



THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. STEPHEN

The Cathedral Parish 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 are paramount.



5TH JANUARY 2025 – THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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

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The Epiphany Proclamation 2025

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 each year. 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 (the "Paschal Full Moon" is the first full moon after the Autumn equinox (southern hemisphere)).

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 **17th Day of April** and the evening of the **19th Day of April** **Easter Sunday** being on the **20th Day of April***

*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 **5th Day of March**.*

*The Ascension of the Lord will be commemorated on
Sunday, the **1st Day of June***

*Pentecost, the joyful conclusion of the season of Easter
will be celebrated on the **8th Day of June**.*

*And, this year the **First Sunday of Advent** will be on
the **30th Day of November**.*

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.

MASS TIMES

Cathedral



Mon - Fri
6/01/25 - 10/01/25
8am and 12:30pm

Saturday

11:30am
6:00pm Vigil

Sunday

8am; 10am;
12pm; 7:30pm

St Patrick's



Sunday

9am; 11am

**Brazilian Community
Mass (in Portuguese)**
5pm

Villa Maria



No public Masses until
further notice

RECONCILIATION

Cathedral

Mon-Fri

6/01/25 - 10/01/25
1:00-1:30pm only

Saturday

10-11am
4:30-5:30pm

EXPOSITION

Cathedral

Mon-Fri

BENEDICTION

Cathedral

Mon-Fri



Scan here to support our Parish





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 the 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 25

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 Dwelling).

Blessing of Chalk

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.

**CHALK
MARK**

WORDS TO BE SAID AT HOME

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

20 TWO THOUSAND

25 AND TWENTY-FIVE 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 AT THE CATHEDRAL

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 We Three Kings (CWBII 281)

1. We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts, we travel afar
field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star.

Refrain *O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to the perfect Light.*

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again;
King forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign. *Refrain*

3. Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a deity nigh,
prayer and praising gladly raising,
worshipping God on high. *Refrain*

4. Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gath'ring gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb. *Refrain*

5. Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and sacrifice:
Heav'n sings "Alleluia!"
"Alleluia!" the earth replies. *Refrain*

Kyrie Mass of St Francis (CWBII 22a)

Gloria Mass of St Francis (CWBII 22b)

Responsorial Psalm Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13



R All na-tions shall fall pro-strate be-fore you, O God.

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 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 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 heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Saviour reigns
let us our songs employ;
while fields and floods, 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,

Acknowledgements:

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We three kings of Orient are Text: based on Matthew 2: 1-11; John H. Hopkins, Jr. 1820-1891; Tune: KINGS OF ORIENT John H. Hopkins, Jr

Earth has many a noble city Text: Vox clara ecce intonat Latin probably 9th century tr. Edward Caswall 1814-1878 alt.; Tune: William Henry Monk 1823-1889.

Joy to the world Text: Psalm 98; Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; Tune: ANTIOCH arr. from George F. Handel, 1685-1759