

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH OF BUSSELTON

Our Lady of the Bay Church, off College Avenue, West Busselton

St. Joseph's Church, Kent Street, Busselton

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GROWING IN FAITH, INCLUSIVITY & OUTREACH, THROUGH OPENNESS.

The EPIPHANY of the LORD (4 January)

First Reading

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:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Second Reading

Eph 3:2-3, 5-6

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 the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Is 60:1-6 Gospel

Mt 2:1-12

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.'*

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.

PARISH SECRETARY

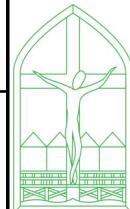
This part-time position will become vacant at the end of January. If you are interested please contact Trish in the Parish Office for further details. (*If you love God and love your Parish, this job is tailor made for you!*)

Next Week's Readings (Year A)

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

PARISH MASSES & DEVOTIONS
5 January - 11 January

Monday	10.00am	Rosary Cenacle	St. Joseph's
Saturday	5.30pm	Reconciliation	St Joseph's
	6.00pm	Mass	St. Joseph's
Sunday	8.30am	Reconciliation	Our Lady of the Bay
	9.00am	Mass	Our Lady of the Bay
	5.30pm	Reconciliation	Our Lady of the Bay
	6.00pm	Mass	Our Lady of the Bay



Parish Priest
Fr Jess Navarra
0439 942 241

Assistant Priest
Fr Nathan Barrie
0420 711 769

Deacon
Rev Barry Cruickshank
0409 116 809



REFLECTION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Epiphany is the feast of the wise ones or astrologers “from the East” who are led beyond themselves and their immediate location by the rising of a star. They form their own preliminary hypothesis and travel west to search out the meaning of this sign. They learn from the official interpreters of the Jewish scriptures, the “scribes of the people”. They then follow the star that leads them to the new born child, the incarnate Wisdom of God. The gospel does not stipulate how many wise ones or magi come to pay homage to the child. There is no indication in the story as to whether the group is all male or male and female. The three precious earth derived gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh have traditionally been associated with three different characters, usually kings of diverse nationality and colour, although there is no support for this in the text. These strangers are the first to recognise “God with-us” in the person of the child Jesus and the first to pay him homage. They also come to recognise, in a dream, the duplicity of King Herod. They have the good sense not to accede to Herod’s request to “bring him word” of the newborn king. Heeding the warning implicit in the dream, they return home “by another road”. The story-teller Matthew leaves room in the tableau for the insertion of the wise ones who will emerge through the ages. **There is an invitation for us to enter into Matthew’s drama, to be the wise ones, to join with people of diverse cultures, to engage in our own search for Wisdom, to honour the birth and the life of every child and to follow the “star” that leads to truth and lasting peace.** There is an invitation to be wary of self-serving rulers who find their positions threatened by the different sort of power that is based on vulnerability and openness to new life. There is also an invitation to ask why it is important for each one of us to follow the star that leads to truth, to life and to love. Towards the end of World War, W.H. Auden wrote a lengthy poem, **For the Time Being: A Christmas Oratorio** addressing precisely this matter. Auden’s complex engagement with the Christmas Story includes a section on the wise ones (for Auden, there are three) who have tried but failed to solve the problems of human existence with the help of science and the social sciences. The reader is told that the deeper answers they seek are to be found, not so much in the sciences, but rather in the birth of the Christ child, in the incarnation of the living God. Auden’s wise ones decide to follow the star that leads to the new-born child. The first, who has put Nature “*through a thorough inquisition*” declares, “**To discover how to be truthful now [i]s the reason I follow this star....**” The second, who has lost faith in “*Time’s constant*” and the “*inherited self-importance*” of the Present, asserts, “**To discover how to be living now [i]s the reason I follow this star....**” For the third, “*arriving at the Greatest Good by introspection*” leaves no time for the things that matter, for “*affection, laughter, kisses, squeezing, smiles*”. And so, “**To discover how to be loving now [i]s the reason I follow this star...**” says the third of the wisdom figures. The section closes with the admission that these three have only the vaguest notion of why they are what they are. Their whole journey is about discovering “how to be human now”. **That is why they follow this star. In order to discover how to be truthful now, how to be living now, how to be loving now, how to be human now!** That’s why we follow the star that brings us to the embodiment of truth and life and love and ultimately to an understanding of what it means to be truly human. Auden gets to the heart of the Feast we celebrate today. While the sciences can provide some of the answers, **if we want to know how to be truly human now, we are invited to follow the one whom we believe to be both fully human and fully divine.**

We acknowledge the Wadandi people of the Noongar nation as the traditional custodians of this land on which we gather. We recognise their continuing connection to the land protecting this coastline and its ecosystems since time immemorial. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and extend that respect to all First Nations people who might be present today.

NEW TO THE PARISH?

Please introduce yourself to Father and our greeters. They will be able to give you our Parish **Membership Form**, and ‘**Welcome Booklet**’ which will help you to know what is happening in and around the Parish. Please feel free to drop into the Parish Office on Kent Street (next to St Joseph’s Church) when next you pass by. Trish, the secretary, would love to meet you.

JANUARY INTENTION

For prayer with the word of God :

Let us pray that praying with the word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

GENTLE REMINDER

Please turn off your mobile phone.

You have the right to remain silent

MEN'S BREKKY

Come, eat and have a chat with other 'Holy Romans' on **Thursday, 8 January**, at 8.30am @ 'The Good Egg' Café on Albert Street.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Welcome back! Our first gathering for 2026 will be an informal catch-up this **Friday 9 January** following the 12 noon Mass. **Please come!** Bring a small plate to share for lunch. Hope to see you then.

HAVE YOU BLESSED CHALK FROM PREVIOUS YEARS??

THE EPHIPHANY BLESSING

Marking Homes with Blessed Chalk for the New Year

After reading today's Gospel, pray:

Lord Jesus, in your humble state you welcomed kings and shepherds alike. May all who pass through this doorway – poor or rich, suffering or rejoicing, stranger or friend – be welcomed as the King Himself. Grant peace to this house and to the house of our hearts that we may seek and find you in everyone we meet. You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

After the blessing is recited, walk through the house and bless each room by sprinkling with holy water. Take the blessed chalk and first write the initials of the three Wise Men, connected with Crosses, over the inside of your front door (on the lintel, if possible). Then write the year, breaking up the numbers and the year so that they fall on both sides of the initials. It should look like this: **20 C + M + B 26**

DIOCESAN SUMMER CAMP 2026

We are looking for background volunteers for summer camp! **8 - 11 January** at the Catholic Youth Camp, Busselton. Roles include cooking, water safety, first aid, setting and packing up equipment and general tasks. Open to those 30 years old and up! It is a great way of giving back and helping our young people. If you are interested or would like to know more contact us at diyouth@bunburycatholic.org.au or 9721 0508

And Kathy Jackson wrote:

....It became very clear last year that, despite an impressive spread of breakfast options (yoghurt, cereal, toast, fruit — the works!), most of the kids were far too busy with early-morning surf, runs, and Mass to actually eat any of it. However... on the day I produced store-bought sausage rolls for morning tea, they disappeared faster than a teenager hearing the words "free food." So, if anyone is able to make something savoury for morning tea — sausage rolls, quiche, or anything suitable for these permanently hungry mouths — that would be amazing. I'm more than capable of heating things up in the oven (no culinary disasters anticipated)." She asks that as containers disappear, disposable would be best. Bernice also put a call out for slices, biscuits and cakes. Please drop at the campsite or ring Kathy on 0411 232 543 about pickups and deliveries.

Prayers For The Sick	Memorial Anniversary 2024: Martin Craggs	Church Collections (Weekend 27/28 December) Envelopes: \$ 550.00 Loose: \$ 1,895.15 EFT Machine: \$ 360.00 Direct Debit: \$ 320.00 Containers for Change: \$ 18.20 Tap and pay machines are now located in the foyers of both churches for the convenience of parishioners and visitors. Direct Deposits can be made to our account: Busselton Catholic Parish, quoting your surname and/or envelope number: BSB: 086-006 ACC: 846789113
Shane Williams Lorraine Wielgomasz Sr Eileen Johnson Fr Hugh Galloway Bob Tebbit Meg Helyar Norma Chester Merle Teal Michael Damnjanovic	Profession Anniversary <i>Many Blessings</i> Sr Bernadette Hynes 07.01.63	

WEEKEND ROSTER FOR 10/11 JANUARY

Saturday 6pm

Acolyte: Volunteer
Greeters: Di, Lily
Commentator: Trish W
Readers: Sue, Evangeline
Musicians: Carmelina
Projectionist: Trish
EMHC: George?
Cleaning: Natalie & Friends
Laundry: Di

Sunday 9am

Acolyte: Terry
Altar Servers: Razil, Charlotte, Louis
Greeters: Pat, Aileen
Commentator: Loly
Readers: Maria, Judy
Musician: John G
Projectionist: Veronica
Recorded Music: -
EMHC: Julie
Sacristan: Jo
Children's Liturgy: -

Sunday 6pm

Acolyte: Frank
Altar Servers: Prince, Charles
Greeters: Joan, Roz
Commentator: Kevin
Readers: Joan
Projectionist: Jo
Recorded Music: Robyn
EMHC: -

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Divine Mercy

First Sundays: 8.45am Our Lady of the Bay Church

Rosary Group

Monday, 10am: St. Joseph's

Legion of Mary

Tuesday, 9.30am Ned Kenny Centre

Pilgrim Statue

Escorted to a Parishioner's home. To schedule a visit call Loly 0411 080 141

Craft & Coffee Group

Resumes Tuesday, 12 January.

Meditation

Wednesday, 10am Ned Kenny Centre

Eucharistic Adoration

Resumes Thursday, 5 February.

Catholic Women's League

2nd Friday of the month after the 12 noon Mass. Ned Kenny Centre

Catenian Koffee Klub

Meets the **4th Sunday** of each month at 11.30am at 'The Esplanade' for coffee and/or a meal.

CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE

There are several options if you wish to donate the proceeds from your eligible bottles and cans (**showing the 10c refund logo**) to the Parish.

- **Take them to the Wright Street Depot and quote the identification Code C10344169.**
- **Bring the cleaned bottles and cans into the Parish Office. BOTTLE TOPS OFF and please leave the labels on. (They will not accept them otherwise.)**

Many thanks to those getting behind this Parish Fundraising initiative.

FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION, MISSION

Snippet from the Final Document: Part I - The Heart of Synodality

61. Within the Christian community, special attention should be given to children. Not only do children need accompaniment in their growth, but they have much to give to the community of believers. When the apostles argue among themselves about who is the greatest, Jesus puts a child at the centre, presenting the child as a criterion for entering the Kingdom (cf. *Mk 9:33-37*). The Church cannot be synodal without the contribution of children, who are bearers of missionary potential, being valued. The voice of the child is needed by the community. We must listen to children and make efforts to ensure that everyone in society listens to them, especially those who have political and educational responsibilities. A society that is not able to welcome and care for children is a sickly society. The suffering experienced by many children due to war, poverty and abandonment, abuse and trafficking is a scandal that calls both for the courage to denounce their suffering and for a serious commitment to solidarity.

62. Young people also make a contribution to the synodal renewal of the Church. They are acutely aware of the values of fellowship and sharing while rejecting paternalism or authoritarian attitudes. At times, their attitude toward the Church can come across as critical, yet often, it manifests positively as a personal commitment to the creation of a welcoming community dedicated to fighting against social injustice and for the care of our common home. The request that they made at the 2018 Synod on Young People to "walk together in daily life" corresponds exactly to the vision of a synodal Church. For this reason, it is fundamental that we assure them of thoughtful and patient accompaniment; in particular, the proposal of "an experience of accompaniment in view of discernment", which arose thanks to their contribution, deserves to be revisited and taken up again. It foresees companionship shared with educators, an apostolic commitment lived at the service of the neediest, and the offer of a spirituality rooted in prayer and the sacramental life.

SPIRITUALITY HUB - KIRUP

Our first event for 2026 on **9 January**, is Celebrating the Feast Day of Blessed Pauline Jaricot, foundress of what we now know as Catholic Mission in Australia. We will reflect on this year's diocesan theme "Connected in Christ, walking together as one", celebrate Eucharist, and share a light lunch (provided). Further info Deborah 0419939864 and on flyer.

The initial schedule for Kirup in 2026 can also be found in the foyer.

LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Catholic Parish of Augusta invite you to join them for their 40th Anniversary on Sunday, 25 January for the 8am Mass which will be followed by morning tea. Bishop George will be there. RSVP Lynne-Maree on 0466930303 or yorkelynnemaree@gmail.com

MINISTRIES

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

LITURGICAL LIFE

E.M.H.C.

Musicians/Choir

Sacristan

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Legion of Mary

Rosary Group

FAITH FORMATION LIFE

Catechists

Catholic Women's League

RCIA

RCIC

Catechists

Christian Meditation

JOSEPH CARE

St Vincent de Paul

Parish Finance Committee

Parish Pastoral Council: Alexandra Lewis (Chair), Gay Cooper (Vice Chair), Mona Damnjanovic (Secretary), Tim Murphy (Asst. Secretary), Mark Browning, Marsha Motos, Rhona Breitschalf, Nicholle Achmad, Heather Mead, Pauline Caldwell, Jo Cammilleri, Frs Jess & Nathan.

CO-ORDINATOR

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