

# St Francis Xavier and St Clare

The Epiphany of the Lord ~ Year B ~ 8 January 2012

## From the prophet Isaiah

Is 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 your 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.

## Psalm (All) Ps 71:1-2.7-8.10-13

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.

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.

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.

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.

## From the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Eph 3:2-3.5-6

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel. The word of the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation (All)

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

## From the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Mt 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.

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

**Acclamation** When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

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

**PARISH OF ST FRANCIS XAVIER**

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**FRIARS OF THE PARISHES**

**PARISH PRIEST**  
FR PETER McGRATH OFM

**ASSISTANT PRIESTS**  
FR BOB MATTHEWS OFM  
FR PETER TRAN OFM

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE**  
SR MOIRA BRODERICK CSB

**SFX Parish Office Hours:**  
9.30 am to 4.30 pm  
Monday, Wed, Thurs, Friday  
Parish Secretary— Monique Waring

**St Clare's Parish Office Hours:**  
Wednesday & Friday  
9.00 am—10.30 am  
Parish Secretary—Dianna Hardy

**LITURGY TIMES**  
(FROM 1ST OCTOBER 2011 UNTIL  
COMPLETION OF REFURBISHMENT OF SFX  
CHURCH)

**St Clare's**  
Sunday 9.30 am  
Wed, Fri & Sat 9.00 am  
Confessions: Sat 9.30—10 am

**St Francis Xavier's**  
Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm

Sunday  
(Italian) 11.30 am  
5.00 pm  
Mon—Fri 12 noon  
Confessions: Sat 4.00—5.00 pm

**MARRIAGES**

Bookings can be made with SFX Parish Office for each Parish, and celebrated in the church requested. This is to avoid double bookings.

**BAPTISMS**

(FROM 1ST OCTOBER 2011 UNTIL  
COMPLETION OF REFURBISHMENT OF SFX  
CHURCH)

Anyone wishing to have a child baptised should give four to six weeks notice, so that parents can attend a preparation course.

St Clare's—1st & 3rd Sundays only,  
11.00 am

**Please note that Parish Office Staff are on leave until Wednesday 18th January 2012 & the office will be closed until that time.**

**Urgent messages only may be left on the answering machine & one of the friars will respond if and when they are able.**

**CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**

Next month we begin our 2012 Stewardship Program. Christian Stewardship is the realisation that everything we have & everything that we are is a gift from God, held in trust by us, to be used to praise God & serve our neighbour & to be returned with increase to the Lord. Please get involved in the program & please pray for its success.

**Month of January - 2012**

- Weekdays: Daily Midday Mass SFX/Monday-Friday
- No 9am Mass at St Clare's on Wednesday & Friday
- Weekends: 9am Saturday Mass with Holy Hour and Confessions as usual at St Clare's.
- Saturday: 6pm SFX, Sunday: 9.30am SC, 5pm SFX

**Lunar New Year Celebration for the Parish will be on Saturday January 28th 2012, with Mass at 6pm (normal weekend time) at ST CLARE'S CHURCH (no Mass at SFX that night), followed by a celebratory meal in St Clare's Hall. Details to follow.**



**ROSTERS**

**DURING THE DECEMBER/JANUARY BREAK, EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION & MINISTERS OF THE WORD ARE REQUESTED TO VOLUNTEER AT MASSES AS REQUIRED.**

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER**

**Altar Linen**  
January 8 L Chin  
January 15 R Meyers

**Rosary Statue**  
Month of Jan—N Guinane, 65 Mersey St

**ITALIAN MASS**

**Commentator**  
January 8 R Bidinost  
January 15 J Adamo

**Lettori**  
January 8 N Amato, R Bidinost  
January 15 N Pozzobon, A D'Alessandro

**Ministri dell'Eucarista**  
January 8 R Bidinost, G Tabacchiera  
January 15 M Salamone, M Casamento

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

*"They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh..."*

- Matthew 2:11

Notice the distinct order of events in the Magi's visit. First they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we presume to present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what gifts God might be asking us to share. But when we kneel before Him in prayer we will find the answer.

The **AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB** will not be meeting again regularly until February 2, 2012; however, we plan to get together on Thursday, January 12 for lunch, at Box Hill RSL. We will meet after the noon mass; there will be transport for anyone who needs it. Please let Judy know if you will be coming.

All parishioners, members of the Whitehorse Community and their friends are welcome at our activities. Information - Judy - 9878 4212.

**DONATIONS OF TOYS AND CHILDREN'S CLOTHING**

needed for Samata Sarana, Kindigoda, Sri Lanka. Samata Sarana feeds over 500 people a day, runs a day care centre for single parents, a school for over 300 plus children who also receive breakfast and lunch, a day centre for the elderly who are also fed and sent home with dinner packets. **Please contact: Michelle on 9898 7021.**

**PRAYER CHAIR**

*The need for regular prayer, both private and liturgical, in our day to day lives was a major emphasis of Pope Benedict's words at WYD08. To carry this forward, you might like to take home one of the yellow sheets at the back of the church, choose a favourite chair at home as your prayer-chair and place the sheet within easy reach of it. Slide into it from time to time during the coming week, take up this sheet and aided by the reflections think over again the words of the Gospel this week.*