

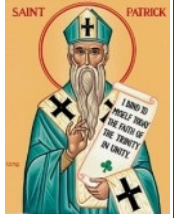
# KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH

Diocese of Broken Bay - 5th January 2020

The Epiphany of the Lord

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you

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



## Stars and Seekers after Truth ~

There is a fascination with stars: their beauty shining and sparkling in the dark canopy of the night; amazement and wonder at their number and extent. And who amongst us hasn't stolen a furtive glance at the horoscopes, half humorously checking 'what the stars hold for me'. The Magi, the wise men in today's gospel story, were not like the writers of our horoscope columns. They were astronomers – astrologers from ancient religions found to 'the East' of Bethlehem, perhaps modern day Iraq or Syria.

In particular, they would have thought that the birth of those destined to be great figures would be signalled by unusual constellations of events in the night sky. They really believed that stars greatly influenced and controlled the destiny of human beings.

But, **these** Magi were open to the insights of other religious traditions. And it was that combination of their own religion of astrology and their reading about Jewish expectations of a wonderful person who would inaugurate a new epoch of history, which led them to:

**To what? To whom?** To Jesus, in a nondescript dwelling, in a nondescript town, hovered over by an exhausted Mary and a protective Joseph. This would be a most unexpected culmination of their journey. Yet, because they were genuine seekers after truth, they were open enough to see in this baby what their own religious teaching had prepared them for, even as they were led beyond that religious system.

They were the first non-Jewish people to kneel before that infant. They did homage to this baby.

**Why?** I think it was because they realised that the stars did not control **this** infant.

**On the contrary: 'There is something in this baby which caused the night sky to respond.**

**This baby is responsible for the movement of the stars!'**

They were sufficiently filled with wonder that they preserved the child from the deadly schemes of Herod, not reporting where they had found him. And, then they returned to their home country, 'by a different way'. They were on a different journey after encountering the Child.

**What does this Gospel passage hold for us today?** Who can doubt that the Holy Spirit led these wise men from the East to the manger? In fact, the Holy Spirit is at work in every human being, prompting each and every one to become seekers after Truth. People may be trapped in the limiting language of their astrology or Buddhism, or an ideology such as atheism or whatever.

Of course, those systems of thought cannot save anyone. But, individually and personally, Buddhists and atheists and astrologers can be set on a journey towards 'the Love which moves the sun and all the stars' (Dante). As a person responds to the (often anonymous) prompting of the Holy Spirit and tries to lead a good humane life, then the Church teaches that the Holy Spirit can draw them into the saving life of God. This is where we differ drastically from some fundamentalists. The Catholic Church believes that the billions in China and India, who have never heard the Gospel, can be saved. But, such persons, even leading humane lives, do not savour the fullness of Truth as we do with the privilege of having the scriptures and the sacraments. Where it is possible, we are obliged to offer them the road map to the Truth.

That Truth which we have the privilege of understanding leads us to accept the claims made on us by the baby to whom the Astrologers paid homage: We understand and accept that **He** is the Body Language of God, that **He** is 'God with us', Emmanuel, that **He** is The Answer to all the seeking after truth and the yearning of the human heart. **O come, let us adore Him.** © Fr Michael Tate



Happy New Year

God of all time,  
help us enter the New Year quietly,  
thoughtful of who we are to ourselves  
and to others,  
mindful that our steps make an impact  
and our words carry power.

May we walk gently.

May we speak only after  
we have listened well.

Creator of all life,  
help us enter the New Year reverently,  
aware that you have endowed  
every creature and plant,  
every person and habitat  
with beauty and purpose.

May we regard the world  
with tenderness.

May we honour rather than destroy.

Lover of all souls,

help us enter the New Year joyfully,  
willing to laugh and dance and dream,  
remembering our many gifts with thanks  
and looking forward  
to blessings yet to come.

May we welcome your lavish love.  
In this new year, may the grace and  
peace of Christ bless us now  
and in the days ahead.

- Vinita Hampton Wright;

To all parishioners, your extended families  
and all visitors to

Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish,  
may you feel the presence of Our Lord  
beside you during 2020 and always.

Fr Shaju & Fr Joy

### PASTORAL CENTRE

1-19 Woodcourt Road, Berowra Heights 2082

P.O. Box 335, Berowra Heights 2082

Phone: (02) 9456 2450

Email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp

**Centre Hours: 9am – 3.30pm.**

Parish Priest Fr Shaju John, OSH

Assistant Priest Fr Joy Thomas, OSH

Parish Secretary Margaret Cooper

Bookkeeper Karen Price

Youth Ministry Co-ord. Michelle Chahine

School/Parish Liturgy L. Patricia Smith

Sacramental Team: kccpsacraments@gmail.com



KU-RING-GAI CHASE  
CATHOLIC PARISH  
Diocese of Broken Bay, Australia

### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday	5pm	St Bernard's
	6pm	St Patrick's
Sunday	8am	St Patrick's
	9am	St Bernard's
	10am	St Patrick's
	6pm	St Patrick's

### WEEKDAY MASSES

St Bernard's	8am	Mon, Tues and Thurs.
	9am	Wednesday and Friday
St Patrick's	8am	Wednesday and Friday
	9am	Mon, Tues, Thurs and Sat.
First Friday –	St Bernard's	
	10.30am	Adoration
	11.00am	Reconciliation
	11.30am	Healing Mass
First Friday –	St Patrick's	
	Night Vigil	7.30pm

### RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday	9.30 am at St Patrick's
Every Friday	After 9am Mass at St Bernard's, (except First Friday—see above)



January  
Office Hours

The Pastoral Centre will be **CLOSED until mid JANUARY.**

If you need assistance outside these hours please phone the office on 9456 2450 and leave a message.

**NB:** The phone will be **CHECKED only INTERMITTENTLY** during this period.

**USUAL OFFICE HOURS will resume on Monday 20 January 2020 (9am to 3.30pm).**

**REMEMBER: If in urgent need of a priest, the emergency number is: 0468 341 841.**

# ROSTERS & READINGS FOR WEEKEND 11/12 January - The Baptism of the Lord - Year A

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND FOR YOUR ROSTERED DATE PLEASE ARRANGE A SUBSTITUTE

Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17



KU-RING-GAI CHASE  
CATHOLIC PARISH  
Diocese of Broken Bay, Australia

	St Bernard's Church		St Patrick's Church (Sacristy Phone 9476 6904)			
	5.00pm	9.00am	6.00pm	8.00am	10.00am	6.00pm
	Fr Joy	Fr Shaju	Fr Shaju	Fr Joy	Fr Joy	Fr Shaju
Acolyte/Snr Server	Justin Berry	Alex Jarominek	Sandra Sparkes	Malcolm Cross	John Messina	Keith Fone
Server	Robyn Orr MS Jake Williams	Josephine Harman Sophia Harman MJ		Abbey McAdam Leith Suyyah	John Larson Aidan Dominguez Nathan Mathew Daniel Mathew	
Reader	Jerome Gomez Sophia Smith	Peter Collins Barbara McMullen	Paul Worthington Celia Cox	Vivienne Schreiber Russel Schreiber	Deborah de Voss Susie Gates	Fiona Fone Simone Noel
Children's Liturgy	<i>In recess until February 2020</i>		<i>In recess until February 2020</i>			
Communion to Sick	Isabel Henson		Ellen Downey, Vicente Sanchez			
Sacristy Care/Church Cleaning/Flowers	Marcia Woods, Anne Bourke, Gwen Wood, Helen Johnson, Cecilia Waite (f), Brenda Brooks (s).		Lyn Villa, Angie Pulanco, Leila Fowler, Cynthia Gilbertson, Editha Palmer, Yovana Castro Guerrero			
Maintenance	Both teams A & B		January: Sydney Fernandes, Richard Fellow			
Counters	Philip Turner, Mark Birrell, Peter Formby		Malcolm Cross, Jessie Long, Graham Palmer			

## LITURGICAL SERVICES & PASTORAL CARE

**Rosary** After weekday Masses both Churches  
**Visit Housebound** Fr Shaju & Fr Joy - 9456 2450  
**Nursing Home Visits:** By request  
**Emergency Priest** 0468 341 841 (Out of office hours only)  
**Clergy Days Off** Fr Shaju – Monday Fr Joy – Tuesday  
**Home Visits** For Masses, House Blessings & Pastoral Requests – Please phone the office 9456 2450.  
**HOSPITAL ADMISSION:** If you are admitted to hospital, please write down your religion as Catholic to receive Catholic Services. **Please notify the Parish Office, if hospitalised if you would like our own priests to attend.**

## What's happening in Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish



**Keep Calm and Drink Tea on Sunday the 26th of Jan-u-ary!**

**Australia Day in Australia & Republic Day in India**

**250 Club Results drawn between Dec 23 and Jan 31 will be published in the 2nd February 2020 bulletin.**



**Are you travelling this New Year?**

*You are important to us and so we ask you to take special care when travelling over the New Year period. Enjoy your break, may it be relaxing and enjoyable but most important of all, please return to us safely.*



**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Geoffrey Ranson (Father of Fr David Ranson), Grace Walker, Elisabeth (May) Bailey, Gabrielle Anne King (nee Cox), Colin Randazzo, Helen McKeon, Antonietta (Ann), Fr Barry Nobbs, Noel & Martin Corrigan, James Kennelly  
**ANNIVERSARIES:** Eulalie Hailstone, Neil Mickelson, Alison Hinton, Mary Treacy, Assunta Fraietta, Maria Lombardo, Deacon David Huntley, Ronald Bond, Jack Van Pierce  
**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Felicity Fone, Graeme Kachel, Michelle Chahine, Anna Nicholson, Antonio, Doug Hawkins, Pat Bowden, Peter Brooks, Brian Treacy, Erick Enriquez, Charles Abela, Elaine Estrellado, Maureen Sharpe, Paul Sarkis, Eve Davis (baby), Penny Rigor, Rodney Porter, Irena Fellmann, Jwona Nowak, Elaine Longmuir, Paula McGauley, Michael Quinn, June Eileen, Patricia Smith (Carlton), Ramona Estrellado, Cathy Gleeson, Rosalinda de Ramos, Jaz Pitts, Georgia Meyers, Angela Smith, Matthew Franklin, Jeanette Bakker, Ewa Rakoz, Jean Cook, Greg Cooper, Betty Borg, Morrie Ramsden, Brian Neary, Edwina Subramany, Aiko Concepcion, John Buckley, Ellen Asistente, Sam Calacoci, Barbara Jones, Arlene Joson, Alfredo De Ramos, Kath Lock, Cadia Maestri, Marcelina De Ramos, Matthew Conlon, Patrick Dorahy, John Macy, Narelle Cartwright, Tom Dawson, Mary Fernandes, Patricia Sanders, Monique Leyden, Frederick Novak, Barbara & Maciej Maciejewski, Alfredo De Ramos Sr.



We the people of the **Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay and in Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish**, are committed to fostering communities of safety and care for all people, especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable. Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ.



**Pope's intention for January:**

**Promotion of World Peace:**

We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

The businesses below support our parish by advertising here. Please give them your support in turn.

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**Solutions for Mobility, Independence and Dignity**  
 Registered NDIS, My Aged Care, DVA and Insurance Provider

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- Easy access to the showroom from the Car Park
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- Corner of Jersey Street North and Bridge Road

**9987 4500**  
 73 Jersey St North, Hornsby NSW 2077

**Comfort Discovered**  
 www.comfortdiscovered.com

**King Tide Café/Restaurant**  
 Owned and operated by our very own  
**KCCP Parishioners**  
**John & Moauli Griffiths**  
 Open 7 days  
 from 8am to 4pm  
 Come by Car  
 by Boat or by Train

Delicious food, fabulous service & exceptional views await YOU!  
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**Francesca Parrino**

**Your Berowra / Berowra Heights Specialist**

P. (02) 9456 9999  
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