

SUNDAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTI-PHON:

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 72.

RESPONSE:

All nations on earth shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

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**
 2. In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace fill the moon is no more. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the River to the bounds of the earth. **R**
 3. The kings of Tarshish and the islands 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**
 4. For he shall save the needy when they cry, the poor, and those who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and the needy, and save the lives of the needy. **R**
- SECOND READING:** Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6.
- GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**
Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star in the east, and have come to worship the Lord, Alleluia.
- GOSPEL:** Matthew 2:1-12.
- COMMUNION ANTI-PHON:**
We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

THE WEEK AHEAD Live the Word

Mon 9 Jan BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 29; Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus received an amazing compliment at his Baptism – "Beloved". How many of us believe we are cherished in this way by God? Today, let us pause to hear God whisper our name: "beloved".

Tue 10 Jan Liturgy of the Day

Hebrews 2:5-12; Psalm 8; Mark 1:21-28

When something goes wrong, we are often tempted to pray, "Lord, please fix it!" Better prayers might be, "Help me bring good out of this" or "Please open me to whatever good you can lead me to through this, Lord."

Wed 11 Jan Liturgy of the Day

Hebrews 2:14-18; Psalm 105; Mark 1:29-39

Jesus worked tirelessly, but he also withdrew often to pray. Jesus' example reminds us that prayer strengthens us for service. Work and service, meanwhile, is what we bring to prayer, asking God to bless it.

Thu 12 Jan Liturgy of the Day

Hebrews 3:7-14; Psalm 95; Mark 1:40-45

Jesus often headed from a distance, but in today's Gospel story he insisted on healing through touch. Today, may we also witness to those in need of the comforting presence of our God.

Fri 13 Jan (St Hilary, BD)

Hebrews 4:1-5, 11; Psalm 78; Mark 2:1-12

While I may not be asked to lower a sick friend through a roof, do I take the time to go out of my way to help a friend in need? Do I believe that doing so will make a difference in their lives?

Sat 14 Jan Liturgy of the Day

Hebrews 4:12-16; Psalm 19; Mark 2:13-17

We often go about our lives thinking we are in control of everything. In truth, we begin with God and we end with God – and our whole life in between is, in a sense, a journey to let go and discover this reality.

Sun 15 Jan 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6; Psalm 40; John 1:29-34

God's power for justice is precisely God's power to restore people when they are broken or hurt. God uses their mistakes to liberate them, to soften them, to enlighten them, to transform them, and to heal them. –Richard Rohr OFM (KEY: SOLEMNITY: FEAST; Memorial: (Optional Memorial) B=Bishop; D=Deacon)

Catholic Link

CHRISTMASTIDE

Epiphany of the Lord • Year A
Divine Office: Week 1 • 8 January 2023



Triptych of the Nativity, St Jean, Bingeres

Three into One won't go -- OR will it?

In the Liturgy of the Hours or Divine Office which clergy and Religious have a sacred duty to pray daily, on the feast of Epiphany there is a rather curious antiphon for the Magnificat which is recited during evening prayer:

Three wonders mark this day we celebrate: today the star led the magi to the manger; today water was changed into wine at the marriage feast; today Christ desired to be baptised by John in the river Jordan to bring us salvation.

Obviously the 'today' cannot be referring to various wonders happening simultaneously in the life of the historical Jesus. He was an infant when the wise men found him and opened their treasures. (Cf. Mt 2:11). Of the three wonders declared in the antiphon, Matthew is the only evangelist to record the visit of the magi and only John records the wedding at Cana.

Incidentally, where other gospels describe Jesus 'coming up out of the water', John (evangelist) has John the Baptist testify that he '...saw the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven and remain on him' (Jn 1:32). The baptism of Jesus in the Gospel of John is followed by the call of the first disciples. The story of the wedding at Cana immediately succeeds the call of the first disciples.

So, if the 'today' is three completely different todays, the antiphon has to be pointing to a truth beyond the historical. The Church in her wisdom has arranged these three mysteries in three liturgical feasts. The feast of the Epiphany is followed by the Baptism of the Lord (first

Sunday in Ordinary Time). The Gospel on the second Sunday in Ordinary Time proclaims the story of the wedding at Cana. Three mysteries, three events, three weeks, but only one 'today'. Even though the Church reflects on these three mysteries in the life of Christ over three weeks, after Christmastide she includes them at the beginning of the cycle of Ordinary Time because they all signify the same divine revelation: that Jesus is made manifest as the Son of God, the Lord and Saviour of humankind. Hence the words of the Magnificat antiphon, 'three wonders mark this day we celebrate...'

The magi were the first to experience the manifestation. They perceive in the baby Jesus the Son of God who came to bring us salvation. They pay him homage as a recognition of his Kingship.

The Father authenticates this revelation at Jesus' baptism when his '...voice came from the heavens saying, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."' (Mt 3:17).

At the wedding in Cana of Galilee, Jesus performs his first miracle by changing water into wine. 'Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory.' (Jn 2:11)

"Today", let us celebrate with joy, in the words of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the great feast of Epiphany [and the] adoration of Jesus by the wise men from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan, and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee. (CCC 529) Christ! Emmanuel! God-made-manifest!

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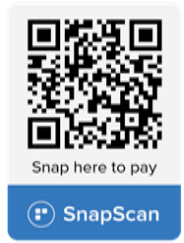
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Epiphany of the Lord - Year A
7th/8th January 2023

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Parish Priest: Rev Fr Robert Bissell
Deacon: Rev Dcn Michael Brooks
Secretaries: Deborah Jordan / Vivien Cones
Office Hours: Weekdays 08h30-13h00



Date	Time	Intentions	Intention
Saturday 7th	17h30	Epiphany of the Lord	Fr Wim Lineque
	18h00		
Sunday 8th	09h00	Epiphany of the Lord	Benjamin Ryan RIP
	17h30	Epiphany of the Lord	Missa pro Populo
	18h00	Prayer & Rosary	
Monday 9th	09h00	Baptism of the Lord	Mortuary List
	18h00		
Tuesday 10th	08h00	Mass of the Day	Horne Family
	18h00		
Wednesday 11th	08h00	Mass of the Day	Horne Family
	18h00		
Thursday 12th	08h00	Mass of the Day	Horne Family
	18h00		
Friday 13th	09h30	Mass of the Day	Cones Family Intentions
	18h00		
CONFESSION	Saturdays	16h45 – 17h20 pm	<i>Or by Appointment</i>

JOIN US ONLINE
Live-Stream: All Masses EXCEPT Saturday & Sunday evening:
<https://bit.ly/YouTubeConstantiaCatholic>
Daily Rosary: At 18h00 every evening:
<http://bit.ly/ConstantiaZoom>
Please see our emailers and website for regular updates: www.constantiacatholic.com

Parish Office
The Parish office re-opens this Monday, 9th January 2023.

FR ROBERT: Anniversary of Ordination
Many Congratulations to Fr Robert who celebrates his 18th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood this Saturday, 7th January.

Prayer Intentions: For all in need of our prayers and their families:
Christopher Gird, Malcolm Asher, Allen Galvin, William De Villiers, Margaret Savage, Sarah Glenday, Cecco Giovannini, Phil Barton, Brendan Bosson, Neva Bruce-Brand, Lucinda Bromfield, Mark Clifford-Holmes, Derek Kudsee, Jana Forrester, Elijah, Dieter Lauff, Connor Young, Maryann Groenewald, Anthea Becker.

MASS INTENTIONS: It is a pious Catholic practice to have Holy Mass offered for special intentions and especially for the Repose of the Souls of our departed relatives and friends. It is not permitted for more than one intention to be celebrated at a Mass and intentions are allocated on a first-come-first-serve basis. Therefore, we are encouraging those who would like Masses said for specific intentions on specific days, to please make sure they have booked the Mass well in advance. We will only be able to take intentions on the day if the Mass Intention is not already allocated. To request a Mass Intention, please complete the envelopes provided at the back of the church and submit via the plate or call or email the parish office. Many thanks.

HUNGER Is Real Fund
This fund was initiated by our parish in a time of crisis to alleviate the very real and ongoing need in our surrounding areas. Please contribute by EFT into the Parish Account - details at the bottom of this page - ref: HUNGER. *To all those who have made donations and continue to do so, a huge thank you for your amazing generosity.*

2023 Catechism Registration
There will be another Registration weekend on 14th/15th January. In the meantime please remember to get your children's baptism certificates ready as these need to be handed in with the registration. **Please find Registration forms at the back of the Church.**



“The light of Christ is so clear and strong that it makes the language of the cosmos and of the Scriptures intelligible, so that all those who, like the Magi, are open to the truth can recognize it and join in contemplating the Saviour of the world.”
~ Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

PRAYER FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA
Merciful Father, send forth your Spirit upon us the people of Southern Africa. May we hear anew the voice of Jesus Christ, inviting us to walk with him across the turbulent waters of our time: “Courage, it is I. Do not be afraid.”
By the grace of the Holy Spirit empower us to bring comfort to the restless, hope to those who despair, healing to victims of violence, and reconciliation where there is division.
May the Holy Spirit heal our families and communities. Grant us ethical and courageous leaders who put the good of the people before their own interest. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit we commit ourselves to speak the truth with courage, to act justly in all we do, to share with those in need and always and everywhere to respect your gift of life as we strive to proclaim the values of the Kingdom in solidarity with all people of goodwill. Amen.

- Available from church or parish office:**
- **The Southern Cross Magazine:** only R30
 - **Liturgical Calendars:** R30 each
 - **Nazareth House - Jams:** R35 per jar

Our parish mission is to be a welcoming and evangelising Catholic community, striving, with the grace of the Holy Spirit, to know, love and serve God more, as disciples of Jesus Christ.