

3rd January 2010 – The Epiphany

Readings: Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13. Eph 3:2-3a,5-6 Mt 2:1-12

"They fell down and worshiped Jesus"

If Jesus truly is who he claims to be, the eternal Son of God and Savior of the world, then why is he not recognized by everyone who hears his word and sees his works? John the Evangelist states that when Jesus came into the world *the world knew him not and his own people received him not* (John 1:10-11). Jesus was born in obscurity. Only the lowly shepherds recognized him at his birth. Some wise men also found their way to Bethlehem to pay homage to the newborn King of Israel. These men were not Israelites, but foreigners. They likely had read and discussed the Messianic prophecies and were anxious to see when this Messianic King would appear. God led them by means of an extraordinary star across the desert to the little town where Jesus was born. In their thirst for the knowledge of God, they willingly left everything, their home and country, in pursuit of that quest. In their diligent search they were led to the source of true knowledge – to Jesus Christ, the Light and Wisdom of God. When they found the newborn King they humbly worshiped him and gave him gifts fitting for a king.

What fueled their search for the Messianic King? Faith in the promise of God to send a Redeemer, a King who would establish God's reign of peace and righteousness. Faith is an entirely free gift that God makes to us. It is through the help of the Holy Spirit, who moves the heart and opens the eyes of the mind, that we are able to understand, accept, and believe the truth which God reveals to us. In faith, the human will and intellect cooperate with grace. "*Believing is an act of the intellect assenting to the divine truth by command of the will moved by God through grace*" (Thomas Aquinas).

To know and to encounter Jesus Christ is to know God personally. In the encounter of the wise men with Jesus we see the plan of God to give his only Son as King and Savior, not just for the Jewish people but for all the nations as well. The Lord Jesus came that both Jew and Gentile might find true and lasting peace with God. Let us pray today that Jew and Gentile alike will find the Lord and Savior on their journey of life. Do you bring the light of Jesus Christ to those you meet through the witness of your life and testimony?

"Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for bringing salvation to all the nations. May the gospel of salvation be proclaimed to every nation today and to every person on the face of the earth. Help me to be a good witness of the joy of the gospel to all I meet."



*They offered Him gifts
of gold, frankincense,
and myrrh*

Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity

3rd January 2010



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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 6:30am, 5:00pm (Novena); 6:00pm (Sunset Mass)
Sunday: 6:45am; 8am(Mandarin); 9:30; 11:15am & 6pm
Weekdays: 6:30am & 6pm
Public Holidays: 9am only
2nd Saturday: 7:30pm (Mass in Tagalog)

Readings for the Week

Mon 4 th Jan	1 Jn 3:22-4:6,	Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a,	Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tue 5 th Jan	1 Jn 4:7-10,	Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8	Mk 6:34-44
Wed 6 th Jan	1 Jn 4:11-18	Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13	Mk 6:45-52
Thu 7 th Jan	1 Jn 4:19-5:4	Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17	Lk 4:14-22
Fri 8 th Jan	1 Jn 5:5-13	Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20	Lk 5:12-16
Sat 9 th Jan	1 Jn 5:14-21	Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b	Jn 3:22-30

INFANT BAPTISMS are celebrated at the 6pm Mass on the 2nd Sunday of each month, except during the season of Lent. Parents and Godparents are required to come for a preparatory session at 5pm in the Chapel. Please register at the parish office

WEDDINGS: Arrangements for a Church wedding should be made at least six (6) months in advance. This would give the couple adequate time to attend either a Marriage Preparation Course (MPC) or an Engaged Encounter Weekend (EE). Application forms and booking of wedding date at the parish office.

CHURCH CLEANING (Willing Hands)

Volunteers are needed - Every Wednesday & Saturday 9.00am

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Jumble Sales group is seeking volunteers to sort and pack donated items i.e. clothes, books, shoes, bags etc. every Monday between 12noon & 3pm. Those able to help, please leave your contact particulars with the church secretariat.

FREE COUNSELLING SERVICES

Ms Jackie (Appointment coordinator). Please call after office hours: 9797 8319

FREE LEGAL COUNSELING CLINIC. Please contact the parish office.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP For cancer patients / caregivers call:
Patrick 9728 7425 or Theresa 9681 9205

Neighbourhood**SIMEI CNG**

Divine Mercy devotion

Thursday 7 January at 8.15p.m at the home of Alan & Marissa Koh,
Blk 235 Simei St.4 #02-228 - All are welcome

Contact : Daniel 97522402, website : www.simeicng.com

CANTEEN

Canteen will be closed and will resume business on 17 Jan 2010.

HOLY FAMILY SHRINE

4th to 10th Jan at Christopher & Helen Tan, Blk 9A Pasir Ris Dr 4 #10-19
(The Esparis) Tel: 97819277. Rosary devotion is carried out at parishioner's
home on Monday, Tuesday and Sunday at 8.15pm. All are welcome.
Enquiries: Phillip Fan: 9746-5678/ 9437-2526

MONDAY, 4th Jan**POWERHOUSE FOR YOUNG ADULTS**

8pm in Room 19. Come and pray with us! All are welcome!

RCIA CHINESE 7:45pm in the hall

TUESDAY, 5th Jan**CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY**

Praise and Worship followed by Mass in the Chapel at 8pm. All are welcome

Christian Meditation - for information contact Kelvin Tel: 96306614

RCIA ENGLISH 7:45pm in the parish hall.

WEDNESDAY, 6th Jan**LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY**

"First Corinthians" 7:30-10pm in room 12.

PRE (PARISH RENEWAL PROGRAMME)

We are planning to start PRE soon. Calling all those who have gone through the PRE to come for a meeting on Fri 15th Jan at 8pm to help in the planning.

THE FOUR LEVELS OF HEALING - a weekend that will help us find wholeness, balance and fulfillment through healing the spiritual, mental, emotional and physical aspects of our lives. By Dra. Dido Villasor, PhD
Date: 29-31 January 2010 (Friday 730pm - Sunday 4pm)

Venue Cenacle 47 Jurong West Street 42

For inquiries contact the Cenacle Sisters Tel. 6565-2895, 9722-3148,

cenaclesisters@yahoo.com.sg

When there is space in the bulletin, I would like to write something regularly about the sacraments for us to refresh our catechism taught to us when we were young. I used to write in the Church Our Lady Star and I called it 'Light House'. Now I would like to call it 'Knowing our religion.' - Fr Edward Lim

Knowing our religion**Baptism**

Instead of Infant Baptism, some parents choose to let their children decide on their own religion when they grow up. Is this wrong?

Our mental disposition is important at the time when we choose to baptise our children.

Did we choose baptism because it was something that we were expected to do? Or because we wanted to get our child into a good Catholic School in order to fulfill our childhood desire? Or because we want to oblige our in-laws or to please our spouse?

As parents, we always decide everything for our children. Just as we would choose the best instant formula for our children, we would also choose the toys that are safe, the books that impart the desired educational and moral values. Sometimes we go so far as to choose the schools they will attend, the friends that they should mix with, the career best suited for our children and even influenced their choice of life partners. And all these are done because we want the best for our children.

When it comes to choice of religion, we would surely do the same. But as with everything else, only if our religion is the best for our children. Which begs the question, **do we personally believe that our religion is the best gift for our children.** How strong is our faith? If you have strong faith, you would not have this question '**Why should I baptize my child and let him/her decide the religion he/she wants**'.