

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

YEAR B – 7TH JANUARY 2024

The community of the Cathedral of St Stephen acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which our parish stands.

The Cathedral Parish has zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.

Readings for today: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12



While Christmas Day and other important feast days are fixed in the liturgical calendar each year, many of the important feasts of the Church year, such as Easter, are moveable, and based upon the cycle of the lunar calendar. Therefore, the date for the celebration of Easter changes every year. As established by the Council of Nicaea in 325AD, Easter Sunday falls on the first Sunday after the "Paschal Full Moon," which varies between March 22 and April 25 (which is the first full moon after the [20th] March equinox). In ancient times, before calendars were common, most people did not know the dates for the upcoming liturgical year and their associated sacred holidays. In those times, on Epiphany Sunday (today) each year, the moveable dates for the approaching year were "proclaimed" to the gathered assembly after the gospel in this way:

*Dear brothers and sisters,
the glory of the Lord has shone upon us, and shall ever be manifest among us,
until the day of his return.*

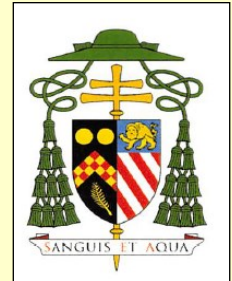
Through the rhythms of times and seasons let us celebrate the mysteries of salvation.

*Let us recall the year's culmination, the **Easter Triduum** of the Lord:
his last supper, his crucifixion, his burial, and his rising celebrated
between the evening of the **Twenty-Eighth Day of March**
and the evening of the **Thirtieth Day of March**.
Easter Sunday being on the **Thirty-First Day of March**.*

*Each Easter – as on each Sunday – the Holy Church makes present
the great and saving deed by which Christ has for ever conquered sin and death.
From Easter are reckoned all the days we keep holy.*

***Ash Wednesday**, the beginning of Lent, will occur on the **Fourteenth Day of February**.
The Ascension of the Lord will be commemorated on Sunday, the **Twelfth Day of May**.
Pentecost, the joyful conclusion of the season of Easter, which also commemorates this
year the **150th anniversary of the opening and blessing of the Cathedral of St. Stephen**, will
be celebrated on the **Nineteenth Day of May**. And, this year the **First Sunday of Advent**
will be on the **First Day of December**.*

*Likewise the pilgrim Church proclaims the passover of Christ in the feasts
of the Holy Mother of God, in the feasts of the Apostles and Saints,
and in the commemoration of the faithful departed. To Jesus Christ, who was, who is,
and who is to come, Lord of time and history, be endless praise, for ever and ever. Amen.*



**Most Reverend
Mark Coleridge**
Archbishop of Brisbane

Cathedral Office
(07) 3324 3030

E: cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au

W: cathedralofststephen.org.au

Cathedral Staff

Fr Anthony Mellor (Dean)

Fr Ejikeme Ntamaka
(Associate Pastor)

Deacon Chad Hargrave

Director of Music

Mr Christopher Trikilis

Cathedral Organist

Mr Dominic Perissinotto

Pastoral Assistant

Mr Gerry Crooks

Cathedral Office

Coordinator

Ms Carmel Devery

Cathedral Operations Officer

Mr Allan James

Wedding Coordinator

Ms Diana Bello

150th Anniversary Event

Co-ordinator

Mr David Todd

Safeguarding Representative

Ms Susan McKay

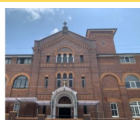
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*Cathedral of St Stephen
249 Elizabeth Street
Brisbane City*



*St Patrick's Church
58 Morgan Street
Fortitude Valley*



*Villa Maria Aged Care Chapel
171 St Paul's Tce
Spring Hill*

No public Masses until further notice.

Cathedral of St Stephen Mass Times

Monday to Friday	8:00am *	10:00am	12:30pm	5:10pm
Saturday	11:30am			6:00pm
Sunday	8:00am	10:00am *	12:00pm	7:30pm

* The 8.00am weekday and 10:00am Sunday Masses are livestreamed

Cathedral Reconciliation Times

Monday to Friday	10:30-11:30am	1:00-1:30pm	4:30-5:00pm
Saturday	10:00-11:00am		4:30-5:30pm

St Patrick's Mass Times

Sunday	9:00am	11:00am
Brazilian Catholic Community (Portuguese Mass)		5:00pm

Cathedral Exposition Times

Monday to Friday	10:30am-12:15pm
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Cathedral Benediction Times

Monday to Friday	12:15pm
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1300 304 550

STOPline is an external service provided for the Archdiocese to receive confidential disclosures. Disclosures can be made anonymously.





Stars guide the way of pilgrims and wise ones. Stars are pin-points of light, beacons of hope, sprinkles of promise.

The prophet has told us that a light has shone and that the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Stars serve as a reminder and a promise; a presence and a guarantee.

The Great Light shines on us.

But we too must be lights who guide the way.

Darkness is conquered by the divine light which only God gives.

*Pilgrims and wise ones search the heavens and become a flicker of hope themselves: **Epiphany!***

THE EPIPHANY BLESSING

Marking Homes with Blessed Chalk for the New Year

The ancient custom of marking the door of the home with blessed chalk is a way of incorporating the liturgical feast of the Epiphany as a domestic ritual into the prayer life of the family. Chalk is first blessed in the parish church at Masses for Epiphany and then people are invited to take some home and to mark the lintel of their front door as follows:

20 C+M+B 24

The letters **C, M and B** stand for the traditional names for the Three Wise Men who come seeking Jesus: **Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar**. The letters also represent the words *Christus Mansionem Benedicat* (*May Christ Bless this Abode*).

Blessing of Chalk

Introduction:

On this feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, we rejoice that the light of Christ has come into our world. Today, we invite families to take home a piece of this chalk to mark the front door of your homes as a blessing for the New Year.

Prayer of Blessing:

Let us pray.

Lord our God, we praise you for the light of creation:
the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night.

We praise you for the gift of Jesus, your Son, the Light of the World.

May your blessing be upon us as we carry this chalk to our homes.

May its mark on our doorposts be a sign of your protection and
of the presence of the Light of Christ in our homes.

In the name of the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Peace be upon this house and with all of us who live here. Amen.

Matthew 2:1-2, 10-11

The wise men from the East came to Jerusalem asking: Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage.

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

THE THREE WISE MEN

C CASPAR

M MELCHIOR

B BALTHASAR

FOLLOWED THE LIGHT OF THE STAR TO FIND JESUS, THE SON OF GOD, WHO CAME TO LIVE AMONG US

20 TWO THOUSAND

24 AND TWENTY-FOUR YEARS AGO

+ MAY CHRIST BLESS OUR HOME TODAY AND REMAIN

+ WITH US THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Let us pray.

God of mercy, fill our home with the light and love of Christ that it may be a place of hospitality and welcome.

May Christ be our shelter when we are at home, our companion when we are away, and our welcome guest when we return.

Through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Let us bless the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

***In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.***

MUSIC FOR THE EPIPHANY

Music at today's Mass is drawn from the Catholic Worship Book II, with congregational hymn texts on this sheet.

All masses are led by a cantor.

Processional Hymn The first Nowell (CWBII 280)

The first Nowell, the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain *Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell*
Born is the King of Israel!

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*

Kyrie Mass of St Francis (CWBII 22a)

Gloria Mass of St Francis (CWBII 22b)

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 71

Lord, ev - 'ry na - tion on
earth will a - dore you.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 2:2

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia

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

Offertory Music Organ music

Sanctus Mass of St Francis (CWBII 22c)

Memorial Acclamation (ICEL #1): We proclaim your death, O Lord,
and profess your resurrection,
until you come again. (CWBII 12a)

Agnus Dei Mass of St Francis (CWBII 22h)

Communion Organ Music

Communion Hymn Earth has many a noble city (CWBII 276)

Earth has many a noble city,
Bethlehem, alone excels;
from it came the Lord from Heaven,
came to rule his Israel.

Fairer than the sun at morning
was the star that told his birth,
to the world its God announcing,
seen in human form on earth.

Eastern sages at his cradle
make their off'rings rich and rare;
see them give in deep devotion
gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Sacred gifts of mystic meaning:
frankincense doth God disclose,
gold the King of kings, proclaiming,
myrrh His sepulchre foreshows.

Jesus, whom the gentiles worshipped
at your glad Epiphany,
now to you with God the Father
and the Spirit glory be.

Recessional Hymn Joy to the world! (CWBII 265)

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King:
let ev'ry heart prepare him room,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns:
let us, our songs employ;
while fields and flood, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy.
repeat the sounding joy.
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Acknowledgements:

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The first Nowell Text: Text: Anon., English Carol, 17th century, alt.; Tune: THE FIRST NOWELL, Trad. English melody;
harm. John Stainer 1840-1901; All rights reserved. Used with permission. ONE LICENSE #A-640361
Earth has many a noble city Text: O sola magnarum urbium; Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-c.413 trans. Edward
Caswall 1814-1878, alt.; Tune: STUTTGART, adapt. from a melody in C.F.Witt's *Psalmodia Sacra*, Gotha, 1715, by Henry
J.Gauntlett 1805-76. Used with permission. ONE LICENSE #A-640361
Joy to the world Text: Psalm 98; Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; Tune: ANTIOCH; arr. from George F. Handel, 1685-1759. Used
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