



# OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH

The Epiphany of the Lord

Year C Cycle I

5 January 2025



## How Wonderful!

**T**his week we're introduced to the "wise men", often described as Magi or astrologers, who are seeking out a foreign king. In many ways, this is a microcosm of God's plan for humanity.

The Old Testament reveals how God chose Israel to be especially his own, a priestly people, a holy nation. But the reason for this choice was not to glorify Israel over against the other nations, rather, it was to make of Israel a beacon to the world, so that through Israel all might be gathered to himself.

Similarly, the wise men are seeking a king, born for the Jews, but he wouldn't be for the Jews alone. This Messiah would be the King of kings, a light to all the nations.

How wonderful that the sign of this King's birth should be a star, something that can be clearly seen by every nation and from any nation. And when the Magi saw it, they were willing to leave their own country behind.

Then, after greeting the newborn King, they went back to their own country, but they went back by a different route. This is a biblical sign that they were changed.

They would remain Babylonians, but they had become citizens of a higher country. They couldn't return by the same path.

*Word on Fire* Bishop Robert Barron

## Five Lessons of the Magi

**T**he unforgettable story of the journey of the Magi, as recounted in the Gospel of Matthew, is an artful summary of the principal dynamics of the spiritual life. Watching the night sky with scrupulous attention for signs of God's purpose, the Magi evoke the importance of alertness in the spiritual order. We must keep our eyes open to see what God is up to. For far too many people, the spiritual life never gets underway, precisely because they don't pay attention.

*(continued over page)*



## On Holidays

Men's Group and Franciscan meetings are not held during January. They will resume in February.

**The Catholic Weekly**

## The Catholic Weekly

Now on sale on the Church tables. \$2 to the poor box please.



## Offertory Procession

Children are encouraged to take part in the Offertory Procession. Come to the Offertory Table when invited by the Acolytes.



## Low Gluten Hosts

Please see one of the Priests before Mass if you are a coeliac.

## Five Lessons of the Magi (*continued*)

Once they saw the star, they moved, despite the length of the journey and the dangers of the road. Sometimes people know what God wants them to do, but they don't act, either out of fear or laziness or the influence of bad habits. In their confident journeying forth, the Magi teach us not to miss the propitious moment. They teach us to move.

When they entered into Herod's territory, the Magi caught the attention of the king. And when they spoke to him of the birth of a new King of the Jews, Herod became frantic and tried to use them in order to destroy the baby. A third lesson: when you walk the path that God has laid out for you, expect opposition. We live in a sinful, fallen world, and there will always be forces at cross purposes to God.

Refusing to cooperate with Herod's game, the wise men came to Bethlehem, found the child, and gave him their precious gifts. When you come to Christ, don't give him your second best; break open the very best of yourself and make it a gift for him. Finally, they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod and so "they returned to their home country by another route."

As Fulton Sheen commented so magnificently: of course they did; for no one comes to Christ and goes back the same way he came!

The journey of these wise men is a metaphor for the spiritual journeys that all of us must make. Like the magi, we must be attentive; we must be willing to act; we must expect opposition; we must give our best to Christ, and finally, we must be willing to change, "to go back by a different route."

*appleseeds.org* Bishop Robert Barron

## Captivated

**I**n the Gospel we see the juxtaposition of King Herod and the mysterious Magi from the East. History tells us that Herod was the consummate political survivor, a canny realist who had, through threats, murder, and corruption, found his way to the top of the political ladder.

But while he was fussing around, desperately trying to maintain himself in power, figures from a distant country were blithely indifferent to politics and games of domination. Instead, they were intensely surveying the night sky, looking for signs from God.

And they found one. As these Magi crossed the border into Herod's country, they came onto Herod's radar screen. Who were they? Spies? And whom were they seeking? A newborn king? To Herod, that sounded like a threat, it sounded like treason.

So under the pretense of piety, he called the Magi to himself and inquired after the star's first appearance, getting the time coordinates, and then he asked them to go to Bethlehem and find the exact locale. Why? To stamp out this new baby king, this king who threatened to undermine Herod's tyrannical rule.

Herod was afraid of Jesus and responded with violence; the Magi were captivated by Jesus and responded with worship.

*Word on Fire* Bishop Robert Barron

## Priestly Ordination

**B**ishop Anthony has announced that Deacon Rosan Mathew will be Ordained a Priest at OLR Cathedral Waitara on Wednesday 19 March at 7.30pm. We are also pleased to announce that Deacon Rosan has also been appointed to continue serving in our parish as Assistant Priest. Please keep him in your prayers as he prepares for this important occasion.

### Fr Joshi

Fr Joshi has been appointed as Assistant Priest at Warnervale starting from 31 January. We thank him for his fine ministry with us since his appointment in August 2023 and wish him well and continue to pray for him as he begins a new chapter at St Mary of the Cross MacKillop community.

Further details regarding Dcn Rosan's Ordination and Fr Joshi's farewell will follow as available.

## Jubilee Year - Pilgrims of Hope

**I**n the Catholic Church, a Jubilee or Holy Year is a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, in which people are invited to come back into right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation.

A Jubilee Year is celebrated by the Church every 25 years. This has been the case since 1470, when Pope Paul II changed it from every 50 years.

A Pope can also proclaim an Extraordinary Jubilee, like the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy which Pope Francis inaugurated in 2015.

The theme is Pilgrims of Hope. Pope Francis has invited Catholics to renew our hope and discover a vision that can "restore access to the fruits of the earth to everyone". We are also invited to rediscover a spirituality of God's creation in which we understand ourselves as "pilgrims on the earth" rather than masters of the world. The Jubilee Year concludes 6 January 2026.

## Electronic Sign

**H**opefully you will have all noticed our new beautiful electronic sign by now! After juggling the "red tape" of CC Council for almost 18 months we have finally got our church sign up in front of the Presbytery. We originally wished to have it in front of the church, but Council knocked this back owing to the heritage significance of our church, so this was the only position allowed by the Council. Thank you to those that have generously contributed the cost of this sign.

## The Pope's Prayer Intentions for January

**F**or the right to an education. Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

## Catholic Mission Appeal

**T**his year we will be holding our Catholic Mission Appeal on the weekend of 18/19 January. Donation details will be available next week.



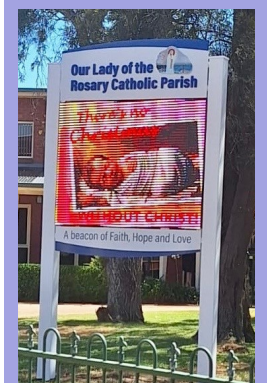
### Welcome Visitors!

A warm welcome to anyone visiting our parish over the Christmas Season. It is lovely to have you with us.



### Car Park Warning

The car park gates close after Saturday/Sunday services. Be aware if locked in - the carpark reopens next morning.



### New Parish Sign



### Shop Locally!

Please support the shops in the Carnival Hall building 40-48 The Entrance Road. These shops support our Parish.

# THE ENTRANCE PARISH DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

*A beacon of Faith, Hope and Love*

**PARISH PRIEST & DEAN OF THE CENTRAL COAST** Fr Brian Moloney **ASSISTANT PRIEST** Fr Joshi Naduppura  
**DEACONS** Rev Rosan Mathew & Rev Paul Simmons **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE** Colleen Smith  
**SAFEGUARDING OFFICER** Leanne McGill **PROPERTY MAINTENANCE MANAGER** Karen Green  
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**Email** info@ourladyoftherosary.org.au **Facebook** Our Lady of the Rosary Parish The Entrance  
**OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PRIMARY SCHOOL** Tel 7256 2115 **ST PETER'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE** Tel 4351 2344

## Mass & Devotions

**Sunday Masses** Saturday Vigil 5:00pm Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am (11am at Reynolds Court) Maronite Mass 5pm.  
**Weekday Masses** Monday - Thursday 9:00am Friday 11:45am Saturday 9:00am  
**Reconciliations** Saturdays 9:30-10am and 4-4:30pm  
**Liturgy of the Hours** Saturday 8:40am **Rosary** Monday-Thursday 8:35am Friday 11:20am Saturday 9:30am  
**Cenacle Prayer Group** Wednesday 9:30am **Christian Meditation** Friday 10:30am-11:30am Reynolds Room

## The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6 Eph 3:2-3, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12

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

**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!

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

## Keep Us In Your Prayers *There is no gift more precious than prayer - Fr Benedict Groeschel*

**Recently Deceased:** Patsy Purcell, Terri McFadden, Nona Redman, Bill Morris, Javier Cabarrus, Deborah Czyrkowski.

**Funerals:** The funeral of Patsy Purcell will be held on 9 January at 11am. Please pray for Patsy and her family.

**Anniversaries:** Stephen Byrne, Dennis McCarroll.

**Remembrances:** Pat Smith, Marie Powell, Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, Terence & Josephine Smith, Terry Howard, John Giutronich, Sam & Carmen Ghirxi, Martin Ghirxi, Tom Grigic, Mollie & Bob Amor, Barry Millwain, Marie O'Brien and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

**Families:** Vaughan & Tippetts

**Sick:** Neville Allen, Rosalyn Evans, Charmaine Goodwin, Margaret Ayres, Glenda Way, Jacob McCarroll, Beau Davis, Max Leete, Frano Stitic, Anne Clancy, John McClement, Anne & Trish Knoke, Paul Smith, Emma Horton, Linda Read, Kelly Will and all with serious illness.

## Pearly Gates Revisited



Our Lady of the Rosary

GIFT CENTRE

*For all your devotional needs...*

## Welcome to the Gift Centre

The Gift Centre is open on Saturdays before and after the 5pm Vigil Mass and Sundays before and after the 9:30am Mass.

You'll find us in the foyer of the Church.

**Enquiries: 4332 2216.**