



Weekly Bulletin

Mary, Queen of the Family Parish

St. Michael's Church - 58 Orwell Street, South Blacktown. & St. Patrick's Church - 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown.

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD ~ YEAR B

7TH JANUARY 2024

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Mary Queen of the Family (MQOF) parish strives to live as a faithful and committed Catholic community, continuing to deepen in understanding the Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture of the Catholic Church and to grow as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ, evangelising and responding to the needs of the family in the Blacktown community and beyond.

LITURGY TIMES

Weekday Masses

St Michael's: 8am Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri and 7.30pm Wed only

St Patrick's: 9am Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat and 7.30pm Fri only.

Sunday Masses

5.30pm Sat Vigil (St Patrick's)
7.00am Sun (St Patrick's)
8.00am Sun (St Michael's)
9.30am Sun (St Michael's)
10.00am Sun (St Patrick's)
11.00am 4th Sun - Filipino Mass (St Michael's)
2:00pm - Sudanese Mass (St Patrick's)
1.00pm - Syro-Malabar Mass (St Michael's)
5.30pm Sun (St Patrick's)
6.00pm Sun (St Michael's)

RECONCILIATION

St Michael's: Wed 6:30pm-7:20pm

St Patrick's: Fri 6:30pm-7:20pm & Sat 9:30am-10:30am

HOLY HOUR

St Michael's: Wed 6:30pm-7:30pm

St Patrick's: Fri 6:30pm-7:30pm

Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals & Anointing of the Sick by appointment.



SUNDAY CONNECTION

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a saviour. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

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Parish Directory

St. Michael's Church - 58 Orwell Street, South Blacktown & **St. Patrick's Church** - 51-59 Allawah Street Blacktown.

Parish Office: At St. Patrick's Church. **Office Hours:** Mon-Fri: 9am-4pm
Telephone: 02 9622 1125 **A/H:** 02 8705 0830.
Website: www.mqofblacktown.org.au **Email:** admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

Parish Team:

Parish Priest: Fr. Regie Lavilla, MSP.

Assistant Priests: Fr. Ever Bernaldez, MSP & Fr. Andrew Rooney

Deacon: Rev. John Cinya.

Finance Officer: Sarah Canete-Damole **Email:** accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au

Secretaries: Ann Hart (Wed-Fri) & Gerald "Ged" Oblea (Mon & Tues)

Email: admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator: Gerald "Ged" Oblea. **Mobile:** 0422 724 008

Email: sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au

Catechist Coordinator: Sandra Baker

Parish Pastoral Council: **Chair:** Cecil Fernandes; **Asst Chair:** Joshua Carr **Secretary:** Savita Surendra
Members: Beato Pudadera, Ekhas Ambili, Erica Luiz, Harlane Petersen, Helena Vea, Tony Fernando, Sidney Lazum, Fr. Regie Lavilla, Fr. Andrew Rooney, Fr. Ever Bernaldez, Rev. John Cinya.

Parish Schools:

St Michael's Primary:
P : 8869 6200 <https://www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au>

St Patrick's Primary:
P : 8869 6000 <https://www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au>

Nagle College:
P : 8887 4507 <https://www.nagleblacktown.catholic.edu.au>

Patrician Brothers College:
P : 8811 0300 <https://www.patsblacktown.nsw.edu.au>

Catholic Early Learning Centre (St Michael's) :
P : 8814 8406 <https://www.ceclblacktownstn.catholic.edu.au>

Nursing Homes:

Opal Nursing Home (37 Kildare Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148) P : 9852 9600

Mulluana Retirement Village (61 Bungarribee Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148) P : 8822 2100

Catholic Healthcare St Hedwig Village Blacktown (140 Reservoir Rd, Blacktown 2148) P: 8822 9920

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD ~ YR B

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: CF MALACHI 3:1, 1 CHR 29:12

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

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 60:1-6

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13, R. SEE V.11

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: MATTHEW 2:2

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

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2:1-12

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.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Cf Matthew 2:2

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

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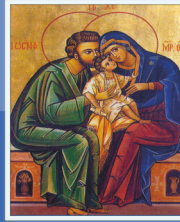
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OUR PARISH COMMUNITY



WELCOME
TO
MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY
PARISH, BLACKTOWN

We are a welcoming parish... you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected by the Catholic Community of Mary, Queen of the Family. If you are not an active member of this Community, consider partaking in what we have to offer. We serve the Community through outreach, education, social activities, sacramental preparation, youth and comfort to the sick and mourning. In addition to our spiritual and outreach organisations, perchance you have an interest in joining one of our many liturgical ministries such as: Minister of Holy Communion, Reader/Commentator, Welcomer, Collectors, Minister of DVP/Power Point, Catechists etc.

Volunteers are formally registered by filling out a *Join a Ministry* form that is then entered into the parish data system (*information supplied remains confidential*). These forms are available from the parish office or in the church foyer, or for further information call the Parish Office on 9622 1125.

~ *The Parish Team*

Mary Queen of the Family ~ Parish Mission...

- * Grow as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ.
- * Deepen our understanding of the Sacred Tradition & Scriptures of the Catholic Church.
- * Strive to live as a faithful & committed Catholic community.
- * Evangelise and respond to the needs of the family in the Blacktown community and beyond.



Objectives To Meet Our Mission at Mary Queen Of The Family Parish...

- WORSHIP** ~ Practice the right forms of Worship.
- WORD** ~ Increase the Biblical literacy in the Parish.
- WALL** ~ Building our community.



PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED

Benjamin Gaputan.

IN MEMORIUM

Andrew James Sitaramayya, Vincenza Feri, Frank Cefai.

SICK

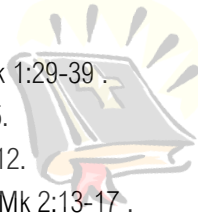
Peter Delange, Natalia De Jesus Dionisio, Manolito Aguilar; Christel Gonzalez, Faustina Sandot, Teresita Alston, Cristina King, Edna Canete, Jonathan Nucup, Barbara Greany, Meghan De Vos, Mila Alforque, Vinnie Zahra.

Names submitted to Parish for the sick list will be published for 4 weeks at a time.

Mass intentions can be requested online by following the link below:
<https://www.mqofblacktown.org/mass-intention-or-offering-request>

DAILY READINGS

Monday 8th Jan: Is 55:1-11; Mk 1:7-11.
 Tuesday 9th Jan: 1 Sam 1:9-20; Mk 1:21-28
 Wednesday 10th Jan: 1 Sam 3:1-10, 19-20; Mk 1:29-39
 Thursday 11th Jan: 1 Sam 4:1-11 ; Mk 1:40-45.
 Friday 12th Jan: 1 Sam 8:4-7, 10-22 ; Mk 2:1-12.
 Saturday 13th Jan: 1 Sam 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1 ; Mk 2:13-17 .
 Sunday 14th Jan: 1 Sam 3:3-10, 19 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42.



FEAST DAYS

Monday 8th January - The Baptism of the Lord



FR. REGIE ON LEAVE

Fr. Regie will be on leave from 8th January 2024 until 14th February 2024.

CHURCH MAINTENANCE UPDATE

St Patrick's Church – Raise the Roof Project



We have received the required quotes from roofers recommended by the Diocese, and is under review by the Property section of the Diocese to finalise the Scope of Work for the roof and ceiling refurbishment of our St Patrick's church. Our roof and ceiling repair funding, (inclusive of donations), and funds raised has gone up to \$198,585.00.

We are grateful to our donors and fundraiser volunteers to those who are still considering...only your continued support can make the roof of the House of God refurbished!

St Michael's Church – Maintenance Projects



We are waiting from a volunteer architect the design and costing of our Sanctuary lightings. Once available we will post it here – if you are in the position to help financially, please talk to one of our priests or call the office on 02 9622 1125. All donations are welcome!

HOW TO DONATE: Scan the QR code to donate or logon to the following link (<https://www.mqofblacktown.org/make-a-donation-or-payment>)

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