



ST EDWARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

[Mary Help of Christians Church]

72 Hillvue Road (PO Box 5002) South Tamworth NSW 2340

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Website: <https://stedwardsparish.org.au/> Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stedwardsouthtamworth>

myFaith - mobile app (available in Apple Store or Google Play)

Fr Paul Aguilar, PP

Rev. Paul Manvell, *deacon*

NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mass Time

Mon-Fri 02-06/01 as usual
Wed 04/01 9.30 am Anointing Mass

Planned Giving Program

New parishioners who wish to join the Planned Giving Program please contact the office so that envelopes can be organised. If you prefer to organise a direct debit or internet transfer please contact the office for further details.

Piety Stall

Open before and after Mass each weekend.

Free Sausage Sizzle & Morning Tea—Australia Day

Following 9.30am Mass on Thursday 26th January all parishioners are invited to Morning Tea in the hall to celebrate Australia Day. Please bring a plate of goodies that remind us of the mighty Aussie 'Cuppa' e.g. lamingtons, scones, damper, Anzac biscuits, mini meat pies, sausage rolls and 'don't forget the vegemite' etc. Please come along and join in the festivities. Volunteers needed for the BBQ.

1917-2017 Centenary of the Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima

If you would like to volunteer to organise activities for this special Marian year, please complete the sign up sheet in the foyer.

Candlemas

Thursday, 2 Feb 2017 is the feast of the Presentation of the Lord or the Purification of the Virgin Mary. During this Mass, candles are blessed. It is a day of hope and light. A time to honour the Lord as the Light of the World and to remind us that we too have that light within us. Please bring your own candles for the blessing. Mass at 9.30 am.

First Friday: Feast of St Blaise

Friday 3 February 2017, 9.30 am Mass with blessing of the throat.

+2017 Sacramental Preparation Schedule

Term 1 | Reconciliation / Confession

Parent's Information Evening	07/02/17	6.30pm
Enrolment Sunday	12/02/17	9.00am
Prep. Classes (every Wednesday)	15/02/17	4.00pm
Reception of Sacrament	29/03/17	4.00pm

For state school students or schools other than St Edward's please contact 6762 0569 after hours.

Information for the bulletin to be emailed to southtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au

or please drop a note to the Parish Office no later than Thursday afternoon

Mass Time and Liturgical Services

Weekends

Saturday Vigil 5.30 pm
Sunday 9 am & 5.30 pm

Weekdays

Monday 7.00 am
Tuesday - Friday 9.30 am

Anointing Mass

1st Wednesday of the Month
9.30 am

Confession

Saturday 4.45 - 5.15 pm
Sunday 8.15 - 8.45 am
& 4.45 - 5.15 pm
or by appointment.

Baptism

Preparation Class, 2nd
Sunday of the Month 10 am

Baptism, 3rd Sunday of the
Month 10 am
or by appointment.

Wedding,

Sick Call & Funeral

by appointment

Collection

Envelopes \$ 843.50
Loose \$ 132.95

Let us pray for

Our sick

Lyle Crough
Fr John Carey
Fr Peter McGrath
Bernie Smith
Betty Mahony
Roslyn Smith
Kevin Johns
Rita Sutton
Elaine Graham
Bayly Turner
Liz Artis
Lorraine Parsons
Peter Dawson
Ignacio de Castro

Our deceased

Leo Gleeson
Betty Linz

Roman Martyrology

- 2.1 St Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzan
- 3.1 The Most Holy Name of Jesus
- 4.1 St Titus
- 5.1 St Telesphorus
- 6.1 St Macra
- 7.1 St Raymond of Penyafort

Omnes sancti Mátyres, oráte pro nobis

Home Visitation

If there is a parishioner in hospital / nursing home / homebound who you know would appreciate a visit from a priest, please contact the Parish Office.



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<https://www.facebook.com/stedwardsouthtamworth>

Free Mobile App

Discover what is happening in our parish download **myFaith** mobile app available from **Apple App Store** or **Google Play**.

Catholic Devotion: Blessing of Homes and Chalking of Door

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 2017 — is simple: take chalk of any color and write the following above the entrance of your home: **20 + C+M + B + 17**. 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 the house." The "+" signs represent the cross, and the "20" at the beginning and the "17" at the end mark the year. The chalking of the doors is a centuries-old practice throughout the world, though it appears to be someone 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 welcoming 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 as welcoming to all who come to our homes to visit us!

Blessing the Chalk

✠ *Our help is the name of the Lord:*

✠ *Who made heaven and earth.*

✠ *The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in:*

✠ *From this time forth for evermore.*

Let us pray.

Loving God, bless this chalk which you have created, that it may be helpful to your people; and grant that through the invocation of your most Holy Name that we who use it in faith to write upon the door of our home the names of your holy ones Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, may receive health of body and protection of soul for all who dwell in or visit our home; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 + 17** while saying: **The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and seventeen 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**

LITURGY ROSTER

The Epiphany of the Lord/A 8 January 2017

	Vigil-5.30pm	9.00am	5.30pm
Acolyte	T Ball	P Manvell (B)	J Mahony
Reader 1	Volunteers		
Reader 2	Volunteers		
E.O. Mins	Volunteers		
Piety Stall	J Davy	D Pawsey	L Hearne
Counters	this week:	T Hill & P Greenaway	
	next week:	R Gorman & G Crocker	