

Year B
The Epiphany of the Lord
3 January 2021
Liturgical Colour: White

PLEASE TAKE YOUR NEWSLETTER WITH YOU, DON'T PUT IT BACK



The Catholic Parishes of
GROVELY-SAMFORD and MITCHELTON
Western Hills Communities from Gaythorne to Mt Glorious

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Residing at O.L.D. Presbytery

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As we face the New Year, we experience a variety of emotions. 2020 has been quite bizarre and most people tell me that they are glad that it is over. What will 2021 bring? Some of us view the New Year with great anticipation, some of us view it with trepidation, while some view the New Year with indifference. What will the New Year bring us? God, in His infinite wisdom, rarely lets us know what the future holds for us as individuals. In many respects, knowing the future would not be a good thing.

If things are not going so well for us, it is so easy to get overwhelmed and despondent by our circumstances or the circumstances of those whom we love. It is easy to get downhearted when our body doesn't work like it used to, our eyes don't see like they used to, our ability to remember things gets weaker, and we are not as nimble or fit as we used to be. COVID-19 has also cast a shadow over the whole world as we try to navigate our way through what has been an odyssey of epic proportions. There are days when we might want to shout out loud to God "why is this happening to me? Why is this happening to us? And where is God in all of this?" It is precisely during the times of anxiety, distress, frustration, pain, fear and despair when we must remember that we serve the God of Hope.

The beautiful thing about the incarnation is that God comes to us not where he wants us to be, but to where we are at. God reveals himself to those who sincerely seek him.

Today is the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. We celebrate that God reveals himself as God of the whole of humanity, not just a particular people. Christ came for every nation, every race, every human person.

The wonderful story of the Magi symbolizes the search for God. There is only so much that the stars can teach The Magi. These learned men, don't know where to go until they ask for directions from the experts in Herod's court. The Magi study the stars, but it will only take them so far. They only find the right direction when they get answers from the Scriptures, from the scribes and chief priests who study the scriptures. They are told on the basis of revelations where the Messiah is to be born. And when they find him they pay him homage and give him gifts.

Are we still searching for the Messiah or have we found him? If we have found him, what homage do we pay and what gifts do we bring to our King. The Wise Men were guided by God and led on a journey of faith and brought to belief in Christ. When they finally encounter him they place all they have at his disposal and worship him. They know that they have come to the knowledge of the greatest treasure anyone could possess, belief in Christ – Light of the World, Hope of the World.

Nigel Sequeira

LITURGY TIMES

4th - 10th January

Grovelly St William's

Next Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5:00pm Vigil Mass
 Sunday: 7:00am Mass
 9:00am Mass
 5:00pm Mass

Mitchelton Our Lady of Dolours

Monday: 8:30am Mass
 Tuesday: 8:30am Mass
 Wednesday: 8:30am Mass
 Thursday: 8:30am Mass
St Raymond of Penyafort
 Friday: 8:30am Mass
 Saturday: 4:00pm Vigil Mass

Next Weekend Masses

Sunday: 11:00am Mass

Samford Sacred Heart

Next Weekend Mass

Sunday: 8:00am Mass

The Parish Office will be closed from December 23 to January 11. In the event of emergency, call the parish office and your call will be redirected to a priest's mobile. Please make your Mass bookings in advance, especially if your preferred method is via phone or email. Otherwise, book online, sign in via the QR code at the Church entrance or arrive early and sign-in manually.

Haven't Booked Online? Try The QR Code

For people who have not booked online, there is a QR code at the church entrance allowing for faster sign-in. After scanning the code, you will be prompted to enter your details for COVID contact tracing. Then, you will be asked for the names of dependents/children attending with you. After, show the Marshal the proof of check-in page on your phone and inform them of the number of people attending so they can keep track of numbers. You will need to sign out with the exit QR code after Mass.

What is a New Year's resolution? Something that goes in one year and comes out the other 

This Week's Readings: The Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60: 1 - 6
 Ephesians 3: 2 - 3, 5 - 6
 Matthew 2: 1 - 12

Next Week's Readings: Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 55: 1 - 11
 1 John 5: 1 - 9
 Mark 1: 7 - 11

COMBINED COMMUNITIES' NEWS



Faithful Departed

Recently Departed: Teresa 'Terry' Dart, Rufino Denila, Fr James Byrne, Joan Smith, Aileen Kelly, Ruby O'Neill, Lewis Lawrence



We pray for the Sick

We pray for: Veronica Pagnell, Michael Cramsie, Ted Cramsie, Warwick Lee, Maureen Campbell, Kathleen Edden, Stuart Smith, Cindy Roberts, Teresa Pitman, Maureen O'Neill, Helen Wagner

Please note All requests to have a Mass offered for someone, or newsletter requests for the name of recently deceased family members, prayers for the sick and anniversaries, need to be given to the parish office in writing. Forms and Mass request envelopes are available from the sacristy at all 3 churches, or from the Parish Office. Completed forms/envelopes can be given to the priest or handed in at the office.

Resumption of Home Communion at Moonah Park Aged Care

Eucharistic Ministry will commence in the New Year for our Aged Care family at Churches of Christ, Oxford Park. This is an essential Catholic mission in reaching out to those who cannot practice their faith with us on weekends. If you are interested in helping in this very rewarding role please let us know by contacting Marie-Louise Singson at the Parish Office. Training and support will be provided by the team.

Can't Make It To Mass?

Watch Online:

Mass is streamed live everyday from the Cathedral of St Stephen and can be viewed on the Archdiocese of Brisbane website or YouTube channel.

Weekday (Mon - Fri) 8am

Sunday, Jan 10: 8am & 10am

Watch on TV:

'Mass for You at Home' can be viewed on Channel 10 at **6am** on **Sundays**

GROVELLY

Baptisms:

We joyfully announce the baptism of *Violet Johnson* and welcome her into our faith community

SAMFORD

Baptisms:

We joyfully announce the baptisms of *Thane & Taliskah Lipjes* and welcome them into our faith community



Saturday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is in Recess

Saturday Adoration will resume January 23
 Weekly reconciliations will also resume at this time

Pope's Prayer Intentions: January Human Fraternity

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all



January 3, 2021 Epiphany of the Lord

"...they fell down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh..." Matthew 2:11

Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!

Bible Quiz

Towards which city was Saul travelling when he encountered a light from heaven?

Answer next Week

Last Week's question:

Who claimed that the golden calf simply came out of the fire?

Answer:
 Aaron (Exo 32:24)

Two Minute Homilies:

This week, Fr John Conway gives the homily for the Feast of the Epiphany

"Time and again throughout our lives the Epiphany of God continues to manifest itself in those moments when something happens to us, and we hunger for what God can do for us."

Two Minute Homilies can be viewed on the Archdiocese of Brisbane YouTube channel or the Archdiocesan website.

Epiphany of the Lord A Vocation View

Even gift bearing kings, accompanied by camels and servants, went to visit Jesus Christ. You, come and follow Him. Take the Good News back to your people: Jesus is Lord of all.



To talk to someone about your vocation, contact our office or visit our website: 1300 133 544
 vocation@brisbane.catholic.net.au