



Holy Spirit Catholic Parish

93 Burdekin Ave, Amaroo ACT and 220 Victoria St, Hall ACT
Supporting and supported by Holy Spirit, Good Shepherd,
Mother Teresa Primary Schools and St John Paul II College



6-7 January 2024

The Epiphany of the Lord | Year B



Holy Spirit Amaroo

Monday

No Mass
Office closed

Tuesday

9:15am Mass

Wednesday

9:15am Mass
6pm Holy Hour and
Reconciliation

Thursday

9:15am Mass

Friday

7:00am Mass

Saturday

4:30pm Reconciliation
5:00pm Mass

Sunday

8:00am Mass
9:30am Mass
5:00pm Mass

Stars and Seekers after Truth

Unlike the writers of the horoscope columns in our newspapers, these Wise Men were scholar astrologers, probably from Syria or Iraq. They believed that the stars controlled the destiny of human beings, but they were open enough to the Hebrew scriptures to be led to the amazing discovery of a star-child in Bethlehem.

They knelt before this baby, doing homage, because they realised that the stars did not control this infant, but that there was something of this baby which caused the night sky to respond! They preserved the child from the deadly schemes of Herod, and then they returned to their home country, 'by a different way'. They were on a different journey after encountering the Child.

Who can doubt that the Holy Spirit led these wise men from the East to the manger? In fact, the Holy Spirit is at work in every human being, prompting each and every one to become seekers after Truth.

As a person responds to this prompting and tries to lead a good humane life, then the Church teaches that the Holy Spirit can draw them into the saving life of God. Thus, billions in China and India who have never heard the Gospel, can be saved. But, such persons do not savour the fullness of Truth as we do with the privilege of having the scriptures and the sacraments. Where it is possible, we are obliged to offer them the road map to the Truth.

We can take a moment to affirm our faith in the baby in the manger as the One of whom Dante spoke: 'the Love which moves the sun and other stars'. Come, let us adore him.—Fr Michael Tate



Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions January

For the gift of diversity in the Church

During the month of January, Pope Francis has asked the faithful to pray for the gift of diversity in the Church. He emphasised recognising "the gift of different charisms within the Christian community."



St Francis Xavier Hall

Saturdays 5:00pm
Starting 6 January 2024

This Weekend's Readings:

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

Parish News and Events

Children's Sacramental Program 2024



Sacrament of Confirmation

For children in Year 6 and above wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2024. Information sessions will be held on **Tuesday 27 February** at the church.

Please select one of the following enrolment options:

- ◆ Children attending Mother Teresa, Holy Spirit and Good Shepherd Primary schools—enrolment letters were sent to your child or enrol via Compass
- ◆ Children **NOT** attending one of the parish Catholic Primary schools and wish to enrol in the parish program: <https://forms.gle/7Yiz8p5TCp7tjanQ6>

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated the week beginning 20 May 2024

For more details please contact:

Parish Program: theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au
Parish Catholic Schools: mel.unwin@cg.catholic.edu.au



The journey of the Magi, Pope Francis suggests, should prompt us to ask ourselves: 'How is the journey of my faith going?'

As the Pope says, the Magi were infused with a spiritual restlessness born of their desire for something transcendent. It is a dynamic which is useful for reflecting on our own situation in this present age. Are we stuck in what the Pope characterises as a spiritual 'parking lot'? 'Do our words and our liturgies ignite in people's hearts a desire to move

towards God' he asks, or does our worship look and sound like something that 'speaks only of itself and to itself'?

The Magi offer us, the Pope says, four useful ways of thinking about where we are and where we should go. Firstly, they 'set out,' making sure our faith is forward-looking and active. Secondly, they had the courage to 'defy Herod,' providing a model of courage that stands up to powers that would oppress and harm the poorest. Thirdly, they took 'another way,' forging new paths, trusting in God's creative power. And fourthly, they 'worshipped the Child', making sure that our focus was on the God towards whom we journey in hope.—Nick Brodie



The Parish Office is looking for receptionist volunteers to help during holiday and busy times. Volunteers would work a 3-4 hour shift on given days. Some duties include greeting visitors, answering calls, taking messages, basic filing and tidying. Computer skills would be advantageous however not necessary.

A Working with Vulnerable People card is required.
Contact theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au to register your interest.

Please keep the following individuals in prayer.....



For those who are sick

Kathy Morris
Elisabeth Faith O'Connell
Caitlin Wigglesworth
Kwang Hui Lim
Grant
Maria Therese Cummins
Gail
Elizabeth
Adriano Cesar Junior
Maria Teresa Meireles
Theresa and Joseph Tan
Cyril Jolicoeur
Bill Honess
Tony Johnston
Jaya Raghwan
Julie Mirfan
Paul Johnston
Edwin Joseph Dsouza
Alan Kay
John Sweeny
Sharron Davis
Michelle
Mark Bush
Julie Morgan
Tim Watson
Jim Banks
Barbara Kirk

Anniversaries

Recently Deceased

Cajetan Colaco

We include those who are members of our Parish or relatives. Please email the parish office or click here to request prayers.

[Prayer Requests](#)

I would rather stand with God and be judged by the world than stand with the world and be judged by God.