



Canberra Inner North Catholic Community

Under the Care of Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament (SSS)

Fr Anthony (Thonn) Riosa SSS Moderator - anthony.riosaa@cg.org.au

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Parish Secretary: Kathie Guillester | **Parish Manager:** Julie Barnes

Telephone: 0416 823 447 | Email: innernorth@cg.org.au | Mail: PO Box 900, Dickson ACT 2602

Baptisms, Marriages & Funerals: by Appointment contact the Parish Office

Acknowledgement of Country

We Acknowledge the Ngunnawal people, as Traditional Owners of the land where we gather today and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Issue 07 - 7th January 2024 - Year B

EPIPHANY



CANBERRA CENTRAL inc:
ST BRIGID'S 2 Bancroft St
Dickson ACT 2602
ST PATRICK'S 1 Donaldson St
Braddon ACT 2612

Fr Sebastian Luistro SSS
<http://cg.org.au/canberracentral>



ST THOMAS MORE PARISH
30 White Crescent
Campbell ACT 2612

Fr Anthony Riosa SSS

Website:

www.stthomasmore.org.au

Facebook:

[facebook.com/](https://facebook.com/st.thomasmore.campbell)

st.thomasmore.campbell



Christmas Vigil Mass
with Fr Emil
at St Thomas More Parish



BLACKFRIARS PARISH
Cnr Phillip Avenue &
Antill Street,
Watson ACT
2602

Fr Renoir Oliver Jr SSS
Website:

www.cg.org.au/watson

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/Holy-Rosary-Parish-Watson



ST JOSEPH'S PARISH
61 Boronia Drive,
O'Connor ACT 2602

Fr Anthony Riosa SSS
Website:

<https://cgatholic.org.au/parishes/oconnor/>

Facebook :

[www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephsoconnor)
stjosephsoconnor

Parish Safeguarding Commitment

Our Parishes are committed to safeguarding and upholding the dignity and rights of our children and vulnerable people. We seek to empower children, their families and carers, and vulnerable people, to have a say, to be listened to, and to be protected. This approach is at the centre of all of our thinking and action. This approach is to follow Jesus' command in Matthew 18:1-3.

Inquiries or concerns please contact:

- Fr Anthony Riosa SSS

anthony.riosaa@cg.org.au

- Maria Hicks (Manager)

Phone 02 6239 9806

- Institute of Professional Standards & Safeguarding (IPSS) ipss@cg.org.au





Second reading - Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6

Surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation.

In former generations this mystery was not made known to humanity as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit:

that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Entrance Antiphon - Cf, Malachi 3:1

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

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 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.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation - Matthew 2:2

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

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 71: 1-2, 7-8, 10-13

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

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.

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

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 prostrate,
all nations shall serve him. R.

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.

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

Communion Antiphon is Not recited when hymns are sung.
Communion Antiphon: Cf. Revelation 21:23

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

Unpacking the Creed

"The first meeting of the "Unpacking the Creed" group for 2024 will take place on Wednesday, January 10, at St Joseph's Church, O'Connor (7.30pm, parish hall). We will start, once again, at the very beginning of the Creed, and reflect together on the Creed's words: "I believe in one God".

All welcome!

For more information and any background reading (optional) contact Anna Wierzbicka: Anna.Wierzbicka@anu.edu.au

CHANGE TO MASS TIMES

Please note 9th January 2024

There will be no Mass at O'Connor and Watson Parish

Mercy brings the wise men to where the infant lay

"There are several important things to note about these prestigious visitors. They are Gentiles, not Jews. From the very beginning of his human existence, then, Jesus is clearly not just the Jewish messiah who has come to deliver the people of Israel from foreign oppression. No, he is the universal king, the ruler of all, who has come to tear down the hostile wall dividing Jew from Gentile, nation from nation.

If you've ever wondered what the word 'Catholic' means, here we have it. Derived from Greek words meaning 'according to the whole' it means that Christ did not come to establish some local religious sect for a select few, one 'cult' among many. No, the Church he founded is 'catholic' or universal, spread over the whole world, welcoming the whole human race into one nation, one family, under one King.

Something else is to be noted about these illustrious visitors. As Gentiles, they are pagans. In fact the term 'Magi' is clearly linked to the word 'magic' It was not in the Bible that they normally looked for wisdom (otherwise they would have known to go straight to Bethlehem). But in reward for their ardent though perhaps misguided search for truth, God led them to Christ anyhow, in His great mercy."

*A reflection on this week's Gospel
by Marcellino D'Ambrosio*



"We wish you all God's Blessing and His Love at this festive time and pray that 2021 will be a year of peace, joy, faith, hope, health and happiness for you."

There's No Such Thing as Too Late

Epiphany is the last official day of the Christmas season; we as a Church transition back to Ordinary Time. You could say that the Catholic Church is going back to school after their Christmas break.

I don't know about you, but I dreaded the last day of Christmas break almost more than my first day back at school.

The first day of my Christmas break, I would make all sorts of plans to see my friends, to read a book, to re-organize my closet and of course have some good quality family time in the two weeks I had off. Then, on my last day of Christmas break, I would wake up and realize how few of things I had planned to do I had actually done. Then I would get this overwhelming feeling that I had missed it all. I had missed my break.

And maybe that's how you feel about the Christmas season. You went to Christmas Mass, had Christmas dinner with your family, opened Christmas presents, but you don't feel a whole lot closer to Jesus.

If you feel that way, don't despair! The Three Kings today remind us, it's not too late!

Matthew tells us that the three magi, or members of the ruling class from Persia, noticed a new star in the sky, took it as a sign that a new king had been born in Israel and traveled to Jerusalem to greet the newborn king ([see Matthew 2:1](#)).

The distance from Persia to Jerusalem was over 1,000 miles. In Jesus' time, a trip of that distance most likely would have taken months. Talk about arriving to the party late! The shepherds and the choir of angels would have come and gone. All the excitement of Jesus' birth would have been pretty much over by the time the three kings arrived.

Even though they were late arrivals, that didn't stop them from having a life-changing encounter with Jesus.

When they finally made it the place Jesus was they were overjoyed. When they saw "the child with Mary his mother, they prostrated themselves and did him homage. They opened their treasures" to Him and allowed Jesus into their lives ([Matthew 2:10-11](#)).

So, even though this is the last day of the Christmas season, you can still have a new encounter with the Lord this Christmas.

Take some time to pray today, opening your heart to the Lord. Tell Him how overjoyed you are that He has come into the world. Ask Jesus to use you and your treasures this new year. If you can, go to adoration and prostrate yourself before Him physically present in the Eucharist. And ask the Three Kings to pray with and for you as you celebrate this last day of Christmas.

It's never too late to meet Jesus.

[by Emily Pellarin](#)

PARISH OFFICES OPENING HOURS

Watson Blackfriars 9am-12.30pm Mondays & Fridays

Campbell St Thomas More 9am – 12.30pm Tuesdays

Dickson St Brigid's Wednesdays 9am-12.30pm

O'Connor St Joseph's Thursdays 9am – 12.30pm

Jump start the year by journeying with the Magi

"In our first reading on this Solemnity of the Epiphany, we hear, 'Rise up in splendour, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you' (Isaiah 60:1). Jesus is that light and He now shines upon each of us.

"The Gospel tells the story of the Magi from the East who travelled in search of Christ, the new-born king. Again, we see this truth, the God of all creation has come to the world, and those of good will seek Him. The Magi travelled over great distance and time to seek the new-born king. They found Him and brought great gifts for Him. And they followed Him thereafter according to right judgment, forsaking the lure and temptations of the culture and corrupt government (cf. Matthew 2).

"The story of the Magi and the Revelation of the Christ-Child in what we call the Epiphany is a wonderful occasion and opportunity to begin anew our prayer life. There is much for us to meditate on here.

"Each of us can consider our own life, in one sense, as the journey of the magi to find and give homage to the new king who is revealed to them – and to us – as the Saviour of the world. So during the remaining week of Christmastide, let's jump-start our prayer lives by reflecting on this passage and our lives."

[A reflection by Deacon Michael Bickerstaff](#)

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Our recently Deceased: May they find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord.

Geraldine Conlon, Brian Mahoney, Petronella Wensing, Margaret Byrne, Marguerite Serge

CONTRIBUTIONS TO PRIEST & PARISH

Contribute to the First Collection.

Account Name: Central Presbytery Fund
BSB: 062-786 - Bank Account: 000029248
Reference: Use your Parish Location to assist in correct allocation & Your Name (e.g. Campbell Smith)

Planned Giving: Planned Giving is a weekly, fortnightly or monthly contribution to the first and/or second collection via cash, direct Debit or credit card. By contributing set amounts regularly you help the parish to forecast and budget its ongoing expenses. If you are new to Planned Giving and would like more information, please contact the Parish Office.

PLEASE NOTE: Existing Planned Giving arrangements have not changed. If you have established a regular deduction, that will continue. For information, Planned Giving account details for each Parish follow. These can be used to set up new regular deductions.

Canberra Central : A/C Name Canberra Central Parish
BSB: 062786 **A/C:** 000013150 **Ref:** Name & Giving Number

Blackfriars: A/C Name: Blackfriars Parish Watson
BSB: 062786 **A/C:** 000013341 **Ref:** Name & Giving Number

St Joseph's: A/C Name: St Joseph's Parish
BSB: 062 786 **A/C:** 000012798 Reference: Parish & Name

St Thomas More: A/C Name: St Thomas More Parish
BSB: 062786 **A/C:** 000014869 **Ref:** Campbell/Surname

*Man's way leads to a hopeless end
God's way leads to endless hope.*

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:

Sabina –Mary Coles, Mary Pavey, Anne Corver, Sue King, Barbara Wilson, Una Bell, Philip Bailey, Peter Catlin, Veronica Cornelly, Rosa Maria Santos, Gloria Sibley, Beth Delos Santos, Fr Ellis Clifford, June Pollard, Philip Cruz, Maureen Blood, Awny El-Ghitany, Pamela Sandy, Una Ford, Robin Lees, Elizabeth Webster, Ann Moran, Colleen Brackett (& friend Jackie), Brenda Curren, Joan Goodwin, Nadine Hartley, Gabriel Hengkiarto Indra, Mary O'Hanlon, Baby Remi Elliott, Tony Bandle, Clare Packer, Mahsa Raoofian, Christopher Douglas, Kahren, daughter of Joycelyn, Lyn Mowbray Lily Copeland, Neville Caulfield, Maggie McKeon, Alphonsa & Maria Bankovsky, Carmel Slammon, Carol - Jayne McManus

WEEKDAY MASSES

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
St Patrick's (Braddon)		12:30pm	12:30pm	12:30pm	12:30pm	
St Thomas More's (Campbell)					10:00am*	
St Brigid's (Dickson)			9:00am	9:00am		9:00am
St Joseph's (O'Connor)		9:15am	8:00am	9:15am	9:15am	8:30am
Holy Rosary (Watson)		5:30pm	5:30pm	5:30pm	5:30pm	
ACU-Signadou (Watson)			12:00noon**			

* During school term, as advised when Classes attend.

** First Wednesday of month during University Terms

SATURDAY VIGIL & SUNDAY MASSES

	Saturday Vigil Mass	Sunday Morning & Evening Masses				
		8:00am	8:30am	9:30am	10:00am	5:00pm
St Patrick's (Braddon)		8:00am			10:00am *	
St Thomas More's (Campbell)					10:00am	
St Brigid's (Dickson)	6:00pm			9:30am		5:00pm**
St Joseph's (O'Connor)	6:00pm		8:30am			
Holy Rosary (Watson)	5:00pm				10:00am	5:00pm
ACU-Signadou (Watson)						

* German Mass

** Vietnamese Mass (1st & 3rd Sundays)

ADORATION & SACRAMENTS

	Reconciliation
St Patrick's (Braddon)	12:00 noon Friday
St Brigid's (Dickson)	9:30am - 10:00am Saturday 5:30pm - 5:50pm Saturday
St Joseph's (O'Connor)	5:30pm - Saturday (during Holy Hour)
Holy Rosary (Watson)	4:00pm - 4:30pm Saturday
	Adoration of the Eucharist
St Brigid's (Dickson)	9:30am - 8:00pm Wednesday
St Joseph's (O'Connor)	8:15am - 9:15am Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
Holy Rosary (Watson)	6:00pm - 7:00pm Friday
	Pray the Rosary
St Brigid's (Dickson)	8:30am Tuesday to Saturday
St Joseph's (O'Connor)	After morning Mass Tuesday, Wed (Cenacle), Thursday, Friday
Holy Rosary (Watson)	Before 10:00am Mass, 1 st & 3 rd Sundays
	Anointing of the Sick
St Joseph's (O'Connor)	8:30am First Saturday of the month
St Thomas More (Campbell)	11:15am First Sunday of the month

PARISH BULLETIN - DEADLINE for notices is **3.00pm TUESDAY**
Ph: 0416 823 447 email: innernorth@cg.org.au