

The Following Collect, Epistle & Gospel will be read during the Eucharist today in the personal Chapel of the Presiding Archbishop of the Australian Church of Antioch, The Most Reverend Frank Bugge.

The 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Green.

Intent. - Fellowship.

Candles 6.

The Collect.

O Lord, we pray that all who profess and call themselves Christian, may grow into the fullness of your love, and hold the faith in unity of spirit and peace, O Lord who is the King of love and the leader of all angelic hosts. Amen.

The Epistle for the 2nd Sunday in Epiphany is from the writings of Anglican Priest Rev Norman Alchin.

A person who comes to Jesus also comes to Church, and is joined to the other Christians. The question is, given that I have been made a member of the Christ flock, in what local congregation will I express this worship? There are many attitudes in the Church therefore differences of opinion; but most disagreements are about matters of minor secondary importance. If there were the perfect Church, I would spoil it by joining it. In fellowship we should not expect a Church to be a museum for saints. It is a hospital for spiritual ailments. We are all wearing L plates for learners. Learning the sharing of personal experience of God fits us into a whole unit. What greater strength of unity and fellowship can be achieved with God as the binding cord?

Here Endeth the Epistle

The Gospel for the 2nd Sunday in Epiphany is from the words of Bishop Bugge.

I keep hearing the statement that **YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO TO CHURCH TO BE A GOOD CHRISTIAN**. While this statement is true you diddle yourselves with this practice. Remember the comment of the Master Jesus, when he himself said, **WHEN TWO OR MORE ARE GATHERED IN MY NAME**, do you think that statement was an idle one. The simple truth is that when two or more are gathered in union for the ritual of the Mass, then truly massive amounts of energy begin to flow. For every person that enters into the group, the Christ energy multiplies tenfold. This is the true reason for church fellowship, and you cheat yourself with the belief that you can achieve this on your own. If you can manage to do this, then you are a far better person than I, for I in my human weakness need all the assistance of the Holy Ones that I can get, and the wonderful thing is that God gives me all this help for free.

Praise Be to Thee O Christ.