



Parish of St Justin

48 Whalley Drive Wheelers Hill 3150, Telephone # 9401 6335
Email: WheelersHill@cam.org.au Website: pol.org.au/wheelershill

St Justin's Parish is committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

The EPIPHANY of the LORD

7th January 2024

PARISH PERSONNEL

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr Andrzej Madry CR
Congregation of the Resurrection

PERMANENT DEACON:
Deacon Neil Daculan

PARISH SECRETARY:
Jeanne Bernard

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR:
Jamie Davin

SAFEGUARDING TEAM:
Mai-Ling Sholl
Ophelia D'Souza
Wheelershill.safeguarding@cam.org.au

ST JUSTIN'S SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:
Patrick Torpey 9561 7644

NAZARETH COLLEGE PRINCIPAL:
Sam Consentino
9795 8100

ST JUSTIN'S WEEKEND MASSES:
Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm
Sunday: 8.30am, 10.30am & 5 pm

WEEK DAY MASSES:
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9.15 am, Saturday 9.15am

GOOD SHEPHERD WEEKEND MASSES:
Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm
Sunday: 9.00am & 11.00am

WEEK DAY MASSES:
MONDAY, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9.15 am, Saturday 10.00am

Baptisms, Marriages, Pastoral Care of the Sick:
For details regarding the celebration of these sacraments, please contact the Parish Office or speak directly to Fr Andrzej

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Is 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, Response - Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

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

(R.) 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.)
- 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

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Eph 3:2-3, 5-6

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.

The Word of the Lord, Response - Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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



Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew Mt 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.

The Gospel of the Lord Response - Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

**Next Week's Reading
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Sam 3:3-1, 19 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42**



We pray for the sick of our Parish:

Carmel Welsh, Francis & Joanne Downs, Tiana Mugagulio, David Booth, Maria Macan, Rita, Steven & Georgette Mizher, Annette & Stephen Sachie. Dilini Abeyssekara, Senaka Fernando, Cathy Faux, June Ferguson, Delani Hakan, Nicolette Thomas, Eileen Doyle, Piroska Tertelyi. Cameron Wales, Alan Sullivan, Melinda Anderson, Marie Rabot, Helena De Costa, Marise Peiris, Jenny Williams, Nigel D’Lima, Troy Eccles, Ondie & Robert Goold,

We pray for all who have died recently including **Robert Tiong**.

We pray for those whose death anniversaries occur at this time,

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.

Thanksgiving Collections 24th December 2023

1st Collection (house)	
Presbytery	- \$ 1,891.75
2nd Collection (church)	
Thanksgiving	- \$ 96.00
Loose	- \$ 2,109.00

31st December 2023

1st Collection (house)	
Presbytery	- \$ 833.25
2nd Collection (church)	
Thanksgiving	- \$ 256.00
Loose	- \$ 427.60

We express our thanks and appreciation for your continued support to St Justin’s Parish.

Sacraments Preparation Classes 2024

St Justin’s Parish provides preparation for the Sacraments for children who attend schools other than our parish school.

If you wish for your child to attend these lessons, please notify the Parish Office
Email: wheelershill@cam.org.au or
Parish Office 9401 6335

*The grade levels for each Sacraments are:
First Holy Communion/Reconciliation Grade 4 and Confirmation classes.*

Parish Calendar 2024



Week Day Masses

- Wednesday 10th & Thursday 11th January
There will be “NO” 9.15 am mass at St Justin’s Church,
- Wednesday 10th & Thursday 11th January
9.15am Mass **will be** at Good Shepherd Church,
- Friday 12th January , Mass at 9.15 am St Justin’s

LIFT Youth Camp

DATE : SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2024
TIME : 8:30 AM TO 8:00 PM
VENUE : GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH HALL ,30 ACADEMY AVE, WHEELERS HILL

Fee: \$10.00

Registration
Email sheena.devadass@gmail.com
by Sun 21 Jan24

HERE I AM LORD

ST JUSTIN’S PARISH CRAFT GROUP

All welcome, come along to the Meeting Room in St Justin’s Parish House

WEDNESDAYS 1.00pm—3.00pm

2nd & 4th Wed each month (except school holidays)

Next gatherings will be in February 2024, dates will be notified soon,

 **Sewing, Knitting, Crochet, Craft Projects**

- **Bring along your own project**
- **Learn a new craft**
- **Or just share a cuppa and a chat**

Any queries contact Mai Ling 0412 499 205.

All Parish Bulletin requests must be in by **Wednesday midday.**

Please email all requests to Wheelershill@cam.org.au

A Walk Through the Christmas Season

The Church's liturgical season of Christmas is one of its shortest, but also one of its most unique. Within it is the eight-day celebration of the Lord's Nativity—known as the Christmas octave—as well as other feasts related to Jesus' status as Lord of the nations. And there are feasts of several saints, many of whose stories contain special significance to the season.

Solemnity of the Epiphany



Traditionally celebrated on 6 January, the twelfth day of Christmas, the solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord is transferred to the Sunday between 2 and 8 January in the Australian liturgical calendar. In commemoration of the visitation of the Magi—who represent Christ's salvation of all humanity, not just the Jews—this feast celebrates various aspects of Christ's identity, as evoked by the gifts the Magi present to him. The gold and frankincense represent Christ's status as king of the universe, the deity worthy of our true worship. And the myrrh points to the bitter reality that the babe in the manger was born to die.

The Baptism of the Lord

The Christmas season ends with the feast of the Lord's baptism, which falls on the Sunday after the Epiphany (unless the Epiphany falls on 7 or 8 January—as it does this year—in which case it is celebrated on the following day, a Monday.) This feast commemorates the day on which Christ formally accepts his mission as the redeemer when he receives St John the Baptist's baptism of conversion and repentance. He sets out from the waters of the Jordan, identified as God's own son by the Father's voice that resounded from the opened sky, and inaugurates his saving work as the long-awaited Messiah who will free us of our sins.

Reflection : 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 starchild 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.

In times of darkness, faith is all you have, says Cardinal Pizzaballa

While faith does not necessarily change your circumstances in moments of great darkness, such as the one Israelis and Palestinians are currently living through in the Israeli– Hamas war, it can, Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa said, create 'a small light' that will give 'orientation'.



In times of darkness, faith is all you can have, but faith has many perspectives, said the Cardinal, who is the Latin patriarch of Jerusalem.

'Faith is not just believing that God is there,' he told OSV News in an interview on 12 December at the Latin Patriarchate. 'Faith is also the ability to look beyond what you're seeing with a perspective that things will change, and that will give you the space to also live in the present.'

Faith, he said, is also the ability to create unity in the community. If, even while living in the darkness, all you can see is that darkness, you cannot move or think of where to go from there, he said.

We as Christians need to be in solidarity and talk about justice and truth, without being exclusive.

'To talk about these words may not make sense now, but to do the gestures is important because when we are alone in this darkness, these gestures, the traditional gestures, are important to keep you alive,' he said.

Everyone must follow their own personal journey, he said, but should use these words as their guidelines, despite the suffering that nevertheless remains.

'Not all will be able to humanely accept them because the pain is too much to bear,' he said.

'But you have to look in perspective. Now this is the moment of suffering, pain, you are unable to understand everything that is happening and why it is happening. We are all disoriented. We have to wait until all this finishes to see what to do and how to rebuild—and not just physically.'

As the Patriarchs and Heads of Churches in Jerusalem have called on Christians to refrain from public festivities for Advent and Christmas celebrations this year—in solidarity with those who are suffering and have lost homes and family members—there will be more an emphasis on the spiritual and liturgical content of the holiday, Cardinal Pizzaballa said.

The message of Christmas remains constant, but for the Cardinal personally it has turned to the concept of 'there was no room for them' (Luke 2:7).

Right now, the patriarch said, 'Everyone is so full of pain and hatred, there is no space for the other,' and it is a challenge to keep that hate away from your heart as the world seems to be imposing it more and more every day.

For him, the Palestinian question and finding a place for them can't be addressed in those circumstances.

'The bottom line is that we need to find a place [for everyone] because there is a place.'

ROSTERS	DATE	ALTAR SERVERS	DATA PROJECTIONIST	READERS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER
Sat 6.00pm	06 Jan	Volunteer	Melissa Fernandes	Paul Dunne	Marian Coyle
Sun 8.30am	07 Jan	Volunteer	Oswin Antao	Volunteer	Volunteer
Sun 10.30 am	07 Jan	Volunteer	Lolita Briones	Demetrio DeJ	Volunteer
Sun 5.00pm	07 Jan	Volunteer	Anthony Devadass	Natalie Uranie	Volunteer
NEXT WEEK					
Sat 6.00pm	13 Jan	Volunteer	Volunteer	Helen Johnpillai	Raymond Coyle
Sun 8.30am	14 Jan	Volunteer	Khai Vu	Mai-Ling Sholl	Mai-Ling Sholl
Sun 10.30am	14 Jan	Volunteer	Dominic D'Angelo	John Italiano	Anthony Phey
Sun 5.00pm	14 Jan	Volunteer	Joyce Simm	Sheena Devadass	Natalie Uranie
ROSTERS		COUNTERS	CLEANING	ALTAR	COLLECTORS
THIS WEEK	07 Jan	Yvette Esteves, Theresa Bell		Natalie Uranie	
NEXT WEEK	13 Jan	Rohita W'ratne, Yvette Esteves			

The Children's Ministry of St Justin's Parish, Wheelers Hill

**The children's ministry will continue this year in
Next session : 11th February 2024**



The session will commence during the 10.30am Mass on 2nd Sunday of the month and children will be taken together by the volunteers before the penitential act. Father will invite all the children and give them a blessing prior to leaving the church.

Safeguarding Measures are in place & St Justin's is committed to ensure the safety, well-being and inclusion of all children and has policies and procedures in place to maintain a Child Safe Environment..

Further Information

If you have any suggestions or queries, please contact the parish office of St Justin's Church on 03 9401 6335 or email wheelershill@cam.org.au

"ST. VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL"

"Our St Vincent Appeal has begun!

Once again, we would very much appreciate your support to enable us to continue to help those in need – those families who are hungry, and live in difficult circumstances.

We are hoping you can assist us further by a kind donation – either in the St Vinnies Donation Box at the back of the church – or non-perishable food items may be placed in the baskets in the church foyer.

Non-perishable food items, such as Coffee, Tea, Jam, Cereal, Canned Tomatoes', Rice, Sugar, Noodles, Peanut Butter, Long-life Full Cream Milk are named are in urgent need.

We are very blessed to have the support of the parish, our school and generous parishioners.

THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH.

We would be grateful for any assistance you can give. Thank you.

CHILD SAFE PARISH

Here at St Justin's, Wheelers Hill Parish we follow the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government and we implement procedures and standards as directed by the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

All Volunteers must have a current Working with Children Check Card.

If you need assistance or for more information- please contact the Parish Office or Fr Andrew - wheelershill@cam.org.au on 9401 6335.

Safeguarding group ; wheelershill.safeguarding@cam.org.au



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