



# Bridie

St Brigid's Parish Community, Coogee  
Cared for by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart



**Parish Priest:** Fr Thoi Tran msc  
**Secretary:** Caroline Doherty  
**Sacramental Co-ord:** Inez Augustine  
**Safe Guarding Officer:** Sharon Waller

**Website:** [www.stbrigidscoogee.org.au](http://www.stbrigidscoogee.org.au)  
**Email:** [stbparish\\_coogee@yahoo.com.au](mailto:stbparish_coogee@yahoo.com.au)  
**Phone:** 9315 7562

St Brigid's Primary School  
**Principal:** Diane Cowan  
160 Coogee Bay Rd Coogee NSW 2034  
**Phone:** 9665 5771



## Feast of the Epiphany Year A 7th/8th January 2023

### Have you thought ?

The feast of the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus to humankind. The wise men are the representatives of humanity bearing witness to this revelation. However, the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus as not only the Messiah of Israel but the Saviour of the whole world.

Interestingly, in this gospel that emphasises the 'Jewish-ness' of Jesus, the witnesses to the birth are gentiles from a foreign land. Their inclusion is a powerful declaration that the revelation of Jesus is for all people. Regardless of the liturgical year, this reading is always used on the feast of the Epiphany to celebrate this pivotal moment.

### Readings for this weekend

Isaiah 60:1-6  
Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6  
Matthew 2:1-12

Light has come; the glory of the Lord shines upon you  
Spirit's revelation, that we are all parts of the same body of Christ  
We have come from the East to worship the King

### Gospel Reflection

The gospel of Mark, the first of the four canonical gospels to be written, does not bother at all with the question of the birth of Jesus. Written some ten or more years later, the gospels of Luke and Matthew both present a version of the circumstances surrounding the birth of Jesus. The gospel of John, written later still, also avoids details of Jesus' birth. The two accounts of the infancy that we do have from the gospels tell very different stories because they have each been used to place the rest of the gospel in a particular context. Unfortunately, the two stories have been mashed together so much that we now have one notion of the Christmas story that is a poor amalgam of the two unique narratives.

In the gospel of Luke, Joseph and Mary are living in Nazareth and travel to Bethlehem and are forced to give birth out in a field because there is no room at the only inn in Bethlehem. The ones who bear witness to the birth in this account are shepherds – some of the lowest of the low – as the gospel of Luke identifies Jesus as having a preferential option for the lowly ones. In the gospel of Matthew, Joseph and Mary are living in Bethlehem and give birth in their own house. They later flee to Egypt and then settle in Nazareth. The two towns need to be included in both accounts because they are named in some of the ancient prophecies about the Messiah. In the gospel of Matthew, the witnesses to the birth are wise men, dignitaries from another land. The Matthew writer wants to emphasise the 'kingship' of Jesus and it is fitting that foreign dignitaries present gifts on the birth of a king.

**Greg Sunter**

**Entrance antiphon:** The Lord and ruler is coming; kingship is his, and government and power.

**Response to the psalm:** Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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

### WISH TO DONATE ONLINE

We are pleased to offer the option for Parishioners or visitors to donate online through our website. Scan this QR code to donate. Please call the parish office with any questions.

**Tel: 9315 7562**



### Readers

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Saturday Vigil 5pm<br/>January</b>   | Sr Jan O'Neill (Coordinator)<br>Chelsea Albert and John Betros |
| <b>Sunday 7.00 am<br/>Sunday 9.30am</b> | Peter Frost (Coordinator)<br>Dominic Sullivan and family       |
| <b>Sunday 6pm</b>                       | Paula O'Connor (Coordinator)                                   |

### Church Cleaners

Paula O'Connor, Margaret & John Betros and other volunteers

### Money Counters

|                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>January 1st:</b> Group 4  | <b>January 8th:</b> Group 1  |
| <b>January 15th:</b> Group 2 | <b>January 22nd:</b> Group 3 |

### Ministers of Communion

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Saturday Vigil 5pm<br/>January</b> | Sr Gabriel (Coordinator),<br>John Betros, Radmila Lewis |
| <b>Sunday 7.00 am<br/>January</b>     | Peter Frost (Coordinator),<br>Peter Frost               |
| <b>Sunday 9.30 am<br/>January</b>     | Adele Cornale (Coordinator),<br>Pila Ovelar             |
| <b>Sunday 6pm</b>                     | Paula O'Connor (Coordinator)                            |

### Sacristy & Altar

Pilar Ovelar & Carol Miller

### Altar Flowers

Pilar Ovelar, Carol Miller & Margaret Betros

### Piety Stall

(5pm Vigil Mass) Carol Miller

### Parish Office

The parish office is back open this week and we look forward to see you, if you have any enquiries please contact us.

### Morning Tea

Morning tea will be back on mid January.



## Mass Intentions —your prayers are requested for the following:

**Recently Deceased** Alex Whelan

**Anniversaries** Michael Summers

**Deceased** Eileen and Paul McMahon, Fitzpatrick Family, Kit and Bill Sanders,  
Bill Jack, Jack and Alma Saidey, Jack and Carmel Saidy Olde and Carmel Olde.

**Sick** Geoff Wall, Sean Mullin, Catherine Sharpley and June Ferguson

## St Brigid's Parish Information

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Mass Times</b>             | Saturday Vigil 5.00 pm, Sunday 7.00 am, 9.30am and 6pm   |
| <b>Morning Tea</b>            | Thursday at 10am and Sundays after the 9.30am Family Mass.                                     |
| <b>Weekday Masses</b>         | Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday – 9.30 am                                      |
| <b>Reconciliation</b>         | 20 Minutes before Saturday Vigil Mass  |
| <b>Sacrament of Anointing</b> | During 9.30am Mass, First Friday of every month.   |
| <b>Baptisms</b>               | By appointment, on the first and third Sundays of each month, <i>after</i> 9.30am Family Mass. |
| <b>Marriages</b>              | Saturdays, by appointment, arranged at least six months in advance                             |
| <b>Parish Office:</b>         | Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 9am to 3pm.<br>Phone 9315 7562.                         |

## *St Brigid's This Week and Beyond*

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday we welcome Luna Rae Grace, daughter of Mark and Alexandra and Millie Rose Frampton, daughter of Andrew and Natalie and Xavier Lee and Oliver Lock Champion sons of Andrew and Alison. May God Bless these children and their families.

**Tuesday 10th January at 11am** - Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor invite you to an annual Mass to mark the anniversary of the death of Eileen O'Connor who is on the path to becoming Australia's next saint. **Principal Celebrant:** Emeritus Bishop Terence Brady. Please note no 9.30am Mass.

*Fr Thoi & the parish team*

### **A Prayer for the Feast of the Epiphany**

I wonder sometimes  
If one of the stars that lit Abraham's night  
Was the one that led the Magi to Jesus.  
A dark canvas speckled by the most generous brush—  
What an improbable promise to an old man.  
But our God has never been daunted by the unlikely, the impossible.  
What a sight for the Magi, too,  
A baby resting on hay, his cries mingled with braying and bleating.  
I like to think they heard in those everyday sounds a holy chorus,  
Saw in that noisy tableau a Creator serenaded by His creation,  
All of it embodied, enfleshed—  
All of it good.  
And when we've left our gifts for this implausible King,  
May we, like the Magi, go home by another way—  
Having encountered the holy,  
May we protect it, guard it,  
Trail its light behind us wherever we go.  
A sacred arc transposed from heaven to earth,  
May we ourselves become the star,  
Leading the way to Emmanuel.  
Amen.

— Cameron Bellm

spirit &  
verse



**Sacrament Dates 2023** (Contact Inez at [sacramentcoogee@gmail.com](mailto:sacramentcoogee@gmail.com) with any enquiries)

- **First Reconciliation** - online registration 5 Dec - 20 Feb. Parent info session followed by commitment mass at Sat 25 Feb at 4pm.  
Celebration of Reconciliation Wed 29th March 5pm or 7pm.
- **Confirmation** - online registration 24 Apr - 14 May. Parent info session and commitment mass Sat 20 May at 4pm and Confirmation Mass Wed 28 June.
- **First Eucharist** - online registration 17 Jul - 1 Aug. Parent info session and commitment mass Sat 5 Aug at 4pm. First Eucharist Mass Sun, 10 Sep 11am or 1pm.

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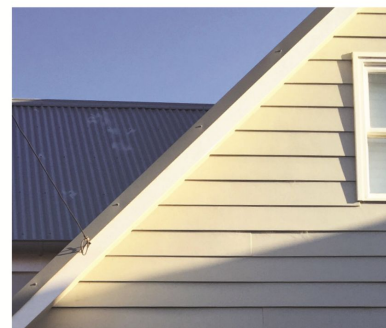
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## A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

**Child sex Abuse is a crime.**

The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org).

You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest, who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. **St Brigid's Parish Coogee Safeguarding Officer is Sharon Waller.**