



# THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF IVANHOE

*St Bernadette's Church, 89 Bond St, Ivanhoe West  
Mary Immaculate Church, 4 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe  
Mother of God Church, 56 Wilfred Rd, Ivanhoe East*

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Thang Vu 63 Wilfred Rd, Ivanhoe East 9499 5440 (after hours)  
**Parish Secretary:** Mrs Ruth Villani  
**Parish Office:** 4 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe 3079 **Phone:** 9499 1515 **Fax:** 9499 9959  
**Parish Website:** www.ivanhoecatholics.com **Email:** catholicparishofivanhoe@bigpond.com

## Masses:

**Weekend: Saturday:** 6.30pm St Bernadette's **Sunday:** 9am Mary Immaculate; 10.30am Mother of God  
**Weekday:** 9.15am **Tuesday:** Mother of God **Wednesday:** Mary Immaculate **Friday:** St Bernadette's

No. 1

3 – 4 January 2015

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD: YEAR B

### THE WORD

**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.

- V. 1. 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. **R.**
- V. 2. 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. **R.**
- V. 3. 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. **R.**
- V. 4. 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. **R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:** Loving God: Hear our prayer

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

### **PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY:**

We remember Maria Colavizza, Mike McGuire, Sarah O'Shaughnessy, Margaret O'Brien, Katharina Dimitscheff, Tran thi Kim Chi, Sung Bui, Amy Nguyen, John Coonan and Gino Villani who are in need of prayer at this time. We remember those who provide care and support for those in need.

We remember Libera Iapozzuto who died recently. We also remember Henrietta Burgos and Robert West whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

### This Week's Readings: The Epiphany of the Lord Year B

Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6 Matthew 2:1-12

### Saint and Feast Days:

Mon 5 January: St John Neumann

Tues 6 January: St Marca

Wed 7 January: St Raymond of Penyafort

Thurs 8 January: St Severinus

Fri 9 January: St Julian

Sat 10 January: St William of Bourges

### Next Week's Readings: The Baptism of the Lord Year B

Isaiah 55:1-11 Isaiah 12:2-6 1 John 5:1-9 Mark 1:7-11

### News from Parish Office:

- Ruth is on leave from 5 - 30 January 2015. The Parish Office will be attended at different intervals.
- Brief newsletters for the month of January have been prepared and collected in advance. Anniversaries for January 2014 have been included in these newsletters. Notices, anniversaries and prayer requests received after 5 January 2015 will be placed in the newsletter for 6 – 7 February 2015.

## REFLECTION:



Recently some Christian scientists got to work trying to explain the star that led the wise men to Bethlehem. They came up with a complicated, and no doubt plausible, astronomical theory about how a certain brilliant star may have appeared around the time of the birth of Jesus. Though I was intrigued by their methods, I wondered why they bothered. Matthew's wandering star is not about astronomy. It's religious shorthand for describing how the heavens preside over and guide the events of the world. The image of a star is used in similar ways in the Books of Deuteronomy, Numbers, Isaiah and the Psalms. This entire feast is all about symbols, not science. Reported by Hippolytus as early as the third century, it is celebrated twelve days after Christmas, the number itself echoing God's goodness in creating and recreating us.

The wise men's star is on a par with the other images Matthew uses. At the centre of each of the first three chapters of his Gospel there is an extraordinary event. In chapter one Joseph hears the message of an angel in a dream. In chapter two the wise men find Jesus by following a star. And by chapter three the heavens open and God speaks at the baptism of the Lord. By any standards that's quite an opening to a biography! It's all about the manifestation, or epiphany, of God's glory in the world.

And let's look carefully at where and for whom this glory is revealed. The first instance is to Joseph while he's in bed asleep. The second is to gentile astrologers who, by reporting their news to Herod, set up an immediate threat to Jesus. The third instance is to all those Jews who were coming to hear John the Baptist. Within three chapters of Matthew's Gospel the circles of God's glory revealed in Jesus become more public and change lives. The lives of Joseph, the star gazers, John the Baptist and those who heard Jesus preach will never be the same again.

The Feast of the Epiphany is not an ancient version of Halley's comet. It is about how God's glory changes human hearts. T.S. Eliot got this point in his poem 'The journey of the Magi'.

'Birth or death? There was a Birth, certainly,  
We had evidence and no doubt. I had seen birth and death,  
But had thought they were different; this Birth was  
Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death.  
We returned to our places, these Kingdoms,  
But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation,  
With an alien people clutching their gods.  
I should be glad of another death.'

And so may this feast change our hearts and enable us to die to self so as to be born to God's glory that can and does shine through us. And may we remember that this epiphany is not meant for us alone, but that we are called to go public with it and demonstrate our belief in today's feast by the way we live, the world we help create, and the one we strive to recreate.

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### Sacraments 2015:

2015 Sacramental Brochure for enrolment in Parish sacramental programs – Confirmation, Reconciliation or First Eucharist 2015 is available in each church and on the website. Enrolments are only accepted from families who live within the parish which includes Ivanhoe, Ivanhoe East, Ivanhoe West and Eaglemont. Please note: Only children who do not attend Parish primary schools or who have transferred out of Catholic Primary schools need to enrol in the Parish Program. *Previous enrolment at one of the three Ivanhoe Parish schools whilst living outside the parish does not guarantee enrolment in the sacramental program.* It is recommended that sacramental preparation takes place in the parish where the catechist & family lives.

Enrolment forms are available from Parish Office 9499 1515 and website: [www.ivanhoecatholics.com](http://www.ivanhoecatholics.com)

**N.B. Closing date is Friday 27 March 2015 - It is not always possible to accept late enrolments.**

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### **ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND: 10 – 11 January 2015**

#### **ST. BERNADETTE'S:**

Saturday 6.30pm

#### **Lector**

Sister Frances

#### **Special Ministers**

J. Gray, Sister Carmel

#### **MARY IMMACULATE:**

Sunday 9.00am

#### **Leader**

As available

#### **Reader**

As available

#### **Mass Coordinators**

J. Costa

#### **Counters**

T. Mc Kinley, E. Ballao

#### **MOTHER OF GOD:**

Sunday 10.30am

#### **Sacristan**

As available

#### **Lector**

As available

#### **Special Ministers**

As available

#### **Altar Society:**

As available

**Choir Coordinator:** School holidays