



ST. MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP PARISH
UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

YEAR B

3 JANUARY 2021

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem,
for your light has come,
the glory of the Lord is rising on you,
though night still covers the earth
and darkness the peoples.
Above you the Lord now rises
and above you his glory appears.
The nations come to your light
and kings to your dawning brightness.
Lift up your eyes and look round:
all are assembling and coming towards you,
your sons from far away
and your daughters being tenderly carried.
At this sight you will grow radiant,
your heart throbbing and full;
since the riches of the sea will flow to you,
the wealth of the nations come to you;
camels in throngs will cover you,
and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;
everyone in Sheba will come,
bringing gold and incense
and singing the praise of the Lord.

RESPONSE Lord, every nation on
earth will adore you.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6

You have probably heard how I have
been entrusted by God with the grace he
meant for you, and that it was by a
revelation that I was given the knowledge
of the mystery. This mystery that has now
been revealed through the Spirit to his
holy apostles and prophets was unknown
to any men in past generations; it means
that pagans now share the same
inheritance, that they are parts of the
same body, and that the same promise
has been made to them, in Jesus Christ,
through the gospel.

ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia!
**We have seen his star in the
East; and have come to
adore the Lord. Alleluia!**

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in
Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some
wise men came to Jerusalem from the east.
‘Where is the infant king of the Jews?’ they
asked. ‘We saw his star as it rose and have
come to do him homage.’ When King Herod
heard this he was perturbed, and so was the
whole of Jerusalem. He called together all
the chief priests and the scribes of the
people, and enquired of them where the
Christ was to be born. ‘At Bethlehem in
Judaea,’ they told him ‘for this is what the
prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
you are by no means least
among the leaders of Judah,
for out of you will come a leader
who will shepherd my people Israel.’

Then Herod summoned the wise men to
see him privately. He asked them the exact
date on which the star had appeared, and
sent them on to Bethlehem. ‘Go and find
out all about the child,’ he said ‘and when
you have found him, let me know, so that I
too may go and do him homage.’ Having
listened to what the king had to say, they
set out. And there in front of them was the
star they had seen rising; it went forward,
and halted over the place where the child
was. 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. Then,
opening their treasures, they offered him
gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh.
But they were warned in a dream not to go
back to Herod, and returned to their own
country by a different way.

COMMENT ON THE GOSPEL

Leo the Great (500-461).

Dearly beloved, the day on which Christ first
showed himself to the Gentiles as the
Saviour of the world should be held in holy
reverence among us. We should experience
in our hearts the same joy as the three wise
men felt when the sign of the new star led
them into the presence of the king of
heaven and earth, and they gazed in
adoration upon the one in whose promised
coming they had put their faith.

Although that day belongs to the past, the
power of the mystery which was then

revealed has not passed away; we are not left
with a mere report of bygone events, to be
received in faith and remembered with
veneration. God’s bounty toward us has been
multiplied, so that even in our own times we
daily experience the grace which belonged to
those first beginnings.

The Gospel story specifically recalls the days
when, without any previous teaching from the
prophets or instruction in the law, three men
came from the far east in search of God; but
we see the same thing taking place even more
clearly and extensively in the enlightenment of
all those whom God calls at the present time.

We see the fulfillment of that prophecy of
Isaiah which says: “The Lord has bared his holy
arm in the sight of all nations, and the whole
world has seen the salvation that comes from
the Lord our God. And again: Those who have
not been told about him shall see, and those
who have not heard shall understand.” (Is
52:10)

When we see people being led out of the
abyss of error and called to knowledge of the
true light, people who, far from professing
faith in Jesus Christ, have hitherto devoted
themselves to worldly wisdom, we can have no
doubt that the splendour of divine grace is at
work.

Whenever a shaft of light newly pierces
darkened hearts, its source is the radiance of
that same star, which impresses the souls it
touches by the miracle of its appearance and
leads them forward to worship God.

If on the other hand we earnestly ask
ourselves whether the same threefold oblation
is made by all who come to Christ in faith, shall
we not discover a corresponding gift offering in
the hearts of true believers?

To acknowledge Christ’s universal
sovereignty is in fact to bring out gold from the
treasury of one’s soul; to believe God’s only
Son has made himself truly one with human
nature is to offer myrrh, and to declare that he
is in no way inferior to his Father in majesty is
to worship him with frankincense.

Tractate 36, 1-2.



COMMUNION We have seen his
star in the East, and have come
with gifts to adore the Lord.

WALKING IN THE SPIRITUAL FOOTSTEPS OF THE MAGI 2021 EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE GROUP: will be in our parish January 5th through 7th. Assistance with catering and helping serve dinner in St Canice’s Hall for approx. 25 pilgrims would be appreciated on the evening of the 6th January. If you would like to help please ring Barbara 4784 2473. For information about the pilgrimage itinerary and to register visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org

BOOK A SUNDAY MASS: If you wish to come to a Vigil or a Sunday Mass, please click on the link below to book a Mass time. Bookings close 3pm Fridays: <https://forms.gle/sZTJhQYjmvAkPjHb6> The form will also be linked on the parish FaceBook page.

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED: If you would like to help serve at Midnight Mass and/or serve in the coming year, please contact Hugh Jones on 0402 904 681.

PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL: Dear adorers, if you are going away and have a rostered time slot please find a replacement adorer from the contact list, or a parishioner to cover for you. You will need to let your team leader know what dates you’ll be away, and who will be covering you. If you are a parishioner (or visitor) who would like to be on the temporary fill in list for a Holy Hour, please contact Jacquie on 0405 600 155 to register your details, many thanks!

PLANNED GIVING: Would the owners of Envelope numbers 38, 41 and 53 kindly contact the Parish office immediately to submit your contact details. Your contributions are unable to be recorded until we have this information.

FINANCES: If you would like to contribute to the 2nd Collection for the parish: Bank Transfer: BSB 067 950 Account 000 00594 Name: Mary MacKillop Parish Reference: Surname and envelope number or Parish Donation (with or without surname if preferred).

If parishioners would like to contribute to the First Collection for the clergy of the diocese: BSB 067 950 Account No 00004265 Account Name Diocesan Clergy Reference either the Parish Name or the parish code 6038

BISHOP’S CHRISTMAS APPEAL: yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

VATICAN NEWS: Pope at Christmas Mass:

Teaching us how to love: God came to us at Christmas as a weak and vulnerable Child to teach us how to love, the Pope said. “God came among us in poverty and need, to tell us that in serving the poor, we will show our love for Him.” Pope Francis concluded his homily with a prayer to the newborn Saviour: “Jesus, you are the Child who makes me a child. You love me as I am, not as I imagine myself to be. In embracing you, the Child of the manger, I once more embrace my life. In welcoming you, the Bread of life, I too desire to give my life. You, my Saviour, teach me to serve. You who did not leave me alone, help me to comfort your brothers and sisters, for, from this night forward, all are my brothers and sisters.”

ROSARY AND OTHER DEVOTIONS: Ad Jesum per Mariam.

SAT and SUN: 4:10pm, Leura.

MON: after 8:30am Mass, Katoomba.

TUE: 4:30pm Divine Mercy, Rosary and Exposition, Leura.

WED: after 8:30am Mass, Wentworth Falls.

THU: after 8:30am Mass, Leura.

FRI: 11:30am before Mass, Katoomba.

FRI: 5pm Divine Mercy Hour, Leura.

SAT: 8:30am before Mass and also after Benediction following Mass, Katoomba.

ADORATION CHAPEL: 9am Monday - 9am Saturday, Katoomba.



SUNDAY MASS TIMES

You need to book Sunday

Leura 5pm (Saturday)

Wentworth Falls 8am

Katoomba 10am

Leura 5pm

*10am on public holidays

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

MON: 8:30am* Katoomba

TUE: 5:15pm Leura

WED: 8:30am W-Falls

THU: 8:30am Leura

FRI: 12pm Katoomba

SAT: 9am Katoomba

CONFESSION TIMES

TUE 4:45-5:00pm Leura

SAT: 9:30am Katoomba

SAT: 4:30-4:45pm Leura

Confessions are always
available on request.

MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: VALERIE SMALL, MARK GLASHEEN, ELIZABETH SINNAPPAN, and All the faithful departed especially those for whom you requested prayers and masses AND THE FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY. **SICK LIST:** Monique Haulber, Marie Thuez, Mary Sullivan, Kathleen Hayes-Gilson, Evelyn Maw, Wanda Heffernan, Mary Roberts, Jacquelin Singh, Kath Paine, June Way, Robert Sullivan, Natale Assanti, Susan Keegel, Eugenio Natonton, Emiliana Santiago, Pat Coyne, Inga Morphett, Amanda Peters, Alison Michaels, Aimee De la Motte, Lorraine Russelle, Margaret Murphy, Joan Nolan, Pat Wolthers, Tricia Hogan, Shiela Page, Sr Jeanie Heininger, Michelle Scully, Julie Wals, Edwin Wulff

PARISH OFFICE: 158 Katoomba Street, Katoomba 2780

Postal Address: P.O. Box 526, Katoomba NSW 2780

Phone: (02) 4782 2804 **Hours:** 10am-3pm Tuesday-Friday.

Parish Email address: bluemountains@parracatholic.org

After Hours Emergency Number: 0428 878 810 Calls only; no

Weddings: Please call Parish Office for details. **Baptisms:** upon request.

Parish Website at: www.bluemountainscatholic.org.au

Parish Facebook: www.facebook.com/bluemountainscatholic

Parish School: St Canice’s Catholic Primary School, Katoomba.

Principal: Ms. Miriam Meaney

POSITION VACANT

Parish Secretary – 6 hours per week
Sacred Heart Parish Blackheath

The parish of Sacred Heart, Blackheath invites applications for the position of Parish Secretary.

The role of Parish Secretary will entail providing secretarial and administrative support to the Parish’s Priests and the Parish team. The Parish Secretary will be responsible for processing correspondence, emails, telephone calls, meeting and greeting visitors, managing diaries, ordering of office supplies, as well as preparing the weekly Parish newsletter, maintaining documentation for the Sacraments, providing assistance to enquiries regarding the Sacraments and maintaining and updating the Parish website.

The successful applicant would need to:

- demonstrate an ability to relate to a variety of people and develop sound working relationships with other members of the Parish team;
- have a strong commitment to the Catholic faith;
- have a professional manner and excellent people skills;
- have high level computer skills, attention to detail and a well ordered approach to work
- have the right to work within Australia and undertake a national police and working with children check.

Applications must include a cover letter, resume and names and contact details of at least two referees, one of whom includes your parish priest.

Closing date for applications is: Friday 15 January 2021

Please send your application, resume and full referee details to: blackheath@parracatholic.org with the subject title: PARISH SECRETARY APPLICATION.

For more information, please contact the parish office at blackheath@parracatholic.org or visit <https://parracatholic.org/employment/>.

SAINTS THIS WEEK: Ora pro nobis.

THU: St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest.

NEXT SUN: The Baptism of the Lord.