

CATHEDRAL LITURGIES THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 6.00pm (for Sunday)
SUNDAY 8.00am, 10.00am, 12 noon, & 7.30pm.
MONDAY - FRIDAY 8.00am, 10.00am, 12.30pm, 5.10pm
SATURDAY 11.30am

MORNING PRAYER Recommences Friday 2 February 2018

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

MONDAY – FRIDAY 10.30am – 12.15pm

BENEDICTION

MONDAY – FRIDAY 12.15pm

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

MONDAY – FRIDAY 10.30-11.30am; 1.00-1.30pm; 4.30-5.00pm

SATURDAY 10.00-11.00am; 4.30-5.30pm

ST PATRICK'S CHURCH, FORTITUDE VALLEY

SUNDAY 9.00am, 12noon



**Do you enjoy meeting people?
Do you love your Cathedral?
Do you revel in good art and juicy history?
Do we have an opportunity for you?**

You are invited to talk with us about becoming a volunteer
welcomer and guide at the Cathedral of St. Stephen.

Join us for an information session to be held in the Hanly Room
of the Francis Rush Centre

1 February 2018
from 10.30am-12.30pm.

For more information,
contact Carmel Devery at the Cathedral office on 3324 3030
e-mail deveryc@bne.catholic.net.au
by 25 January 2018

NEWSLETTER

Empty Hands

The magi gave the child Jesus 'gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh'. Why did they bring him gifts? These would not have been useful for Mary's child. What would they have done with them?

The point, of course, is not that Jesus' family needed these presents, *though presumably gold always comes in handy!* These gifts were not in recognition of what he wanted, but of who he was. The gold was the recognition of his kingship, the frankincense of his priesthood and the myrrh of the death that he would die.

So the magi gave him gifts in honour of the gift that he was to them, and is to us. These gifts show not that the child Jesus was needy but that *we are*, who long for this priestly king who gave his life for us. The magi go to seek him with their bags full of precious things, but more importantly they depart with their hands empty, and thus able to receive the gift of all that Jesus is.

Contrast this with how Herod sees the child, as a threat to what he possesses, to his kingship and riches. His hands are too full to receive the gift that he too is offered in Christ. If we are to receive the gifts of this Epiphany, then we must empty our hands too.

This Christmas most of us would have given and received gifts. We have probably looked for gifts that our friends do need. Even more profoundly our gifts are, like those of the magi, in recognition of who *are* the people whom we love. We delight in their humanity. If we give them books or wine, it is not just because they need these things, but because we take pleasure in the pleasure that they will have in them. We celebrate their enjoyment.

But the heart of all these celebrations is the one who needs no gifts from us, but is pure gift. His very being is given to Him by the Father from all eternity, and He comes to give Himself to us in turn. To receive that gift then, we too need empty hands. We need to recognise that God's fullness of life is what we most deeply yearn for and create a space to receive it.

The Herods of this world cannot receive the gift, for it would mean letting go of their own fullness and self-satisfaction. They can only see the powerless child as a threat. At the doorway to 2018 we remember that the magi go to seek the Christchild with their bags full of precious things, but more importantly, they depart with their hands empty, and thus able to receive the gift of all that Jesus is. At the Start of this New Year, may God bless you and yours.

Fr Peter Brannelly
Dean of the Cathedral



THE CATHEDRAL OF
ST. STEPHEN

*Incorporating the worshipping
community of St Patrick's
Fortitude Valley*

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
7 JANUARY 2018
YEAR B


Telephone: 07 3324 3030
Mass Information: 07 3324 3011
Web: www.cathedralofststephen.org.au

CATHEDRAL OF ST STEPHEN

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD | 7 JANUARY 2018

Make a Date

To help coordinate our active and diverse parish each year we create a master diary which manages the many activities and events of our community. This master diary is essential for the smooth running of our parish. From the master diary we produce a parish calendar which is now available to all parishioners. The calendar is not only an easy ready reference and reminder about some of the important dates and events of our journey together, the 2018 calendar is also an excellent tool for evangelization.

Why not give a calendar to a family member, neighbour or friend as an invitation and welcome to our Catholic family?

No Interest Loans Scheme (NILS)

What is NILS? -- The No Interest Loans Scheme (NILS) will lend up to \$1200* to low income earners, with low repayments from \$30 per fortnight, for the purchase of essential electrical white goods, such as refrigerators, washing machines, or televisions. Documents are required to verify income, expenditure, identification and loan purpose.

Who can access these loans? -- If you have been at your current address for a minimum of three months, are low income and are over the age of 18, then you are eligible to apply.

Where is NILS located? -- The Service currently operates across the State.

What are the benefits of NILS? -- The programme is carried out by The St Vincent de Paul Society and it is designed to help those who would have difficulty in obtaining finance for these critical items from traditional means.

How can I find out more? -- For more information about the NILS program, please phone (07) 3010 1029 or email nils@svdpqld.org.au.

Canali House of discernment at Herston is now accepting applications from men considering priesthood.

Canali House, the old Herston presbytery, is a house of discernment, meaning that the residents aren't yet part of the priestly formation programme (or even a pre-formation programme). Rather, the residents continue to work or study while receiving guidance and spiritual direction.

The cost for residence is \$100 per week inclusive of food and board.

Over the years many men have resided in the house, developing as leaders and growing in their understanding of their vocation. For more information please contact Vocation Brisbane on 3336 9392 or email vocation@bne.catholic.net.au.

Mass & Reconciliation times

The regular daily life of the Cathedral resumes this Monday 8 January. Masses and mass times are listed on the back page of the newsletter and on the noticeboard.

Most Rev Mark Coleridge ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE	Very Rev Peter Brannelly DEAN	Rev Odinaka Nwadike ASSOCIATE PASTOR	Fr Thomas Ismoyo IN-RESIDENCE
<i>The music is drawn from the Catholic Worship Book II for all Masses, available from our Welcomers at the entrances or on the pew seats. All Masses will be led by a Cantor.</i>			
<i>The Cathedral Choirs are in recess.</i>			
		6:00pm (Sat) (Sun) 8:00am, 10:00am 12:00pm 7.30pm	
Processional Hymn		CWB II 276	
Kyrie		CWB II 23a	
Gloria		CWB II 23b	
First Reading		<i>Isaiah 60:1-6</i>	
Responsorial Psalm		<i>Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13</i>	
 <p>☞ All na-tions shall fall pro-strate be-fore you, O God.</p>			
Second Reading		<i>Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6</i>	
Gospel Acclamation			
 <p>☞ Al-le- lu- ia, al-le- lu- ia, al-le-lu- ia.</p>			
Gospel		<i>Matthew 2:1-12</i>	
Sanctus		CWB II 23c	
Agnus Dei		CWB II 23f	
Communion Hymn		CWB II 280	
Recessional Hymn		CWB II 281	