

ST PETER CHANEL & ST JOSEPH BERALA



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The Epiphany of the
Lord - Year B
4 January 2015

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Epiphany



The front page of the Catholic Weekly this week carries a story titled NEXT DOOR TO HELL. It is about a delegation of Australian Bishops visiting Syrian and Iraqi Christians who are made refugees by militant Muslims. Acknowledging and supporting the Christian faith of these people is very important at this time. The delegation of bishops from Maronite, Latin, and Coptic Churches assured the support of Australian Church to these displaced Christians. I am pleased that we too had an opportunity to be part of this mission. On the first weekend of December, our parish collected \$1049 in an exit collection for the delegation to take to the displaced Christians in the Middle East. This delegation was like the Magi (Three Wise Men) who visited child Jesus and acknowledged him as the Son of God. The displaced Christians are faces of Christ. Just as baby Jesus was deprived of the comfort of normal life and lying in a manger helpless, these Christians are feeling helpless and deprived of normal security of life, by Islamic militants. So the kind words of encouragement and the financial assistance the bishops took to them meant that they saw Christ in them. Therefore it was like the gifts of the Magi to child Jesus in Bethlehem which manifested Jesus as Christ to the world.

Children with disabilities and complex needs are also faces of Christ in our own community. Therefore the announcement of the opening of a Low-fee 'special school' for children with disability and complex needs at Lewisham is a delightful news. It was announced on page 3 of the Catholic Weekly. This is a new initiative of the Catholic Education Office of Sydney Archdiocese. I would say such a facility is another practical way of offering gift to Jesus Christ and announcing to the world that we see face of Christ in these children. I thought it is a wonderful mission for us as a parish to be part of. Therefore I have met with Dr Dan White, Executive Director of Catholic Education Office, to discuss some of the practical way our parish could contribute towards this new mission. Because we see face of Christ in the disabled children who are deprived of normal security of life. Like baby Jesus in the manger, these children could be reflecting the helplessness of concerned parents. I intend to have more discussions to see how to support this mission. After all we have a duty to proclaim to the world that we recognise face of Christ in these people.

Today is the feast of Epiphany; the feast of the manifestation of Jesus as God to the world by the three wise men (Magi). When the three Magi travelled to Bethlehem, they too were in search of God who could be touched, felt, and experienced. These men came from far and beyond the usual boundaries of the people of God, the Israelites. Our God has become near to people beyond any cultural boundaries. The Magi made offerings to the child Jesus and adored him as their God. The Magi's acceptance of Jesus as the expected Messiah, represents the universal acceptance of Jesus as the Saviour.

This feast challenges us to find practical ways of announcing manifestation of Jesus Christ as Son of God and Saviour to the world. We shall never be tired of finding the face of Christ in in the needy and announcing it to the world. May the New Year be full of such manifestations of Jesus as God and Saviour. May it be happy one through and through.

Steve McLaren died.

Steve McLaren died on New Year's Eve. Requiem Mass for him will be held at 10.30 AM on Tuesday, 6 January at Our Lady of Mercy Chapel (Crematorium) Rookwood. Condolence to his widow Pauline and the family.

Mass Intentions: Steve McLaren & Gunilla (rec. deceased); Estefania Sarmiento & Esperanza Olaerte deceased members of Ross & Mitchell Families,

Antiphons & Readings

Entrance Antiphon:

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come;
and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. (R.)

2. In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds. (R.)

3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts
shall pay him tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him. (R.)

4. For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. (R.)

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East;
and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:

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

Today's Readings

Is 60:1-6
Eph 3:2-3,5-6
Mt 2:1-12

Next Sunday's Readings

Is 42:1-4, 6-7
Acts 10:34-38
Mk 1:7-11

Next Sunday - Baptism of the Lord

Drawing from the Eastern tradition of Epiphany, the West has remembered the baptism of the Lord on the octave of the Epiphany since the eighth century. Formally introduced into the Roman calendar in 1960 on the Sunday after the Epiphany, it now concludes the Christmas season. Commemorates the revelation of Jesus as God's beloved Son, the Christ, anointed by the Spirit.

St Peter Chanel & St Joseph the Worker Rosters - Next Week

11 JANUARY 2014		BAPTISM OF THE LORD	
MASS	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Joseph MARMAN	William ANDREWS	Roland JAVIER
ORGAN	Kate PARISH		Elmer
CANTOR	Joji SALAR		Elmer
LECTOR/S	John DONNELLAN	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Pam SNELL
	Noeline DONNELLAN	Maris MARSH	Carmel MARTIN
COMMENTATOR	Katrina YIP	Karim KASSIS	Micheline BOTHAM
GIFTS	Anita YIP Family		Roland JAVIER Family
PIETY STALL	Stefanie YIP		Anna FACER
SP. MINISTER	Joy SKERRITT		Jenny MICHAEL
SP. MINISTER	Phirum DUCH		Pam SNELL
HOSPITAL : Robert Jaksic & Andrew Williams		ALTAR : Group 2 Bolonia Family	
SPC CLEANERS : CFC Youth for Christ		COUNTERS : Group 2 Christine Kensey; Julie Toby	
SJW CLEANERS : Maris & John Marsh & Joe Moses.		CHILDREN'S LITURGY : None during school holidays	
HOSPITALITY : This week Pam Snell will be hosting morning tea after 10.00am Mass. Next week Antoinette will be hosting .Thank you to our hospitality team for providing this very important ministry			

PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel at the Montfort home, 16 Smith St Regents Park

Please join them any evening at **7.00pm** for the Rosary.

To host the Pilgrim Statue contact Mona on 9709 8701 or 0417 282 603.

ROSARY STATUE from St Joseph the Worker To host the Rosary Statue contact the Legion of Mary.



Holy Mass at Berala: Monday-Friday:6.45AM. Wednesday - Friday 9.15 AM

Saturday 8 AM, 9 AM Adoration & Novena. **Lord's Day Mass**: Saturday 5 PM (Vigil), Sunday 10 AM.

Holy Mass at Auburn South: Tuesday 9 AM (school term only); **Lord's Day Mass**: Sunday 8 AM.

Reconciliation at Berala: Saturday 9.00 AM - 10 AM.