



PARISH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION, NORTH WODEN

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6-7 January 2024, The Epiphany of the Lord, Year B

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH WEEKDAY AND WEEKEND MASSES, LITURGY and RECONCILIATION TIMES:

Monday	9.30am Curtin
Tuesday	9.30am Curtin
Wednesday	9.30am Curtin (Lit of Word and H Comm)
Thursday	5.30pm Curtin
Friday	9.30am Curtin (including Anointing on First Friday)
Saturday	Reconciliation 5.00-5.30pm; Mass 6.00pm Curtin
Sunday	9.30am and 5.30pm Curtin

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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.

MAY THE DECEASED REST IN PEACE AND RISE IN EASTER GLORY

Recently Deceased: Iranian bomb victims, Japanese earthquake victims, Paul Hickey, Robert De Groot, Rev Rex Davis, Lyn Granlund, Shooting victims of Prague, Bernard Davis, Troy Dargan, Marlene Perkins, Carl Webb, Susie Coles, Kevin Wellspring, Adam Suckling, Wolfgang Hoeful, Sr M Barbara Fogarty, rsj, Hennie Timmerman, Kathleen Stewart, Seamus O’Kane, Josefa Pivar Sullivan, Patricia Belden, Michael Morrisroe, Kathryn Keane, Victims of Israel-Palestine war, shooting victims of Maine, USA, Rob Docker, Frank Boyle, Libby Roberts, Peggy Denny, Peter Hewitt, Mary McNamara, Denise Lynch, victims of war in Ukraine and victims of COVID.

Anniversaries of Death: Kevin Wilson, Brian Brown, Frank Williams, Jim Molan, Desmond Lilley, Joanne Binutti, Dave Powers, Judith Whittaker, Christopher Perkins, John Holtzapffel, Sharon Woods, Peter Majer, Peter Marlow, Mary Huang, Adam Ryan, Oreste Trinca, Gaetano & Diomina De Simone, Frank Smith, Josh McKinnon, Vincent Huang, Jerome Woods, Anne Taylor, Giovanni Mammoliti, Melanie Swan, Marc Kelaart, Pat & Jack Ryan, Gerard Smith, Paul Murphy, Charlie Morella, Marjory Swan, Brian Kain, and victims of COVID.

MAY THE SICK BE COMFORTED BY OUR PRAYERS

Jeannette Clarke, Elizabeth Pukl, Steve Bray, Denise Gregory, Anthony Watt, Lorraine Davis, Greg Nash, John Warren, Lily Lim, Donald Stott, Genoveffa and Anco Ceccarelli, Bruno Sinuelli, John Woodward, Maria Gallo, Maureen Adam, Bill Grant, Tom Brewer, George Toth, Kathleen Belfanti, Jack Kennelly, Susie Menadue, Ljubica Gotovac, Jose Arquero, Olga Johnson, Patricia Zorzi, Wendy Altimore, Iole Cicolini, Carolyn Wightman, Greg Geering and those afflicted with COVID.

EPIPHANY OF THE ONE BORN IN BETHLEHEM

Mindful of the fact that Joseph knows that he is not the father of Jesus, Matthew sets out to “give an honourable public appearance to the potentially embarrassing circumstances of Jesus’ conception” (John J Pilch). The night sky has occasioned wonder and awe for millennia. Pacific Islanders learned to navigate by the stars alone. There is a beauty and order in the natural world which has been referred to as ‘the fingerprint of God’. **The origin of the story of the so-called wise men is lost but the perennial religious truth is the revelation of the status of Jesus by virtue of the deferential visit and gifts of those seen to be representative of the best of human wisdom.** And so, while the numbering of three magi is custom, as are their names - Caspar, Melchior, and Bathasar - there is an encouraged devotional practice founded in the magi’s attributed names, which in Latin can be written in chalk over one’s household door as *Christus Mansionem Benedicat* or ‘May Christ Bless this Abode’. **Our Orthodox brothers and sisters celebrate**

Christmas today. As an aside, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church celebrated Christmas on 25 December to distance itself from the pro-Putin Russian Orthodox Church. **The symbolism in our First Reading (Isa 60:1-6) is most apt as Isaiah portrays the nations bringing their gifts to Jerusalem, the highly elevated city reflecting the dawn light, “a magnificent light identified with the “glory of the Lord”” (Brendan Byrne).** We note that the magi, more likely political advisers in the east than astrologers as commonly understood, were drawn to follow ‘the star’, which “led them to the guardians of the divine word which confirmed and completed the star’s message” (Joe Rheinberger). However, Herod, advised by the religious authorities that the “infant king of the Jews” will be born in Bethlehem, feels threatened and asks to see the magi ‘privately’. “In the Middle East and in all societies in which honour is the core value, privacy is a threat to honour . . . Anyone who acts secretly has something to hide and is therefore automatically considered to be dishonest, shameful. Herod’s secret inquiry immediately tags him as acting shamefully” (John J Pilch). **Unlike the dishonourable and weak Herod, we are called to draw on the best of human wisdom and biblical prophecy. “We too walk in the footsteps of the wise men [women], sharing their longing, their faith, and the joy of discovery, and bringing our own gifts to the Lord” (Byrne).** Fr John

ARCHBISHOP CHRISTOPHER’S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE is available at the exits.

ARCHBISHOP’S CHRISTMAS APPEAL: Thank you for your support of the same. The generosity of parishioners across the archdiocese will support the needy in refugee camps adjacent to Ukraine, Afghanistan, Syria, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia and Myanmar through the ecumenical Christmas Bowl, as well as the Ukrainian Catholic Church, students at Bethlehem University, church outreach to the poor in India, church projects in the Diocese of Otukpo, Nigeria, and health provision in the Solomon Islands.

THE PARISH ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE thanks you for your donations of food items which along with contributions from our parish schools allowed them to distribute Christmas hampers to grateful local folk. Thanks to members of our parish conference which works year round. Inquiries re membership can be directed to Tony, 6285 2828.

AN INTRODUCTORY CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION (CPE) course is being offered via Zoom in January/February 2024. This 40-hour course will comprise 6 sessions, 9am to 3.30pm, commencing Mon 29, and thereafter on Tues 30, Wed 31 January, then Mon 5, Tues 6 and Mon 12 February. Applications close Thurs, 25 January 25. For info contact Barbara Hall at barbarahall1909@gmail.com or phone: 0418 413 731. Brochures at the exits.

CATHOLIC MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS are invited to join the **Raphael Network**, which blends psychology with Christian anthropology and Catholic teaching. Enjoy online talks, an annual retreat, and peer support on this hub for holistic well-being, referrals, and resources. More information at www.raphaelnetwork.org.au

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY REFLECTION by Vatican Correspondent Austen Ivereigh available at the exits.

EUTHANASIA: The Australian Bishops have released a document, *‘To Witness and to Accompany with Christian Hope’* to assist those journeying with folk considering voluntary assisted dying. Copies available at the exits.

THE CANBERRA OFFICE OF THE MARRIAGE TRIBUNAL invites any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process to make contact on **6239 9813** or tribunal@cg.org.au

2024 Columban Art Calendars available from the Parish Office. Cost \$10.00

MEDITATION GROUP: 6pm, Wednesdays. All welcome. Contact Vikki, 0437 876 487, mulvaney@netspeed.com.au.

PRAYER CIRCLE SUPPORT: Cathy Harris, 6281 2574.

Readings for next Sunday: The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B, 1 Sam 3:3-10, 19; 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

LITURGICAL ROSTERS NEXT WEEK: 13-14 January 2024			
<i>2nd Sun of the month</i>	Curtin Sat. 6 pm	Curtin Sun. 9.30 am	Curtin Sun. 6 pm -
Acolyte	Dan McKay	Anthony De Salis	Mark Murphy
Reader	Margaret Ryan	Bianca D’Rosario	Mark Murphy
Commentator	Rachel Smith	Bob Perkins	
Welcomer	Gerard Hogan	Ted and Margaret Frawley	
Ministers of Comm.	Alex Evers	Mary Henry	John Welsby
Communion to Sick	Warr: John Evers	FWG: Margaret Ryan	Homes: Jenny & Brendan Ryan
Counters	<i>15 Jan .</i> John Evers		
Wednesday Liturgy	<i>17 Jan.</i> Prayer Leader: Sr Frances, Sr Angela	Eucharistic Minister: Christine McLaughlin	