

**Parish Priest**

Fr Neil Fernando      Mobile: 0478 085 894  
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**Parish Hall Bookings**

Lynn Fisher : Mobile: 0407 186 174

**Pew Sheet**

All notices/information for pew sheet to Parish Office by 9.00am Thursday mornings please

**Parish Office**

Telephone: (08) 8723 1353      Email: churchan@bigpond.net.au  
Postal Address: PO Box 1357, Mt Gambier, SA, 5290

**Church Addresses:** Christ Church, 26 Bay Road, Mount Gambier  
St Thomas, Church Street, Port MacDonnell  
St Luke's, Post Office Road, Mount Schank

**Web site :** [www.anglicanmountgambier.org.au](http://www.anglicanmountgambier.org.au)

**Details for giving by Direct Debit :** The Anglican Parish of Mount Gambier  
BSB : 105-002  
A/c number : 041 398 740



**We pray for the Diocese of The Murray and Parish Council Members**

Bishop Keith Dalby (Alice) ; Very Rev. David Price (Dean) (Lesley);  
Fr Des Ackland (Raelene)

**and in the Limestone Coast**

Fr David Patterson; Fr Wayne Corker; Fr David Withers (Ann);  
Fr Neil (Nalini), Fr Lyndon Sulzberger

**Parish Counsellors, Christ Church**

Richard Strickland, Helen Douglass, Richard Mills, Brian Smith,  
Lisa Searcy, Graham Savage, Faye Hill, Lynn Fisher

**Diocesan Prayer**

**Lord Jesus, you call us to be your disciples and friend; help us to journey with you on the way of life toward the Father. Enable us by the Spirit to discover not only the fullness of who you are, but also the fullness of life you offer to each one of us.**

**Amen**

**The Anglican Pastoral District of Mount Gambier**

**Christ Church  
Mount Gambier**

**St Luke's  
Mount Schank**

**St Thomas  
Port MacDonnell**

**Epiphany 1 : 10th January 2021**



*Persevere in your search for God*



*We extend a warm welcome to all visitors to our church*

*Please make yourself known to the Parish Priest or Wardens*

*From Fr Neil*

**Persevere in your search for God**

There are so many wonderful details in the Epiphany story: the call of the Gentiles, their enthusiastic response, the significance of the star they seek, the gifts they bring, the dramatic interaction with Herod, and their ultimate rejection of Herod in favour of Christ.

In this meditation, I would like to follow these Magi in their journey of faith to become “Wise Men”. As magi, they followed the faint stars, distant points of light; as wise men, they follow Jesus, who is the ever glorious Light from Light, true God. We can observe how they journey in stages from the light of a star to the bright and glorious Light of Jesus Christ. And, of course, to authentically encounter the Lord is to experience conversion. All the elements of this story ultimately serve to cause them to “return to their country by another route”. Let’s look at the stages of their journey from being mere magi to becoming, by God’s grace, wise men.

Notice, too, that they “prostrate” themselves before Jesus. This is no minor act of homage or sign of respect to an earthly king; this is religious worship. It is a confession of faith. The beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord. And these Magi are well on their way from being mere magi to being wise men!

The Magi are moved to give three symbolic gifts that show some of what true faith includes. They are costly gifts.

Gold symbolizes all of our possessions. In laying this gift before Jesus, they and we are saying, “I acknowledge that everything I have is yours. I put all my resources and wealth under your authority and will use them only according to your will”. A conversion that has not reached the wallet is not complete.

Frankincense is a resin used in incense and symbolizes the gift of worship. In the Bible, incense is a symbol of prayer and worship (e.g. Psalm 141). In laying down this gift, we promise to pray and worship God all the days of our life, to be in His holy house each Sunday, to render Him the praise and worship He is due, to listen to His word and consent to be fed the Eucharist by Him, to worship Him worthily by frequent confession, and to praise Him at all times.

| READINGS for Sunday, 10th January 2021—Epiphany 1 |                              |                |                 |
|---|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Isa 60. 1-6                                       | Ps 72. 1-11                  | Eph 3. 1-6     | Matthew 2. 1-12 |
| Server  | Faye Hill                    |                |                 |
| Readers   | Bill Hudd / Robyn Ashby      |                |                 |
| Intercessions                                     | Sue Christopher              |                |                 |
| Sound desk  | Darren Schunke               |                |                 |
| READINGS for Sunday, 17th January 2021—Epiphany 2 |                              |                |                 |
| 1 Sam 3. 2-19                                     | Ps 40. 8-13                  | 1 Cor 6. 12-20 | John 1. 35-42   |
| Server  | Sue Christopher              |                |                 |
| Readers   | David Glover / Anne Ashworth |                |                 |
| Intercessions                                     | Rick Fisher                  |                |                 |
| Sound desk  | Robyn Ashby                  |                |                 |



| ROSTERS FOR  | JANUARY                       |
|--|-------------------------------|
| GARDENING  | <b>Volunteer required</b>     |
| MOWING ROSTER  | Rick Fisher                   |
| FREEZER MINISTRY<br><small>(Please remember to label, date and list all the ingredients in each container)</small> | Anne Ashworth<br>Larnka Foran |

## PARISH BIRTHDAY CALENDAR

### For January

|      |                |
|------|----------------|
| 3rd  | Wendy Monger   |
| 6th  | Peter Searcy   |
| 8th  | Robyn Ashby    |
| 13th | Neil Geddes    |
| 17th | David Clarkson |



### For February

|      |                |
|------|----------------|
| 1st  | Heather Allen  |
| 6th  | Pam Miller     |
| 8th  | Sandra Grant   |
| 9th  | Maree McIntyre |
| 10th | Fran Laslett   |
| 14th | Lisa Searcy    |
| 27th | Glenyse Nott   |



*We wish them all a very happy birthday!!*

Please check to see if your name is on the list at the back of the church — and if not, and you would like to have it appear — please add your name to the listing.

Thank you

Myrrh is a strange gift for an infant; it is usually understood as a burial ointment. Surely this prefigures Jesus' death, but it also symbolizes our own. In laying this gift before Jesus we are saying, "My life is yours. I want to die so that you may live your life in me. May you increase and may I decrease. Use me and my life as you will."

Yes, these three gifts are highly symbolic. The Magi manifest more than a little homage to Jesus. They are showing forth the fruits of saving faith. And if we can give these gifts, so are we.

The text says, And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way. Here, then, is essential evidence for faith: conversion. It is not enough to get "happy" in Church; we have to obey. These Wise Men are walking differently now. They are not going home by the same way they came. They've changed direction; they've turned around (conversion). They are now willing to walk the straight and narrow path that leads to life rather than the wide road that leads to damnation. They are going to obey Christ. They are going to exhibit what St. Paul calls the "obedience of faith" (Rom 1:5; 16:26). They have not just engaged in perfunctory worship; they are showing signs of a true and saving faith. They are not just calling out to Jesus, "Lord, Lord!" They are doing what He tells them (cf Luke 6:46). No longer mere magi, they are now wise men!

Epiphany means "manifestation". How is our faith made manifest in our deeds and conversion?

cf.internet



We welcome to our parish family the family and friends present here today for the baptisms of:

**Jamison Leigh Howley**  
**Hayden John Howley**  
**Nicholas Richard James Vorwerk**

Congratulations—and welcome to God's family!

### Pray for those who are unwell and for each other

Bishop David McCall; Val Linder; Fr Peter Carlsson; Sue Ongley; Maree & Bob Lynch; Sally-Ann Geddes (daughter of Neil & Judy); June Willcourt; Joe Maier; Wendy Monger & Don Currie; Alice Gladigau; John & Phillis Beaven (brother & sister-in-law of Alice); Marion McDonald (Lynn's sister); Shirley Stacpoole; Esma Pratt (Donna's grandmother); Jean Hawkes

*Pray for the repose of the souls of those near and dear to each one of us and for those whose yearly remembrance is this week.*

*If you wish for your name (or the name of someone you know) to be placed on the prayer list, please submit the request in writing—at present via email (including your name and the name of the person for whom prayers are required).*



### The Bell Tower Op Shop opening hours are:

Monday to Friday 10.00am to 3.00pm  
Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm

*(unfortunately, the provision of tea/coffee etc. will not be allowed during this time of restrictions)*

**Please note : Strict observance of all social distancing and sanitizing regulations are in force for your protection and the protection of the attendees at services and the Op Shop workers.**

### Bell Tower Op Shop Food Donation Bin

The Bell Tower Op Shop is in a monthly partnership with ac.care and with our very own Thursday Food Ministry, to collect non-perishable food items, with the December donations being donated to ac.care.

We are requesting that as you make your shopping list, you put on a few extra items to support our community in need. Bring these items into the Op Shop where our friendly volunteers will say thank you and we would love to say hello.

Suitable items are: tinned tuna or salmon, rice and noodles, cereals, tinned or packet soups and vegetables and casseroles, tinned fruits and long life full fat milk.

Many thanks for your small acts of kindness when you do your shopping, and know that it has real meaning to those individuals in need.

**N.B. The Op Shop reopens on Monday, 11th January 2021.  
We look forward to seeing you soon and showing off our most recent renovations**

### Services and coming events in the Parish

Fr Neil is conducting 3 services weekly as follows:

Friday 11.00am  
Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am  
Maximum of 66 attendees per service

**Numbers attending weddings and funerals are limited within the body of the church due to social distancing requirements and square meterage available**

**Strict observance of all social distancing and sanitizing regulations are in force for your protection and the protection of all attendees at services**

|                       |             |   |
|-----------------------|-------------|---|
| 2nd & 4th Thursdays   | 4.00-5.00pm | Fr Neil visits Mt Gambier Prison  |
| Mondays and Thursdays | 5.15-6.30pm | Meditation Group in Ashworth Room   |
| Wednesdays            | 1.00-3.00pm | Craft Group meets in Ashworth Room<br><b>(N.B. Craft will resume in February)</b> |
| 3rd Tuesday           | 2.00pm      | Mothers' Union meet in Ashworth Room  |
| 2nd & 4th Thursday    | 3.00pm      | Bible Study group @ Elizabeth Hodges'   |
| 2nd & 4th Saturdays   | 10.00am     | Bible Study in church Vestry  |
| Mon, 25 January       | 3.15pm      | Parish Fundraising meeting in Ashworth Room                                       |

