

STS PETER & PAUL'S CATHOLIC PARISH SOUTH MELBOURNE

Under the Pastoral care of the Capuchin Friars

6 January, 2019



FEAST OF EPIPHANY

As we celebrate the feast of Epiphany, we also begin 2019! The Gospel that we hear is the story of Jesus being visited by the wise men. Two weeks ago we celebrated Jesus' birth - God becoming man. This week, the event that we contemplate on the feast of Epiphany (known in some places as "little Christmas"), represents the Messiah being revealed to all. At Epiphany we recognise that God not only comes to earth in the form of a human, but he comes to meet us, that His presence is made real in our lives. It's my hope that we, as a parish community, can learn a very important lesson from this feast as we begin the year. It's not enough that we simply receive the message and gift of Christmas. We are called to share the message and make it real in the lives of others.

Starting this week, we will try some new 'features' for our weekly bulletin, including, 'Parishioner Profile', where we will find out a little bit about a different parishioner each week. There is also 'Catechism corner' which will contain a short teaching from the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Hopefully the weekly bulletin is something that will serve a number of purposes. First of all to allow everyone to be a little more engaged in the parish community, by sharing stories and informing about past and future events. It can also offer a little bit of faith formation by way of short teachings and Gospel reflections.

As we celebrate the feast of Epiphany this weekend, let us remember that the same Jesus that was revealed to the Magi, comes to us in the Mass. As St John Chrysostom says, "If we approach with faith, we too will see Jesus....; for the Eucharistic table takes the place of the crib. Here the Body of the Lord is present, wrapped not in swaddling clothes but in the rays of the Holy Spirit."

WHAT'S ON

*The Friars'
Market
Saturday
26th January
9am-1pm*

*Starting again
soon*

- Craft Club

*- Men's
Breakfast*

*- Mass for
Young Adults*

- Playgroup

- Play Reading

MASS TIMES

Sunday 10am, Saturday 6pm (Vigil)
Mon - Fri: 8am . Saturday: 10am
Confession Times: Sat 10:30am, 5:30pm

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr Dean Mathieson OFM Cap

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Secretary Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9:30am - 3pm

*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.
(Mt 2:10-11)*



GOSPEL REFLECTION

His star demands a decision to take up the journey and to advance tirelessly on our way. It demands that we free ourselves from useless burdens and unnecessary extras that only prove a hindrance, and accept unforeseen obstacles along the map of life.

Jesus allows himself to be found by those who seek him, but to find him we need to get up and go, not sit around but take risks, not stand still, but set out. Jesus makes demands: he tells those who seek him to leave behind the armchair of worldly comforts and the reassuring warmth of hearth and home. Following Jesus is not a polite etiquette to be observed, but a journey to be undertaken. God, who set his people free in the exodus and called new peoples to follow his star, grants freedom and joy always and only in the course of a journey. In other words, if we want to find Jesus, we have to overcome our fear of taking risks, our self-satisfaction and our indolent refusal to ask anything more of life. We need to take risks simply to meet a Child. Yet those risks are immensely worth the effort, since in finding that Child, in discovering his tenderness and love, we rediscover ourselves.

Pope Francis (6 Jan, 2018)

SUNDAY EVENING MASS

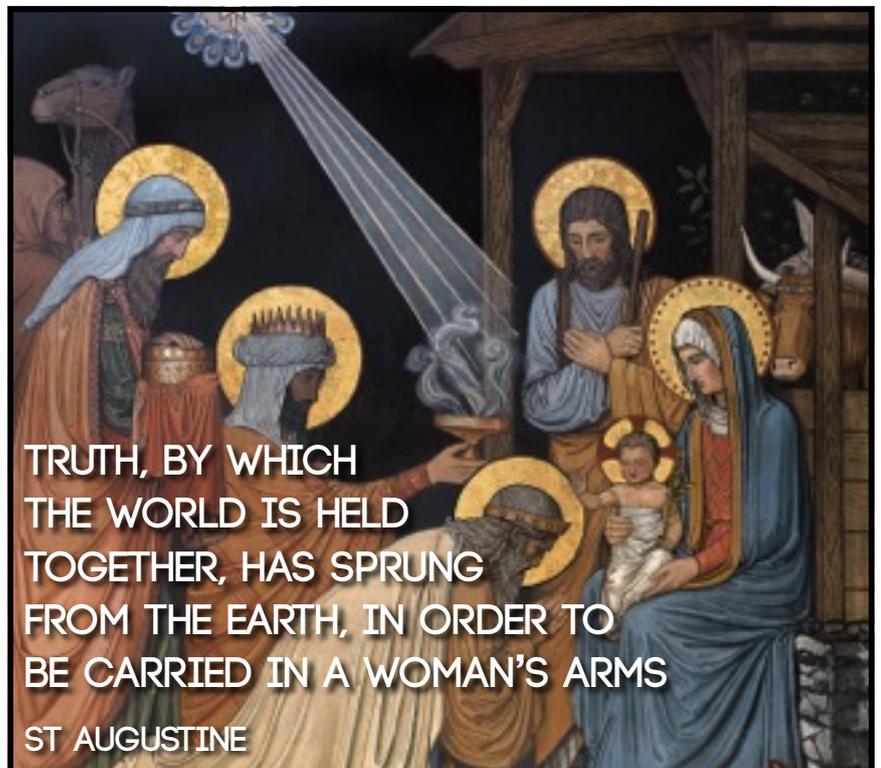
There have been some recent requests for a Sunday evening Mass in the parish. Please let Fr Dean know your thoughts about that.

SIGN UP SHEETS

Over the next few weeks we will be collecting Parishioner Information forms, where you will have an opportunity to get involved in the various activities around the parish

BOOKSHOP VOLUNTEERS

If you have a spare hour or so every now and then to volunteer at the bookshop your help would be very much appreciated. The Friars' Bookshop is open Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays from 9:30pm-3:30pm



**TRUTH, BY WHICH
THE WORLD IS HELD
TOGETHER, HAS SPRUNG
FROM THE EARTH, IN ORDER TO
BE CARRIED IN A WOMAN'S ARMS**

ST AUGUSTINE

CATECHISM CORNER

God, infinitely perfect and blessed in himself, in a plan of sheer goodness freely created man to make him share in his own blessed life. For this reason, at every time and in every place, God draws close to man. He calls man to seek him, to know him, to love him with all his strength. He calls together all men, scattered and divided by sin, into the unity of his family, the Church. To accomplish this, when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son as Redeemer and Saviour. In his Son and through him, he invites men to become, in the Holy Spirit, his adopted children and thus heirs of his blessed life. (1)

OUTREACH

Open House is currently closed, and will re-open at the start of February. While closed there will be some renovations done to the backyard area.

If you're interested in helping out when we start up again - either during the day or for the evening meals - please contact Br Michael



PARISHIONER PROFILE

Carol Leahy



Carol has been a part of the parish for 70 years, having been baptised here just after Christmas 1948. She recently retired from working for Catholic Mission in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, and in 2016 received the Papal award of the Cross of Honour for her years of service. Asked what she is most grateful for in her life, she said the support of her daughter, family, friends, and the parish community during times of illness. And also her faith which has given her the strength to carry on. Her hopes for the future of the parish are that the doors are always kept open to those in need, and a desire for more involvement from all parishioners in supporting parish programs and groups, creating a stronger parish.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Bernard of Corleone

12th January

Bernard was a Capuchin Franciscan friar. As a young man he was known throughout Sicily as a great swordsman. As a Capuchin friar he was known for his great care for the poor and sick as well as being a cook in various friaries. Bernard was canonised by Pope John Paul II in 2001.



Please remember in your prayers and Masses the following people who are ill: Sr. Annunciata Fcj, Pauline O'Hara, Valda Hogan, Flo O'Hara, Sr. Joyce Stewart, Celestine Ressa, Peter Wood, Vandersman Family, Joanne Kilmer, Liliana Bobadilla, Ruby Roxas, Eunice Costa, Richard Fennessy, Eunice Costa, Giovanna Santarossa, James Burnes, James Watkins, Bonnie Breen, Maurita Carlisle, Jeff Martin, Naomi McSweeney, Mary Quirke, Ilse Miranda, Neil Baker, Helen Keighery, Alison Fraser

Entrance Antiphon: Arise, Jerusalem, and look to the East and see your children gathered from the rising to the setting of the Sun.

1st Reading – I Isaiah 60:1-6

We hear a classic reading in the Jewish tradition, whereby God's faithfulness to the covenant is reflected in the love and care for Jerusalem. For Christians this is transformed into God's love and concern for the Church, which is for all peoples and nations as God's plan.

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you

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.

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.

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.

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.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

2nd Reading – Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6

We hear how St. Paul expands his role to proclaim that he had received a revelation giving the knowledge of the mystery of God's plan. All share the same inheritance and the same promise in Christ Jesus.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

We have seen His star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel – Matthew 2:1-12

We hear Matthew quoting the words of Micah that from Bethlehem in Judah would come a leader to shepherd the people of Israel, Jesus the Lord.

Next week' reading:

1 Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11
2 Titus 2:11-14. 3:4-7
Gospel Luke 3:15-16.1-22

Lord, we pray in union with the Pope and the Bishops of the world. May their proclamation of the Gospel help unify our world so that all people share God's inheritance.

Lord, we pray that the spirit and hope for a New Year will encourage us all to extend goodwill to all people and avoid prejudice and exclusion.

Lord, we pray for ourselves in our parish; that as a Christian community we each accept the responsibility to give witness through the Gospel message to those around us.

Lord, we pray for the Eastern & Western Churches; that the Spirit promised to all the world as the message of the Epiphany will led us "beyond the limit" to the fullness of life in God's plan.

Lord, we remember with compassion our family and friends who have gone before us. Hold them in your keeping, especially those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time *Molly & Peter Connell, Elaine McKenna-Evans, Joe Caterinich, Mary Hardy, Mary Johnston, Petronilo Domingo, Barbara McLinden, Merici Simmons, Norman Hyde, John McIlvenna.*

Collections

December 29/30, 2018

1st Collection: \$ 1018

2nd Collection: \$ 704

1st Collection goes to the Friars, and the 2nd collection goes to the maintenance of the Parish