



## 5th January, 2014 - Year A The EPIPHANY of the LORD

### ALL HALLOWS' PARISH CHURCH 2 Halley Street FIVE DOCK 2046

**Parish Priest:**

Fr Greg McGregor

**Associate Pastor:**

Fr Salas Muttathukattil MSFS

**Secretary:**

Elena Di Perna

**Presbytery:**

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 8.30am - 3.30pm

Wed - Thurs: 8.30am - 12.30pm

Friday: 8.30am - 3.30pm

Closed for lunch 12.30-1.30 pm

**Phone:** 9713 7960

**Fax:** 9713 5172

**Email:**

parishallhallows@gmail.com

**Web:** www.allhallows.org.au

### All Hallows' Catholic Primary School

**Principal:** Mr Paul Wilson

**Phone:** 9713 4469 Fax: 9712 5184

**Email:**

info@ahpsfivedock.catholic.edu.au

**Web:**

www.ahpsfivedock.catholic.edu.au

### Sacramental Life

**Eucharist:**

Saturday - 9.00am & 5.30pm Vigil

Sunday - 8.30am

Sunday - 10am Children's Liturgy

Sunday - 6.00pm Youth Mass

Monday - 9.00am

Tues - Wed - 8.00am

Thurs - Fri - 9.00am

Lauds (morning prayer) is prayed 20 minutes before morning mass daily. All Welcome.

**Italian Mass:**

No Italian Mass until further notice.

**Reconciliation:** Saturday

9.30 - 10am & 4.45 - 5.15pm

**Anointing:** Every 2 months -

check bulletin for dates.

**Sick Calls:** Any time - day/night.

**Funeral Masses:** In co-operation with Funeral Directors.

Dear Parishioners,

#### 1. Light to the Nations

*This Sunday we will hear that it is Christ alone who is light to all peoples, to all the world (First Reading). Jesus' preaching, his life, his death and resurrection, these became a revelation of God to every single person, no exceptions.*



*But how can this be? What if God is present in other world religions? How can Jesus and Christianity be the light of the world if other religions reach God also? Is there not a contradiction here?*

*Whatever else the bombing of New York's "World Trade Towers" did, it alerted many people in the United States to the reality of Islam.*

*Tragically, it was the few extremists that brought this awareness, but they have very little to do with real Islam. Muslims are not some small sect of people far away with strange and negligible beliefs. They are a great people, who worship the same God we do. Their ideal is, like ours, love. They are an integral part of that country. But, as Christians do, they have terrible fanatics among them who would kill to achieve domination. Like the IRA were in Northern Ireland, these are a very small percentage of a religion that pledges eternal fidelity to the one God. The Spirit of God is present in Muslims and Jews as well as in Christians. As St. Paul will put it this Sunday, "in every nation, whoever fears God and acts uprightly is acceptable to him."*

*The question of which religion contains God reminds me of children asking their parents which child they love most. "If you love her more than me," one will say, "then you don't love me at all." Now, now, children, we love each one of you in a special way, a way that is perfect just for you.*

*So, in the first place, let us not ask which religion is the only true one, thus making all the others false. There is not really a competition. The religions are different approaches to God, and they each reveal a special aspect of who God is. Jealousy and hatred of one another is an exact equivalent to dysfunctional families where each person has to fight to be recognized at all. Think of a world in which God loved only Christians and left all the others out in the cold.*

*A much better way is to observe how each religion helps the others. For its part, Christianity gives a very special revelation to the world. Jesus' suffering shows forth love in a way that is crystal clear, revealing what the others always need to hear. In it God enters the underside of human life. He does not hesitate to suffer as we do, even to suffer at the hands of sin, disgrace and death. He became a light to all nations. Not a light instead of other lights, not the light that puts out all others, but the most rare and poignant beam of all. His glow gives fibre and strength and depth to each and every other light that shines.*

*So which religion is first? Catholic Christians would do well to seek last*

place and try to be servant of all. Especially if we would like to know why, on this Epiphany, a tiny baby is light to all nations.

## 2. The Saints of the Epiphany

According to the Tradition of the Catholic Church, the three Kings (Wise men) mentioned in Matthew 2:1-9 represent the three ages and three "radical types" of man, each wise man further representing one of Noah's descendants (Sem, Cham, and Japheth). According to the Tradition of the Catholic Church, there truly were three Wise Men: St. Caspar, St. Melchior, and St. Balthasar. St. Caspar is traditionally described as young, beardless and the descendant of Ham who brought frankincense to the Child Christ. St. Melchior was old and had a white-colored beard; he was the descendant of Sam who brought gold to Jesus. And finally, St. Balthasar was a bearded, black descendant of Japheth, in the prime of his life, who brought myrrh. These are all related from the words of the Venerable Bede.

As Fish Eaters states, "Tradition also has it that the kings were baptized by St. Thomas, and they are considered Saints of the Church. Though their feasts aren't celebrated liturgically, the dates given for them in the martyrology are as follows: St. Caspar on 1 January; St. Melchior on 6 January; and St. Balthasar on 11 January."

May God Bless You

Fr Greg



**NEW ALTAR SERVER ROSTER  
& YOUTH MASS MINISTERS ROSTER  
AVAILABLE IN SACRISTY**

## Kid's Corner

**Q.** Why couldn't the batsman explained how he got out?

**A.** He was stumped!!



## WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

**In your love and concern, please pray for:-**



### Recently Deceased:

Calogera De Nina, Michelle Irene Baugh

### Anniversaries:

Shona O'Neill, Valentina Beresford,  
Domenico Triulcio, Pamela Godinho, Antonino Basile

### Also for:

Amelia Donato

### For the following ill members of our community:-

Tomas Laming, Fr Mial Mc Sweeney,  
Angela Colantonio, Antonia Merlino,  
Ida Bova, Amelia Casarotto, Mirella Mercuri, Alex  
La Rossa, , Norma and Bernie Lloyd, Peter  
Hankinson, Monica Moschella,  
Madelina Michael, Marcello Cheles, Brian Lees.

(Names will remain on list for 1 month unless notified.)

**All Hallows Community Garden  
- Parish Garden**



**Date for your Diary: Australia Day  
- Sunday 26th January 2014  
Outdoor screening of Red Dog**

Come and celebrate this special day watching a classic Australian film at our Outdoor Cinema in the parish garden. This will be a great night for all the family, from 7.00pm with movie commencing around 8.00pm. There will be a sausage sizzle and popcorn available. Bring your rugs, picnic food and drinks, sit back, relax and watch Red Dog under the stars and soak up the atmosphere of the night. Watch this

## **TRANSPORT HELPERS NEEDED**

Drivers are needed to take elderly parishioners to 8.30 am Mass on Sunday. A roster is organised so that each person drives 2 or 3 times a month and if you are unavailable our drivers swap with each other.



If you can help please contact the parish office or phone Robyn Glover 9181 5265

## POPE FRANCIS' COLUMN



### **“Humility necessary for fruitfulness”**

### **Pope Francis' Reflection on God's Miracle of Life in the Midst of Sterility**

“Humility is necessary for fruitfulness,” Pope Francis said at Mass in the morning at Casa Santa Marta on December 19, 2013 . The Holy Father said that the intervention of God overcomes the sterility of our life and makes it fruitful. Then he put us on guard against the attitude of pride that makes us sterile.

Often in the Bible we find women who are sterile, to whom the Lord gives the gift of life. That was the starting point of Pope Francis' homily on the day's readings, particularly the Gospel, which tells the story of Elizabeth, who was sterile but who had a son – John. “From the impossibility of giving life,” the Pope said, “comes life.” And this, he continued, happened not only for sterile women but to those “who had no hope of life,” such as Naomi who eventually had a grandson:

“The Lord intervened in the life of this woman to tell us: ‘I am capable of giving life.’ In the Prophets too there is the image of the desert, the desert land that cannot grow a tree, a fruit, to bring forth anything. ‘But the desert will be like a forest,’ the Prophets say, “it will be huge, it will flower.” But can the desert flower? Yes. Can the sterile woman give life? Yes. The promise of the Lord: ‘I can!’ From dryness, from your dryness I can make life, salvation grow. From aridity I can make fruit grow!”

And that salvation, Pope Francis said, is this: “The intervention of God who makes us fruitful, who gives us the capacity to give life.” He warned that we cannot do it by ourselves. And yet, the Pope said, many people have tried to imagine that we are capable of saving ourselves:

“Even Christians, eh? We think of the Pelagians for example. All is grace. And it is the intervention of God that brings us salvation. It is the intervention of God that helps us along the path of sanctity. Only He can do it. But what are we to do on our part? First, recognize our dryness, our incapacity to give life. Recognize this. Second, ask: ‘Lord, I want to be fruitful.’ I desire that my life should give life, that my faith should be fruitful and go forward and be able to give it to others. Lord, I am sterile, I can't do it. You can. I am a desert: I can't do it. You can.”

And this, he added, could be our prayer during these days before Christmas. “We think about how the proud, those who think they can do it all by themselves, are struck.” The Pope turned his thoughts to Michal, the daughter of Saul. She was a woman, he said, “who was not sterile, but was proud, and was not able to understand what it was to praise God,” and in fact laughed at the praise that David gave to the Lord. And she was punished with sterility:

“Humility is necessary for fruitfulness. How many people imagine they are just, like Michal, but who are really [sorry souls (poveracce)]. The humility to say to the Lord: ‘Lord, I am sterile, I am a desert’ and to repeat in these days this beautiful antiphon that the Church makes us pray: O Son of David, O Adonai, O Wisdom – today! – O Root of Jesse, O Emmanuel, come and give us life, come and save us, because only You can, by myself I cannot!’ And with this humility, this humility of the desert, this humility of a sterile soul, receive grace, the grace to flourish, to give fruit, and to give life.”





**WHAT'S ON IN OUR PARISH?**

**Inner Wheel Club - Balmain Group**

1st Tuesday of month 6.30pm - 9pm in Hall

**St Vincent de Paul Society**

Meetings held each 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm in the meeting room connected to the garage.

**Catholic Women's League Five Dock**

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of month 12.00pm in Parish Hall

**Choir Practice**

All welcome to choir practice in the Church  
7.30 pm every Monday.  
Ring Maria on 9713 7310

**Italian Choir Group**

Tuesday - 12.30 pm in the Church

**Italian Prayer Group**

Tuesday - 1 pm in Parish Hall  
Messa Italiana ogni ultimo martedì del mese  
Enquiries: M. Mureddu 9712 2394

**Playgroup**

9.30am - 11.30am in Parish Hall  
(not during school holidays)  
Wednesday - Franca 0414 868 259

**Family Mass Choir Practice**

Wednesday 7.45pm in Church  
All welcome!

**Italian Prayer Group - Thursday**

In Chiesa dopo la Messa delle 9 ogni settimana. Ogni terzo giovedì c'è la Messa Italiana con Padre Bob per tutta la comunità di All Hallows.  
Tutti ben venuti!  
Enquiries: Lucia 9713 1800

**Youth Mass Choir Practice**

Tuesday 7.00 pm in Church  
All welcome!

**Sunday 5th January 2014 - The EPIPHANY of the LORD**

READINGS: Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

SATURDAY 5.30pm	SUNDAY 8.30am	SUNDAY 10am	SUNDAY 6.00pm Youth Mass
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**READERS**

D. Tomasello T. McCabe L. Gatto M. Piccolo	D. Triulcio L. La Cava A. Casarotto J. Heffernan	Family Mass	Intro & P/F: Stephen H 1st: Emily C Psalm: James C 2nd: Rebecca C
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**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

M. Virtu M. Tomasello D. Grippi G. Bonaddio J. Bonaddio V. Radice A. Fabro	P. Moschella M. Coleman G. Favotto Ma. Chesworth c. Mylott J. Walsh B. Walsh	A. Caldareri M. Caldareri A. Incampo V. Jacobs D. Squadrito A. McMahon E. Ferraro	N. Lazzaro L. Parisi M. Zol A. Den C. Pollifrone W. Florian A. Pavan
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**ALTAR SERVERS**

Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 3
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**HOME VISITS:** L. La Cava, P. Moschella, M. Coleman, E. Ferraro

**NURSING HOMES:**

Visit 9 January - **Parkview:** no visit

Visit 10 January - **Russell Lea:** no visit

**COUNTERS:** Group 7 **TRANSPORT:** Robyn, Rosy, Tony

**PIETY STALL:** Veronica/Caitlyn, Mary C, Franca, Mari L

**ALTAR SOCIETY:** Rosy, Geraldine, Teresa

**CHILDRENS LITURGY:** School Holidays



**NEXT WEEK**

**Sunday 12th January 2014 - The BAPTISM of the LORD**

READINGS: Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17

SATURDAY 5.30pm	SUNDAY 8.30am	SUNDAY 10am	SUNDAY 6.00pm Youth Mass
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**READERS**

C. O'Grady M. Zol M. Fitzpatrick G. Picone	G. Favotto H. Chow K. Hextell G. Giliberti	M. Raymond N. Raymond P. Gambino	Intro & P/F: Jacob S 1st: Max C Psalm: Kayleigh-Anne 2nd: Aidan
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**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

R. Glover R. Pozzer J. Cooper V. Moschella M. Zol A. Pollifrone L. Speranza	J. Heffernan J. Livolsi I. Bova R. Compantangelo A. Merlino S. Storan M. Piccolo	D. Scelzi L. Scelzi M. Hadjidakis C. Petrucco N. Ancona S. Carbone L. Moliterno	Chris M C. Modini S. Roberts m. Di Bella A. Di Bella A. Zol A. Bonaccorso
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**ALTAR SERVERS**

Group 3	Group 1	Group 1	Group 1
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**HOME VISITS:** J. Livolsi, J. Livolsi, J. Heffernan, D & L Scelzi

**NURSING HOMES:**

Visit 16 January - **Parkview:** no visit

Visit 17 January - **Russell Lea:** no visit

**COUNTERS:** Group 8 **TRANSPORT:** Theresa, Mary, Sue

**PIETY STALL:** Eleanor, Pina

**ALTAR SOCIETY:** Bernadette, Robyn, Margaret, Tina

**CHILDRENS LITURGY:** School Holidays

