



Hervey Bay Catholic Parish

Phone: 4124 3334
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Email: herveybay@bne.catholic.net.au
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Address: Bryant St, Pialba Q 4655
PO Box 3250, Hervey Bay Q 4655
Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8.30am – 4pm

4th / 5th January 2025

The Epiphany of the Lord

Our Parish Churches

St Joseph's Church

Bryant St, Pialba

St Patrick's Church

82 William St, Howard

Mass Centre

St Peter the Fisherman

Burrum Heads Rd
Burrum Heads

Parish Priest

Fr. Jacob Kalu

kaluj@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Staff

Audrey Yu

Pastoral Ministry Coordinator

Winnie Mujunen

safeguard.herveybay@bne.catholic.net.au

Safeguarding Officer

Naomi Kidd

Chaplain – OzCare

Schools

Star of the Sea School

33-35 Hughes Rd
Wondunna, Hervey Bay
PH: 4125 1220

Principal: Nathan Wilson

Outside School Hours Care

Star of the Sea School
Wondunna, Hervey Bay
PH: 4125 6051

Childcare (6wks – 5yrs)

Wondunna, Hervey Bay
PH: 4194 6155

Xavier Catholic College

Eli Waters, Hervey Bay
PH: 4197 1177

Principal: Simon Dash

Welfare Groups

St Vincent De Paul:

21 Liuzzi St Pialba
4194 0861

Centacare:

3324 3800

Dear Parishioners & Visitors,

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. "Epiphany" comes from the Greek word "epiphaino", a combination of two words: "epi" (upon) and "phaino" (show). Literally, it means, "to show upon," or manifestation. In Christian usage, Epiphany connotes the manifestation of the glory of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles represented by the Wise Men or the Magi.

Who are these Wise Men or Magi? How many are they? What are their names? We have no definite answers to these questions. Scriptures say that they were men of great learning, particularly in the field of astrology and the occult. The appearance of an unusually bright star moved them to search for the newborn King. Through the guidance of this star, they found the Holy Infant lying in the manger in Bethlehem.

Although they were Gentiles, they came to offer homage to Jesus and to bring Him the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. These are gifts that convey profound meaning and symbolism. Gold is a gift fit for a King, for indeed, Jesus is the King of kings. Frankincense is a gift for a priest. The Magi perceived Jesus as priest, the bridge between God and man. Myrrh is a fragrant gum resin, which was used as incense, perfumes and medicines. But its most notable use was that of an embalming material, used in Egyptian mummies. While the Magi acknowledged Jesus as king and priest, they also perceived that He would die for the salvation of mankind. St. Odilo of Cluny said: "To offer gold is to proclaim Christ's kingship, to offer incense is to adore his Godhead, and to offer myrrh is to acknowledge his mortality."

This feast expresses the fact that the birth of the Incarnate Word was known throughout the world. This is the meaning of the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. This is what we proclaimed in the Psalm: "Lord, every nation on earth will adore you!" St. Gregory the Great said: "When the king of heaven was born, the heavens knew that he was God because they immediately sent forth a star; the sea knew him because it allowed him to walk upon it; the earth knew him because it trembled when he died; the sun knew him because it hid the rays of its light."

The coming of the Magi to visit the Newborn King in Bethlehem was a clear message that the birth of Jesus was a significant event not only for a small group of people but for the entire humanity as well. For, indeed, Jesus is the saviour not just of the Jews but also of all mankind. Their encounter with the Holy Infant gave the Magi their first-hand experience of His saving power. This experience radically transformed them. They came as astrologers; they left as believers. They came as searchers; they left as followers. They came aided by the bright star; they left guided by divine wisdom. They came as Magi; they left as Wise Men.

Behind this wonderful and radical transformation is their realization that finding Jesus means having everything. We can relate this with our everyday experience. At night, we delight at seeing the moon and the bright stars. But as the night is about to end and the horizon gradually brightens, the stars begin to fade away, until only the bright Morning Star is left in the sky. But when the sun starts to rise in the east, the Morning Star also disappears. The true light has come. The moon and the stars fade away with the coming of the sun. Similarly, the Magi no longer need stars and heavenly bodies for they now have found the true Light of the World.

Peace be with you, Fr. Jacob

MASS Times: 6th January 2025 to 12th January 2025

St Joseph's Church Hervey Bay

Monday 8am Mass
 Wednesday 5.30pm Mass
 Thursday 8am Mass
 Friday 8am Mass
 Saturday 8am Mass
 6pm Vigil
 Sunday 7am Mass
 9am Mass

St Patrick's Church Howard

Mass: 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays of the month @ 4pm

St Peter the Fisherman Burrum Heads

Mass: 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month @ 4pm



www.herveybaycatholic.com.au



Hervey Bay Catholic Parish

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH: Saturdays @ 5pm or by appointment

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

The Epiphany of the Lord

1st Reading: Prophet Isaiah 60: 1-6
2nd Reading: St Paul to the Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6
Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12

WE PRAY FOR:

THE SICK: Melinda Audesho, Fe Adilan, Marivic Barrameda, Roman Brackowski, June Bearsley, Tony Cavanagh, Gerard Clinch, Marilyn Cotis, Pat Deeley, Bernie Gick, Robin Goodwin, Carmen Hoolihan, Keith & Angela Mawer, Nina Mironov, Marilyn Monsour, Tom Mullen, Dot Phillips, Marivic Quiobe, Elaine Sanders, Gerry Sharpe, Jo Shorrocks, Pam Truscott, Len van Buren, Petrus Van Lierop John Wilson.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Aldrin Leander, Stuart Beilby, Esme Fay, Lasela Hunkin, Harrish Kumar, Juliet Vergara

ANNIVERSARY: Charles Boston, Kevin Panzram, Soledad Parcon, Errol Pierce, Margaret Rose Ryan

WE CELEBRATE:

JANUARY BIRTHDAY: Con Ryan

JANUARY WEDDING ANN.:

PRAYERS: Birthday or Wedding Anniversary

If you have a Birthday or Wedding Anniversary and would like it to be added to our prayer list in the newsletter, you can email names & dates to herveybay@bne.catholic.net.au

NOTICE

Please check the notice board at the main entrance of the church and also on our website www.herveybaycatholic.com.au each week, especially over the Christmas period. Keeps you informed about upcoming Masses and Liturgical celebrations, changes and other upcoming events in our Parish and our Diocese. The parish newsletters can also be downloaded from the website.

MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION

The festive season can be an especially trying time for the bereaved. Our members continue to be available for any bereavement support. Please contact: Gary Varley – 0497 970 365

PIETY STALL

Please come in, have a browse and support our Parish Stall. Open each weekend before & after Mass. *Sorry no EFTPOS.*

Please join us in the John Paul Centre for a cuppa after the 9am Mass this Sunday. Hosted by *El Shaddai*. If you would like to assist with hosting a morning tea, please contact the Parish Office.

GROUPS	Meeting:	Time	Place
Legion of Mary	<i>Mondays (Resumes 3rd February 2025)</i>	8.45am	Sr Scholly Hall
St Vincent de Paul	<i>Monday 20th January 2025</i>	3pm	Sr Scholly Hall
Ministry of Consolation	<i>1st Tuesday of each month</i>	2pm	Sr Scholly Hall
Parish Craft Group	<i>1st Wednesday of each month</i>	9am	John Paul Centre
Charismatic Praise & Worship	TBA		
Cenacle "Divine Mercy"	<i>Thursdays (Resumes 6th February 2025)</i>	9am	Sr Scholly Hall
Cenacle of Prayer <i>(Immaculate of Mary)</i>	<i>Fridays (Resumes 7th February 2025)</i> <i>(No meeting on the 1st Friday of the month)</i>	8.30am	MacKillop Library
El Shaddai	<i>Saturdays</i>	1pm	John Paul Centre
Health Care with Christ	<i>4th Sunday of the month</i>	10.30am	Sr Scholly Hall
Kids Club - grades 1-8	<i>Sunday 5th January</i>	10.30am	Sr Scholly Hall

FRIDAY BENEDICTION

Benediction will be held at the end of 8am Mass each Friday. Adoration will be held after Mass on the first Friday of each month from 8.30am to 12pm.

ANNUAL LEAVE

Fr. Jacob is on his annual leave from January and will return at the start of February. In his absence, Fr. John Grace a former rector of the Holy Spirit Seminary in Brisbane, will be here for the month to take care of our parish.

We warmly welcome Fr. John Grace to our parish!

“Truth, by which the world is held together, has sprung from the earth, in order to be carried in a woman’s arms.” - St Augustine of Hippo



Vinnies Christmas Appeal



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Envelopes available inside the church on the newsstand & from the Parish Office.

Please give generously

CATHOLIC LEADER

The Leader is now by subscription to subscribe either call The Catholic Leader team on (07) 3324 3555 or visit: www.catholicleader.com.au and click subscribe. Alternatively, envelopes to subscribe are available on the newsstand and from the Parish Office.

As the weather is warming up, please remember to stay hydrated. Please feel free to bring a water bottle along to church.

PLANNED GIVING AND DONATIONS

Planned giving donations can be made via the following:

1. Placing envelopes in the mailbox located inside the entrance of the front door of the church or on the collection plate at weekend Mass.
2. Direct Debit or Credit Card payment to our Parish Account
3. Parish Giving App. Download via Google Play or the App Store



Please contact the parish office for further information

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY PLAY



On 24 December 2024 before the Christmas Vigil Mass, a Nativity play was performed by a group of 24 adults and children in St Joseph’s Church, Pialba. The Nativity play reminded the congregation that Jesus the promised Messiah is the reason behind the celebration. The parish thanks Sunita Albert who directed the play, Antonia who put the costumes together, Valerie who prepared the props, the actors and actresses and everyone involved.

Welcome
To our church family

Are you new to our Parish?

If you are new to our Parish and our community or your information has changed, please contact the Parish Office with your details either by phoning 4124 3334, sending an email to the office on: herveybay@bne.catholic.net.au, or register yourself and your family via Flocknote: herveybayparish.flocknote.com/register. We will then collate your details and can include you on our weekly newsletter mailing list.


SAFEGUARDING

The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded by all. Information on Safeguarding is now available on our website:

www.herveybaycatholic.com.au



STOPline To report ‘reportable conduct’ under the Archdiocesan Whistleblower Policy email to: aob@stopline.com.au or Phone: 1300 30 45 50



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Email: torquayoshc@bne.centacare.net.au

Star of the Sea Childcare Centre
64 Washington Dr, Wondunna
PH: 4194 6155
Email: dir.hevybayld@bne.cntacar.net.au



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