: 9.30am Villa Maria; 11.30am Cathedral

Sunday

Cathedral of St Stephen

Saturday: 6.00pm (Mass in anticipation of Sunday)
Sunday: 8.00am; 10.00am (Solemn Mass); 12 noon; 7.30pm

St Patrick's 9.00am; 12 noon
Villa Maria 9.30am

Reconciliation: Monday to Friday 10.30-11.30am; 1.00-1.30pm; 4.30-5.00pm
Saturday 10.00-11.00am; 4.30-5.30pm

Exposition: Monday to Friday 10.30am – 12.15pm **Benediction Monday to Friday** 12.15pm

PLENARY COUNCIL PRAYER

*Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.
Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.*

*O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia
and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.*

*Give us the grace to see your face in one another
and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.*

*Give us the courage to tell our stories
and to speak boldly of your truth.*

*Give us ears to listen humbly to each other
and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.*

*Lead your Church into a hope-filled future,
that we may live the joy of the Gospel.*

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
bread for the journey from age to age.*

Amen

*Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.
St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.*



CATHEDRAL GUIDES & WELCOMERS


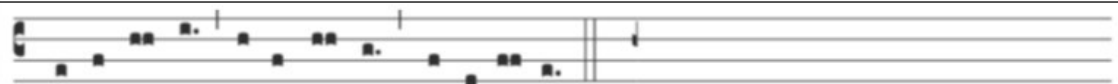
Cathedral Guides & Welcomers invite you to an information session on **Thursday 7 February 2020 at 10.30am** to discover the delights of volunteering with the Cathedral Guides & Welcomers. The meeting will be held in the Hanly Room of the Francis Rush Centre.

If you enjoy meeting people; love your Cathedral and revel in good art and juicy history, the rewards of becoming a volunteer with the Cathedral Guides and Welcomers is beyond measure. A comprehensive training program is offered.

If this ministry appeals to you, please contact the Cathedral email cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au, or phone 3324 3030 by Friday 25 January 2020.

The music is drawn from the Catholic Worship Book II for all Masses, available from our Welcomers at the entrances or on the pew seats. All Masses will be led by a Cantor.

The Cathedral Choirs are in recess.

	6:00pm (Sat) (Sun) 8:00am, 10:00am 12:00pm 7.30pm
Processional Hymn	CWB 276
Kyrie	CWB 22a
Gloria	CWB 22b
First Reading	<i>Isaiah 60:1-6</i>
Responsorial Psalm	<i>Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13</i>
	
☩ All na-tions shall fall pro-strate be-fore you, O God.	
Second Reading	<i>Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6</i>
Gospel Acclamation	
	
☩ Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.	
Gospel	<i>Matthew 2:1-12</i>
Sanctus	CWB 22c
Agnus Dei	CWB 22h
Communion Hymn	CWB 280
Recessional Hymn	CWB 281