

The Anglican Church of Australia
The Diocese of Wangaratta



1st January 2017 The Feast of the Epiphany

A warm welcome to everyone to our service today please stay and join with us for refreshments after the service.

Hymns: 314, 291, Pew Sheet, 281



Introit Hymn

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

The Liturgy continues on page 119 Green Prayer Book

SENTENCE

We have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him *Matthew 2.2.*

THE COLLECT

Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60. 1-6

[The light of God's glory and God's goodness shines on God's people.]

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

'Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. 'Lift up your eyes and look about you: all assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the hip. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 72.1-7, 10-14

[A prayer for God's love of justice to fill God's king, who will then defend the poor and rescue the oppressed.]

Response: May all nations be blest in him.



Give the king your judgements, O God,
and your righteousness to the son of a king.
Then shall he judge your people righteously
and your poor with justice.
May the mountains bring forth peace,
and the little hills righteousness for the people./R
May he defend the poor among the people,
deliver the children of the needy and crush the oppressor.
May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another./R

May he come down like rain upon the mown grass,
like the showers that water the earth.
In his time shall righteousness flourish, and abundance of peace
till the moon shall be no more./R

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute;
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring gifts.
All kings shall fall down before him;
all nations shall do him service./R

For he shall deliver the poor that cry out,
the needy and those who have no helper.
He shall have pity on the weak and poor;
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence,
and dear shall their blood be in his sight./R

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3. 1-12

[In Christ both Jews & Gentiles enjoy the riches of God's blessings.]

A reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians

Paul writes. 'For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles – surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! / Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! / Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

We have observed his star | at its rising,
and have come to | worship him.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! / Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

[Wise men from the East arrive, worship the Christ-Child and present him with fine gifts.]

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.' When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. 'In Bethlehem in Judea,' they replied, 'for this is what the prophet has written: "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."' Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, 'Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.' After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Radiant Morning Star, you are both guidance and mystery, you visit our rest with disturbing dreams, and our journeys with strange companions; grace us the hospitality to open our hearts and homes to visitors filled with unfamiliar wisdom bearing profound and unusual gifts; like the Magi of long ago, may we be drawn to you and offer you such gifts as we are able.

God of signs and wonders; **hear our prayer.**

God of wonder and delight you reveal yourself to the world, and kings bow in adoration; open our eyes to find you today in all who vulnerable and in all who choose to set aside pomp and privilege for the sake of others.

God of signs and wonders; **hear our prayer.**

God of wonder and delight you reveal yourself to the world, and a tyrant is filled with fear; open our eyes to find you in those who suffer at the hands of tyrants and in all who challenge harsh and corrupt regimes; we pray for those inflicted by war in South Sudan and those other places where people are threatened with violence; for the green shoots of peace in Syria and that the ceasefire will hold.

God of signs and wonders; **hear our prayer.**

God of wonder and delight you reveal yourself to the world, and the Gentiles become heirs to your mystery; we pray for your church and all who break down barriers that exclude people from your grace; we pray for our Bishop John and our parish, as we seek to show your gift of love to the world.

God of signs and wonders; **hear our prayer.**

God of wonder and delight you reveal yourself to the world and the sick are healed, the sad are comforted; we pray for those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, for the dying and those who care for them; for all those in need; and for those who have requested prayer;

Chris Schafer, Karen Goodger, Jean Evans, Belinda Shannon, Jenny Curry, Barbara Kaye, Seth Gunter, Tom Scrivens, Mark Bennetts, Faye Muddyman, Rob Muddyman, Sharon De Battista, Eunice Downie, Carey Bickoff, Lorraine Lipson, Sarah Davidson, John Leonard, Nathan and Sarah.

We give thanks for healing and blessings wherever received.

God of signs and wonders; **hear our prayer.**

God of wonder and delight you reveal yourself to the world, and we share in the promise of your glory; we pray for the recently departed and those whose years' mind occurs at this time;

2nd Leonard Lang, 3rd Kathleen Smith, Elva Montgomery; 4th Arthur Dean; 5th Andrew Lawson, Kathleen Chapman; 7th Patty James.

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord; **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

God of signs and wonders; **hear our prayer.**

God of wonder and delight, your light has come, and the birth of Jesus has overwhelmed us with joy, hear us as we pray for ourselves; may all be kept safe this holiday time; we pray in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ who who taught us to pray; **Our Father ...[pg. 124]**

Reflections on the readings

Epiphany embodies two journeys as much as it did for the mystical Magi. The first is the new vision that the Gospels present of God's grace and love being extended to all people, and not just those descended from Abraham, indicated by these magicians from the feared East - more than just Gentile. This inclusivity is radical, scandalous and exciting, and offers a wonderful opportunity for celebration and welcome in our communities. The second journey is that of going deeper into our understanding of Christ – an opening to the epiphany (the insight, the revelation) of who this Christ child is that we have welcomed to our world in the Christmas season. Of course, both journeys are really one, and both offer us an awesome reason for worship and devotion to Jesus.

Adapted from John de Veer (2016) www.sacredise.com

Hymn: What Child Is This [Tune: Greensleeves]

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels
sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!

2. Why lies he in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,
The cross he borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary!

William C. Dix 1642

Notices

Notice: As from 4th January Christ Church will be closed for renovation. 9am Sunday services are being held at Senior Citizens Club, Sydney Road, Kilmore.

Direct Debit Offerings - Account details have changed Account details: BENDIGO BANK - Account Name 'Anglican Parish of Kilmore'; BSB 633-000; Account Number 158946921. Parishioners using direct debit or electronic funds transfer please change your bank details when making offerings.

Parish life this week

No week day services this week

Friday 6th 10am - 4pm Op Shop Church House

Saturday 7th 10am-12.30pm Op Shop Church House

Next Sunday: 8th January 2017 THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD		
Isaiah 42.1-9; Ps 29; Acts 10. 34-43; Matthew 3. 13-17		
Christ Church at Senior Citizens Club	9am	Holy Eucharist
St Matthews	11am	Holy Eucharist
St Stephens	11am	Holy Eucharist
Transfiguration	4pm	No service this day

Parish Clergy

Rector Revd Dr Kim Benton, 9 Union Street, Kilmore, 3764; Ph 5782 1155
m 0407 569 343; rector@anglicankilmore.org.au

Hon Associate Priest Revd Maryann Leonard, 78 High Street, Broadford, 3658;
Ph 5784 3007; m 0439 066 553; associatepriest@anglicankilmore.org.au

Priest (PTO) Fr John Young, 9/40 Powlett St, Broadford, 3658 Ph 5784 2224

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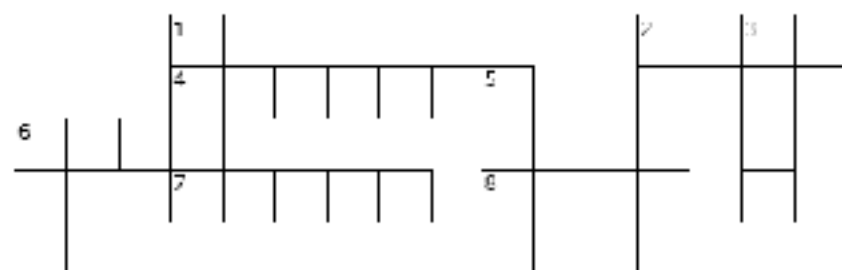


Parishioners and visitors are advised that photographs may be taken of activities in the Parish from time to time for use on Parish website, Facebook and for publication in the Advocate. If you do not wish to be included in a photo please stand clear of the group at the time. Photos are never taken without a warning.

*May you all enjoy a happy, prosperous
and safe New Year.*

The Visit of the Magi

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.
Matthew 2:11 (NIV)



ACROSS

2. The wise men who visited Jesus and Mary and Joseph shortly after Jesus was born
4. A substance that is burned to produce a sweet smell
6. To come into existence by birth
7. Presents which are given without cost to the one receiving them
8. A twinkling point of light in the night sky

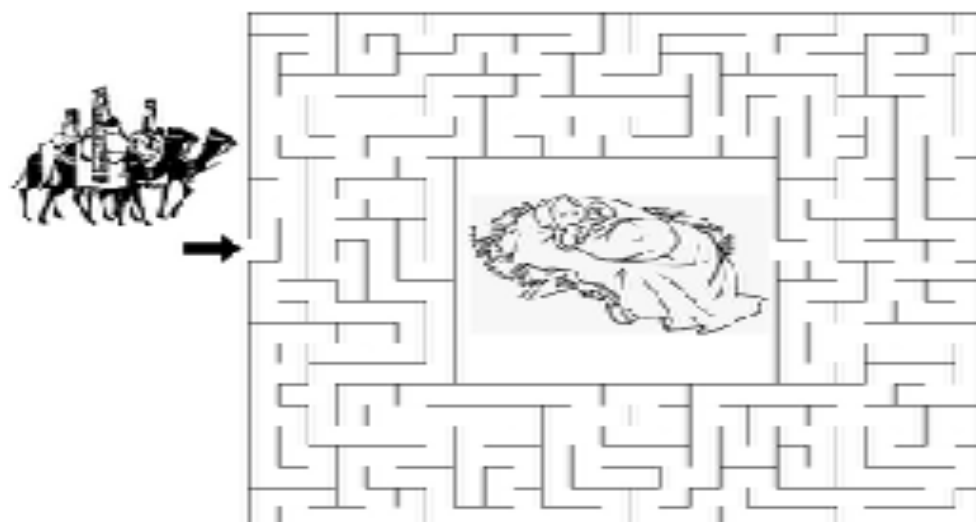
DOWN

1. A male ruler of a country
2. A sticky substance with a strong smell which is used in making perfume
3. A valuable, shiny, yellow metal used to make coins and jewellery
5. The direction which is opposite to west
6. To kneel or bend the head or body forward as a show of respect

MAGI	BOW	STAR	GOLD	KING
GIFTS	FRASE	BOHN	MYRRH	INCENSE

Wise Men Search for Jesus

Can you help the Wise Men find the way to the baby Jesus?



"Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."
Matthew 2:2