

Reflection for Epiphany:

They finally arrived! Today, 12th night, or Epiphany, is the day when we remember the arrival of the wise men in Bethlehem.

The Wise Man's Journey

There will be no camels;
we are going on horseback,
at least some of the way.

And we won't arrive there
a few hours after everyone else.
It will be weeks, perhaps-
or months.

We are not in a hurry.
This is not the way we work;
we are not Europeans.

We will discuss the phenomenon -
the star -
and if it does not go away,
and if we still feel curious,
we will travel.

We will look in the wrong place.
Yes, I admit that,
because wise men, potentates,
intellectuals –
call us what you will –
are not infallible.

What presumptions that you held before this Christmas whether in church, faith, family or in the world have been shaken this season? I hope the realisation that things were different came as your own life-giving epiphany, and not as a destructive tsunami of change. Mostly, it is up to us which way we see things, isn't?

And, dear Parishioner, Happy New Year!

The Lord be with you and those for whom you pray.

Elizabeth

We expect a new power
to emerge from the side of the old one.
We expect the destination we seek
to resemble what our common sense
deduces.

We will be upset, angry even,
to find that Herod is ignorant
and that his living space is not the
birthplace.

We will find it hard
and intellectually demeaning
to bow the knee to the son of refugees.

And all this ...
all this upset will be compounded
when it comes to journeying back
and we discover
we have to home another way.

That is the trouble with God.
He does not let you leave as you came.
He sends you back,
stripped of your presumptions,
making for home by another way.

-Wild Goose Worship Group



Shining Christ's Light on the Peninsula

*Welcome
To
Worship in Our Parish*

January 6th 2019

The Epiphany of our Lord

Normal Service Times

Sundays

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

Wednesday - 10:00 am

No services during January
Services resumes February 6th @ St Barnabas'

Morning Prayer @ St Barnabas' - 9 am

Mon - Tue - Wed - Fri - Sat

Parish Identity

BGAP : A community who loves God and everyone else.

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.

MINISTRY TEAM

Vicar: Rev'd Elizabeth Breakey 5250 1401; 0404 165 096

Email: vicar@bgap.church

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

Mr Wayne Stewart 0414 503 300; wayne@bgap.church; Child Safety Officer

Mrs Wilma Farrell 5244 5537; Pastoral Ministry

Parish web-site: www.bgap.church

Direct payments donation account: BSB 703 122 A/c #0500 4734 (identify recipient)

Today's Readings

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

Next Week's Readings

Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm 29

Acts 8:14-17

Luke 3:15-22

Parish Prayer

'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.



Prayers for Healing: Please pray for the healing of body, mind and spirit of the following people who are on our hearts: Travers family; Hooper/Travers families; Sheila S; Amy, baby & Roscoe; Jack & Ria Humphrey, Alan, Matthew R, Joel, Colin, Pat, Val & John, Des M, Barbara S, Pam, Barb, Cassie & family.

(We would like to keep this list current so we need to know how your loved ones are faring. Please let us know. If you have any names, please let Alf know but only after obtaining permission from the person involved.)



At Epiphany we celebrate the fact that God is for everyone. The story of the Magi travelling from the far corners of a world in darkness to see the great light come into the world fulfils the joyous prophesy we read in Isaiah – Nations shall come to your light – and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Christianity really is a revolutionary worldview in that it teaches that our messages is for all people

regardless of geography or ethnicity. Different people in different places will express the mystery in diverse ways, but the message is the same.

** Pray for those places of the world where the light of Christ is not yet shining, or is hidden because of persecution or apathy.

Hall for hire: The beautifully renovated St Barnabas' Hall has availability for more groups to rent sessions during the week. Please spread the word. Interested groups should contact Gordon Dendle (Hall booking officer) on 5250 1333 for more details.



Welcome to our service today - the Epiphany of Our Lord. We hope you find your time worshipping God enjoyable and enriching. Please stay after the service for a cup of tea/coffee and fellowship.

For your diary:

Monday Crafternoon Tea in recess during January

Friday January 18th Parish Council Planning Day

Thanks: A sincere 'Thank you' for all who helped in any way, be it catering, serving, setting-up or packing-up, at Ellen Freeman's funeral service. As usual, there were plenty of refreshments to choose from. Some Melbourne folk wanted to know where all the food came from.

Christmas Bowl: A reminder to please bring your Christmas Bowl money on or before Sunday 20th January.



Vicar's leave: Rev'd Elizabeth is taking a break with her family from Monday 21st to Monday 28th January.



More Thanks: Thank you everyone who helped at the various Christmas services in numerous ways e.g. readers (sometimes at short notice), music, Children's service, putting up (and taking down) Christmas trees/decorations and signs etc. It is pleasing that many parishioners came forward to help during this time.

Parish Council retreat:

There will be a parish council retreat day on 18th January. Details tba