
Granville Catholic Church Record

Vol. 10. No. 1.

January 5, 2025

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



THE EPIPHANY *of the* LORD

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. The word “epiphany” is Greek meaning “to manifest” or “to show” for it was the new-born baby that revealed or showed God to all the world. Epiphany marks the twelfth day of Christmas, as it is traditionally celebrated on January 6.

The Magi, often referred to as kings or wise men, and traditionally named Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar, came from the East, most likely Persia, modern-day Iran, and were properly speaking a class of priests who saw in the movement of the stars and planets the annunciation of major events. Coming from the East they were not Jews and so were held to be foreigners, or Gentiles, and it is because of this that this feast of the

Epiphany is significant for it marks the revelation of God in the birth of Christ to the Gentiles—the people of all the world. Whereas at Christmas the incarnation was made manifest to the Jews represented by the shepherds, at Epiphany the incarnation was made manifest to the gentiles represented by the Magi.

There are many customs that surround Epiphany.

There is the blessing of chalk which is then distributed to the people who then take it to their homes to mark the year by writing the initials of the three Magi over the door of their house (20 + C + M + B + 25) to remind all who enter and leave through the main door that they also must be ready to leave all, if necessary, and follow Christ.

Then there is the blessing of water on the Vigil of Epiphany which is then given to the faithful to use in their homes, and also for the sick.

There is also the blessing of the homes where the Priest may either climb the steeple of the church and bless the homes of the parishes in all four directions of the compass or he may visit the homes of parishioners to impart the blessing personally.

And then there is the blessing of gold, frankincense, and myrrh—with the gold used for the making of sacred vessels, and the frankincense burned in the thurible and also given to the people to be burned at home.

These customs remind us of the rich tradition of the Church and that our faith is embodied in things both seen and unseen, both the physical and the spiritual. It is body and soul.

THE PARISH OFFICE

Address

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South Granville, N.S.W. 2142

T 0497 190 444

E granville@parracatholic.org

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Parish Priest

Rev. Fr. Andrew Bass PP

Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Online and Social Media Co-ordinators

Rosette Chidiac and John Portelli

Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

Holy Family Primary School

T (02) 8633-8200

Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday, 6:00 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,
11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Church and Toilets Cleaning

Flower Arranging

*requesting volunteers to form groups of
at least 2 people to arrange flowers for
the sanctuary*

SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Holy Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Mass in Latin

First Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

Second and last Sunday of the month,
11:30 a.m.

Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning Group 2: P. Zaiter,
N. Chidiac, C. Buultjens

Readers

Vigil Rebecca Hanson, Ingrid Bifulco,
Racquel La Rosa

10:00 a.m. Sony Joseph Raj,
Mary Georges, Reanne Chidiac

Children's Liturgy school holidays

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton,
John Augustus, Frank Azzopardi, Antonio Bifulco, Ann
Blesson, John Borg, Vincenzo Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia,
Carmel Galea, Carmello Giovenco, Evangeline Grabato,
Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins, Therese
Khalil, Kay King, Fortunato La Macchia, Silvio La Macchia,
Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro, Ester Matos, Sid Morgan,
Scott Moulton, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Don
Provest, Therese Smeal, Ricardo Tognini, Lorraine Vella,
Sam Wardan.



*Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
by the grace of your Holy Spirit
cure the weaknesses of your servants,
and mercifully restore them to full health.*

IN MEMORIAM

Attard family, Axiak family, Victor Azzopardi, Bonello family,
Engedi Brown, Jim Brown, Dick Cahill, Gwen Cahill, Vincent
Cahill, Les Camilleri, Maria Dinh, Akosita Fetuuaho, Alan Frost,
Carmen Galea, Maria Gambin, John Graham, Joe Grech, Mary
Grech, Sam Grech, Melissa Irons, Salim Karaki, Paul Karam,
Nouhad Khoury, Thomas Lam, Rustica La Rosa, Laurie Lowe,
Frouzine Malkoun, Jacob Malkoun, Mouna Malkoun, Ofimia
Malkoun, Jack McGrath, John McIntyre, Lindsay McIntyre,
Mary McIntyre, Thomas McIntyre, Joseph Nammour, Jack
Newell, Hazel Jean Newell, Tony Newell, Vincent Nguyen,
Laura Pestano, Rogelio Pestano, Rolando Pestano, Guise Pham,
Jack Pickering, Lorna Pickering, Edward Pidgeon, Flory Pinto,
Saliba family, Geoff Senior, Garry Smith, Noel So, Alex Taktak,
Darren Thornton, John Timbs, John Toye, Savina Vailahi, John
Vella, Carmel Watts, Phyllis Webb, Mershed Wehbe, Yasmine
Wehbe, Dennis Wilson, Phyllis Yott, Dib Zaiter, Laila Zaiter.



*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

Requiescat in Pace **Betty Edwards**

It is with sadness that we announce the death of Betty Edwards, who was for many years a dedicated and long serving parishioner of Holy Trinity Parish. In your charity, pray for the repose of her soul and for the consolation of her family in the faith and hope of the resurrection of Our Lord.

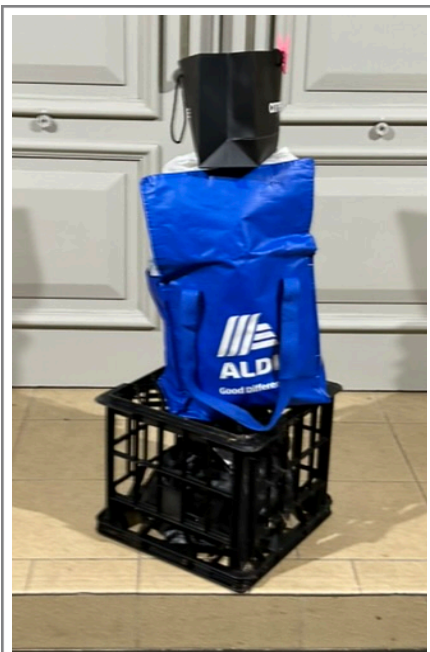
Her funeral will be said at St. Paul the Apostle Church, 40 Buckleys Road, Winston Hills on 7 January at 11:00 a.m.



*Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord,
and let perpetual light
shine upon her.
May she rest in peace.
May her soul and the souls
of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace.
Amen.*

Illegally Dumped Rubbish at Holy Family Church

As regularly occurs, rubbish was illegally dumped at Holy Family Church last Sunday. This is not only a criminal act but it amounts to the desecration of the church.



Online Donations in Support of the Parish

Online donations can be made through the Holy Cross Parish website (holycrossgranville.org.au) using our BPoint facility by visiting the website or scanning the QR code below. Thank you to all those who regularly support the parish by your contributions. Your regular support of the parish is greatly appreciated and allows us to continue to undertake the many works of the parish and to look at what other works we can achieve, including the continuing restoration and maintenance of our two parish churches for generations to come.



Holy Family Church Air Conditioning

When the air conditioning is in use at Holy Family Church, it is important that the doors and the windows to the church remain closed. If the doors and windows remain open, the air conditioning becomes ineffective. Moreover, the motors have to work harder in order to maintain the set temperature, which in turn increases the running costs.

To efficiently maintain the air conditioning units at Holy Family Church, please ensure that when it is in use that all the doors and windows remain closed in order to ensure that the system is able to operate as effectively as possible.

Parish Office Hours During the Holidays

The parish office will close until 14 January.

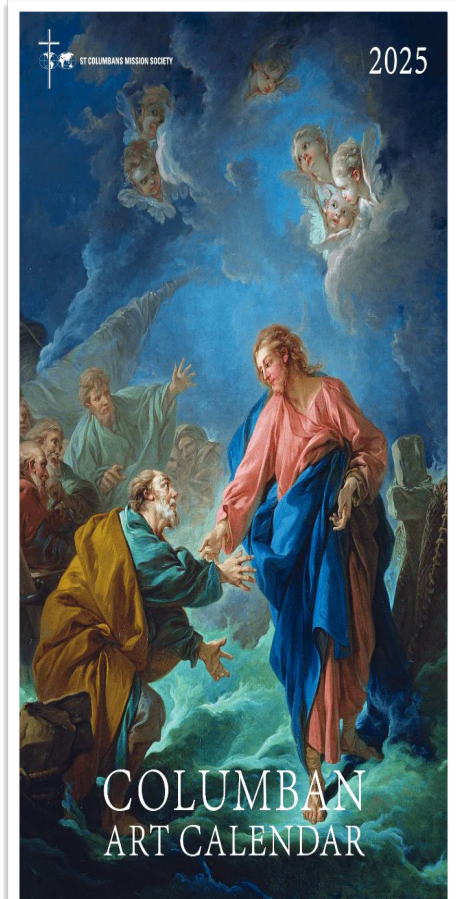
If needed, please send a message to the parish office email address and a reply will be given when the office opens.

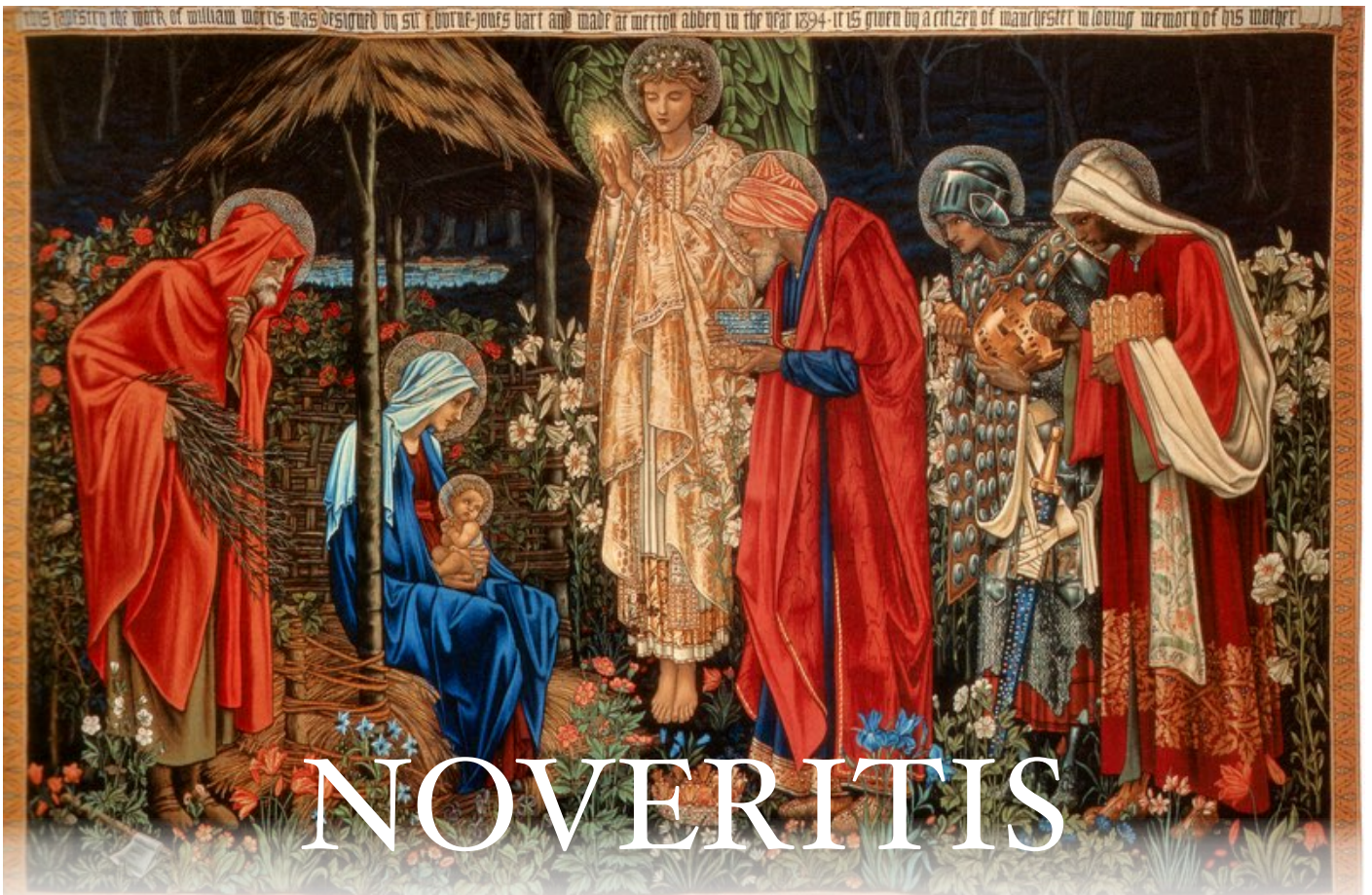
Holy Masses This Week

Whilst many parishes will be reducing their Mass times for the next two weeks, the regular Mass schedule will remain in place with Masses and confessions remaining at the usual times.

2025 Columban Art Calendars for Sale in our Piety Shops

The 2025 Columban Art Calendar is on sale for \$10 from our piety shops which supports the work of the Columban Missionaries and the parish.





NOVERITIS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF EASTER AND THE MOVEABLE FEASTS FOR THE YEAR A.D. 2025

Know, dear brethren,
that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ,
so by leave of God's mercy
we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection, who is our Saviour.

On the fifth day of March will fall Ash Wednesday,
and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

On the twentieth day of April you will celebrate with joy Easter Day,
the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the first day of June will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the eighth day of June, the feast of Pentecost.

On the twenty-second day of June the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

On the thirtieth day of November, the First Sunday of the Advent
of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom is honour and glory for ever and ever.

Amen.

This traditional proclamation of the day of Easter and the other moveable feasts on Epiphany comes from a time when calendars were not readily available. It was necessary to make known the day of Easter in advance, since many celebrations of the liturgical year depend on its day. The number of Sundays that follow Epiphany, the day of Ash Wednesday, and the number of Sundays that follow Pentecost are all computed in relation to Easter.



With blessed chalk mark the top or the side of your door with these numbers and letters

20 ✠ C ✠ M ✠ B ✠ 25

The initials have two meanings.

In the historical sense they refer to the names traditionally given to the the three kings, also called the three wise men or the Magi:

Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar.

Spiritually, however, they refer to the blessing itself, given by the Latin prayer "*Christus mansionem benedicat*" ("May Christ bless this house"),

the numbers are the year of Our Lord, the *Anno Domini*, and the Crosses remind us of the reason for the birth of Christ: that by the salvation won for us by His passion and death we may be brought to share in His resurrection and eternal life with God.



*May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us;
and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet,
that same Jesus who is your incarnate Word, now and forever.*

Amen.



PARRAMATTA CATHOLIC FOUNDATION



This Christmas, will you help homeless mothers and children find a safe place to call home to rebuild their lives?



\$25

can provide **nappies or baby formula** for a young mum and baby.



\$75

can help provide **psychological counselling** for a mother suffering trauma.



\$100

can provide **financial counselling** or a session on **parenting and living skills, education, and employment support.**



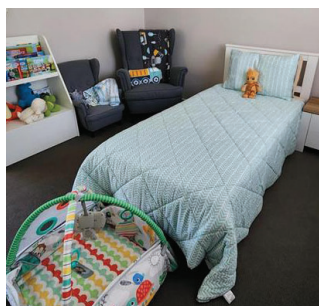
\$250

can give mums a **newborn hamper** with essentials such as nappies, muslin wraps, bottles, and baby shampoo.



\$500

can provide two homeless young mothers with a **baby bassinet or cot.**



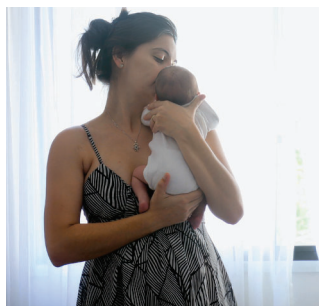
\$1,200

can provide a homeless young mum with a **bed, mattress, cot sheets, and a blanket.**



\$2,000

can provide four homeless young mums with a **maternity kit** including sleepwear, underwear, sanitary pads and baby clothing.



\$5,000

can provide a **safe home** for two months for a young mum fleeing domestic or family violence.

Your gift provides a safe home and practical and emotional family support.

Saints & STUFF

THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

The month of January is traditionally dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus.

In Philippians 2, St. Paul tells us that "At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord."

Small wonder, then, that the Church sets aside the first month of the year in honour of the Holy Name of Jesus. Through this devotion, the Church reminds us of the power of Christ's Name and encourages us to pray in His Name. In our society, of course, we hear His Name uttered quite often, but all too frequently, it is used in a curse or blasphemy. In the past, Christians would often make the Sign of the Cross when they heard Christ's Name uttered in such a manner, and that's a practice that would be worthwhile to revive.

This month, why not take a few minutes to memorise the Jesus Prayer, and pray it during those moments of the day when you are between activities, or travelling, or simply taking a rest?

Keeping Christ's Name always on our lips is a good way to ensure that we draw ever nearer to Him.

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

Epiphany

528 The *Epiphany* is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Saviour of the world.

The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (*magi*) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee. In the magi, representatives of the neighbouring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation. The magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations. Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and worship him as Son of God and Saviour of the world only by turning towards the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise as contained in the Old Testament.

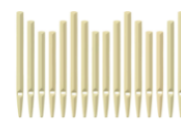
The Epiphany shows that "the full number of the nations" now takes its "place in the family of the patriarchs", and acquires *Israelitica dignitas* (is made "worthy of the heritage of Israel").

CATHOLIC Trivia



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Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

The Readings

Introit (*Mal. 3:1; I Chr. 29:12*)

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come;
and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

First Reading **The Prophet Isaiah (60:1-6)**

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.

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.**

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.**

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.**

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

The Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians (3:2-3, 5-6)

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

The Gospel of Matthew (2:1-12)

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.

Communio (*cf. Mt. 2:2*)

We have seen his star in the East,
and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.