

THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER

Most of us have no doubt sung more than once this popular Christmas carol, "We Three Kings"; and all our churches were probably adorned by "cribs" boasting statues of three exotic looking men dressed in royal finery, wearing crowns and riding on bejewelled camels. Their names — Gaspar, Balthasar, and Melchior.

Based upon Matthew's claim that they came from the east (Mt 2:1) and saw the star rise in the east (Mt 2.2), it has often been assumed in Christian tradition that these men came from Persia to find the Christ. Other interpreters have thought that the wise men might have come from Arabia — hence the popular presentation of the "kings" as exotic worthies with princely accoutrements and camel transport. Such imagery and information, however, derive more from the popular imagination than it does from Matthew's Gospel.

Called by Matthew "Magi" (Mt 2:1), these colourful characters are not presented as kings, but rather as astrologers or wise men. They are not named; and there are no camels in sight. The text says nothing about there being three of them. The tradition that there were but three wise men arose from the fact that there were three gifts (Mt 2:11).

The term Magi reflects the Greek *magos*, which refers to a magician, sorcerer, or one wise in interpreting the stars and dreams. In ancient Media and Persia these Magi were associated with the priestly caste. Matthew presents these men as scholars who are "wise" not only in dream interpretation and stargazing, but in Jewish traditions as well.

Matthew indicates that these wise men had studied the Hebrew Scriptures, where they found and correctly interpreted the messianic prophecies that told that "there shall come a star out of Jacob" (Nm 24:17; cf. Mt 2:2). Similarly, the chief priests whom Herod consults at the behest of the Magi find in Micah (5:2), a more specific reference to the Messiah's birth at Bethlehem (Mt 2:4-6).

This story draws on and reminds us of another "foreign" seer in the Old Testament, Balaam, who foresaw the future triumph of Israel over its enemies (Nm 24:17). Even Herod was Idumean and the representative of a foreign power; a king whose heritage and authority had the whiff of illegitimacy.

So, in Matthew's story, prophets, priests, and foreigners bring their collective wisdom to bear on the Scriptures to confirm the legitimacy of Jesus' later claim to messianic status. There is an obvious irony here, if not also a bit of folk wisdom. One should not judge by appearances; nor should one underestimate God.

The true prince appears in the world as a pauper, while the present king quakes in fear in his princely palace. God assumes human being not amidst the elites of society, but amidst the poor. Jesus' regnal status is recognised, not by his future subjects, but by those on the margins and those "on the nose", foreign astrologers and Idumean pretenders to the throne.

Ian J Elmer © Majellan Media 2023



Gosnells Catholic Parish

Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Church
Archdiocese of Perth
Western Australia



Parish Priest: Fr Philip Perreau

philip.perreau@perthcatholic.org.au

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Telephone: 9398 2331

Email: gosnells@perthcatholic.org.au

Website: www.gosnellsparish.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday to Friday 9.00am - 1.30pm

Entry by: 1 Isdell Place, Gosnells

Parish Secretary:

Naomi Newman: 9398 2331

Email: secretary@gosnellsparish.org.au

Catechist Coordinator

Gen De Souza: 0408 717 809

Safeguarding Officers

safeguarding@gosnellsparish.org.au

0432 398 973

SVDP Local Contact

Loretta Watson: 0451 794 790

8th January, 2023

The Epiphany of the Lord

Year A

White

Today's Readings

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

15th January, 2023

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

Green

Next Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

John 1:29-34

St Munchin's Catholic Primary School



Principal: Mr Kevin Duffy

1 Isdell Place, Gosnells

PO Box 172, Gosnells WA 6990

9234 7555

admin@stmunchins.wa.edu.au

Follow Truth

Sunday Bulletin

Parish Liturgies	
Weekend Mass	Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass, Sunday 7.30am, Sunday 9.30am
Weekday Mass	Monday 8.00am Communion Service (Mass on Solemnity only) Tuesday 6.00pm Mass - (1st Tuesday Mass of Anointing) Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday 8.00am Mass Friday 9.00am Mass
Reconciliation	Saturday 5.00pm - 5.45pm or by appointment
Buckley Caring Centre	10.00am Mass - Second Thursday of the Month
Juniper Aged Care	11.00am Mass - Third Friday of the Month
Rosary	After weekday Masses
Exposition	Tuesday 5.00pm - 6.00pm with Benediction, Sunday 6.00pm - 7.00pm
Charismatic Prayer	Thursday 7.15pm - 9.15pm.
Baptism	Sunday at 11.00am, or by arrangement
Marriage	By appointment - Minimum SIX MONTHS notice for preparation etc

Christmas Greetings

Feel free to pick up a Parish Christmas Greeting card and hand them to friends and relatives, neighbours and even strangers if you haven't already done so.



Feast Days this Week		
Jan 9	Mon	The Baptism of the Lord, St Andrian of Canterbury, St Andrew Corsini
12	Thu	St Aelred of Rievaulx, St Marguerite Bourgeoys, St Benet Biscop
13	Fri	St Hilary Poitiers, St Mungo
14	Sat	Our Lady of Arabia

Praying For You



Death Anniversary

Albert Hoad, Maxine Allen Labutte, Peppino Panici, Antonio Squalace, Joseph Stekl

Deceased

Ainsley Da Silva, Annie Vickery, Flora Vickery

Our Sick

Conrad Briggs, Joel Celine, Dennis Ford, Patricia Majawat, Letecia Niembra, Wendy Kraft, Cecilia Lee, Dolly, Barbara Ingram, Elvira Panici-Allen, Annabelle McNess, Richard Bisnath, Wendy Price, Fran Wiffen, Ding Madrigal, Zee Pereira, Metilde Warui, Con Farano, Rene Priest, Mary Hazel Calupig, Margaret Evans, Erika Magness, Ian Ballantyne, Mavis Hall

Prayers for Our Sick.

Please advise when names need to be removed from this list.



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Rosters for 7/8 January, 2023

Mass	Greeters	Reader	Commentator	Acolyte	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers
Saturday 6.00pm	Rosa Ford Theresa Spicer	Tracy Van Ingen	Angel Donina	Martin Loh	Faye Mitchell Ludette Van Der Spill	Clinton Matthews, Jacob Raymond, Dashiell Van Ingen, Angel Villan, Carl Agus, Maria Donina
Sunday 7.30am	Dion Robson Shania Tido	Franklin D'Cruz	Greg Drew	Larry Cavallo	Inoka Ratnasekera Ann Ralston	Callie Abogado, Michael Almen, Tom Antu, Bionney Bangayan
Sunday 9.30am	Robert Slezak Theresa Walker	Kaye Cox	Ben Gradisen	Phillip Magness	Evelyn Yozzi Joe Yozzi	Angel Garavillas, Gabino Htoo, Noel Justin, Elain Labrador, Sanjay Jojo, Keanu Malagui-Hicks
Tellers this week: Jim & Anne Brink, Kerry Keys				Tellers next week: Bette Lyra, Clint & Thu Barnes		

Rosters for 14/15 January, 2023

Mass	Greeters	Reader	Commentator	Acolyte	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers
Saturday 6.00pm	Sandra Wren Mercy Burton	Mary Ann Bombita	Carina Limgenco	Colin Loh	Bridget Soh Christy Ravanez	Xyris Madrigal, Abigail Raganas, Seren Adams, Melanie Beacher, Athena Calupig, Matthew Calupig
Sunday 7.30am	Eric Almen Wendie Almen	Jenny Mills	Geoff Mills	Geoff Mills	Pay Tru Diana Chong	Diobett Bangayan, Naomi Kyaw-Tun, Aydril Ratnasekera, Richardson Saw
Sunday 8.30am	Hanna Allen Jude Ayeni	Paige Jacob	Cecilia Jacob	Nigel Hayward	Francisco Aung Michael Ayeni	Patriona Paesu, Carl Borlongan, Keanu Malagui-Hicks, Able Biju, Nicole & Walter Oo, Yatumika Shelvan

WE CARE

SVDP Emergency Relief Phone 1300 794 054
Marycare - Maureen 9398 7375 Anne 9490 3377 Maureen 0411 691 959



Wishing everyone a Happy New Year

CHRISTMAS THANK YOU

Thank you to all those who were involved in making this Christmas a joyous celebration. So many people gave so much of their time and love. Thank you to those who so generously donated towards the costs of our Christmas flowers and those who arranged the flowers so beautifully, those who set up the Christmas crib and the members of the music ministry who spent so much time in practice and then leading us into singing with joy, all the children and their parents who were involved in bringing to life the Christmas Story for the Vigil Family Mass, the greeters, readers and commentators, the acolytes and altar servers, the sacristan. those who donated the chocolate for the children, and those who organised the cake and wine after the Midnight Mass. Thank you especially for bringing your relatives, friends and neighbours to our Christmas Masses.

Errol and I would also like to thank all of you for your many gifts, well wishes and support. Thanks you too for your prayers and support for Errol and I in our time of covid isolation.

May the peace of God's Love be with you always.

Sincerely,

Fr Philip



Mass for the Late Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

There will be a special Mass for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI at 11.00am at St Mary's Cathedral on Sunday 8th January to entrust Pope Benedict to the Lord's compassion of love, and to express our gratitude to God for the gift which Pope Benedict has been to the Church.

Monday Mass

There will be Mass on Monday, 9th January at 9.00am for the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Vinnies

Your VINNIES would like to say a big THANK YOU to our parishioners And volunteers for your continued support during this year and wish each and every one of you, and your families, a Holy Christmas and a very safe and Happy New Year! God Bless!!



Parish Office Closure

The Parish office will be closed from 22nd December to 17th January 2023. A heart felt thank-you to all our parishioners that donate their time by volunteering for our Parish ministries, out-reach programs through Marycare and St Vincent de Paul, our Parish Committees and to all that have contributed to our Parish in any way. May your Christmas be filled with the love and light of the Holy Spirit as we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. May the new year be filled will many blessings. Sincerely, Naomi, Parish Secretary



Parish Safeguarding Officers

The Perth Catholic Archdiocese is committed to the safety and security of all children and young people. If you have any safety concerns about a person in the parish or about a child protection or child safety issue, you can discuss it with the Parish Safeguarding Officers. Phone 0432 398 973 or email safeguarding@gosnellsparish.org.au



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Christmas Hamper Raffle Winners

Congratulations to our hamper winners! 1st Prize: Theresa Walker, 2nd Prize: Lina Villan, 3rd Prize: Michael Ayeni. If you were not at the 9.30am Mass last week, please bring your winning ticket to claim your prize from Fr Philip after Mass. The amount raised was \$1098.80 to aid church funds. Thank you for all your support.

New Rosters for Acolytes and Extraordinary Ministers - Out Now

Volunteers, please make sure you have the latest roster so that you can attend on the dates allotted to you. The rosters are available in the church foyer. Remember to arrange your own swaps from the list when necessary. Thank you to all those who continue to serve their parish through these various ministries and particularly to those who have offered their services for the first time. May God bless your generosity.

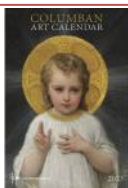
Golden Age Club

Merry Christmas to all and have a safe and Happy New Year. We will be in recess until club days resume on the 17th January 2023.



2023 Columban Calendar

Support your Vinnies by purchasing a 2023 Columban Calendar at only \$8 each. Calendars are available in the Church foyer. Please place your contribution in an envelope before placing in the SVDP poor box in the church next to the sliding doors.



33rd Annual Flame Congress—Heart of Worship

27-29 January 2023; Mater Christi Catholic Church Community Centre, 340 Yangebup Road, Yangebup WA 6164

Guest Speakers: Rev Fr Joseph Laundy, Chaplain CYM and Mr Mario Borg, Director 24/7; Flame speakers: Mrs Kaye Rollings FMI SD. Mr Cyrus D'Souza FMI SD. For more details see poster or visit www@flameministries.org

Contact: Kaye Rollings email: kye@flameministries.org Mob: 0421 605 502 See also the Notice Board

18 February 2023 – 19 August 2023: Daughters of Mary – Mother & Daughter Group at the Schoenstatt Shrine

We invite you to join us for a monthly formation as we journey together as mothers and daughters in relationship with Mary towards Christ. With Mary as our Mother and Educator we hope to be able to grow in her virtues to be daily followers of Christ.

Daughter's age group: 10-14. Time: Every 3rd Saturday of the Month, 3pm-4.30pm including afternoon tea. From February to August (optional school holiday activity). Address: Schoenstatt Shrine, 9 Talus Drive, Mount Richon. RSVP: Saturday 4 February 2023. To register, contact Marissa Yang (Mob) 0448 966 998 (Email) peacefulspirit180@gmail.com or Sr M Luka Junemann (Mob) 0439 537 843 (Email) srmluka@schoenstatt.org.au.

If You Missed the Good News

Archbishop Timothy Costelloe has accepted Errol for ordination to the Diaconate. The Ordination will be celebrated here at Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Church, Gosnells Parish on Friday 17th February 2023 at 7pm.

Our Parish Columbarium

A sacred place for all parishioners and former parishioners and their families. Brochures are available in the foyer.

On The Bulletin Board

Employment opportunities from the Archdiocese of Perth.

Please have a look on our bulletin board for more information.



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