



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

05 January 2025

Notes from Yukiko's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ



Happy New Year! & A Blessed Epiphany!

I hope you have experienced moments of joy and wonder and beauty in these past few weeks, and I hope your faith was refreshed by the story of God coming among us. I also hope you feel renewed in your awareness of God's profound love, and strengthened to love even more in the year ahead.

The photo in the coversheet was taken from Whangamata where we were staying in the morning of New Year Day. Watching the first sunrise of the year, called *hatsuhinode*, is a New Year tradition in Japan as it supposedly brings good luck. Whether I believe it or not, it was an amazing experience to see sun rising. Sunrises are a beautiful reminder of God's love and faithfulness. They mark new beginnings and the promise of hope each day. I felt so blessed.

This coming week, I will be working in the office as usual.

I will be on leave from mid of Jan to 2nd Feb. At Holy Cross, Cheen is taking a service on 19th Jan, Les, on 26th Jan, and the Rev. Colleen Binns on 2nd Feb. Just letting you know that Cheen is taking an enabler role at St. Paul's in Te Atatu Anglican Church from Feb. But as this is a quarter time position, he will continue to join us from time to time.

Arohanui *Yukiko*

Readings

	<u>5th January</u>	<u>12th January</u>
1 st Reading:	Isa 60:1-6	Isa 43:1-7
Psalm	Ps 72:1-7,10-15	Ps 29
2 nd Reading:	Eph 3:1-12	Acts 8:14-17
Gospel:	Matt 2:1-12	Luke 3:15-17,21-22

This week's summary:

- 1st Reading: The return of the Jews from Exile in 538 BC is a sign to all nations to acknowledge the actions of a God who saves and restores.
- 2nd Reading: Paul explains to Ephesian Christians that his ministry is, principally to the peoples of all cultures, including Greek and Roman. It is also a faith which comes out of his Jewish heritage.
- Gospel: The visit of the Wise Men to the infant Jesus is a story full of imagery. The whole universe as well as the world of human thought and knowledge pay homage to the Christ child.

Sentence

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. *Isaiah 60: 1*

Collect of the Day

**Jesus, light of the world,
let your bright star stand over the place
where the poor have to live;
lead our sages to wisdom
and our rulers to reverence.
Hear this prayer for your love's sake.
Amen.**

This Week's Service Songs (Andrew)

- Opening: We Three Kings
Gospel: Mary Did You Know
Offertory: O Come All Ye Faithful
Recession: Go tell it on the mountain

Rosters

Holy Cross

	<u>5th January</u>	<u>12th January</u>
Sacristan	Alison Coughlan	Val Deas
Welcomer	Trish Duncan	Ria Gormley
1 Readings	Christian	Alison Thompson
2 Readings	Trish Duncan	Linda Wells
Presiding	Yukiko	Yukiko
Prayers	Dorothy Meyer	Rhona Stace
TV Setup & Slides	InCheol Kim	Gary Wells
Morning Tea	Karenne West	Dorothy M & Ria
Flowers	Ria Gormley	Diana Harris

St Michaels

	<u>5th January</u>	<u>12th January</u>
Welcome & Prayers	Bruce Goertz	Bruce Goertz
Readings	Brian Simpson	Bruce Goertz
Presiding	Yukiko	Bruce Goertz

Liturgical Colour: white

Contacts during January

<u>Vicar</u>	The Rev'd Yukiko Wakui- Khaw
Confidential Email	Vicar@agac.org.nz
Mobile	021 047 4753
<u>Minister</u>	The Rev'd Les Doss
Phone	(09) 415 7619
<u>Deacon</u>	The Rev'd Bruce Goertz
<u>Accounts</u>	In-Cheol Kim
Email	accounts@agac.org.nz