

## Coming up @ St Philip's

Tuesday 7 Jan	1.30pm	Eucharist at Leslie Morshead Manor
Thursday 9 Jan	10.00am	Eucharist and Morning Tea
Friday 10 Jan	10am-1pm	Pandora's re-opens
Saturday 11 Jan	10am-1pm	Pandora's
	10.30am	Eucharist at Canberra Aged Care

## Flowers @ St Philip's

Please consider contributing to the flowers for the Christmas season or for any time of the year. Envelopes are in the Narthex and can be placed in the offertory bag. Thank you for your donation.

## Prayer Points

For those in need:

Roger Sharp, Ros Dalziell and all those affected by the bushfires

Those we remember:

Norma Reynolds (28/12/00), Gil Barnes (11/1/86) and

Fay Pankhurst (11/1/17)

Sunday 12 January 2020

*The Baptism of Our Lord*

### Readings

Isaiah 42.1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10.34-43; Matthew 3.13-17

### Rosters

Flowers: The Flower Team

8am Presiding & Preaching: Rev'd Martin Johnson;

Sidespeople: Alison & Alistair Davidson;

Liturgical Assistant: Elise Palethorpe;

Readers: Alison Davidson (1<sup>st</sup>); Alistair Davidson (2<sup>nd</sup>)

10am Presiding & Preaching: Rev'd Martin Johnson;

Sidespeople: Janene Broere & Laura Wood;

Welcomer: Rev'd Jeannette McHugh; Music: Colin Forbes;

Readers: Kerry-Anne Cousins (1st), Laura Wood (2nd);

Chalice: Doreen Sengati-Odom & Rev'd Jeannette McHugh

Pewsheets deadline: Thursday 12noon. Please forward notices and prayer points to [comeandsee@stphilipsoconnor.org.au](mailto:comeandsee@stphilipsoconnor.org.au) or 0414 309 469

**EFTPOS available in the foyer to assist with your giving.**



# St Philip's Come & See

[www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au](http://www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au)

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**Sunday 5 January 2020**

*The Epiphany of Our Lord*

*Hymns* Introit - see pew sheet, 291, 301, 314

### Sentence

*They saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and worshipped him.* Matthew 2.11

### Prayer of the day

*Lord God of the nations, we have seen the star of your glory rising in splendour: may the brightness of your incarnate Word pierce the night that covers the earth, signal the dawn of justice and peace, and beckon all nations to walk as one in your light. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, in the splendour of eternal light, God for ever and ever. Amen.*

### Today's Readings

Isaiah 60.1-6; Psalm 72.1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3.1-12; Matthew 2.1-12

### Today's Rosters

Flowers: The Flower Team

8am Presiding & Preaching: Rev'd Martin Johnson;

Sidesperson: John Girdlestone; Liturgical Assistant: Peter Wilson;

Readers: John Girdlestone (1<sup>st</sup>); Rosemary Knight (2<sup>nd</sup>)

*Followed by toast and coffee in the Lamerton Centre ~ all welcome*

10am Presiding & Preaching: Rev'd Martin Johnson; Sidespeople: Laura Wood

& Fred Anchell; Welcomer: Denise Manley; Liturgical Assistant: Philippa

Wicks; Music: Colin Forbes; Readers: Fred Anchell (1st), Jeanette

Dundon-Tunks (2nd); Chalice: Denise Manley & Hardy Palethorpe

*Morning Tea is by Self Service during January.*

## Introit Hymn

From the eastern mountains pressing on they come,  
wise men in their wisdom, to his humble home;  
stirred by deep devotion, hasting from afar,  
ever journeying onward, guided by a star.

There their Lord and Saviour meek and lowly lay,  
wondrous light that led them onward on their way,  
ever now to lighten nations from afar,  
as they journey homeward by that guiding star.

Thou who in a manger once hast lowly lain,  
who dost now in glory o'er all kingdoms reign,  
gather in the peoples, who in lands afar  
ne'er have seen the brightness of thy guiding star.

Gather in the outcasts, all who've gone astray,  
Throw thy radiance o'er them, guide them on their way;  
Those who never knew thee, those who've wandered far  
Guide them by the brightness, of thy guiding star.

Onward through the darkness of the lonely night,  
shining still before them with thy kindly light, guide them,  
Jew and Gentile, homeward from afar,  
young and old together, by thy guiding star.

Until every nation, whether bond or free,  
'neath thy star-lit banner, Jesu, follow thee,  
o'er the distant mountains to that heavenly home,  
where nor sin nor sorrow evermore shall come.

*Godfrey Thring  
1823-1903*

## Psalm 72 1-7 10-14

- 1 Give the king your judgement, O God:  
and your righteousness to the son of a king,
- 2 That he may judge your people rightly:  
and the poor of the land with equity.
- 3 Let the mountains be laden with peace because of his righteousness:  
and the hills also with prosperity for his people.
- 4 May he give justice to the poor among the people:  
and rescue the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor.
- 5 May he live while the sun endures:  
and while the moon gives light, throughout all generations.
- 6 May he come down like rain upon the new-mown fields:  
and as showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall righteousness flourish:  
and abundance of peace, till the moon shall be no more.

- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring tribute:  
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.
- 11 All kings shall fall down before him:  
and all nations do him service.
- 12 He will deliver the needy when they cry:  
and the poor that have no helper.
- 13 He will pity the helpless and the needy:  
and save the lives of the poor.
- 14 He will redeem them from oppression and violence:  
and their blood shall be precious in his sight.

Dear friends, today is the Feast of the Epiphany – or more correctly 'The manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles.' It is all about revelation, which is one of the grounds of theological exploration. Christian Theology presumes faith in God and from there goes about the business of thinking how that God is revealed. The 11<sup>th</sup> century Archbishop of Canterbury St Anselm called theology 'faith seeking understanding.'

As I write it seems that we here in Canberra are surrounded by a vast ring of fire, at least to our east and south. The bushfires have generated much light and heat in more ways than one. Our media is filled with stories of heroism and extraordinary resilience and of course inevitably commentary on what should be done and why such a catastrophe has occurred. It is my hope that from the fires that have marred this summer will come a greater understanding of our environment and our place within it. What we value most and what we place our trust in and importantly our faith and what we believe to be true. What better time to do this than at the beginning of the New Year – indeed a new decade.

The wise men or Magi were bringing traditional gifts to a foreign ruler from their country in the East. Naturally they went first to the Royal Palace in Jerusalem but found there no sign of a new ruler. The king they did find was a small child of a refugee family and in that context they revaluated their lives and their mission.

They laid aside the gold in which they found their security, they laid aside the Frankincense of their old religions and superstitions and they laid aside the myrrh which represented their own mortality and fear. They laid aside those things which had the potential to hold them back from life in its fullest.

This year we have been charged with considering our stewardship of that we have been entrusted with. The environment which sustains us, the property and wealth we have been entrusted with - individually and corporately and the very life that has been breathed into us. This is faith seeking understanding, what are we being called to do given God's revelation to us. We have been placed in a context, some would say unprecedented, in which to do this.

We pray for those affected by the catastrophic fires and strive in this New Year to find new ways to live in this environment, with each other in ways that are sustainable and life giving. A happy New Year to you all... Blessings, Martin