



# ST EDWARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

## [Mary Help of Christians Church]

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**Rev. Fr Roel Llave | Mrs Hilda Raquero, parish secretary | Rev. Paul Manvell, deacon**

### Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.**

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

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

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

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

### PRAYER FOR RAIN

Almighty God, we are in need of rain. We realise now, looking up into the clear, blue sky, what a marvel even the least drop of rain really is. To think that so much water can fall out of the sky, which now is empty and clear! We place our trust in You. Look on our dry hills, valleys and paddocks, dear God, and bless them with the living blessing of soft rain. We wait and watch for your gift of rain. Then the land will rejoice, and the rivers will sing Your praises, and our hearts will be made glad. Amen.

✠ Mary Help of Christians ✠ Pray for us.  
 ✠ St Edward, the confessor ✠ Pray for us.  
 ✠ St Mary of the Cross ✠ Pray for us.

### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

**1st Collection - \$ 796.20 Planned Giving - \$ 482.90**  
**Loose - \$ 88.45**  
**December EFT - \$ 1,427 Christmas Dues - \$ 1,105**  
**Christmas Day—\$1,543 TAP (December) - \$ 557**

### In your charity, please pray for our sick

Carol Costales, Betty Yeaman, Msgr. Kerry Bayada, Cheryl Moloney, Jay-Rikilee-Addison Peachey, Marlee Deamer, Sr. Deirdre Browne IBVM, Patrick Lawler, Judy Peachy, Gabriel Clarke, Peter Fardy, Claire Borchart, Fay Crocker, Lorraine Guyer, Fr John Willis, Sayde Baladia, Narelle Albans, Chris O'Sullivan, Julien Ryan, Patricia Jones, Ginavis Naw Pha Day, Jo O'Sullivan, Anna Gawlik, Catherine Robinson, Kevin Frost, Joan Guyer.

### Our Deceased

Michael Brennan, Sharon Peachey, Greg Ryan, Madeline Hayes, Sylvia Bayliss, Christianna Berry, Frances Cartwright, Fred Gardiner, Clive Yeaman, Norma Walsh, Margaret Carter, Dawn Wheeler, Judy Chatwood, Denise Robinson, Max Costales, Msgr. Vince Redden, Jill Mifsud, John Webster, Monica Lee, Deacon Peter Harrison, Maureen Dorrington, Don Hewitt, Daphne Brazel, Michael Crawley, William "Bill" O'Sullivan, Gwen Foster,

### Anniversary

### MINISTRY ROSTER

**4 –5 January — The EPIPHANY of the LORD - Year C**  
 Reader EMHC Piety

Saturday 5.30 pm  
 Sunday 9.00 am  
 Sunday 5.30 pm

**Volunteers during the holiday season**

**Counters**  
 R. Gorman & G. Croker

**11–12 January — The BAPTISM of the LORD - Year C**  
 Reader EMHC Piety

Saturday 5.30 pm  
 Sunday 9.00 am  
 Sunday 5.30 pm

**Volunteers during the holiday season**

**Counters**  
 P. Frost & C. Frost

### PARISH PRAYER

Loving God, Father of us all, gather and form us into a caring and welcoming parish family. May your Holy Spirit touch our hearts for us to reach out with compassion to those in need.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, The Good Shepherd. Amen.

### NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Christmas Fundraising

Christmas fundraising will continue through until the 12th January. If you are away but would like to make a donation, funds can be deposited into St Edwards Special Collections acct. BSB 082-105 Account No. 001059638.

#### Christmas Dues

Every year, excess funds in the first collection are sent to Priest Salary Fund to help priests in the smaller parishes. This also means that, at the beginning of each year our Presbytery Account is \$0. Help us cover our costs for January. Envelopes for Christmas Offering are included in the Planned Giving envelope packs, and may be left on the collection plate at any Mass. This contributes towards the support of our priest and presbytery upkeep. Thank you!

#### 2025 Liturgy Roster

We will be starting to compile the Liturgy Roster for 2025 soon. If you would like to become a Reader at Mass or assist on the Piety Stall, please contact the office at 6765 9543 or email at [southtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto:southtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au)

#### VOLUNTEER READERS, EMHC & PIETY FOR HOLIDAY SEASON

If you are available to assist with the liturgy over Christmas and holiday season, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the foyer.

#### Blessing of Homes and Chalking of Door - Epiphany of the Lord

Epiphany (also known as Twelfth Night) marks the occasion of a time-honoured Christian tradition of "chalking the doors." The formula for the ritual — adapted for 2025 — is simple: take chalk of any color and write the following above the entrance of your home: **20 + C + M + B + 25**. The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi — Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar — who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus mansionem benedictat*: "May Christ bless this house." The "+" signs represent the cross, and the "20" at the beginning and the "25" at the end mark the year. It is a great practice whereby we dedicate our year to God from its very outset, asking His blessing on our homes and on all who live, work or visit them there. The timing for the chalking of the doors varies somewhat in practice. In some places, it is done on New Year's Day.

More commonly, it is performed January 6 — the traditional Feast of the Epiphany — the Twelfth Day of Christmas. Traditionally the blessing is done by either a priest or the head of the family. This blessing can be performed simply by just writing the inscription and offering a short prayer. Seeing the symbols over our doors can help to remind us, while passing in and out on our daily routines, that our homes and all those who dwell there belong to Christ. It also serves as a reminder of the welcome the Magi gave to Jesus. With time the chalk will fade. As it does we let the meaning of the symbols written sink into the depths of our heart and be manifest in our words and actions the Latin words, *Christus mansionem benedictat*, "May Christ bless the house." We should strive to be welcoming to all who come to our homes to visit us!

#### Instructions for Blessing the Home

Using the blessed chalk mark the lintel of your front door (or front porch step) as follows:

**20 + C + M + B + 25**

while saying:

***The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty five years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.***

Then offer the following prayer:

***Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen***

#### On Church Giving

**To support the priests (active, sick, and retired) 1st Collection**  
**A/C Name:** St. Edwards Church Presbytery Savings Account  
**BSB:** 082 105 A/C No.: 001023592

**To support the Church (Planned Giving Program—PGP):**  
**A/C Name:** St. Edwards Church Suspense Account  
**BSB:** 082 105 A/C No.: 001002950

**Reference:** First + Last Name

**Reference:** Envelope Number + Last Name

**What return shall I make to the Lord, for all God has given me?**

**Thank you for making a gift to support the important work of our parish. We sincerely appreciate your generosity!**

#### The Jubilee Prayer



Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, re-awaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

#### Schedule of Masses & Sacraments

##### Holy Mass

Monday	08.00 am
Tuesday	09.30 am
Wednesday	09.30 am
Thursday	09.30 am
Friday	09.30 am

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>05.30 pm</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>09.00 am</b>
	<b>05.30 pm</b>

<b>1st Friday Adoration</b>	<b>08.15 am</b>
<b>1st Saturday Mass</b>	<b>09.30 am</b>

<b>2nd/4th Sunday Mass</b>	
<b>Tamworth Age Care</b>	<b>11.00 am</b>

##### Confessions

Saturday	04.45 pm to 05.15 pm
Sunday	08.15 am to 08.45 am
	04.45 pm to 05.15 pm

##### Baptism

*by appointment/Online booking:*  
<https://stedwardsparish.org.au/sacraments/>

##### Wedding, Anointing of the Sick & Funeral

*By appointment*

##### Sick List

If you would like to add someone to our sick list please use the "sick list prayer request form" placed in the blue folder at the foyer.

##### Visitation

If there is a parishioner whom you know would appreciate a visit from a priest or the SVdP, please contact the Parish Office.