



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)
Priest in Residence:	Fr. Lasbert Sinaga		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

2 – 3 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 all who are in need of prayer at this time and those who provide care and support for those in need. We remember those who have died recently. We also remember Libera Iapozzuto, Henrietta Burgos, Vincent O'Toole and Robert West whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

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

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 4 January: St Elizabeth Seton

Wed 6 January: St Marca

Fri 8 January: St Severinus

Tues 5 January: Epiphany in Scotland

Thurs 7 January: St Raymond of Penyafort

Sat 9 January: St Julian

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

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 Psalm 103:1-4, 24-25, 27-30 Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7 Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Celebrate St Mary Mackillop's Birthday, with Cake! Friday 15 January 2016, 11am

All Saints Church, King William Street, Fitzroy Come celebrate the birthday of St Mary MacKillop as the first official event in Melbourne of the Sesquicentenary of the Sisters of St Joseph (1866–2016). Each year the birthday Mass is celebrated at All Saints Church Fitzroy, the suburb where Mary MacKillop was born in 1842. Following Mass refreshments will be served in All Saints Church Hall and the traditional cutting of the birthday cake will also take place. **Details and RSVP:** 9030 9926 or admin.mmhc@sosj.org.au

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

The gospel of Mark, the first of the four canonical gospels to be written, does not bother at all with the question of the birth of Jesus. Written some ten or more years later, the gospels of Luke and Matthew both present a version of the circumstances surrounding the birth of Jesus. The gospel of John, written later still, also avoids details of Jesus' birth. The two accounts of the infancy that we do have from the gospels tell very different stories because they have each been used to place the rest of the gospel in a particular context. Unfortunately, the two stories have been mashed together so much that we now have one notion of the Christmas story that is a poor amalgam of the two unique narratives.

In the gospel of Luke, Joseph and Mary are living in Nazareth and travel to Bethlehem and are forced to give birth out in a field because there is no room at the only inn in Bethlehem. The ones who bear witness to the birth in this account are shepherds – some of the lowest of the low – as the gospel of Luke identifies Jesus as having a preferential option for the lowly ones. In the gospel of Matthew, Joseph and Mary are living in Bethlehem and give birth in their own house. They later flee to Egypt and then settle in Nazareth. The two towns need to be included in both accounts because they are named in some of the ancient prophecies about the Messiah. In the gospel of Matthew, the witnesses to the birth are wise men, dignitaries from another land. The Matthew writer wants to emphasise the 'kingship' of Jesus and it is fitting that foreign dignitaries present gifts on the birth of a king. The two stories deserve to be dealt with uniquely and should be unravelled from the muddled, entwined version that dominates our Christmas imagery.

Historical Context – The Magi: In some translations, the 'wise men' of this passage are referred to as 'Magi'. Magi was the name given to the Persian priestly caste. Persia (now, Iran) lies to the east of Israel. These wise men are also sometimes portrayed as astrologers, but that is largely because of the reference 'We saw his star as it rose'. It is interesting that the passage describes 'some' wise men; tradition has developed a specific number of three – based on the three gifts presented. These anonymous (and purely literary) figures have been given names and their 'relics' lie in honour beneath the Cathedral of Cologne.

Have you thought? – Epiphany: The feast of the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus to humankind. The wise men are the representatives of humanity bearing witness to this revelation. However, the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus as not only the Messiah of Israel but the Saviour of the whole world. Interestingly, in this gospel that emphasises the 'Jewish-ness' of Jesus, the witnesses to the birth are gentiles from a foreign land. Their inclusion is a powerful declaration that the revelation of Jesus is for all people. Regardless of the liturgical year, this reading is always used on the feast of the Epiphany to celebrate this pivotal moment.

Gospel Focus – Going home: The wise men, or Magi, are warned in a dream not to go back to Herod and they go home by a different way. How could they do anything but go home another way – indeed, go home as different people? They are changed by their encounter with the child Jesus and they go home a different way; in a different state; in a whole different frame of mind. When we genuinely encounter Jesus – in scripture, in life, in prayer, in ourselves – then we cannot go home the same way; we must go home by a different way as the Magi did.
© Greg Sunter www.liturgyhelp.com © Graphics: Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd 2016

Sacraments 2016: The Sacramental Brochure 2016 for enrolment in Parish sacramental programs for Confirmation, Reconciliation or First Eucharist is available in each church and will be 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 & website: www.ivanhoecatholics.com
N.B. Closing date is Friday 11 March 2016 - It is not always possible to accept late enrolments.

ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND: 9 – 10 January 2016

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

M. Gilbo

Counters

P. Black, P. Fanning

MOTHER OF GOD:

Sunday 10.30am

Sacristan

A. Patterson

Lector

A. Patterson

Special Ministers

As available

Altar Society:

As available

Choir Coordinator: School holidays