



ST EDWARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

[Mary Help of Christians Church]

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Rev. Fr Paul Aguilar, PP | Mrs. Liz Hearne, *parish secretary* | Rev. Paul Manvell, *deacon*



Lighting of the Advent Candle Prayer

4th Sunday of Advent | Candle of Love

(as the candles are lit, all pray)

Father, as our Advent pilgrimage draws to a close, we relight the candles of hope, peace, and joy. And we light the candle of love. Grant us the courage to share your love: love for life and all creation, love for sinners and saints, love for the poor and the little ones. We thank you for the hope your Son gives us, for the peace he bestows, for the joy your Spirit pours into our hearts, and for your love that redeems us and shows us the way. Amen.

In your charity, please pray for

our sick

Fr John Willis	Shelly Howlett	John Green
Frances Cartwright	Barry Winning	Eduardo Morales
Julien Ryan	Chris Fardy	Harryson Rits
Angela Allan	Narelle Albans	Joan de Souza
Petrina (Fardy) Keys	Peachy Family	Peter Richards
David Owens		

health & safety of

Anthony Shwe Hla Paw Ginavis Naw Pha Day

our deceased

+ Bernard Blanch	+ Shirley Burke
+ Deb Wilson	+ Margaret Hanna
+ Susana Sumang	+ Sr Margaret Keane, RSJ
+ Frank Conroy	+ Sr Geraldine Maher, OP

Roman Martyrology

20/12 St Julius, *martyr*
21/12 St Peter Canisius, *priest & doctor*
22/12 St Flavian, *ex-prefect*
23/12 St John Kanty, *priest*
24/12 St Irmina, *virgin*
25/12 The Nativity of the Lord Jesus Christ

Omnes sancti mártires, oráte pro nobis

Schedule of Christmas Masses

Friday	24/12 Christmas Eve
04.00pm	Holy Mass, Vigil of Christmas (English)
06.00pm	Children's Mass, Vigil of Christmas (English)
08.00pm	Holy Mass, Vigil of Christmas (Filipino)
10.00pm	Mass of Christmas Night (English)
Saturday	25/12 Christmas Day
09.00am	Mass of Christmas Day (English)
05.30pm	No Vigil Mass
Sunday	26/12 Feast of the Holy Family
09.00am	Holy Mass (English)
5.30pm	Holy Mass (English)

Please note that you cannot fulfil both your Christmas obligation and Sunday obligation with one Mass.

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.

✠ Mary Help of Christians...	✠ pray for us.
✠ St Edward the Confessor...	✠ pray for us.
✠ St Mary of the Cross...	✠ pray for us.

Our History, Our Story | 1961-2021 2001—2011

Father Willis had several assistant priests. A Deacon, Paul Aguilar from the Philippines, was in the parish for some time in 2009. He went back to the Philippines for his Ordination by Bishop Matthys. Father Paul was then stationed at Moree before taking on the role of Parish Priest at Wee Waa.

Father John McDonald was next in South. He had been a Master at various boys' colleges in Brisbane, then Riverview, Sydney, where he was maths teacher and athletics coach. He too studied at Beda College, Rome and was ordained by Bishop Matthys in 2011. After a short time here, Father McDonald did further studies in Canada, mainly church law. Following that, he was at Armidale University before becoming Parish Priest of West Tamworth. Father Willis was really ill and spent time in hospital then a rehabilitation centre to recuperate. Father John McHugh, who owned a house in Tamworth, was sent to help Father McDonald during Father Willis's illness.

(Faith of Our Fathers, Living Still... Recounted and written by Kitty Thomas)

Christmas Dues/Offering

At the end of the year, unused funds in the 1st collection (Presbytery Account) are sent to the Armidale Clergy Fund (ACF) to help priests in smaller parishes, retired and sick clergy. This also means that, at the beginning of each year our Presbytery Account is \$0. Please help us cover our costs for January. Envelopes for Christmas Offering are included in the Planned Giving envelope packs or you may *collect an envelope from the table in the foyer*. Please leave on the collection plate at any Mass. This contributes towards the support of our priest and presbytery upkeep. Thank you!

NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent Reconciliation (Rite II Penance)

Wednesday 22/12 6.00pm St Nicholas Church (East Tamworth)

Home Alone for Christmas Lunch?

Why not join us in the hall on Christmas Day (25/12) for a very enjoyable lunch. Please complete the details on the sheet in the foyer.

Christmas Fundraising

This year's Christmas fundraising project is for the benefit of the Rutete Parish's (Tanzania, Africa) education and livelihood program.

* Jubilee Calendar \$10/each - We are now taking orders for the St Edwards Jubilee Calendar. Please add your name to the sign up sheet in the foyer if you would like to purchase a copy. Proceeds from the sale of the calendar goes to support the Rutete Parish's scholarship program. A full year's tuition for a senior high school student is about A\$700. We are hoping to help 2 Tanzanian senior students.

* Christmas Baubles \$5/each - from early December we will start selling Christmas baubles to decorate our church's Christmas trees. Proceeds from the sale of the baubles is to support the livelihood project of Rutete Parish. The livelihood project targets to purchase 25 goats to be distributed to 25 families. Each family is tasked to raise the goat and give 1 female kid back to the parish so it can be given to another family. Each goat costs approx. A\$30

Christmas Cards & Decors

Christmas items are now available at the Parish Piety Store.

Make Our Christmas Liturgy a Beautiful Experience

We expect many visitors, Catholics who may be ready to return to the faith and non-Catholic seekers. Lets ensure that they have an amazing experience at St Edward's this Christmas.

Welcomer at Christmas Eve/Day Mass

Help make our Christmas liturgies beautiful and welcoming for all. Please sign the Volunteer Form in the foyer. If you've never ushered before, don't worry! We will train you.

Readers and E.O. Ministers of Holy Communion

If you are available for our Christmas Masses, please volunteer. Kindly sign the sheet in the foyer.

Restrictions will ease from 15 December, with changes including:

- there are no limits on numbers in places of worship
- singing is permitted by all
- masks are not required but are encouraged when you cannot socially distance.
- checking in with QR code or written register is still required



SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATA

Immaculata Mission School 2022

You are invited to spend the first 9 days of 2022 with us as we discover what it means to *Be A Saint!* Program includes talks on the faith, praise & worship, daily Mass, Adoration & the Rosary, recreation, community & friendship. Families welcome and children's ministry available! Come and join us for an amazing time to grow in faith, and love for God and to make new friends!

When: 1-9th January, 2022 (Family program 4th-9th)

Where: New England Girls' School, Armidale, NSW

Cost: \$450 - includes accommodation, food, speakers, talks and activities.

For family rates, additional information and TO REGISTER see: <http://www.sistersoftheimmaculata.org.au/ims>

For the health and safety of all concerned, parishioners are encouraged to comply with all relevant Public Health Orders.

Schedule of Masses & Sacraments

Holy Mass

20-26 / 12

Monday	07.00am
Tuesday	09.30am
Wednesday	09.30am
Thursday	09.30am
Friday	see Christmas schedule
Saturday	see Christmas schedule
Sunday	09.00am & 05.30pm

Confession

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

Baptism

by appointment

Online baptism request form:

<https://forms.gle/KUgmzVVDPR8ZhKvk6>

Wedding

by appointment

Anointing of the Sick

by appointment

Funeral

by appointment

TV / ONLINE MASS SCHEDULE

TV Mass - Channel 10, Sunday 06.00am

Online | Sunday 10.30am
St Mary's Cathedral (Sydney)
<https://www.stmaryscathedral.org.au/>

Melbourne Cathedral | Sunday 11.00am
<https://melbournecatholic.org/connect/mass-online>

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Child Safe Parish

Electronic copy of the Child Safe Parish Policy is now available online on our parish website www.stedwardsparish.org.au/safeguarding/ It is a valuable resource to keep our parish a child safe environment. All are encouraged to read the booklet.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

First Collection	\$ 785.80
Planned Giving	\$ 1,125.95
Loose Collection	\$ 30.10