

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East;  
and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

*We have come from the East to worship the king.*

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**

**ROSTERS 2025**

Thanks to all who have supported our parish by volunteering. Our Rosters 2025 has been posted at the main entrance of the church. It has also been distributed to the respective teams by email. If you have not received that email, please contact the parish office to update your email address and contact details. Thank you.

**BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING**

Loyola Press

*The Magi seek out Jesus and do him homage.*

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 savior. 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.

**CHILDREN SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2025**  
**ST JOSEPH’S CHURCH**  
**TRANMERE PARISH**

**RECONCILIATION**

- Workshops—
- Monday 3rd March at 6:30pm in Parish Hall
  - Monday 17th March at 6:30pm in Parish Hall
- Celebration— Tuesday 25th March at 7.00pm

**CONFIRMATION & FIRST EUCHARIST**

- Workshops—
- Monday 12th May at 6:30pm in Parish Hall
  - Monday 2nd June at 6:30pm in Parish Hall
- Rehearsal—Sunday 15th June after parish mass  
Celebration— Sunday 22nd June 11:00am  
Celebrant: Archbishop Patrick O’Regan

If you have children who would like to join the sacramental program, please contact the Parish Office.  
Tel: 8431 6932  
Email: info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au



# Parish Bulletin

**The EPIPHANY of the LORD, Year C**

**4/5 January 2025**

*We have come from the East to worship the king.*

**THEY OFFERED HIM GIFTS.**  
For some Christians the feast of Epiphany is the day on which gifts are exchanged. As we observe the wise men opening their treasures in today’s Gospel and offering gifts to Jesus, we can ask: what precious gifts can we offer to Jesus today? We may not have gold, frankincense and myrrh but we have our love, our fidelity, our time. We can give these to Jesus by fibbing them to those in need.

**PRAYER BEFORE HOLY MASS**

Heavenly father, we are about to offer this wonderful memorial of the passion and death of your Son. Bless our Priest as he stands in the person of Christ and makes present for us the great sacrifice of Calvary.

Bless our Ministers here present today—our ministers of the Eucharist, our readers, our Altar Servers, our musicians and ushers. When we reflect on the magnificence of these Sacred Ministries, we are somewhat overawed at our calling. But also we are overjoyed that You have asked us to stand at Your altar and serve You.

Help us to be reverent and to be faithful to our responsibilities. May this Eucharist that we are about to offer be a bond of unity and a sacrament of love for our people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING**

**Isaiah 60:1-6**

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**

**Psalm 71:1-2,7-8,10-13**

**Response:**

**Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

- 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**
- 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**

**SECOND READING**

**Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6**

*The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.*

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 Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

**The word of the Lord**

St Joseph's Catholic Church  
484 Magill Rd, Kensington Gardens  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5068  
www.stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

**Parish Priest**  
Fr Roy John Elavumkal SMM  
parishpriest@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

**Parish Secretary**  
Pat Kwok – Tue to Fri  
info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

**Parish Finance**  
finance@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

**WHS Officer**  
Angela Girolamo – Thursday

**Sacristan**  
Sundays: Terence Yeow & Roger Worth

**Parish Office Hours**  
Tue to Fri 9:30am – 12:30pm  
Ph: (08) 8431 6932  
info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

**Mass Times**  
Sunday 9:30 am  
Saturday Vigil Mass 6:30 pm  
Tuesday to Friday 9:15 am

**Confessions**  
Saturday 6:00 pm

**Rosary**  
Tues to Fri 8:45am  
**Adoration of the Eucharist**  
Friday before Mass 8:30am

**Novena to St. Joseph**  
Wednesday after Mass

**St. Joseph's Primary School**  
Principal - Adrian Grbin  
Ph: 8217 8300

**Knights of the Southern Cross**  
Michael Boyle Ph: 8337 3270

**Parish Pastoral Council**  
Chair – Alan Tyson  
**Parish Finance Council**  
Chair -Edward Konieczny  
**Child Safe Contact Person**  
Anne Dudzinski Ph: 0418 847 804  
**Vinnies Assistance Hotline**  
1300 729 202 - 9:00am to 4:30pm

**Rosters—11/12 Jan 2025  
The BAPTISM of the LORD**

Time	Commentator/Readers
<b>6.30pm Vigil</b>	Josh Page Michelle Page Giulia Giuliani
<b>9:30am</b>	Paul Halliwell Richard Dale Stephanie Roach
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
<b>Count team</b>	Paul Halliwell Denise Rutt Paul Roocke Danielle Roocke
<b>Altar and Flowers</b>	Dolores Arboit Christina Wong Sarita Ingham and volunteers
<i>All those who have volunteered please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start time and report to the commentator for that Mass</i>	

SUNDAY COLLECTION SUMMARY	21/22 DEC 2024
Open Plate	\$518.90
Planned Giving	\$479.00
<b>PARISH TOTAL</b>	<b>\$997.90</b>

This week's contribution to the Diocesan Presbytery Fund : \$663.50

*Let's pray together*

**Please remember in your prayers**

We pray for those listed and all the deceased relatives and friends of our Parishioners.

For the Repose of the Soul:

Death Anniversary:  
*Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; present them to God the Most High.*


**Sick:**  
*We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish and our relatives and friends who are unwell.*

**If you know of sick or elderly parishioners who are house-bound or in care and would appreciate a visit, please phone and leave a message with the parish office.**

SUNDAY COLLECTION SUMMARY	28/29 DEC 2024
Open Plate	\$461.05
Planned Giving	\$618.00
<b>PARISH TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,079.05</b>

This week's contribution to the Diocesan Presbytery Fund : \$501.60

**Pope Francis @pontifex**



God chose to be born for us: Jesus is the revelation of His eternal and infinite love, which brings peace into the world. May Mary, the Holy Mother of God, teach us to keep the joy of the Gospel in our hearts and bear witness to it in the world.



**Morning Tea**

**Next Sunday  
12th January 2025  
after 9:30am  
Holy Mass**

**All are welcome!**

**Walking together in Faith and Mission-2025**

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we stand at the threshold of a new year, I greet you with the peace and joy of our Lord Jesus Christ. The year 2025 unfolds before us, offering a fresh opportunity to renew our commitment to God and to one another as a community of faith in St. Joseph's Church Tranmere.

The turning of the calendar invites us to reflect on the past and look forward with hope. In the midst of challenges, God's presence has been constant. His grace has sustained us, and His love has guided us. As we enter this new year, let us carry forward the lessons we have learned, trusting in God's providence and mercy.

Pope Francis reminds us that every new year is a gift, a time to deepen our relationship with God, serve our brothers and sisters, and foster peace in our hearts, homes, and communities. This year, let us strive to be a Church that reflects Christ's compassion, forgiveness, and self-giving love.

**As a Catholic community, let us:**

- 1. Strengthen our faith:** Commit ourselves to regular prayer, the Sacraments, and the Word of God. Let the Eucharist be the source and summit of our lives, nourishing us to live as Christ's disciples.
- 2. Build a culture of service:** Respond generously to the needs of the poor, the lonely, and the marginalized. Our love for Christ is most evident in our love for one another.
- 3. Work for peace and unity:** Let us be peacemakers in our homes, workplaces, and society. We are called to be bridges of understanding and reconciliation in a divided world.

As we began 2025, I encourage you to entrust yourselves to the care of our Blessed Mother, the Mother of God, whose feast we celebrated on Wednesday 1 January. May her example of faith and obedience inspire us to walk confidently in the ways of the Lord.

May God bless you abundantly in this new year and fill your hearts with His love, joy, and peace. Together, let us journey forward, united in faith, hope, and love.

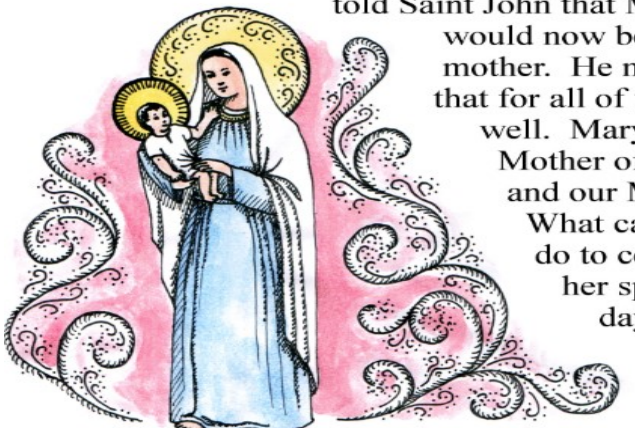
With my prayers and blessings,  
Fr. Roy John Elavumkal

**The Kids' Bulletin**  
*Mary the Mother of God*  
January 1

On the first day of the year we celebrate the feast day of Mary, the Mother of God.

If you didn't have a mother and God let you design your own mother, what would she be like? Well, God did get to make His own Mother! Can you even imagine how perfect she was?

When Jesus was dying on the Cross, he told Saint John that Mary would now be his mother. He meant that for all of us as well. Mary is the Mother of God and our Mother! What can you do to celebrate her special day?



Top: 3, 6, Middle: 5, 1, Bottom: 2, 4  
Answers to the Wise Men Puzzle:  
www.thekidsbulletin.com

**The Wise Men Puzzle**

Do you know the story of the wise men who came to worship Baby Jesus?  
What order do these pictures go in?  
Write the numbers from 1 to 6 in the boxes.



The wise men found Jesus and worshipped Him, giving Him gifts.

An angel told Joseph in a dream to take Mary and Jesus to Egypt.

Herod is trying to kill Jesus! Take him and Mary to Egypt!

Herod sent soldiers to kill all the babies in Bethlehem!

Some wise men in the East saw a star that was a sign of something...

The Messiah must be born!

The men went to King Herod to see if he knew where the new king was.

An angel warned the wise men and told them to go home another way.

Don't go back to Herod - He wants to kill the Baby!