



# Weekly Bulletin

**Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish**

**4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere**

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**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

**Sunday, 5 January 2025**

**“SMALL THINGS START US IN NEW WAYS OF THINKING.”**

– V.S. NAIPAUL, *A BEND IN THE RIVER*

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Happy Feast to you!

We celebrate the feast of Epiphany this Sunday recalling the story of the non-Israelite visitors to worship the infant Jesus from observing the heavens as was their tradition (religious or otherwise). The infancy narratives in both the gospels of Luke and Matthew are to be seen as ‘identity cards’: they tell us about who Jesus is, before we hear about his ministry and life. But they approach the question of identity using the forms of historical narrative rather than abstract theological categories. Jesus is revealed or manifested as the ‘anointed one’, he will be ‘ruler’ and ‘shepherd’ of Israel (Mt 2:6) ‘God with us’ (Mt 1:23). There are a few elements of the story of the Magi worth reflecting on such as the star, the gifts of the Magi to Jesus, the King Herod, and the angel’s direction to take a different path after the visit. I wish that you pick up any one of these and spend some time to reflect on and grasp the message of God for you and your family in a personal way. Looking through the lens of social justice, someone says, “In an age of globalization, the celebration of Epiphany takes on more importance than ever. The magi are not Jews, but they seek Christ as do the Jewish people. Christ is a light for the whole world. Christ calls together the whole world and all its peoples. Christ calls for a healing of divisions and openness to learn from all people. Christ calls for a just world order – trade policies that respect the economic opportunities of all people especially the poor; environmental policies that respect the world that we all share together; spending policies that respond to human needs; investment in human needs rather than the weapons of war; a world that lives in an environmentally sustainable way and a greater equality in sharing the fruits of our work and our earth”. (Lectionary Reflections)

Saint Mother Teresa once visited a poor man in Melbourne, Australia. He was living in a basement room, which was in a terrible state of neglect. There was no light in the room. He did not seem to have a friend in the world. She started to clean and tidy the room. At first, he protested, “Leave it alone. It is all right as it is.” But she went ahead anyway. As she cleaned, she chatted with him. Under a pile of rubbish, she found an oil lamp covered with dust. She cleaned it and discovered that it was beautiful. And she said to him, “You have got a beautiful lamp here. How come you never lit it?” “Why should I light it?” “No one ever comes to see me.” Will you promise to light it if one of my sisters comes to see you?” “Yes,” he replied. “If I hear a human voice, I will light the lamp.” Two of Mother Teresa’s sisters began to visit him regularly. Things gradually improved for him. Every time the sisters came to visit him, he had the lamp lighted. Then one day he said to them: “Sisters, I will be able to manage myself from now on. Do me a favour. Tell the first sister who came to see me that the light she lit in my life is still burning.” The manifestation of God in this story is Saint Mother Teresa and the other sisters of the congregation.

The greatest challenge for us today is to be an instrument of His Epiphany in the post-modern world...to be a star (leading humanity in ways of love, peace and justice), to be the magi (seeking and finding God in faith) to offer the greatest gift of a 'Quality life' and never to be the Herod of the gospel story. May Christ’s epiphany fill us with lights and epiphanies of new insight, new understanding and new orientation in the very midst of this world of transience- of instability, uncertainty and volatility!

May we follow at the beginning of this Holy Year, this Jubilee, in which we are called to be pilgrims of hope, the example of these wise men, and all wise men and women of history, Christians and non-Christians, who made themselves pilgrims of hope listening to the voice of God and recognizing God’s action in their lives.

**God’s blessings**

**Fr. Vince**

# This Sunday's Readings



## Entrance Antiphon:

Arise, Jerusalem, and look to the East  
and see your children gathered from the rising  
to the setting of the sun.

## First reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

*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.

## Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13

**℟: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

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. **℟**

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. **℟**

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. **℟**

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. **℟**

## Second reading: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

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 Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

## Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

We have seen his star in the East;  
and have come to adore the Lord.

**Alleluia!**

## Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

*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. '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.'

# PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

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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.

## Communion Antiphon:

The brightness of God illumined the holy city Jerusalem, and the nations will walk by it's light.




**Please continue to pray for the completion of the project of the Parish Admin Office and Priest Residence**



*Thank you!*

To the team that put up the Advent Wreath, the Nativity scene & the Christmas decorations.

And to Richard, Ronald, Tom & Laraine for your generous donation of the lawn mower and whipper snipper for the parish.



## Let us pray for ...

### *Sick*

Lawrence  
Joan Nayler  
Danilo De Los Reyes  
Sandra Ylagan

### *Recently Deceased*

### *Anniversaries*

Margreth Coughlan Robyn Murray  
Jane Hickey Reginald Wong Yoon Onn  
Nancy Medira John Loh Nyuk Seong  
Catherine Murray Colin Francis Wright

## PARISH ROSTERS

### 11/12 January 2025

	<u>Computer Operators</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>EMHC</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Cleaning Ministry</u>	<u>Altar Society</u>
<u>Sat Vigil 5.30pm</u>	Jenny Hendry	Sue Farrugia Len Farrugia	Matilda S Harriet S	Susan Boulos Kathy Saad	Kathleen Burrows	Marthe Nalletamby	Lily Hon O. Ham Maria Greenfield
<u>Sun 8.00am</u>	Christopher Younis	Barbara Rosario Rozz Morris	Daniela M Tara C	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong	Tyrone Wiratunga	Jing Tapiador	
<u>Sun 10.00am</u>	Vincent Austria	Joseph Andrews Lynette Rodrigues	Angelina B Avril L	Sheila Tapiador Elaine Gade			

### 18/19 January 2025

	<u>Computer Operators</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>EMHC</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Cleaning Ministry</u>	<u>Altar Society</u>
<u>Sat Vigil 5.30pm</u>	George Davidson	Lynette Rodrigues Leah Garcia	Cristian A Jemma L	Sr Maureen Sue Farrar	Lawrence Tsang	Sue Galletto	Therese Ball Lesley Long
<u>Sun 8.00am</u>	Anne Fernando	Jodie MacGregor Daniel Cakarun	Jensen M Judah M	Helen Wong Lina Flores	Sheila Tapiador		
<u>Sun 10.00am</u>	Glenys Oxlee	Nada Coorey Astrid Kossim	Theo M Tashnie & Tashen W	Lynette Rodrigues Dominic Rodrigues	<u>Lawn and Garden</u>	Romeo Urqueza	

# PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

## PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME (SECOND COLLECTION)

If you would like to support the Parish through the Planned Giving Programme (Second Collection)

please complete the application

form located at the back of the church.

Parishioners are encouraged to increase their contribution to the second collection via Direct Debit or Credit Card.

**Thank you for your generosity and support.**



## GROUP

We are working to engage young people aged between 12 and 35 to join our group.

**We encourage our youth to come onboard.**

If you would like to join us, we invite you to write your contact details on our Youth Group Register located at the back of the church.

**The next Youth Group Meeting will be announced shortly.**

For more details please contact:

**Nazli Guler on 0426 243 016**

## PARISH MINISTRY SIGN-UP

**2025**



**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER,  
YOU ARE INVITED TO WRITE YOUR NAME  
ON THE SHEET LOCATED AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH  
OR PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE**

### Volunteer Positions Available

**Altar Linen Washing**

**Altar Servers (Junior)**

**Altar Servers (Senior)**

**Altar Society**

**Catechists in Public Schools**

**Childrens Liturgy Facilitators**

**Church Cleaning**

**Counters**

**Eucharistic Ministers**

**Lawn & Garden**

**Readers**

**THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING TO SERVE OUR PARISH!**

### WEEKDAY MASSES

**Tue - Wed - Thu - Fri - Sat 9:15 am**

*Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Succour*

*Every Wednesday 7:00pm*

**ROSARY at 3:00pm** on the last Saturday of every month at Ermington Shopping Centre (near the Post Office).

### SUNDAY MASSES

**Saturday (Vigil) 5:30 pm**

**Sunday 8:00 am & 10:00 am**

### RECONCILIATION

**Saturday 8:30 am - 9:00 am**

### ADORATION (EXPOSITION)

**Saturday 8:30 am**

### BAPTISM

**1st & 3rd Sunday of the Month 11:30 am**

## PARISH TEAM

**Fr. Vincent Savarimuthu**  
Parish Priest

**Maritza Graciela**  
Parish Secretary  
Tue/Wed/Thur/Fri  
9:30am to 5:30pm

**Deacon Leon**  
Finance Secretary  
Thur  
10am to 2pm

Sacramental Coordinator	Lynette Rodrigues
Childrens Liturgy Coordinator	Allison Markarian
Lectors Coordinator	Glenys Oxlee
Senior Server Coordinator	Anton Massillamany
Finance Chairman	Ron Della Vedova
St Vincent De Paul President	Ron Della Vedova
Rydalmen Coordinator	Mark Bannister
Social Celebrations Coordinator	Nancy Grugan
Parish Pastoral Council Chair	Allison Markarian

## PARISH SCHOOLS

**St. Mary's Primary School**  
1 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere NSW 2116  
**Ph:** (02) 8844 5700  
**Email:** StMarysRydal@parra.catholic.edu.au  
**Principal:** Mr. Richard Blissenden

**St. Patrick's Marist College**  
171 Kirby Street, Dundas NSW 2117  
**Ph:** (02) 8841 7900  
**Email:** stpatsdundas@parra.catholic.edu.au  
**Principal:** Mr. Paul Ryan