

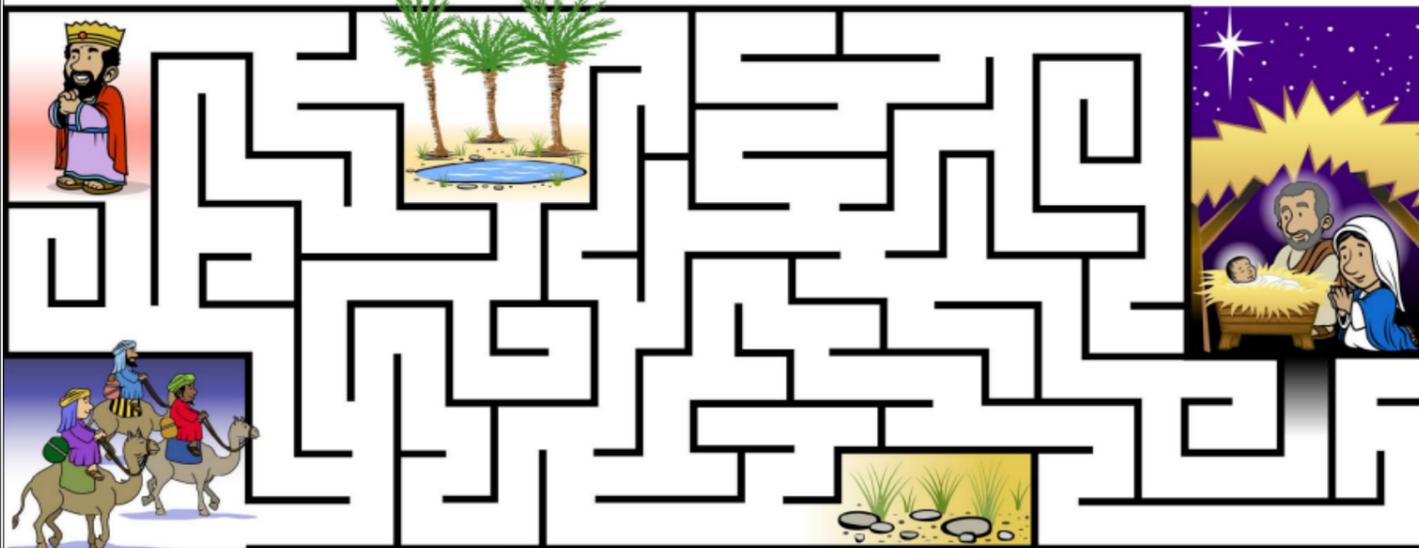
Wise men came from the East

The Epiphany of the Lord



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Help the wise men find their way to Bethlehem - watch out for King Herod!



The wise men had to search for Jesus. Where are some of the places we can find Jesus in our world today?



SAINT OF THE WEEK: SAINT HILARY OF POITIERS 13 JANUARY

This staunch defender of the divinity of Christ was a gentle and courteous man, devoted to writing some of the greatest theology on the Trinity, and was like his Master in being labeled a "disturber of the peace." In a very troubled period in the Church, his holiness was lived out in both scholarship and controversy. He was bishop of Poitiers in France.

Raised a pagan, he was converted to Christianity when he met his God of nature in the Scriptures. His wife was still living when he was chosen, against his will, to be the bishop of Poitiers in France. He was soon taken up with battling what became the scourge of the fourth century, Arianism, which denied the divinity of Christ.

The heresy spread rapidly. Saint Jerome said "The world groaned and marveled to find that it was Arian." When Emperor Constantius ordered all the bishops of the West to sign a condemnation of Athanasius, the great defender of the faith in the East, Hilary refused and was banished from France to far off Phrygia. Eventually he was called the "Athanasius of the West."

While writing in exile, he was invited by some semi-Arians (hoping for reconciliation) to a council the emperor called to counteract the Council of Nicea. But Hilary predictably defended the Church, and when he sought public debate with the heretical bishop who had exiled him, the Arians, dreading the meeting and its outcome, pleaded with the emperor to send this troublemaker back home. Hilary was welcomed by his people.

Source: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/>

LOL PARISH MINISTRIES & COORDINATORS

Liturgy: Y. Fenech & S. Sta. Maria
Baptism Prep: R. Vail & M. Mardy
Sacramental Prep: M. Alphonso, M. Mardy, A. Tilley
Children Liturgy: M. Alphonso
Eucharistic Ministers: E. Kinnear
Proclaimers: Y. Fenech
Prayer & Friendship Group: Y. Fenech (Wed)
Safeguarding: M. Anderson
Care & Support Group: A. Tilley

Home Visits & Holy Com.: A. Tilley
Liturgy Rosters: D. Lim
Our Lady of Fatima Visit: V. Measki
Narthex Coord. & Altar Linen: B. Pascoe
Counting & Banking: B. Dempsey
Parish Choirs: M. Dennis /Fons; S. Fernandes; Praveen; Galangs
Craft Grp: B. Pascoe & M. McKiterick (Thurs)
SVDP Society: For Help Call 1300 305 330

Altar Servers: S. Rajan
Piety Stall: M. Lisle
Library: A. Tilley
Cuppa: B. Pascoe & M. McKiterick
Art, Garden & Environment: V. Measki
Event Management: W. Singh
Parish Website & PowerPoint: D. Lim & A. Sujeev
Maintenance: P. Lynch
Mowing Roster: P. Lynch



HOLY MASS

Weekend

- Saturday: 9am Morning Mass; 6pm Vigil Mass
- Sunday: 8am, 10am & 5pm

Weekday

- Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 9am (Benediction & Adoration on First Friday at 8:30am)
 - Tuesday: 7:30pm (Adoration, Divine Mercy Novena & Benediction at 6:30pm)
- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary: 30 minutes before weekday Masses

SACRAMENTS

- **Baptism** 2nd Sunday of every month, 11:15am (2 months advance notice)
- **Baptism Preparation** 2nd Thursday of every month, 7:30pm.
- **Reconciliation** Tuesday: 6:30pm & Saturday: 9:30am and 5:30pm
- **Marriage** Minimum 6 months advance notice is required
- **Sacramental Preparation:** Call the Parish Office

PRESBYTERY

- Parish Priest: **Fr. Sabu Thomas Adimakiyil VC**
- Secretary: **Millicent Cabisidan (Peachy)**
- Bookkeeper: **Emalyn Rivera**

OFFICE HOURS

- Wednesday & Thursday 9am - 3pm
- Friday 9am - 12pm

LOL PRIMARY SCHOOL

- Principal: Ross Williams Tel: (03) 9729 3411

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

- Chair: Michael Di Paola

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

- Chair: Michael Dennis

25 Orange Grove, Bayswater, Victoria 3153

Tel: (03) 9729 2622

Email: bayswater@cam.org.au

Website: www.ololbayswater.org.au

VISION

Our parish be a faith-filled, caring and sharing community that will actively embrace multiculturalism and team building reaching out to joyfully demonstrate God's love to the wider society.

MISSION

That our parish hold spiritual and social programmes to cater to all levels and interests of parishioners, drawing in toddlers, youth, elderly, and new families into the orbit of the parish.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.'





THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

7 JANUARY 2024

'We aim a Safe and Inclusive Parish'

YEAR B/2



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 3:3-10.19
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20
Gospel: John 1:35-42

RESPONSE

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

ACCLAMATION

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

JESUS AND THE WISE MEN

Today's feast is telling us that for God there are no foreigners, no outsiders. From his point of view, all are equally beloved children. We all, whatever external physical or cultural differences there may be between us, belong to one single family which has one Father, "our" Father.

The wise men did not know where the star would lead them. They just followed it until it brought them to Bethlehem, and to Jesus. Let us try to have courage and trust the example of the wise men to follow our guiding lights.

Source: Excerpted from the Gospel reflection at <https://www.sacredspace.ie/> Image from <https://www.christianity.com/>



LITURGY OF THE WORD

ENTRANCE ANTI-PHON

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

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah .
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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

- 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 till 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 fall 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.)

SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 3:2-3. 5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians. 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: MATTHEW 2:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. 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.

COMMUNION ANTI-PHON

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



POPE AT ANGELUS: LOVE OPENS PATHS FOR PEACE, NEVER SUFFOCATING OTHERS

At the Angelus prayer on the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Pope Francis recalls that love should be filled with kindness and respect, never seeking to dominate those we love. In his reflection ahead of the Marian prayer, the Pope encouraged Christians to place the New Year under the "caring gaze" of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He noted that the day's Gospel reading depicts Mary as remaining "in a silence filled with wonder and adoration for the marvels that God is performing," as the shepherds come to worship her Son, Jesus. Mary, said the Pope, "makes room within herself for the One who is born. In silence and adoration, she places Jesus at the centre and bears witness to Him as the Savior." Pope Francis pointed out that Mary, as a good mother, never sought to take the place of her Son, but became the first "cathedral of silence", a place where God and man can meet.

Our mothers, too, he added, "bring us into the world and then continue to follow our development, often unnoticed, so that we can grow." "Let us remember this," he said. "Love never suffocates; love makes space for the other and allows them to grow." The Holy Father invited everyone to look to Mary and our own mothers "with grateful hearts". "Let us think about and also look to mothers," he said, "to learn that love which is cultivated especially in silence, that knows how to make space for the other, respecting their dignity, allowing the freedom to express themselves, rejecting all forms of possession, domination, and violence." Full report at www.vaticannews.va



POPE FRANCIS MOURNS LIVES LOST IN DEADLY JAPAN EARTHQUAKE

Pope Francis sends his condolences to the people of Japan, offering his consolation and prayers in the wake of a powerful earthquake that killed at least 48 people. According to a telegram sent on the Pope's behalf by Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, on Tuesday, the Pope was "deeply saddened to learn of the loss of life and damage caused by the earthquake in the Ishikawa prefecture."

A powerful earthquake struck central Japan on Monday, triggering warnings for residents to evacuate some areas on its west coast, destroying buildings, knocking out power to thousands of homes, and disrupting travel to the region. The Pope assured everyone affected by this disaster of his heartfelt solidarity, spiritual closeness, and prayers, especially for the dead, those who mourn their loss, and for the rescue of any persons still missing. Full text at www.vaticannews.va

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

- 8 January - The Baptism of the Lord
- 13 January - Saint Hilary

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING AND THEIR FAMILIES:

- **ANNIVERSARY:** Robyn Dyball, Steven Treyvaud, Brian Dwyer, Malcolm John McCarton, Reg Edwards, Veronica Cripps, Shui Peter Lam.
- **SICK:** Peter Lisle, Wendy Markby, Fiona Scudds, Mary McKiterick.

POPE FRANCIS: 'MAY BENEDICT XVI BLESS US AND ACCOMPANY US'



"A year ago, Pope Benedict XVI ended his early journey, after having lovingly and wisely served the Church. We feel so much affection, gratitude and admiration for him. May he bless us and accompany us from Heaven. A round of

applause for Benedict XVII!" Pope Francis offered those words at the Sunday Angelus when remembering Pope Benedict XVI, the 265th Pope, who died one year ago on this day of 31 December in 2022.

A Mass of suffrage was celebrated earlier in the morning at the Vatican, in St. Peter's Basilica, at the Altar of the Chair. Archbishop Georg Gänswein, Joseph Ratzinger's secretary from 2003 until the final days of his life, presided over the celebration. In his homily, Archbishop Gänswein described Benedict XVI's "shining example," and he expressed gratitude to God "for the gift of his life, the richness of his magisterium, the depth of his theology" of this "simple and humble worker in the vineyard of the Lord." Full text at www.vaticannews.va



FOR THE GIFT OF DIVERSITY IN THE CHURCH

"Let us pray that the Spirit help us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian communities, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions within the Catholic Church."

- Pope Francis -

THANK YOU!

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you all for your active participation in our Advent celebration.

Special thanks to Danny Lim, Yvonne Fenech and company for organising the liturgy group as well as to Veronika Measki and her group for taking care of the flower arrangement and decoration in the Church. To our Children Liturgy group for the beautiful Nativity Play and to our Choir who took care of the carols.

STARTING GATE

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, - COLOSSIANS 2:6 NIV