



**The Parish of St Matthew's North Fawkner**  
 Archdiocese of Melbourne, 95 William Street, North Fawkner, 3060  
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 School Principal: Bob Brown 9359 5423  
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### The Epiphany of the Lord – January 3, 2021 Year A



#### Significance of Epiphany in the Church

As with most aspects of the Christian liturgical calendar, Epiphany has theological significance as a teaching tool in the church. The Wise Men or Magi who brought gifts to the child Jesus were the first Gentiles to acknowledge Jesus as "King" and so were the first to "show" or "reveal" Jesus to a wider world as the incarnate Christ. This act of worship by the Magi, which corresponded to Simeon's blessing that

this child Jesus would be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles" (Luke 2:32), was one of the first indications that Jesus came for all people, of all nations, of all races, and that the work of God in the world would not be limited to only a few. The day is now observed as a time of focusing on the mission of the church in reaching others by "showing" Jesus as the Savior of all people. It is also a time of focusing on Christian community and fellowship, especially in healing the divisions of prejudice and bigotry that we all too often create between God's children.

#### Symbols of Epiphany

The colors of Epiphany are usually the colors of Christmas, white and gold, the colors of celebration, newness, and hope that mark the most sacred days of the church year. In traditions that only observe a single day for Epiphany, the colors are often changed after Epiphany to the colors of Ordinary Time. Usually green or thematic sanctuary colors, until Transfiguration Sunday, the last Sunday before the beginning of Lent. The colors for Transfiguration Sunday are usually the colors of Holy Days, white and gold. The traditional liturgical symbols of Epiphany are usually associated with the Magi. The symbols include either three crowns or a single crown, various portrayals of the Magi or Wise Men, three gifts, a five pointed star, or a combination of a star and crown. A more modern symbol of Epiphany is a globe or a stylized portrayal of the world. (*The Voice*)

**The sick in our parish:** Teresa & Con Lamonaca, Nola, Judiel Teodoro, John Markis, Kathy Romanow, Wladyslaw Stopa, Rosa Latanzio, Leanne Branchflower, Carmela Bovezza, Giovanna Gamberale, Elda Taranto, Maurizio Pierazzi, Vanessa Borg **Recently deceased:** Frank Cichello, Paolo Cannata, Sabato Leone, Jason Howard, Ligaya Chin, Leonor Gellel, Victor Fuentes Pison

#### We pray for all those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

Paola Cutello, Santo Fileccia, Gaetano Montalti, Giuseppina Oliva, Domenico Oliva, Maria Concetta Raco, Maria Indomenico, Filippo Lazzaro, Maria Cacic, Domenico Malivindi, Bellina Butera, Peppino Butera, Concetta Malivindi, Jozef Tonc, Family Tonc, Family Sevnik, Fortunato Renda, Carmela Muraca, Santo Butera, Francesca Mete, Antonio Mete, Fiore Mete, Pietro Mete, Concetta Mete, Giuseppe, Salvatore, Rosaria Cunsolo, Santo & Sebastiana Tine, Domenico, Giovanna, Domenic Greto

#### Confessions

Confessions are now available by appointment at the Parish on Saturday nights—before the Vigil Mass (5.30 pm). Please contact the Parish Centre on 93592369

#### Prayers for intentions

Parishioners wishing to have prayers for loved ones at Sunday masses should leave an envelope with the details of your intentions (recently deceased, sick, or, anniversaries). The envelopes should be placed in the letterbox outside the presbytery by Thursday afternoon.

#### Volunteers needed

- BUS (VAN) DRIVERS: to pick up elderly parishioners for the Saturday (Vigil) 6.00 pm and the Sunday mass (Italian) 10.30 am. Once every 3 weeks.
- ALTAR & Sanctuary: Flower arrangement & general cleaning (training will be provided). Once per month.
- Church cleaning: Vacuuming, mopping the entrance & cleaning the entrance doors. Once per month
- Gardening: Tidying & weeding.
- Lectors: Reading and Special ministers. Once per month. (training will be provided)