



**5TH JANUARY 2014
THE EPIPHANY- YEAR A**

St. Bernardine's Church, Regents Park
Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Park Ridge
St. Catherine's Church, Jimboomba

Parish Office Hours:

Monday to Friday 8.30am-12.30pm
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Emergency Number: 3884 7600
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Ministry Team:

Fr Anthony Girvan, P.P.

Administrative Officer

Ms Nola Bamkin

Finance Officer

Mrs Barbara Malicki
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Parish Liturgy Coordination

Parish Liturgy Team

Care and Concern

Coordinator: Stephanie Adams
Phone: 3884 7600

St. Bernardine's Parish Primary School

Principal: Mr Michael Aspland
Phone: 3800 1854

St. Bernardine's Parish School

Outside School Hours Care

Coordinator: Mrs Mandy Petrie
Phone: 3806 9940

Emmaus College, Jimboomba

Principal: Mr Kevin Schwede
Phone: 5547 9990

St Vincent de Paul Society

St Bernardine's Conference

For assistance, phone 5561 4702

St Catherine's Conference

For assistance, phone 3010 1096

Welcome, Fr Tony, to St Bernardine's Parish

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Gospel Reflection

'Through the Incarnation, the generosity and mercy of God have finally appeared among us - in the life of one who is the very expression of the Father's greatness. And so, from earliest times the Church's Christmas celebration has made reference to the Epiphany, or "Manifestation" of the Lord - symbolised in the story of today's gospel.

'The story is filled with symbolic meaning. The Magi represent the nations of the earth finding the Saviour of the world - in contrast to the scribes of Israel, familiar with the scriptures but not recognising their fulfilment; the gifts of the Magi are symbolic of the world's confession of faith in Christ - gold for royalty, frankincense for priesthood, myrrh for the one who is to die; notoriously ruthless Herod reminds us of earthly powers that obstruct the designs of God. We should note, especially, the significance of the words, "going in they saw the child with his mother, Mary".

'While Luke's narrative of Christ's conception and birth has Mary as its central figure, Matthew's account of the virgin birth is centred on Joseph. The words we have quoted, however, reflect the importance already given to Mary in the community that gave us Matthew's gospel.'

Excerpt from a commentary by Fr John Thornhill SM



The name of Jesus is the glory of preachers, because the shining splendour of that name causes God's word to be proclaimed and heard.

Gathering Hymn	GA298 The First Noel
Psalm Response	Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.
Recessional Hymn	GA299 We Three Kings of Orient Are

MASS TIMES

ST. BERNARDINE'S CHURCH

25 Vergulde Road, Regents Park



Sat 11th Jan 5.15pm Reconciliation
6.00pm
Sun 12th Jan 7.30am, 9.00am

ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH

74-76 East Street, Jimboomba

Sun 12th Jan 5.30pm

OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION CHURCH

Corner of Stoney Camp Road and
Mt. Lindesay Highway, Park Ridge

Sun 12th Jan 8.00am

ST. PAUL DE CHARTRES CHAPEL

12-16 Fedrick Street, Boronia Heights

Mon 6th Jan 9.00 am
Tues 7th Jan 9.00 am
Wed 8th Jan 9.00 am
Thurs 9th Jan 9.00 am
Fri 10th Jan 9.00 am

(Friday only— Hostel Community Hall)

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sunday 5th January

The Epiphany

Monday 6th January

9.30am Prayer Group ~ St Bernardine's Church

Wednesday 8th January

7.00pm Flame of Love Prayer Group
~ St Bernardine's Church

Sunday 12th January

The Baptism of the Lord

10.30am Baptism Preparation
~ St Bernardine's Church

Today's Readings:	Next Week's Readings:
Is 60:1-6	Is 42:1-4, 6-7
Eph 3:2-3, 5-6	Ap 10:34-38
Mt 2:1-12	Mt 3:13-17

The Spirituality of Laughter

'Laughter praises God because it foretells our final state in heaven when we will be in an exuberance of joy. Commenting on the Beatitudes in Luke's Gospel where Jesus says, blessed are you who are now weeping, for you shall laugh, Karl Rahner SJ says that what Jesus is saying suggests that the happiness of the final state will not just dry away our tears and bring us to peace, it will also bring us to laughter - "to an intoxication of joy".

'He continues: "The laughter of daily life announces and shows that one is on good terms with reality, even in advance of all that all-powerful and eternal consent in which the saved will one day say their amen to everything that he has done and allowed to happen.

We pray for those who have died, especially Mirko Topolcic and all our deceased relatives and friends, that they may enjoy the vision of God with those in heaven.

Laughter is praise of God because it foretells the eternal praise of God at the end of time, when those who must weep here on earth shall laugh."

Excerpt from a reflection by Fr Ron Rolheiser OMI

Quote:

'It is not fitting, when one is in God's service, to have a gloomy face or a chilling look.'
St Francis of Assisi