



ST EDWARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

[Mary Help of Christians Church]

72 Hillvue Road (PO Box 5002) South Tamworth NSW 2340
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Rev. Fr Paul Aguilar, PP | Mrs. Liz Hearne, *parish secretary* | Rev. Paul Manvell, *deacon*

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.

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

Ginavis Naw Pha Day

our deceased

- + Bernard Blanch
- + Paul & Erin Thomas
- + Wally Warner
- + Stephen Diano
- + Deceased members of the Conroy Family
- + Frank Fahy
- + Anthony Shwe Hla Paw
- + John Green
- + Fay Leonard

Roman Martyrology

- 03/01 Holy Name of Jesus
- 04/01 St Elizabeth Ann Seton, *religious*
- 05/01 St Edward, *king & confessor (death anniversary 1066)*
- 06/01 St Andre Bessette, *lay brother*
- 07/01 St Raymond of Peñafort, *priest*
- 08/01 St Severin, *abbot*
- 09/01 The Baptism of the Lord, *feast*

Lent & Holy Week 2022

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|-----------|----------|---|
| Wednesday | 02 March | Ash Wednesday (<i>fasting & abstinence</i>) |
| Sunday | 03 April | Passiontide |
| Sunday | 10 April | Palm Sunday |
| Thursday | 14 April | Maundy Thursday |
| Friday | 15 April | Good Friday (<i>fasting & abstinence</i>) |
| Sunday | 17 April | Easter Sunday |

Lenten Program

We are in need of volunteers to lead Lenten Programs. If you would like to lead a group, please complete the sheet in the foyer. Materials will have to be ordered by Monday 25th January. 1st meeting will start on the 28th of February.

When does Christmas actually end?

It's almost universal knowledge that Christmas is officially celebrated on December 25th, the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord. While the most popular carol of all suggests just twelve days, it's a topic of hot debate among Catholics. When does Christmas actually end?

It turns out that the answer to when Christmas officially ends is not so simple because there are technically three separate Christmas "seasons": the Christmas octave, the liturgical Christmas season, and the traditional Christmastide season that concludes with Candlemas.

The Christmas Octave

An octave is an eight-day period within the Church in which Easter or Christmas is celebrated that includes the actual feast day. The eighth day is considered the "octave day," and days in between are "within" the octave. Each day of the octave is considered to be an actual day of the feast and is celebrated as such. Therefore, the Octave of Christmas begins Christmas Day on December 25th and extends until the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the January 1st.

The Liturgical Christmas Season

The liturgical Christmas season is situated after the Advent season and before the beginning of Ordinary time. It begins with the Christmas Eve vigil Masses and concludes with Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on January 9th.

Christmastide

In the older tradition kept in the liturgical year of Extraordinary Form of Mass, the whole "Christmastide" season lasts for forty days (corresponding to the forty days of lent) that concludes with Candlemas on February 2nd, also known as the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Presentation of the Lord.

When someone asks you when Christmas ends, ask them: Do you mean the Christmas octave, the liturgical Christmas season, or Christmastide?

Our History, Our Story | 1961-2021

2011-2021

In 2011 the Parish, under Father Willis's leadership, celebrated its Golden Jubilee. Amazing! Fifty years a parish! A thanksgiving Mass was offered; a history of the parish, called "The Church on the Hill" was produced, and a well attended dinner was held on the very spot where all those years ago Housie began every Tuesday night, Carey's Transport, now Bikes and Bits, home of a motor cycle business. Bishop Luc Matthys was guest of honour. Also attending was visiting priests and nuns and many former parishioners. A great re-union, no less than three speeches, some scenes of parish life and personalities were shown on a wall, great celebrations.

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

Catholic Devotion: Blessing of Homes and Chalking of Door

Epiphany of the Lord

Epiphany (also known as Twelfth Night, *Theophany*, or Three Kings Day) marks the occasion of a time-honoured Christian tradition of "chalking the doors." The formula for the ritual — adapted for 2022 — is simple: take chalk of any color and write the following above the entrance of your home: **20 + C + M + B + 22**. The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi — Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar — who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus mansionem benedicat*: "May Christ bless this house." The "+" signs represent the cross, and the "20" at the beginning and the "22" at the end mark the year. The chalking of the doors is a centuries-old practice throughout the world, though it appears to be somewhat less well-known in Australia. It is, however, an easy tradition to adopt, and 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. The chalking of the doors of a home encourages Christians to dedicate their life at home to God and to others. 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 benedicat*, "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 + 22 while saying:

The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty two 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

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

03-09 January 2022

- Monday No Mass
- Tuesday No Mass
- Wednesday No Mass
- Thursday No Mass
- Friday No Mass
- Saturday 05.30pm (vigil)
- 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

- 1st Collection (*Christmas incl.*) \$ 1326.25
- Planned Giving \$ 742.00
- Loose Collection \$ 5.00
- Christmas Dues \$ 1040.00