

Vicar's Reflection - Epiphany 2

Epiphany noun UK /i'pɪf.ən.i

1. a [moment](#) when you [suddenly feel](#) that you [understand](#), or [suddenly become conscious](#) of, something that is very [important](#) to you
2. a [powerful religious experience](#)

That's what the Cambridge dictionary says about Epiphany.

The period of time between Christmas and Lent is called the season of Epiphany, and the colour of the church at this time is Green. We all have those moments when we suddenly "get it", when we suddenly understand something that previously eluded us.

Epiphany is a time to celebrate those times when we and others have become aware of Christ, the Son of God. A most notable epiphany is when the Wise Men are led by a star to the home of a grubby toddler, sitting on Mary's knee, and find themselves bowing and responding with magnificent gifts, as they understand that they are indeed in the presence of God.

For me, I understand an epiphany as being the point at which our focus or awareness changes and we realise that the ordinary has just become extraordinary and we are aware of the presence of God. Rev'd Jack Humphrey says that it is a moment when a new creation, a new humanity, bursts in on this old creation, changing everything. Fr Jim Minchin explains the moment of epiphany as a delightful recognition of God working in unexpected situations, and Wayne nodded his head and agreed that it is a sudden discovery or insight. Each of us understands our mysterious God in different ways, don't we?

We have seven weeks of Epiphany this year, and there will be many chances to go "epiphany hunting", for the season's readings are full of them. Check the readings, watch the world around you, be ready and listening to spot the Holy Spirit at work causing God's presence to break into our everyday lives.

God bless you and all those you pray for

Elizabeth

Wanted - A Room

A young baptised, Christian Iraqi male is seeking accommodation. He wants to join in Christian activities and make a contribution to Australia.

If you are interested/able/to help, or know of somebody who might be, please speak to Rev'd Elizabeth.

Please note: Material for inclusion in Pew Sheets should be given to Alf by Wednesday even-



*Welcome
to
Worship in Our Parish*

January 15th 2017

**Second Sunday after Epiphany
Ordinary Sunday 2**

Service Times

Sundays

8:00 am St Mark's Leopold & St Paul's Whittington
10:00 am St Mark's Leopold & St Barnabas' Newcomb

Monday - Friday 9:15 am
Morning Prayer @ St Barnabas'

Wednesday - 10:00 am
There will be no Wednesday services during January

Our Mission Statement

Our mission is to enable individuals to recognize and carry out their ministries as Christians. Through this, we strive to become a model company of faithful people who both honour their varied traditions and actively share in building the family of Christ..

Combined Service @ St Paul's
January 29th - 9.30 am

MINISTRY TEAM

Vicar: Rev'd Elizabeth Breakey 5250 1401/0404 165 096
Email: vicar@bgap.church

Father Jim Minchin 0427 056 654, frjmbminchin@gmail.com

Mr Wayne Stewart 0414 503 300, wayne@bgap.church

Mrs Wilma Farrell 5244 5537 Pastoral Ministry

Mrs Jan Long 0414 823 132 Residential Care Ministry

Parish web-site: www.bgap.church

Today's Readings

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-14
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

Next Week's Readings

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1-10
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-25

A Continuing Prayer For The Parish

'Lord you are in the midst of us and we are called by your name. Guide us in our worship and life together: transform us into whatever you would have us do. Help us to be deeply connected with the world around us and strengthen us to proclaim the good news in word and deed in this community, for the glory and for the growth of your kingdom.. In Jesus name we pray. Amen

Known Happy Birthdays: Ted Freeman 17th, Jill Giddings 19th

Known Happy Anniversaries: Gloria & Bill Lang 15th



Bible Reflection: Paul, the Apostle submits that his calling was purely merited by the will of God. He writes so powerfully to the Church in Corinth and expresses his gratitude by giving thanks to God for the Church in Corinth. It is clear that we need to give thanks to God for our Churches, their leadership and the congregations alike. There is power in giving thanks for the things that God has done for us through his Church. God has given us the gift of salvation by his grace, given us

fellowship and the sense of belonging, gift of life, gift of family and our places of work. Yes we can deny the many times when suffering has been unbearable but even while we are unfaithful, he remains faithful for while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5.8).

* Pray that God will sustain the spirit of gratitude among the congregants and the ministers of the Word alike. Pray that we shall be grateful in all places and at all times. Through Christ Jesus Our Lord. Amen.

Reflection written by *The Rt Rev Paul Korir Bishop of Kapsabet, Anglican Church of Kenya* © Anglican Board of Mission, 2016



Welcome to our services today - the second Sunday after Epiphany. We hope you find your time worshipping God enjoyable and enriching. Please stay after the service for cup of tea/coffee, biscuit and fellowship.

For your diary:

Sunday January 29th Combined Service @ St Paul's, 9.30 am
Saturday February 4th Men's Breakfast @ Leopold UC, 7.30 am

Thank you to the people who came along for the Twelfth Day of Christmas Fun Night. **Thank you** to the cooks who prepared a large variety of dishes – both savouries and desserts. There was a good selection of quiches to choose from. A special **Thank you** to the many people who cleared the tables and washed the dishes. It was done quickly and efficiently. Many hands make light work!!

My Day

Not very much has happened today,
I spent it at home, and the hours slipped away.
Weeded the garden, and when that was done,
I watched a lizard asleep in the sun.
Fleecy white clouds looking lazy as I,
Motionless, in a washing-blue sky.
I talked at length on the telephone,
With a spinster aunt who lives all alone,
And cheerfully passed the time of day
With a dear old man who lives down the way.
I picked some jonquils, forget-me-nots, too,
To enhance a vase of the brightest blue.
So passed the hours, doing this and that,
. . . Sometimes, indeed, I simply just sat . . .
Sat counting my blessings, feeling at ease,
Content to be doing just as I please'
It sounds rather dull, do I hear you say?
Well, maybe . . . but for me 'twas a perfect day.

(Mary Drake From Gary Ord's Friendship Book)