

# CAPRICORN COAST CATHOLIC PARISH



Sacred Heart Church  
YEPPOON

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Mary Immaculate Church  
EMU PARK

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 02 JANUARY 2022

### ***KING HEROD & THE WISE MEN - A CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE***

We are all familiar with this story since it has been much celebrated in song, icon, and legend. Jesus is born inside of a religious tradition, Judaism, and his birth is announced to that faith-community in a manner that befits religion, namely, by the angels, by supernatural revelation. But those outside of that faith-tradition need another way to get to know of his birth, and so his birth is announced to them through nature, astrology, through the stars. The wise men see a special star appear in the sky and begin to follow it, not knowing exactly to where or to what it will lead.

While following the star, they meet King Herod who, upon learning that a new king has supposedly been born, has his own evil interest in matter. He asks the wise men to find the child and bring him back information so that he, too, can go and worship the newborn. We know the rest of story:

The wise men follow the star, find the new king, and, upon seeing him, place their gifts at his feet. What happens to them afterwards? We have all kinds of apocryphal stories about their journey back home, but these, while interesting, are not helpful. We do not know what happened to them afterwards and that is exactly the point. Their slipping away into anonymity is a crucial part of their gift. The idea is that they now disappear because they can now disappear. They have placed their gifts at the feet of the young king and can now leave everything safely in his hands. His star has eclipsed theirs. Far from fighting for their former place, they now happily cede it to him. Like old Simeon, they can happily exit the stage singing: Now, Lord, you can dismiss your servants! We can die! We're in safe hands!

And Herod, how much to the contrary! So what is his reaction? Far from laying his resources at the feet of the new king, he sets out to kill him. But the real point is the contrast between the wise men and Herod: The former see new life as promise and they bless it; the latter sees new life as threat and he curses it.

This is a rich story with a powerful challenge: What is my own reaction to new life, especially to life that threatens me, that will take away some of my own popularity, sunshine, and adulation? Can I, like the wise men, lay my gifts at the feet of the young and move towards anonymity and eventual death, content that the world is in good hands, even though those hands are not my hands? Or, like Herod, will I feel that life as a threat and I try somehow to kill it, lest its star somehow diminish my own?

To bless another person is to give away some of one's own life so that the other might be more resourced for his or her journey, Good parents do that for their children. Good teachers do that for their students, good mentors do that for their protégés, good pastors do that for their parishioners, good politicians do that for their countries, and good elders do that for the young. They give away some of their own lives to resource the other. The wise men did that for Jesus.

*How do we react when a young star's rising begins to eclipse our own light?*

Excerpts: Ronald Rolheiser OMI, KING HEROD & THE WISE MEN – A CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE, December 2012.



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# CAPRICORN COAST CATHOLIC PARISH

DAY	TIME	MASS
Tuesday 4-1-22	10.00am	Funeral Service – Mary Granville Sacred Heart Church
Wednesday	12.00pm	Sacred Heart Church
Thursday	9.00am	Mary Immaculate
Saturday 8-1-22	5.15pm	Mary Immaculate
Sunday 9-1-22	9.00am 5.00pm	Sacred Heart Church Sacred Heart Church
<b>HAPPY NEW YEAR</b>		<b>BLESSINGS FOR 2022</b>

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

2 January 2022



**FAREWELL FOR FR MATTHEW  
&  
WELCOME TO FR ANDREW**

### NEXT WEEKEND

Vigil 5.15pm - Pizza after Mass  
Sunday 9.00am - Morning Tea after Mass  
(Please bring a plate)

### Ignite Summer Camp Diocesan Group

When: 12-16 January 2022  
Where: QCCC Mapleton (Sunshine Coast)  
Who: Any 2022 high school students  
Cost: \$310, Family discounts are available for siblings.  
Interested? please contact [youth@rok.catholic.net.au](mailto:youth@rok.catholic.net.au)

<i>The Epiphany of the Lord - Year C</i>		
Gospel Matthew 2:1-12		
Welcomer	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading Isaiah 60:1-6	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6
Vigil-5.15pm Kathy Maloney	Christine Davids	Marie Downing
9.00am Gordon Gauld	Catherine Weaver	Erin Hutchinson
5.00pm Marg McAuliffe Harris	Mark Kennedy	Volunteer
<b>NEXT WEEK – Baptism of the Lord, 8<sup>th</sup>+9<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
Gospel Luke 3:15-16, 21-22		
Welcomer	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Titus 2:11-14;3:4-7
Vigil-5.15pm Kathy Maloney	Jan Mussig	Sr Grace Bortolo
9.00am John Campbell	Sean Fallis	Nini Sielaff
5:00pm Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer

BLESSINGS FOR 2022

*Happy* **NEW YEAR**  
You crown the year with Your goodness,  
And Your paths drip with abundance.  
PSALM 65:11

### Parish Office

The Parish Office will be unattended during the Christmas - New Year Break  
Wednesday 22 December - Friday 7 January 2022 – Messages & emails will be checked regularly

**We Pray for all those who are SICK & all those who have DIED**

Come Holy Spirit,  
fill the hearts of your faithful,  
enkindle in them the fire of your love.  
Send forth your Spirit  
and they shall be created.  
And you shall renew the face of the earth.



Let us pray.  
O God, who instruct the hearts of the faithful  
by the light of the Holy Spirit,  
grant us in the same Spirit to be truly wise,  
and ever to rejoice in your consolation.  
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen