



The Epiphany of the Lord - Year A

8 January, 2023

Parish Priest Fr Vinoth Santiago
66 Aitken Street, Gisborne Vic 3437
Ph: 5428 2591



Parish Secretary Tammie Dagleish
P O Box 467, Gisborne Vic 3437
Ph: 5428 2591

Parish Email gisborne@cam.org.au

Parish Website <http://pol.org.au/gisborne/Home.aspx>

Secretary Hours Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am – 5:00pm

CHILD PROTECTION - is everyone's responsibility

Check the Parish Website for: Child Safety & Code of Conduct Policy
Parish Privacy Act / Professional Standards
All children leaving the church during Mass must be accompanied by a parent.

CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:

Please pray for those who are in ill health:

Eileen Seric, Corrine Van der Merwe, Walter Carroll, Megan Brannigan, Andrew Moore, Sophie Wisniewski, Michael Wisniewski, Glenys O'Dea, Mary Bauer, Tanja Schnitzler, Brian Dullard, Anthony Seric & Ryan Fitzgerald.

We pray for the recently deceased and for those who have an anniversary at this time.

May they rest in peace ☩

JANUARY ROSTERS

As many of us are lucky enough to get away during the Christmas & New Year season there are no rostered duties for the month of January.

It would be appreciated if volunteers could make themselves available at any Mass they attend to ensure all ministry roles are filled.

Fr. Kevin Bourke will be celebrating weekend Masses *only* with us while Fr. Vinoth takes some time off during January.

Please note: weekday Masses will not be celebrated during Fr. Vinoth's absence. Communion Services will be offered on Tuesday evening at 5pm and Thursday morning at 9:15am. Communion Services will be held at St. Brigid's Church.

We welcome Fr. Kevin for the weekends of:
January 14/15, 21/22 & 28/29.

The Parish Secretary will be on board during January while Fr. Vinoth is away. The parish office will be attended on Tuesday's & Thursday's 9am to 5pm.

In line with our Safeguarding Policy, all volunteers do need a current Working with Children Check. Help provided to gain this if required.

Your time and talent is much needed and will be appreciated.

THE GOSPEL Matthew 2:1-12

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate:

Stars and Seekers after Truth

Unlike the writers of the horoscope columns in our newspapers, these Wise Men were scholar astrologers, probably from Syria or Iraq. They believed that the stars controlled the destiny of human beings, but they were open enough to the Hebrew scriptures to be led to the amazing discovery of a star-child in Bethlehem.

They knelt before this baby, doing homage, because they realised that the stars did not control *this* infant, but that there was something of this baby which caused the night sky to respond! They preserved the child from the deadly schemes of Herod, and then they returned to their home country, 'by a different way'. They were on a different journey after encountering the Child.

Who can doubt that the Holy Spirit led these wise men from the East to the manger? In fact, the Holy Spirit is at work in every human being, prompting each and every one to become seekers after Truth.

As a person responds to this prompting and tries to lead a good humane life, then the Church teaches that the Holy Spirit can draw them into the saving life of God. Thus, billions in China and India who have never heard the Gospel, can be saved. But, such persons do not savour the fullness of Truth as we do with the privilege of having the scriptures and the sacraments. Where it is possible, we are obliged to offer them the road map to the Truth.

We can take a moment to affirm our faith in the baby in the manger as the One of whom Dante spoke: 'the Love which moves the sun and other stars'. Come, let us adore him.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

Baptism

As arranged with the Parish Secretary usually the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month @ 12noon at St. Brigid's Gisborne

Marriages

Arranged by appointment with Fr. Vinoth at least 6 months in advance.

Funerals

Contact Fr. Vinoth directly.

Reconciliation

By appointment only - Please contact Fr. Vinoth directly.



BAPTISM PRAYER

We pray for

Georgie Witmitz & Nate Micallef

who will be Baptised in our parish this week.

The parishioners of St. Brigid's parish

Welcome and support you.



Events



PARISH DAY

SUNDAY 5th FEBRUARY 2023

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, MACEDON

Commences with Mass at 10:30am in the church

No other masses that Sunday

BYO Picnic lunch, chairs & rugs

Free BBQ / Tea and Coffee supplied

Come and Celebrate the Feast of St. Brigid



Help the three wise men to get to Bethlehem



Welcome

St. Brigid's Parish community warmly welcomes visitors and new parishioners. We invite new parishioners to introduce yourself to Fr. Vioth, fill in a census card located in the church foyer and place in either collection or contact Tam directly at the parish office.

Thanksgiving

Any parishioner wishing to join the Thanksgiving program is invited to contact Tam at the parish office to arrange some Thanksgiving envelopes. Thanksgiving contributions by Direct Debit or Credit Card are also welcome.

SCRIPTURE STUDIES

Every Thursday—10am—St. Brigid's Church

Enquiries: Bernie Floreani—0414 890 377

KARATE CLASSES FOR CHILDREN

Recommencing Term 1 2023 on Thursday evenings 6pm

1st lesson free then \$5 per class

No term commitment required, pay as you come.

Enquiries: Kathryn Aprile—0404 340 892

Open House - meet after 11:00 am Sunday Mass

at the Kaffeine Bar – 30 Aitken Street for a coffee and chat.

Everyone Welcome

St Brigid's Parish Weekly Thanksgiving Sunday - 25 December 2022

Total Amount Pledged	\$	1269
Total Amount received	\$	1154 (envelopes)
Total Amount received	\$	394 (credit cards)
Total Amount received	\$	290 (direct debit)
Presbytery Collection	\$	2130 (cash, c/c & d/d combined)

St Brigid's Parish Weekly Thanksgiving Sunday – 1 January 2023

Total Amount Pledged	\$	1269
Total Amount received	\$	621 (envelopes)
Total Amount received	\$	0 (credit cards)
Total Amount received	\$	25 (direct debit)
Presbytery Collection	\$	709 (cash, c/c & d/d combined)

Thank you for your ongoing support through the Thanksgiving Program.
May the Lord bless you all.

Weekday Services: 10th January to 27th January 2023

Tues 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm - Communion Service

Wed No Service

Thurs 9:15 am to 10:00 am - Communion Service

Fri No Service

Reconciliation & Spiritual Direction:

APPOINTMENT ONLY—please call Parish Office 5428 2591 to book a time

Please see parish website for any changes—www.cam.org.au/gisborne