

## **Our Night Sky for December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024**

**I've told this story before but is worth sharing again. When my three children were still quite young, somebody heard about the new star at Christmas time. I think it was related to the three wisemen seeing a new star in the east and that star leading them south to Bethlehem. Well our front porch faces due east and they headed out to spot the new star. If your house was like my house, we were trying to wrangle the kids off to bed around eight p.m. because we still had two or three hours of wrapping ahead. It didn't take too long and they were back inside having spotted the new star in the east. Its really sparkly and sort of red. Nothing like success a new star spotted and time to start settling down for bed.**

**Now between you and me if you check a mid December star map you will notice as December progresses Orion rises earlier and earlier and by the days before Christmas the bright star Betelgeuse is quite prominent in our eastern sky and as the evening progress it will follow the ecliptic higher and higher in our southern sky. It's possible they may have spotted Betelgeuse but who am I to spoil their discovery. And by the way this year Orion is joined by Jupiter and a bit more north Mars is rising following behind Jupiter and if you turn around to due west if it's before ten pm you can also catch Saturn.**

**From The Prince George Astronomical Society,**

**Have a wonderful Christmas and enjoy Our Night Sky**