



**ST
FRANCIS
XAVIER
CATHOLIC
PARISH**

OUR PARISH MASSES						
Weekday				Saturday	14 th January	
10 th	Jan	Tues	9.00am	Mass	4.30pm	Reconciliation
11 th	Jan	Wed	9.00am	Mass	5.00pm	Vigil Mass
				6.30pm	Sunday 15 th January	
12 th	Jan	Thurs	9.00am	Mass	7.00am	Mass
13 th	Jan	Fri	9.00am	Mass	9.00am	Mass

The Epiphany of the Lord

Year A

8th January 2023



Neither East nor West

The feast of the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of God to all people. The three kings, known as the three wise men from the East who

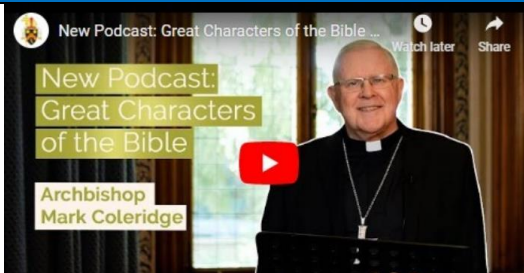
travelled from afar, came to pay homage to the infant king. The number 'three' implies plurality. People are tied to their king, and when a king acts, he does it for his nation and his people. In this context, God reveals himself to countries throughout the earth. The birth of Jesus erases all human borders. The arrival of the poor shepherds and the three wealthy kings implies that, when people come before God, their social status and boundary disappear. All people are equal before God, and all are God's beloved children. The term "wise men from the East" serves as a geographical location, rather than race. We need the terms, East and West, North and South, to clarify directions. For God, there are neither European nor Oriental; all are the chosen race. God loves and embraces them all. The star in the sky belongs to neither East nor West but is simply the sign which directs the wise men coming to the inn where they found the infant king and paid him homage. The contrast between the wise and the unwise is that the wise ones were people who loved and went out searching for the infant king to pay him homage, while the unwise ones were people who were not committed, but preferred to stay in their comfort zones. Their love for God was not from their hearts, but their lips. The wise men could include the shepherds, the three kings, or wise men. The shepherds were intelligent for trusting the voice of God's messengers. Hearing the Good News, they committed themselves to go out in the middle of the night to meet the newborn king. They praised God and spread the Good News. The three kings were not wise in terms of political viewpoint because the risk of leaving a country unattended for an unspecified period would be regarded as unwise. They were praised for doing the wise thing because they placed their faith in God. They were smart for their commitment

to searching for the meaning of life and for their observation and astrological knowledge. The three kings were wise for not seeking to honour themselves but to honour God. Meeting the infant king, they offered him Frankincense, Myrrh, and Gold. The gifts they carried with them, all the way on the journey, revealed the sincerity of their hearts. They were humble, on their knees before the infant king, taking the role of servants to pay him homage. Closely and carefully observing was their habit; before meeting the infant king, they were wise for trusting the light of the guiding star. They had no idea where the star could lead them, and yet they were committed to following. After meeting the infant king, this time they observe their own mind; and recognize the inner voice of their dreams. It was not an ordinary dream but a special voice telling them what to do. They observed the voice, followed its guidance and got home safe and sound.

In the bible, 'wise' means to love God. For humans, 'wise' is often associated with knowledge because knowledge generates money and power. The tyrant king, Herod, and his advisers, the chief priests, and Scribes had much knowledge of the Scriptures. Their knowledge served king Herod. They submit themselves to him. We don't know how much insight they had into Herod's evil plan to kill Jesus. We know God revealed Herod's evil thoughts to Joseph and the three wise kings, telling them to move away from the tyrant. Instead of repentance, Herod widened his murderous plan even further to all young boys in Bethlehem and surrounding areas, killing all boys from two years old and under, reckoning from the day Herod met the Magi. The three wise kings had a lot of wealth and power but were spiritually poor. They went in search of spiritual nourishment. We learn from them to enrich our spiritual life.

**Fr Vudinh Tuong
Parish Priest**

WEEKLY INFORMATION



New Podcast Series - Great Characters of the Bible

Hosted by Archbishop Mark Coleridge, this new series focuses on the Bible as a story filled with fascinating human characters from the old and new

testament. Meeting these characters tells us a lot about our humanity. Subscribe to our podcast on Apple Podcasts or Spotify streaming platforms to receive each episode directly to your device.

Thank you!



A big thank you to John Borowski for his tireless handyman work around the parish, most recently for fixing the basin in the parish hall, but also for being there whenever needed. Your help is very much appreciated.

WEEKLY INFORMATION

Mass Precautions during COVID

As part of the COVID Protocols, the Mass format for all Churches have had to be amended (since March 2020):

- No wine for Communion – just prayer;
- Communion is given to the hand; those wishing to receive to the tongue are invited to present at the end of the queue;
- Extraordinary Ministers – must wash hands before and after Mass with soap and water;
- The use of signing Peace – shaking hands, kissing and hugging is not permitted;

Fr Tuong is also not permitted to shake hands after Mass.

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, alleluia!

PASTORAL MATTERS



Prayer for the Sick

Lin Merrian, Marj Robbin, 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, Martin Folkes.

Reborn in Eternal Life 9th – 15th January

Bridget Mckelvey, Mary Fryars, Dorrie Hall, Leonard Galligan, William Gee, John Joseph Eustace, Vera McCallion, Wilma Poek, Hannah O'Hagan, Carrie McCarthy.

Reading – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, 15th Jan 2023

1 st Reading	Is 49:3, 5-6
2 nd Reading	1 Cor 1:1-3
Gospel	Jn 1:29-34

Baptism at St Francis Xavier, Goodna
The next Baptism will be 19th February 2023
Please keep in touch with the Parish Office as the current restrictions may change at any time. Baptisms are held on the third Sunday of each month during the 9am Mass. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

Home Visit
Due to COVID, the priest is not currently available for any home visits.

Recently Deceased Kathleen Ellen McGrath, Patricia Edith Richardson (nee Collins) OAM, Vicenta Basubas.

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 2 ROSTERS – THIS WEEK – 8th JANUARY 2023

Flowers	No Flowers	Cleaning	Tina & Princeton	Yard	n/a
1 st	5pm Huong Nguyen	2 nd	5pm Julie Aiavao	Ciborium	5pm Peter Aiavao
Reading	7am Paul Hodgkinson	Reading	7am Cameron Auld		7am Michael Miles
	9am So'oalo Family		9am Karoline Fonoti		9am Elaine Walters

WEEK 3 ROSTERS - NEXT WEEK – 15th JANUARY 2023

Flowers	No Flowers	Cleaning	Divine Mercy	Yard	Divine Mercy
1 st	5pm Darsha Ross	2 nd	5pm Suzanne Fitzgerald	Ciborium	5pm Christine Freeman
Reading	7am Robert Bryant	Reading	7am Amelia Teomatavui		7am Pefu Teomatavui
	9am Alefosio Family		9am Vaoiva Family		9am Uiki Vaoiva

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

WEEKLY INFORMATION

Catholic Formation *Catholic Theology in Context:* The Archdiocesan Centre for Catholic Formation's four core modules entitled "*Catholic Foundations*" are designed to draw Catholics into the fullness of the Catholic life and provide formation for those considering ministry roles. The first module, Catholic Theology in Context, will commence on Monday night 20 February 2023 at Xavier Hall, Holy Spirit Seminary. For more info see: www.catholicformation.au

St Francis Xavier Primary School
Goodna
Kids who care

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PARISH CONTACTS

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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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Contact us to find out more
www.catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.au/goodna 07 3381 8872

Catholic Early EdCare
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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 AQB@stopline.com.au.