

## REFLECTION

One of the key messages of the feast of the Epiphany is Jesus' message of salvation, the Good news that God loves each and every one of us, past, present and future, and wants our company forever in heaven. **[look at hymn no. 31 *Come As You Are* in the *As One Voice* hymn book to get an inkling to God's great UNCONDITIONAL love for every human being – perhaps a simple New Year's resolution would be to ponder this hymn]** This means that God **WANTS/ LONGS FOR** every human being to be saved, that is, to end up being with God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit FOREVER in heaven. This also means that no one misses out on heaven except through their own choice, that is, choosing their own company forever (how boring!) instead of God's and everyone's else in heaven. Moreover, to be fair to each one of us, God must give everyone the opportunity to choose or reject God. How and when this happens is up to God, but there's no doubt that it must and does happen. The parable of the Last judgment (Matt. 25:31-46) gives us an inkling in this regard. What needs to be noted in it is that Jesus doesn't say that our loving others has to be explicitly done for Jesus. And it is beautifully summoned up in the words of St. Augustine: ***In the evening of life we will be judged on love.*** There are myriads of loving people no doubt surprised to find themselves in heaven, simply because there are very loving people. Our experiences of love, on the giving or receiving end, are experiences of God, because God is love, and we are made in the image of God, that is, made to love. And let's not overlook that letting others love us is itself a great act of love.

The people in our lives to be concerned about are those, to put it bluntly, who are so full of themselves that there is no room for anyone else; a bit like the politician who boasted that he was a self-made man, and someone in the crowd commented that this absolved God from a terrible responsibility! Are we wrapped up in ourselves primarily or in others and God? Our lives are a journey away from a focus on ourselves to a focus on others and on God.

**PLEASE NOTE:** pigeons have been getting into the church, so we would be grateful if you observe the notice at the side door and at the glass doors in the foyer and avoid opening the windows if possible. THANK YOU.

**WEEKDAY MASSGOERS:** it will help to make our Mass responses more reverential if we listen to ourselves and to others and the priest as we make the responses, so that we can better keep together and be more attentive to what we are saying. Thank you.  
Communion from the chalice will resume in February.

**Recently Deceased:** Mark Haldane, Sr. Paulita(OLSH) Valerie Kirkby.

**Anniversaries and Remembrance:** Len Jarman, Jenny and Alan Coelho, Yvonne Mcardle, Desmond Ryan, Alan Ibboson, Ronaldo Morelos, Mona and Ted Quinn, Betty and David Brin, Joan Ellen Marskell, Laura McKenna, William Crothers, Alex and Erasmia Fatseas.



The Parish and National Shrine of  
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Randwick

St. Margaret Mary's Parish  
Randwick North

Conducted by Missionaries of the Sacred Heart  
Tel: 9399 6775  
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**SUNDAY, 7th JANUARY, 2018.**

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD- Year B.**

**1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6**

**2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6**

**Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12**

**Entrance Antiphon: Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.**

**Responsorial 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!**

**Communion Antiphon: We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.**

### **Parish Office**

Monday- Friday 9am-5pm (Closed 1pm-2pm)

### **Parish Staff**

**Trish Myers** (Reception)

parishoffice@sacredheart.org.au

**Anita Micallef** (Accounts (9am-2:30pm))

anitamicallef@sacredheart.org.au

**Fr. Peter Hearn msc**

Parish Priest

**Fr. Doug Smith msc**

pdsmsc@hotmail.com

**Fr Tim Brennan msc**

Professional Standards Office

**Fr. Tru Nguyen msc**

truducnguyen@gmail.com

**Brigidine House Chaplain**

Fr Patrick Sharpe msc

### **MASS TIMES**

**Our Lady of the Sacred Heart**

**Sat:** 12noon, Vigil 6pm

**Sun:** 8am, 10am, 12noon, 6pm,

**Mon-Sat** 12noon,

**Thurs & Fri** 5.40pm.

**Novena** 11.30 -12.00noon Thursday

**Reconciliation:** Sat 11am (1hr) /5pm (1hr)

**Anointing Mass:** 2nd Friday 12noon/5.40pm.

**St. Margaret Mary's**

**Sat:** 5.30pm.

**Reconciliation- Sat:** 5.15- 5.25pm.

**Baptisms at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart**

1.15pm 2nd, 3rd & 4th **Sundays (Contact Office)**

**POWH Chapel**

3pm (1st & 3rd & 5th **Sundays**) **Wed:** 12 noon

**Hospital Chaplaincy- 9382 2222 then page Catholic Chaplain on duty.**