



CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS

Catholic Parish of Dulwich Hill, Archdiocese of Sydney, Established in 1907

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Bishop Richard Umbers DD VG (Bishop in Residence)

Fr. Andrew James (Parish Priest), (Deacon) Rev Louis Azzopardi



The Epiphany of the Lord / C

2 January 2022

PRIMARY SCHOOL



Ph: 9558 5308

Principal:

Ms Frances Stewart

REC: Ms Jo-Anne Ross

Email:

info@stpcdulwichhill.catholic.edu.au

With St Paul of the Cross we pray ...

For the sick

Allen Portell

Leonor Delgado

Noel Nacua

Patricia Stack

Jovito Redaja

Raul Cabrera

Angela Di Donato

Sr Julianne Murphy

Natalina Gallace

Ruth Wilson

Raymond Hudson

Fr Jim Duggan

Pat Allport

Cardo, Zennie, Ian, Pat

Francheska Bechara

Robyn, Eimy & Helen

Angelis Alima & Charlie

Jan Lawson

Genaro Villanueva

Paula

Recently Deceased

Davina Godfrey

Death Anniversary

Clarita Pacheco (40 days anniv.)

For the Souls

Ermelinda Quintal

Manuel Quintal Nobrega

Arcenia Quintal

Nadim Sarah, Fr Anthony,

Hana & wife, Elias & wife,

Youssif & wife, Amira Srash

Mikel & Nszira

All forgotten Souls and Holy

Souls in Purgatory

Special Intentions

Giuseppe

Antonia

Henry & Tina and my Family

Leah Tillam

"We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage"



This depiction of "the wise men from the East" by the Mafa people of northern Nigeria captures something of the strangeness of this story from Matthew's Gospel. In appearance, dress and culture they are quite unlike the Jewish people whose land they came to in their search for "the infant king of the Jews." They represent "the nations (who) come to your light" in Isaiah's prophetic vision.

Understood in this way, they represent all those who search for God, who follow 'the light of faith' as they experience it in their lives and undertake the journey of conversion that eventually leads them to Christ. For "the wise men from the East," this search and the journey that accompanied it, began with their understanding of the stars and their influence on human life. The star that they followed was, in their understanding, a light from the gods, a sign of some dramatic change in history.

But, as Matthew's story proceeds, the focus is not on them and their search but on "the star" that, in every sense is the source and reason for their search. The turning point is when they come to King Herod to direct them. Herod calls all the religious leaders together and they give a specific direction to these 'seekers', a direction that links their own search with the story of Israel as God's chosen people.

The "infant king of the Jews" that they are looking for is contrasted with the motives and behaviour of the adult king of the Jews. Herod's intentions are murderous. His tyrannical rule is the opposite to that of 'the infant king' who will be like "a shepherd to my people Israel." It is an image of God's care for his people that has deep roots in Israel's understanding of God and one that Jesus will himself take up in relation to his followers.

It is a contrast that the wise men will themselves understand after they see "the child with his mother Mary." The attention they pay to a dream warning them not to return to Herod reminds us of Joseph and the way in which dreams led him to decisions that changed his life. We remember too, how often dreams are used in the Old Testament as the way in which God communicates with those he has chosen for a particular mission.

The climax of the story is when they present their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, gifts for a king, and then "fall to their knees and do him homage." This was a physical expression of complete submission. You went down on your hands and knees, your forehead touching the ground in reverence before a god or a king, someone who, in the culture of the East, was believed to be divine. In **Journey of the Magi**, the great English poet T. S. Eliot imagines them returning home completely transformed by this whole experience:

*We returned to our places, these Kingdoms
But no longer at ease here, in the Old Dispensation,
With an alien people clutching their gods.*

The star that the wise men followed was the light that St John describes in the Prologue to his Gospel, "the light that shines in the darkness ... and the darkness did not overcome it." Because it is the light of God's presence and care for us, it was able to transform the lives of the wise men who followed it through the many forms of darkness they experienced. It can transform our lives as well if we are prepared to trust in God as wholeheartedly as they did. As the New Year begins and we consider resolutions for the new year, we would do well to consider these resolutions proposed by Pope Francis:

- Take care of your spiritual life and your relationship with God because this is the backbone of everything we do and everything we are
- Take care of your family life, giving your children and loved ones not just money but, above all, your time, attention and love.
- Take care of your relationship with others, transforming your faith into life and your words into good works, especially on behalf of the needy

Deacon Louis

Feast/Solemnity/Memorial/Saint

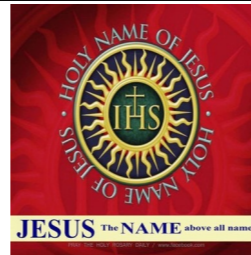
of the Week

(3 - 8 Jan 2022)

Mon	3/1	The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Fri	7/1	St Raymond of Peñafort, priest

The Most Holy Name of Jesus

The name Jesus is from the Hebrew Joshua or Yehoshuah meaning "Yahweh is salvation" or Yahweh will save." The letters IHS are an abbreviation of Iesous, the Greek name for Jesus.



St Paul wrote in Philippians that God the Father gave Christ Jesus "that name that is above every name" (see 2:9). The devotion to the Holy Name became popular because of 12th-century Cistercian monks and nuns but especially through the preaching of St. Bernardine of Siena, a 15th-century Franciscan. The devotion grew, partly because of Franciscan and Dominican preachers. It spread even more widely after the Jesuits began promoting it in the 16th century.

In 1530, Pope Clement V approved an Office of the Holy Name for the Franciscans. In 1721, Pope Innocent XIII extended this feast to the entire Church.

St Raymond of Peñafort, born at Peñafort, near Barcelona. He was ordained, and became a professor of philosophy and law. He entered the Dominican Order in 1222, shortly after the death of St Dominic. He was called to Rome by Pope Gregory IX to be his confessor and was also charged with codifying canon law. Later he was chosen master-general of his order. He is the patron saint of canon lawyers.



A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Coffee Conversations for the Synod

The Synod of Bishops consultation has now commenced and parishioners are invited to gather in small groups to discuss one or more of the topics for the Synod. This is a low key discussion with responses invited to the National Team by February 27.

The Coffee Conversation leaflet will be available in parishes for interested parishioners to assist in the conversation.

If you require more information can you please contact Sr Jo Brady RSJ Plenary Council/Synod Liaison Support Officer at jo.brady@sdneycatholic.org

PARISH WEEKEND MASS ROSTER

8th & 9th January 2022

Readers:	5:30pm	R Lazarus M Dos Santos
	8:00am	J Peters G Turnbull
	10:00am	J Duru V Simms

"Break Open the Word" (the book for readers) now available in the Sacristy.

Choir Notice

The choir will be taking a holiday after Christmas. The next rehearsal will be on Monday 31st January 2022.

St Joseph's Enfield Healing Mass

Friday 7th January 2022

Celebrant: Father Tony Alex MGL
Rosary: 7:00pm Reconciliation: 7:00-8:00pm
Prayer and Praise: 7:30pm Mass: 8:00pm
Exposition (after Mass) & Prayer Ministry
St Joseph's Catholic Church
126 Liverpool Rd., Enfield
Parking at rear of church. Enter from Baker St.
E-mail: rosetwymansydney@gmail.com

DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE

7th Jan 2022	Divine Mercy Friday 6:00pm - 8:30pm
7th Jan 2022	1st Friday Healing Service Chatswood Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church 94 Archer St, Chatswood NSW 2067 Telephone 02 9410 9000 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Booking Required (limited numbers)
Please contact 02 4372 1598,
drcretreatrego@gmail.com

Parish Office

Maria - Mondays
Cecilia - Wed-Friday
9.30am - 2:30pm

Parish & Hall enquiries
9558 3257

Mass Times

Sat: 5:30pm (Vigil)
Sun: 8am & 10am
Mon to Fri: 9:00am
Sat: 9:30am

Family Mass with Children's Liturgy
3rd Sunday of the Month 10am Mass

Family Rosary & Morning Tea - 2nd Sunday of the Month after 10am Mass in the Church Hall

Filipino Mass
1st Sun 11:30am

Sacraments

Confession
Sat 8:30-9:20am, 4:45pm
or any time by appointment

Baptism

Every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sunday 11.15am

Marriage

At least 6 months notice required

Anointing of the Sick

Any time on call

Devotions

Holy Hour & Rosary
Sunday - Friday
before morning mass

Rosary & Benediction

Sat 8:30-9:30am

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Wednesday 7pm

