



**ST
FRANCIS
XAVIER
CATHOLIC
PARISH**

OUR PARISH MASSES					
Weekday				Saturday	13 th January
8 th	Jan	Mon	9.00am Mass – The Baptism of the Lord	4.30pm	Reconciliation
9 th	Jan	Tues	9.00am Mass	5.00pm	Mass
10 th	Jan	Wed	9.00am Mass		
11 th	Jan	Thurs	9.00am Mass		
12 th	Jan	Fri	9.00am Mass		
				Sunday	14th January
				7.00am	Mass
				9.00am	Mass

Welcome Fr. Mkude & Fr. Paul!

The Epiphany of the Lord

Year B

7th January 2024



With the feast of the Epiphany, the Christmas season is almost over. So, Epiphany is a prime opportunity to bring home the message about the universal significance of the birth of Jesus. This child who is born to us, was not just Messiah for the Jews, but saviour of the world. All the readings

To ancient Jews, stars were considered to be animate beings and identified with Angels. So here we have Herod representing the dark forces and the star representing the forces of the light. The Magi, in this story, are exemplars of wisdom from the non-Jewish world practitioners of enlightenment, so to speak. And here they are coming to a seemingly insignificant town in Judea to witness the arrival of a miracle child, a star child, who was prophesied to be ‘the king of the Jews.’

for Epiphany point to this reality.

An important aspect of this story is the way that the beginning of the Jesus story foretells the end. The birth of Jesus is aligned with the sinister political machinations of Herod, who is out to protect himself from a rival, even by murdering infants. The wise men offered the Christ child gifts, which later Christian tradition interpreted as symbolic, gold representing the kingship of Jesus, frankincense his divinity, and myrrh his suffering and death.

In the gospel reading, Matthew paints an evocative picture of the wider world symbolised by the wise men coming to Judea to witness the birth of the saviour. For Matthew, this is not just a Jewish event. The birth of Jesus, the Incarnation, has universal consequences.

So, this is not a sweet and innocent tale of a young family experiencing the joys of a first-born child, so much as it is a grand drama with a story arc that has universal implications. The Magi were warned in a dream not to report back to Herod about the birth of Jesus. So, their homeward journey did not take them in a familiar direction. Because of their encounter with Jesus, they chose a new path. For Christians, an encounter with Jesus has similar consequences it means following an enlightened path through life.

In the first reading, from Isaiah, we hear that ‘Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn... they shall bring gold and frankincense’. Sound like the Magi? Psalm 71 refers to a saviour who brings enlightenment and justice to the whole world and ‘peace till the moon fails’, in other words forever.

The second reading is from Ephesians, and Saint Paul tells us that ‘the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body,

and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.’ The story of the visit of the wise men, or Magi as we know them, is replete with dreams, portents, prophecies and archetypal imagery. For example, King Herod plays the role of the villain in this tale. Over and against Herod is the star that guided the Magi to Bethlehem.

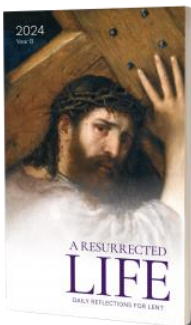
Dr Jenny Close

Pastoral Associate, ACU

Accessed via www.brisbanecatholic.org.au/articles/feast-of-the-epiphany-of-the-lord-two-minute-reflection-dr-jenny-close

WEEKLY INFORMATION

2024 Lent Resource: A Resurrected Life



A Resurrected Life is a new 6-week reflection resource from Evangelisation Brisbane, that can be used during Lent by individuals and groups during the 2024 liturgical year. Each day’s reflection is inspired by a text of Scripture from the day’s Gospel reading, followed by Contemplating the Word, a thought or two on how to put the Word into Practice and concludes with a Prayer. The daily reflections will only require a few minutes for a person to read, reflect and pray. This Lenten practice will lead the reader into a deeper reflection on their daily life. As they reflect on the extraordinary hope that the Gospel bears – in their families, workplaces, and the community – they will be empowered to raise others, to hear and see the Risen Lord so that they may rise with him. Purchase now at www.lentprogram.com.au.

We are committed to Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. The Archdiocese has **zero tolerance** for all forms of abuse and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries, and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount. Please see our website for our Safeguarding and Whistleblower policies. StopLine is a confidential, independent provider of whistleblowing services available to all parishioners on **1300 304 550** or AOB@stopline.com.au.

WEEKLY INFORMATION

Dates for your diary

8th January, 9am Feast of The Baptism of the Lord
 17th January, 6.30pm Rosary starts back up
 19th January SFX Conference of SVDP starts back up

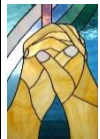
Responsorial Psalm

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Gospel Acclamation

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

PASTORAL MATTERS



Prayer for the Sick

Kim Shadwell, Jackie Ledger, Amy and Reagan Whiteman, Sarah Kathleen Jones, Phil O'Dwyer, Peter Eddy, Almira Ann James, Finley McHardy, Nyaweir Ring, Kylie Herbert, Tony Ryan, Elisapeti Pati, Amanda Harding, Margo Jane Higgins, Cameron Auld, Trent Andrews, Bill McAuslan, Peter Tolhurst.

Reborn in Eternal Life 8th – 14th January

Bridget Mckelvey, Mary Fryars, Dorrie Hall, Leonard Galligan, William Gee, John Joseph Eustace, Vera McCallion, Wilma Poek, Michel Stephan Reed.

Reading – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, 14th Jan. 2024

1 st Reading	1 Sam 3:3-10, 19
2 nd Reading	1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20
Gospel	Jn 1:35-42



Baptism at St Francis Xavier, Goodna

Bookings for January are now closed. The next Baptisms will be 18th February 2024. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

Recently Deceased Louis Galea.

Loop System The Church is fitted with a loop system. If you wear a hearing aid, set the control to the 'T' to obtain a better sound.

WEEK 1 ROSTERS – THIS WEEK – 7th JANUARY 2024

Flowers	Samoan Community	Cleaning	Jim Walsh	Yard	Samoan Community
1 st	5pm Angela Vu	2 nd	5pm Ruby Vu	Ciborium	5pm Suzanne Fitzgerald
Reading	7am Jane Brischetto	Reading	7am Louise Qualischefski		7am Joan Sitcheff
	9am Fruean Family		9am Sosefo Masalu		9am Uiki Vaoiva

WEEK 2 ROSTERS – NEXT WEEK – 14th JANUARY 2024

Flowers	Meripa Laulu	Cleaning	Teofilo Laulu	Yard	n/a
1 st	5pm Huong Nguyen	2 nd	5pm Julie Aiavao	Ciborium	5pm Peter Aiavao
Reading	7am Cameron Auld	Reading	7am Paul Hodgkinson		7am Michael Miles
	9am So'oalo Family		9am Teofilo Laulu		9am Sosefo Masalu

Ministers should arrive at least 10 minutes before the start of Mass, or their role will be reassigned on the day.

WEEKLY INFORMATION

Welcome Fr. January Mkude, CSSp



We welcome our new Parish Priest, Fr. Mkude, CSSp, who will celebrate his first Mass with us on the 1st January 2024, at 9am. Fr. Mkude was ordained on the 12 May 2011, and served as Parish Priest at South Hedland in Western Australia from 2014 to 2021, and Associate Priest at Holy Spirit Catholic Community, Bray Park from 2021 to 2023. During his time at South Hedland, he also looked after Port Hedland parish, and St. Cecilia's School, during a period of illness of the Port Hedland parish priest. Fr. Mkude originally hails from Tanzania, a country known for Africa's highest mountain, and for having the largest population of any country located entirely south of the equator. Fr. Mkude is now joined by another member of the Spiritans, Fr Paul. The Spiritans are an order of Priests, Brothers and Lay Associates who are dedicated to evangelisation, and the alleviation of poverty.



Our location: 6 Church Street, Goodna QLD Australia 4300
Postal Address: PO Box 402, Goodna QLD Australia 4300
 Telephone: (07) 3818 0100
 Email: pgoodna@bne.catholic.edu.au
 Fax: (07) 3818 2171

PARISH CONTACTS

6 Church Street, PO Box 450, Goodna Qld 4300
 Website: www.stfrancisxaviergoodna.org.au
 Parish Clergy: Fr Vudinh Tuong PP
 Parish Secretary: Katherine Qualischefski (Tues - Fri)
 Safeguarding Rep: Suzanne Fitzgerald
lsr.goodna@bne.catholic.net.au
 Office Hours: Tues - Fri 9am to 3pm
07 3818 0111 or goodna@bne.catholic.net.au



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If you are experiencing any symptoms such as cough, fever, shortness of breath, please stay home and contact your health care provider for advice