

# ST. MARY'S PARISH

LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY

The Epiphany of the Lord - Year B

7<sup>th</sup> January, 2024

Lancefield Church  
27 Chauncey Street  
Lancefield



Romsey Church  
85 Main Street  
Romsey



## EVERYONE WELCOME

Ministry Roster	07/01/24	14/01/24	21/01/24	28/01/24
Musician	Christine	Rosalie	Christine	Agnes
Reader	Leanne	Joan	Michael G	<i>Vol Required</i>
Collector	Gerard	<i>Vol Required</i>	<i>Vol Required</i>	<i>Vol Required</i>
Cleaner	Loretta	-----	-----	-----
Location	Romsey	Lancefield	Romsey	Lancefield

*Could those listed on the roster please advise if you are unavailable.*

## CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:

*Please pray also for the following who are in continuing need of our prayers:*

*Merle Trembath, Christine Cheney, Isabelle Fleming, Kath Ireland, Val Carr, Gwen DeCarolis, John Alford, Brendan Coburn, Isla Foy, Rhonda Cusack, Fran Cassidy & Susan Brady.*

## MYSTERY OF FAITH

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
And profess your Resurrection  
Until you come again.

## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

- Fr:** Dear friends, the light of Christ has dawned upon us in all its glory.  
In peace let us ask God to dispel all darkness from our world..
- R:** We pray for the keepers and teachers of wisdom, that they will shed the light of truth for all who seek it.  
**We pray to the Lord.** Lord, hear our prayer.
- R:** We pray for people living under brutal and oppressive regimes, that they will keep the torch of freedom alight for one another.  
**We pray to the Lord.** Lord, hear our prayer.
- R:** We pray for the human family, that our shared hopes for a healthier world this year will be realised.  
**We pray to the Lord.** Lord, hear our prayer.
- R:** We pray for those away on summer holidays, that they will enjoy a refreshing break and return home safe and well.  
**We pray to the Lord.** Lord, hear our prayer.
- R:** We pray for the sick members of our parish and for those who care for them.  
We pray for the recently deceased & for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Jack Coburn & Hilda Whitworth.  
**We pray to the Lord.** Lord, hear our prayer.

## All HAIL MARY

**Fr:** Holy God and Father of light,  
You have revealed the splendor of your glory in Christ your Son.  
Help us walk always as children of the light.  
We ask this through the same Christ our Lord.  
**Amen**

**Readings next week** 1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20 John 1:35-42

## Parish Priest

Fr Martin Fleming  
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Woodend Vic 3442  
Ph: 5427 2690

## Parish Secretary

Tammie Dalgleish  
C/- Presbytery  
27 Chauncey Street  
Lancefield Vic 3435  
Ph: 5429 2130

## Parish Email

[lancefield@cam.org.au](mailto:lancefield@cam.org.au)

## Parish Website

<http://pol.org.au/lancefield/Home.aspx>

## Secretary Hours

Wednesday & Friday  
8:00am – 5:00pm

## WE HAVE NEWS!!

As advised by Archbishop Peter Comensoli in correspondence dated 15 December, 2023, I can advise that he has appointed

### Reverend Brian Muling

as Assistant Priest to St. Ambrose Parish, Woodend and St. Mary's Parish Lancefield & Romsey.

Fr. Muling will begin his appointment on 31 January, 2024.

Fr. Brian will take up residence at the Lancefield Presbytery and will celebrate Masses, Weddings, Funerals and other Sacraments in our parish.

## SECRETARY – ON LEAVE 8-26 JANUARY

The office phone will not be monitored for these weeks so please contact Fr. Martin directly at Woodend on 5427 2690, for any urgent matters.

Emails will be monitored so please use email as preferred contact method.

# The Living Word

**The Epiphany of the Lord**

7 January 2024

## First Reading Is 60:1-6

*The glory of the Lord shines upon you.*

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.

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13, R. see v.11**

*(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will  
adore you.*

1. 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.)*
2. In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon falls.  
He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to earth's bounds. *(R.)*
3. 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.)*
4. For he shall save the poor when they cry  
and the needy who are helpless.  
He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor. *(R.)*

## Second Reading Eph 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 Christ  
Jesus, through the gospel.

## Gospel Acclamation Mt 2:2

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

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

*Alleluia!*

## Gospel Mt 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.

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## Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

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.

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