

**Welcome to worship
at Dayboro Uniting Church and
Mt Mee Community Church**

Sunday 4 January 2015

Epiphany

08:30am Dayboro Pastor Richard

4:00pm Mt Mee Holy Communion
Pastor John Heffernan



Richard's Ramblings

Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Matthew 2

Only Matthew tells this story of the Wise Men from the East. He must have got it from somewhere, the gospel writers tended to use sources rather than original material. By the time the gospel was written, Paul and other Christian missionaries had been gallivanting around the known world; one of them could have picked up the story from Iran or wherever.

Ever since, the gifts have been seen as representing types of Jesus' ministry and mission. Gold, for his kingship of all of creation. Frankincense, he is the Great High Priest. Myrrh, for embalming, pointing to his suffering and death.

Perhaps that was the point of the gifts; it doesn't hurt to reconsider Christ's multi-faceted rôle in salvation. But these were magi, scientists of their day, they might have been bringing useful items for a new baby in an unhygienic nursery. Gold has antiseptic properties, or it would have funded the family's refugee journey into Egypt. Frankincense would have made the fetid, animal-heavy air tolerable. Myrrh is a strong antiseptic, still used today in less-developed societies to prevent and treat infection in newborn infants and nursing mothers.

I can be as self-indulgent as the best (worst) of 'em when it comes to typology in sermons. But bringing practical hope and healing to folk who are made in Christ's image is more useful and, ultimately, more glorifying to God.

New Roster up to end April

On top of so much that Ann already does for the church, she has kindly produced a new roster. Please arrange your own swaps if you aren't able to take a rostered date, or give Richard a call.

Would you like to be on the roster? Talk with Ann or Richard. We're particularly in need of people to care for the grounds.

Contributions for the Newsletter

Read any good books lately? Or found a website which has helped your Christian life and/or witness? Or do you have *secret knowledge* of an upcoming event? Tell Richard, and see your name in lights (OK, in Apple Verdana 11).

Next week at Dayboro Uniting Church:

Thursday 1pm Card Sharps

Sunday 08:30am Richard
Ephesians 1 "Deposit Guarantee Scheme".

Readings Annie Vosper
Intercessions Paul Inglis

Next week at Mt Mee
4pm Holy Communion

Rev Jeanette Jamieson

Minister: Pastor Richard Lance
Mobile 0447 447 945
(dayborounitingchurch@fastmail.fm)

Welfare Managers and Conversation Club:
Ann Turner and Kay Murchie 3425 2864

Treasurer: Jenny Brown 3425 1363
Council Secretary: Chris Clarke 3289 4708

Chair of Church Council: Ian Ogston 3425 3661

Sunday Space: Leanne Marr 0438 212 736

Casa Segura Cards Group:
Allan and Joan Kilby 3425 1122

Mainly Music: Jilly Warschau 3425 3343

Please refer all cases of illness, hospitalisation or need
to our Welfare Managers or Minister.

Please direct requests for weddings, baptisms or
funerals to our Minister.