**The Epiphany of the Lord- YEAR C**

**Introduction**

Good morning / evening we welcome our parishioners and visitors to Mary Immaculate Quakers Hill/Schofields Parish.

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. “Epiphany” means manifestation. The birth of Jesus is meant not only for the people of Israel but also for all nations, represented by the Magi or the “Three Wise Men.”

Do we let Jesus reveal himself to us? Do we let others see the light of Jesus’ presence in us?

Our Mass will be celebrated today by

**Saturday Vigil Mass 5.30pm -**

**Sunday 7.30am –**

**Sunday 9.00am –**

**Sunday 10.30am –**

**Sunday 6.00pm –**

Please stand and join in singing the Entrance Hymn.

The Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading

Is 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come,

the glory of the Lord is rising on you,

though night still covers the earth

and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises

and above you his glory appears.

The nations come to your light

and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round:

all are assembling and coming towards you,

your sons from far away

and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant,

your heart throbbing and full;

since the riches of the sea will flow to you;

the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you,

and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;

everyone in Sheba will come,

bringing gold and incense

and singing the praise of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13, R. see v.11

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,

to a king’s son your justice,

that he may judge your people in justice

and your poor in right judgement. (R.)

2. In his days justice shall flourish

and peace till the moon fails.

He shall rule from sea to sea,

from the Great River to earth’s bounds. (R.)

3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts

shall pay him tribute.

The kings of Sheba and Seba

shall bring him gifts.

Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,

all nations shall serve him. (R.)

4. For he shall save the poor when they cry

and the needy who are helpless.

He will have pity on the weak

and save the lives of the poor. (R.)

Second Reading

Eph 3:2-3. 5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East;

and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 2:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

We have come from the East to worship the king.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. ‘Where is the infant king of the Jews?’ they asked. ‘We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.’ When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ‘At Bethlehem in Judaea,’ they told him, ‘for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,

you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,

for out of you will come a leader

who will shepherd my people Israel.’

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. ‘Go and find out all about the child,’ he said ‘and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.’ Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

The Creed is said.

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**SUNDAY 2nd JANUARY**

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD- YEAR C**

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest:** In Christ Jesus, all have become children of the Father and heirs of salvation. Let us pray to the Father that we may be made worthy of this great gift.

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For the universal Church: may she become a light for all people—believers and nonbelievers alike—that leads to the face of God’s mercy, Jesus Christ.

We pray:

**R- Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For Church leaders and missionaries: may they draw into the mystical Body of Christ the rich diversity of gifts of peoples and cultures.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For those who hold public office and those who aspire to serve our country: may the light of Jesus purify their intentions in serving the people.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For interreligious dialogue: may the hurtful things of the past not stand in the way of mutual respect, yearning for truth, and the search for God by Christians and non Christians alike.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For those who are sick, the handicapped, the elderly, and those who mourn for the loss of their loved ones: may they be comforted by the light of God’s loving presence manifested in their families, friends, and communities.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For those who have died. In particular those mention in our parish bulletin. May God’s merciful love shine on them and their loved ones left behind.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader: Together we now pray the Prayer for the Parish  
Community.**

**All:** God, our Father, bless this parish Mary Immaculate so that we  
may love you more. Help the parents to be good examples to  
the children and our youth to grow in love and strength as good  
Christians.  
Encircle our families with your loving care. To the sick grant  
health, to the aged bring serenity and to those in sorrow joy.  
May we grow stronger in faith and may our love for one another  
become deeper in our daily living.

**Priest:** Heavenly Father, listen to your children as we glorify your Son, the Light of the world. May his presence shine within us so that we may be guided through the pathways of life and be united with you in the glory of heaven.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.