



This Monday 9th January, heralds the end of our Christmas season and the beginning of Ordinary time, with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This event marks for us the end of Jesus' hidden life and the beginning of his public ministry on earth.

Feast of The Baptism of the Lord

It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

~Mark 1:9-11

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is a liturgical bridge that connects the Christmas season to Ordinary Time. During the Christmas season we pondered the Incarnation, Nativity, Presentation in the Temple, and Epiphany. Today, we see Jesus manifesting Himself to the world as He began His three years of public ministry.

Jesus begins His ministry through an act of deep solidarity with the fallen human race. John the Baptist had been preaching in the desert and offering a baptism of repentance. John's baptism was not the same as our baptism today. Instead, it was only a sign of one's willingness to turn away from sin and turn toward God. Jesus, of course, had nothing to repent of. He was sinless in every way. But that didn't stop Him from freely choosing to receive the baptism of repentance. Why would He do that?

Simply put, Jesus chose to unite Himself with fallen humanity, taking upon Himself our own sins and suffering their consequences. He humbly allowed Himself to be identified as a sinner in need of repentance. This was done out of love for us and out of His longing to become one with us so that we could become one with Him.

By bowing His sacred head to receive the baptism of repentance, Jesus united Himself and His divinity to everyone who had already chosen to repent. And He gave power to every forthcoming act of repentance others would make, even until today. When we repent today, we meet Jesus in that same water of repentance.

It was not only the Eternal Son Who was present at that baptism of repentance, but the Father and the Holy Spirit as well. The Spirit descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove, and the Father's Voice spoke to acknowledge His oneness with His Son. Therefore, every time we make a humble act of repentance, such as when we combine the crucifixion, the Trinity, and holy water upon entering a church and blessing ourselves, we not only meet our Lord but also receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and share more fully in our adoption as sons and daughters of the Father in Heaven.

As we commemorate Jesus' baptism liturgically, we celebrate the fact that our Christian baptism was the beginning of this new unity with the Holy Trinity. But we also celebrate our oneness with God, which is renewed every time we make an interior act of repentance for our sins. If we fully understood what happens every time we acknowledge our sins and repent of them, we would never grow tired of repenting. Every time we acknowledge and repent of our sin, we meet Christ anew, receive a greater outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and affirm and deepen our adoption by the Father in Heaven.

Liturgical Facts!

This weekend as we celebrate two wonderful events in the liturgical year of the church, you may be wondering what is the difference between a Solemnity, a Feast and memorials? **Solemnities** are celebrations of the greatest importance in the Church. They often begin the night before with vespers (evening prayers) and may even have their own Vigil Mass. The Gloria and Creed are recited. Holy Days of Obligation are always considered Solemnities. Christmas, Epiphany, Easter (the Easter Octaves including Divine Mercy Sunday), Pentecost, Holy Trinity, Ascension, Corpus Christi, Sacred Heart, Christ the King as well as the Immaculate Conception, the Assumption, the Annunciation and Mary, Mother of God. Some saints also are acknowledged with a solemnity: St. Joseph, the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, Sts. Peter and Paul and All Saints Day. **Feasts** are next in line of importance, and do not have vespers or Vigil Masses (with a couple of exceptions). The Gloria is recited but the creed is not required. The Baptism of the Lord, the Conversion of St. Paul, the Transfiguration, the Visitation, the Presentation of the Lord, the Holy Family, the Birth of Mary, the Dedication of the Basilica of St. John Lateran in Rome, the Holy Innocents, the Triumph of the Holy Cross, and the Chair of Peter are examples. Finally, **Memorials** commemorate the lives of the saints. The Gloria is not recited on these days, and most are optionally observed, however some can be obligatory. The term **Ordinary Time** comes from the Latin word, "ordo" meaning "order", and represents the ordered life of the Church, where we wait in joyful hope, neither in feasting or in more severe penance, for the second coming of Christ.



A Baptismal Prayer

Lord, I thank You for Your humble act of baptism by which You opened the Heavens to all who are sinners. May I open my heart to the unfathomable grace of my own baptism each and every day and more fully live with You as a child of the Father, filled with the Holy Spirit.

Jesus, I trust in You.

Amen

2023 My Catholic Life! Inc.

In Memoriam

Farewell to Benedict XVI: 'Humble worker in the vineyard of the Lord' by Vatican News.

The 95-year-old Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI returned to the Father's House on Saturday 31st December 2022 at 9:34 AM in his residence at the Vatican's Mater Ecclesiae Monastery. The 95-year-old Pope emeritus had chosen the Monastery as his residence after resigning from the Petrine ministry in 2013. He will be remembered with gratitude for his service to the Catholic Church, as a theologian and pope. May he rest in the peace and loving arms of Christ.



Please also remember the late **Fr Peter Fountain** whose Funeral Mass will take place on Friday, 13 January, 2023 commencing at 1.30 pm at St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Adelaide. Immediately following Mass, the Committal Service will take place at Centennial Park, Catholic D Section, 760 Goodwood Road, Pasadena. The Funeral Mass will be available by livestream as well, please use the link provided at www.siebert.com.au

Quote of the week

Know that God will never abandon you. Turn your eyes to him often. He gave his life for you on the cross because he loves you.

Pope Benedict xvi



WELCOME TO SACRED HEART PARISH

HINDMARSH-FINDON

Website: www.sacredheartparishhindmarsh.com.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sacredheartfindonparish

IN THE CHARISM OF THE HEART OF CHRIST

'May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved'



PARISH VISION STATEMENT

As a people who believe and trust in the love of God for us, revealed in the heart of Jesus, we live out this love in a welcoming and inclusive community that provides life-giving support and service to all people.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR MASS

◇ Tuesday	10 Jan	12:15 pm	Mass at Sacred Heart Church (SHC) Hindmarsh
◇ Wednesday	11 Jan	6:00 pm	Mass and Adoration at Our Lady of the Manger Church, (OLM) Findon
◇ Friday	13 Jan	9:15 am	Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church, (OLM) Findon
◇ Saturday	14 Jan	6:00pm	Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church, (OLM) Findon
◇ Sunday	15 Jan	9:00am	Mass at Sacred Heart Church, (SHC) Hindmarsh
◇ Sunday	15 Jan	11:00am	Italian Mass at Sacred Heart Church, (SHC) Hindmarsh
◇ Sunday	15 Jan	11:00am	Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church, (OLM) Findon
◇ Sunday	15 Jan	5:00pm	Latin Mass at Sacred Heart Church, (SHC) Hindmarsh

Solemnity of the Epiphany

Year A

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Today's Readings:

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Ps 71: 1-2, 7-8, 10-13

Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6

Matthew 2: 1-12

Mass Intentions

6.00pm Vigil

Parish

9.00am SHC

Aniello Ferraro

11:00am OLM

Erlinda Tabor

Mass for the Sick (Michelle D'Souza)

OUR CHURCHES

Sacred Heart Church (SHC)

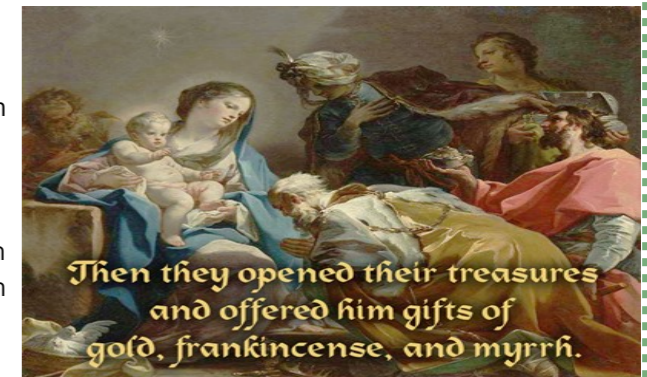
252 Port Road, Hindmarsh

Our Lady of the Manger (OLM)

176 Crittenden Road, Findon

A Note of Gratitude....

I am delighted and gladdened by the warm welcome that I have received from the Parish Priest Fr. Lancy D'Silva, CSC, and you all lovely parishioners & all well-wishers. I wish to express my appreciation for your sincere gesture of accepting me in this Parish. May God help me to serve in this parish. Thank you for your prayers also.



Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Solemnity of the Epiphany

EPIPHANY- a Greek word, means 'revelation or manifestation'. It is also marked by the visit of three wise-men/magi/three kings (Melchior, Caspar & Balthazar) to new-born Jesus. God reveals the birth of His Son Jesus to these wise men also. They came to adore the Lord with gifts of Gold, frankincense & myrrh what we consider as the precious & valuable ones. They offered these gifts to the Most Precious & the Most valuable son of God, as if he was in need of those! Probably yes, because Mary, Joseph & Jesus had to live their earthly life at Nazareth following the Jewish traditions & laws. The visit of three wise men to the new-born Prince of Peace; King of the universe; the mighty God; wonder counselor; Eternal Father was indeed a humbling experience for them when they found the Son of God laying in a manger in a simple poor shed where they didn't probably have lockers to keep Gold, Frankincense & Myrrh! The most precious God just had sufficient place to lay on the bosom of Mary – the first 'Altar' and had enough days of nurturing in the womb of Mary- the first 'Tabernacle'. No wonder why they had to visit, adore and honor the new born King! We certainly are privileged to sing 'Oh Come all Ye faithful...Come let us adore the Lord, who continues to reveal to us provided we have deep faith in Him. I wish everyone a happy feast of Epiphany.

May God bless all of us. **Fr Santosh Nazareth CSC**

PARISH OFFICE | PHONE 08 846 901

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday | 10:00am–2:00pm
Please Note: If the office is unattended, please leave a message and we will return your call ASAP
29 Grange Rd., West Hindmarsh | Mailing address: PO Box 34, Welland 5007

Email: shparish@shphf.com.au

Parish Priest - Father Lancy D'Silva CSC

January 2023

07 Jan Solemnity of the Epiphany
6pm Mass at OLM Findon (Vigil)

08 Jan
9am Mass at SHC Hindmarsh
11am Italian Mass at SHC Hindmarsh
11 am Mass at OLM Findon

09 Jan Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
10 Jan Tuesday in the 1st Week of Ordinary Time
13 Jan St Hilary, bishop and Doctor of the Church
15 Jan 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
17 Jan St Anthony, abbot
20 Jan St Fabian, pope and martyr, St Sebastian martyr
21 Jan St Agnes, virgin and martyr
22 Jan 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
23 Jan St Timothy and St Titus, bishops
24 Jan St Francis de Sales, bishop and doctor of the Church
25 Jan Feast of The conversion of St Paul, Apostle
26 Jan Australia Day Public Holiday
27 Jan Saint Angela Merici, virgin
28 Jan St Thomas Aquinas, priest and doctor of the Church
29 Jan 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
31 Jan St John Bosco, priest



February 2023

02 Feb Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
St Eufemia Tridium of Masses at 7pm SHC Hindmarsh

02-04 Feb St Eufemia Festa 10:30am Flinders Park Football Club

05 Feb 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Saint Paul Miki and companions, martyrs
10 Feb Saint Scholastica, virgin
12 Feb 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
St Cyril, monk and Saint Methodius, bishop
14 Feb 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
19 Feb Ash Wednesday
22 Feb 1st Sunday of Lent
26 Feb



March 2023

05 Mar 2nd Sunday of Lent
12 Mar 3rd Sunday of Lent
17 Mar Feast of St Patrick, Bishop
19 Mar 4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare)

From the Archdiocese

Damascus Spiritual Leaders Program Part-time in Feb-Nov 2023 - either in person or online - through Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Designed for people in various positions of leadership, spiritual formation and parish or outreach ministries. It will equip individuals to lead with integrity, vulnerability and resilience, and will focus on the inner spiritual journey in order to create fully-formed leaders who listen, learn and accompany others with strength and sensitivity. 'Damascus' can be studied as a Graduate Certificate in Divinity through the University of Divinity (Yarra Theological Union/Catholic Theological College), or as an audit student to receive a Certificate in Spiritual Leadership from Heart of Life. Attendance on Monday mornings and some Saturdays. Read more about the program on the [Heart of Life website](#) or contact us on (03) 9890 1101.

The Southern Cross - No January Edition As usual, there will be no edition of *The Southern Cross* published in January. Our first issue for 2023 will be available in parishes on the weekend of February 4/5 and online from February 6.

Synodality and Mission: Sr Nathalie Becquart in Adelaide
February 1, 2023, Grange Golf Course 5:30pm (dinner);
6:30-8:30pm Program

Sr Nathalie Becquart is the Undersecretary for the General Synod in the Vatican which is responsible for the organisation of the 2023-24 Global Synod on Synodality. Sr Nathalie will be in Adelaide on Feb 1, 2023, as part of a visit to Australia. All are invited to the Sr Nathalie's presentation on synodality and mission: Grange Golf Course. RSVP & register www.trybooking.com/CEUOA by January 27, 2023.

Parish Fundraising Committee



It's the start of a brand new year and time to start something good! Are you interested in helping your community? Everyone is invited and welcome to join the Parish Fundraising Committee. If you can spare a couple of hours once a month to help plan and raise funds towards our much needed Community Centre, please contact Sandra Bahlij 0402894613 with your email address or sms. Thank you to those who have volunteered already. Please help us to support this worthy cause! We need you!

The Youth of Today!

These wonderful Youth spared 1 and 1/2 hours to help usher cars into the carpark at Sacred Heart Church to raise funds for our much needed Community Centre. Standing in front of the Youth Centre at Hindmarsh are Father Santhosh, Joseph, Brandon, Father Lancy, Ryan, Attilio and Jane. Thank you also to Kath and Gilmore who helped out last week too and for braving the heat and giving up your time to help this most worthy cause. We appreciate you all and your help so much!



Can you Help with Carparking during Soccer Matches ?

Do you have an hour on your hands on **Saturday 14th January?** The next big Soccer Match at Coopers Stadium Hindmarsh is between Adelaide United and Melbourne Victory. Match begins at 7:15pm. If you can spare **an hour before** the match begins by helping to usher cars into the Sacred Heart Church carpark and collecting money, that would be very much appreciated. **No need to stay for the whole match!** Funds raised go towards the building of our much needed Community Centre. Please contact **Sandra Bahlij** if you are able to assist 0402894613. Thank you!



Mass & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Please note that there will be **no 6:30pm Mass and Adoration** at SHC Hindmarsh, during the month of **January**.



St Eufemia Society Festa

The St Eufemia Tridium of Masses will begin on the 2nd of February 2023. Masses will run each evening, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Feb from 7pm at SHC Hindmarsh. The St Eufemia Festa will be held on February 5th 2023 at Flinders Park Football Club, Hartley Road, beginning with a Procession from 10:30am and concluding at 9pm. **All are welcome!**



"Like the Magi, let us lift up our eyes, listen to the desire lodged in our hearts, and follow the star that God makes shine above us. As restless seekers, let us remain open to God's surprises. Let us dream, let us seek and let us adore." *Ppe Francis*

Solemnity of the Epiphany

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

~Matthew 2:10-11

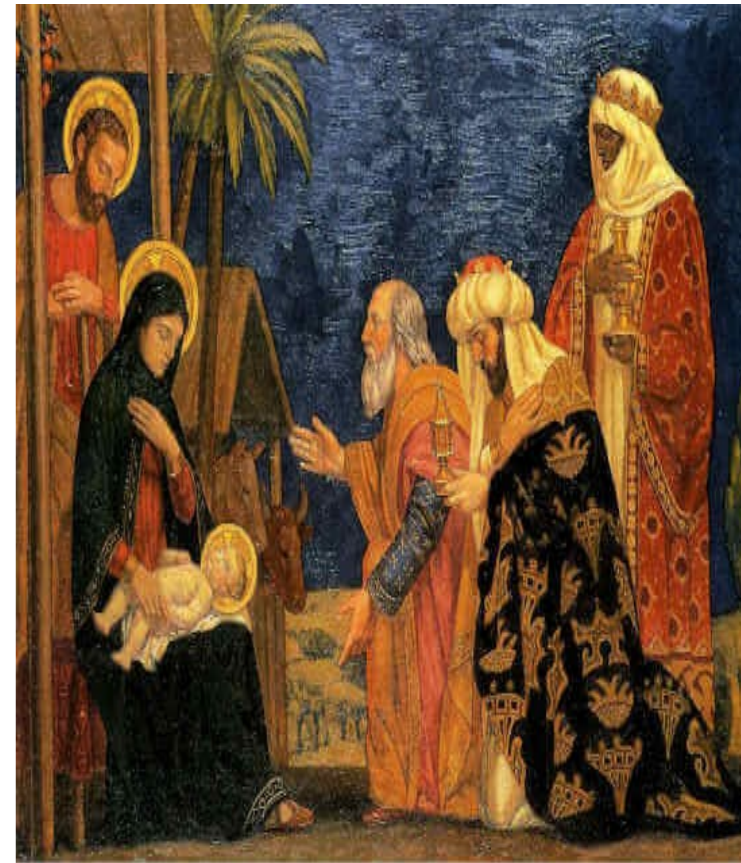
All of God's creation gives Him glory and praises Him by its very existence. Psalm 143 states, "Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all shining stars. Praise him, highest heavens, you waters above the heavens. Let them all praise the LORD's name; for he commanded and they were created..." Though creation gives praise to God simply by existing and thus, revealing its Creator, today's solemnity commemorates the one moment in time when God used a star to manifest His eternal glory.

At the time of Jesus' birth, it was commonly believed that a new star would appear whenever a new ruler was born. The Father in Heaven used this belief to honor His Son Who was born as the new King. The three Magi from the East were astrologers. When they saw this "new star," they chose to follow it to discover the new King. Creation itself, in the form of a star, pointed the way, thus giving glory to the newborn King, manifesting Him to the whole world as symbolized by the Magi.

The word "Epiphany" means "manifestation." Therefore, as we honor this moment in time when the Christ Child was made manifest to the world, we need to look into our own hearts. There, we discover Christ's ongoing manifestation to us so that we can worship Him Who has also chosen to be born within our hearts. We must diligently seek out that manifestation of God within us and respond to it in the same ways that the Magi responded.

First of all, the Magi were determined. When they saw a sign from the heavens that pointed to a new King, they stopped everything and departed in haste to find Him. When God speaks to you and manifests Himself to you in some way, nothing could be more important than to be attentive to His voice and follow His manifestation with the same haste.

The Magi brought the Christ Child gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. God was honored and glorified through His creation by the giving of these gifts. God created gold to manifest His beauty and dignity. It was a gift that symbolized kingship. When we ponder the natural gift of gold given to the Christ Child, we are inspired to give Him our own gift of symbolic gold by prayerfully acknowledging Him as our own King to whom we pledge our complete submission. Made from the sap of trees found in India, northeastern Africa, and the Arabian peninsula, frankincense and myrrh are also fruits of God's creation. Used in worship to symbolize prayers rising to heaven, frankincense symbolizes the Christ Child's divinity. We offer frankincense to Christ when we acknowledge His divine nature, since He is God in the flesh. Often used in burial, myrrh honors the Christ Child Who came to give His life as a sacrifice for many. We offer myrrh to profess our belief in the saving power of Christ's death on the Cross and our need for that gift of salvation. As we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany, try to see it as a historical event in which you are invited to share. God wants to manifest Himself to you today. When this happens, respond with faith and worship, giving God the greatest glory by giving Him your very life and offering Him your spiritual gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.



An Epiphany Prayer

Most glorious Christ Child, the Father in Heaven honored Your birth by placing a star over the place where you lay. Through that new star, Your divine presence was made manifest to the world in the Magi who responded with faith and worship. Please manifest Yourself to me within my own soul where You wish to be born, and give me the love and zeal I need to follow the example of the Magi, offering You my own gifts in adoration and trust. Jesus, I trust in You.

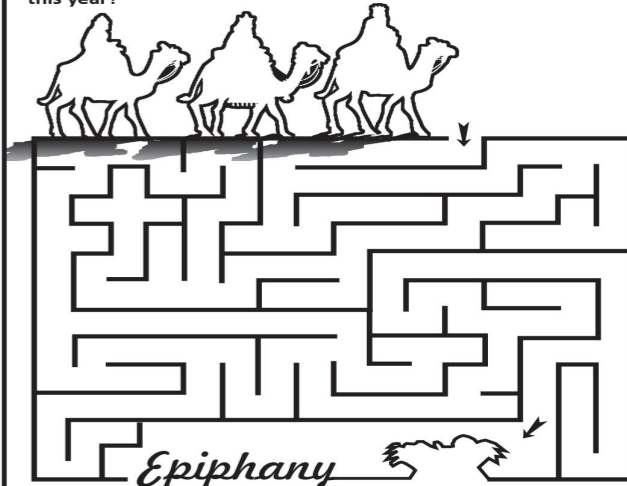
Amen.

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Epiphany, Mt 2:1-12

Three wise men were searching for Jesus. They traveled from very far away to meet him. They followed a star and finally found him in Bethlehem. They adored him and gave him special gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. **What gift would you like to give to Jesus this year?**



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