

SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA

Edwardstown Catholic Parish



Address: 832 South Road, Edwardstown, South Australia 5039
Telephone: **0499 486 699** (message bank checked regularly–
please note change to Parish Phone Number)

Email: edcathpar@adam.com.au
Website: www.edwardstowncatholic.net
Facebook Page: : <https://www.facebook.com/stanthony.edwardstown>

2 / 3 JANUARY 2021

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - Year B

Parish Priest

Father Phillip Alstin

Parish Secretary

Robyn Grave

Parish Office Hours

Office Closed - see details
at the back of newsletter
Phone No: 0499 486 699
edcathpar@adam.com.au

Parish Finance Council

Geoff Walles 0419 810 590

Parish Pastoral Council

Kevin Mark

St Anthony's School

Principal: Mr Stuart Baker
APRIM: Monica Doherty
Telephone: 8115 7500

Mass Times

Tuesday	9.30am
Wednesday	9.30am
Thursday	9.30am
Friday	9:30am
Saturday	9.30am

Dies Domini/ The Lord's Day

Saturday	6.00pm
Sunday	9.30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Before and after Holy Mass
and Wed 6:30pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesdays
10am-7.15pm Adoration
6.00pm Rosary
6.35pm Vespers
7.00pm Benediction

Contact for Adoration

Danica Rusov
0411 132 223 or 8177 1408

Meditation from Anawim Way

Today we celebrate the great Feast of Epiphany – the revelation, the manifestation, of God's love for his people, in the birth of Jesus Christ, who is Emmanuel, God With Us. For centuries the prophets had proclaimed God's love for his people, and now that love has been revealed in the most perfect way: God himself has been born into the world as a human child. God is not distant, aloof, uncaring. He is right with us, close to us in each moment, sharing life with us. He comes into our human condition to seek out what was lost, and to bring us back into union with himself.



The promise of God's saving love in Jesus Christ is the great light which has been revealed for all peoples, for everyone. We who have seen the light are called then to arise and walk in that light, as we read in the prophecy from Isaiah: "Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the LORD shines upon you." We are to radiate that light so that others can see and come into the light themselves: "Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you." But are we radiant? The question forces us to examine ourselves and probe our conscience.

We are far into our celebration of the Christmas Season. Mother Church is joyfully proclaiming that God has come to us. Our Saviour has been born! He is present with us, and he means to transform us so that we live no longer a purely natural life, but a new life in his Spirit. Do we rejoice at this news and make every effort to seek out his presence in our lives? Do we make use of prayer time, spiritual reading, and the Sacraments to make ourselves as open as possible to his working in us? Or are we indifferent, like the chief priests and scribes? Perhaps, in the secret of our minds and hearts, his coming has made very little real difference to us.

Next, we can ponder the response of Herod. He is not indifferent to the Magi's proclamation that the longed-for Messiah has come. No, he is "greatly troubled." He is afraid and angry. This child is a threat to him! Herod is the king, the one who rules. He has all the power, and he will not allow anyone to take it from him. Even a tiny newborn child must not be allowed to rival his claim to absolute authority.

Herod determines to kill Jesus. It is hard but necessary for us to recognize that we have within us some of Herod's tendencies in our own response to God's presence. We all have some degree of fear that God might take something from us, and anger about having to submit to some outside authority. Our self-will, our desire to decide for ourselves what is good or bad, what we will do and not do, is not dead. In our fallen human condition, we prefer to make our own rules, and exercise authority in our lives. Taken to an extreme, this tendency can lead us to reject God's self-revelation, and to "kill" the stirrings of his grace in our hearts. If we find indifference in our hearts, or even hostility towards God's epiphany to us in Jesus Christ, we must humbly bring this problem before him and beg him to change our hearts to be more receptive to him. The only way that we can truly enter into the light of his presence is to follow the example of the Magi. As we read in the Gospel, "They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts." Let us today prostrate ourselves before the Christ Child and offer him a true gift of self. Then we will see come to pass for us what Isaiah prophesied, "you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow."

In my life encounters, do I experience God as distant, aloof, or uncaring?
How do I radiate the light of Christ so that others can see and come into the light themselves?
Can I admit that I have within myself the tendency to "kill" the stirring of God's grace in my heart?

Mary, as I prostrate myself before the Christ Child, inspire me to offer him a true gift of self.

PLEASE TAKE THIS PARISH NEWSLETTER HOME WITH YOU. THANK YOU.

NOTICES

Your prayers are requested for:

SICK: Steve Brennan, James Stewart, Leighton Crabb, Gerald O'Keeffe, Saphia Williams-Barrios, Mikela, Leah Alstin, April Coulson, Luke Nussio, Jesse Frick,

RECENTLY DECEASED: Pat Carey, Clare Dobozy, Carmel Rusack, Liliana Jurisevic

ANNIVERSARIES: Hugh Forde, Malcolm McGeever, Mary Adams, Makai Ninonuevo, Antonio Bogna, Stan Sataneck, Stephen Mabarrack, Immesi Baggio, Joseph Daly, Con Bradley, Antonio Orsillo, Lesley Sullivan, Myrtle Brady, Frank Dobozy, Sr Marie Kerin, Dot Whennan, Rosa Chis, Antonia Di Febo, Arthur Burns and relatives and friends of the Vinsentin, Mansell, Burns, Hill, Murphy and McNulty families.

PRAYER REQUESTS: *If you wish the names of your loved ones to be included in the Prayers for the Sick, Recently Deceased or Anniversaries, please contact the Parish Office.*

FAMILY SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2021

We invite you to send your expressions of interest to enrol your child/children for the St Anthony's Parish Family Sacramental Program commencing in February 2021. This program is a family and community-based program that values the role of parents as the first educators of faith and family as the basic building block of communities. To find out more about our new program, the Parish Sacramental Program Team will hold an information session in late November 2020. Dates and times to be confirmed soon. Please send your expressions of interest to the Parish Sacramental Program Coordinator - Grace Juanta, email - parishteam.stanthony@gmail.com

PLANNED GIVING

Choose one of the following options that suits you best-

1) Contact the Parish Office to receive a Stewardship number unique to you for easy reference of your contribution.

2) Through the Adelaide archdiocese website- Go to <https://adelaide.catholic.org.au/donation>. Follow instructions on the site. You will need to select EDWARDSTOWN PARISH. Then in the drop down box, choose General; for Parish collection (2nd Collection) and for the Priests of the Archdiocese. (First Collection).

3) Use internet bank for direct deposit into Edwardstown Parish bank account using the following details-

ACCOUNT NAME: CCES Edwardstown Parish

BSB: 085 005 Account: 48973 5300

If using direct deposit, please remember to add description. **Envelopes**—due to increasing printing costs and the decreasing number of parishioners using envelopes for their stewardship, we ask that you provide your own envelopes marked clearly with your **Name and Planned Giving Number**.

PARISH OFFICE TIMES

The Parish Office will be CLOSED from
Monday 21 Dec 2020—Friday 8 Jan 2021

And will RE-OPEN

Tues 12 Jan - Fri 15 Jan 9am - 12pm
(Temporary change of time for this period only)

As of 19 Jan 2021

Tuesday - Friday 1.45pm - 4.30pm

BOOKINGS FOR MASS NO LONGER REQUIRED

You simply need to register your name, contact number and time of attendance when you arrive
OR
register using the QR Code provided at the entrance.

The QR CODE is displayed at the church and hall entrance for those with smartphones. This assists greatly with contact tracing in the event of a coronavirus outbreak.

Please regularly check our website and FaceBook page for recent news and updates.

Website: www.edwardstowncatholic.net

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/stanthony.edwardstown>

MONDAY ROSARY GROUP

The Monday Rosary Group will resume on the 11th January 2021 at 6.20pm.



EVERY WEDNESDAY

6:00PM: ROSARY,
6:35PM: VESPERS,
7:00PM: BENEDICTION

WE PRAY FOR A DIFFERENT
COUNTRY EACH WEEK

MORE INFO: GEOFF - 0419 810 590



FORMED

Would you like to have free access to FORMED.ORG? Thanks to the generosity of St Anthony's Parish,

here's how:

1. Visit FORMED.org 2. Click Sign Up 3. Select "I Belong to a Parish/Organisation" 4. Find St Anthony's Parish by entering "Edwardstown" or Postcode "5039"

What does the word "Epiphany" mean?

"Epiphany" means "manifestation."

It comes from Greek roots that mean "to show, to display" (*phainein*) and "on, to" (*epi-*).

An epiphany is thus a time when something is shown, displayed, or manifested to an audience.



What is the feast of the Epiphany about?

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church: The Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Saviour of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (*magi*) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee.

In the magi, representatives of the neighbouring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation.

The magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations. Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and worship him as Son of God and Saviour of the world only by turning towards the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise as contained in the Old Testament.

The Epiphany shows that "the full number of the nations" now takes its "place in the family of the patriarchs", and acquires *Israelitica dignitas* (is made "worthy of the heritage of Israel") [CCC 528].

Who were the Magi?

Pope Benedict explains: *In the relevant sources, the concept of Magi (mágoi) encompasses a wide range of meanings, from the wholly positive to the wholly negative.*

To the first of the four principal meanings, Magi are understood to be members of the Persian priestly caste.

In Hellenistic culture they were regarded as "rulers of a distinctive religion," but at the same time their religious ideas were thought to be "strongly influenced by philosophy," so that the Greek philosophers have often been portrayed as their pupils (cf. Dellling, "mágos," p. 356).

*No doubt this view contains some not easily definable element of truth: after all, Aristotle himself spoke of the philosophical work of the Magi (cf. *ibid.*, p. 357).*

The other meanings listed by Gerhard Dellling are as follows: possessors and users of supernatural knowledge and ability, magicians, and finally deceivers and seducers. . . .

For the Magi in Matthew 2, it is the first of the four meanings that applies, at least in a broad sense. Even if they were not exactly members of the Persian priesthood, they were nevertheless custodians of religious and philosophical knowledge that had developed in that area and continued to be cultivated there [Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives].

Why did the magi come to see Jesus?

They apparently had material of a prophetic nature (some have suggested that they got it from an eastern Jewish community, such as the one in Babylon) that allowed them to identify the birth of the new "king of the Jews" astronomically.

They may have been especially motivated to come see *this* king of the Jews since there was an expectation at the time that a universal ruler would shortly come from Israel. Pope Benedict explains:

We know from [the Roman historians] Tacitus and Suetonius that speculation was rife at the time that the ruler of the world would emerge from Judah — an expectation that [the Jewish historian] Flavius Josephus applied to [the Roman emperor] Vespasian, consequently finding his way into the latter's favour (cf. De Bello Judaico iii, 399–408) [Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives].

Why did they go to Herod?

Probably, because they assumed the newborn king would be a son of Herod — the current "king of the Jews." Pope Benedict comments: It is quite natural that their search for the newborn king of the Jews should take them to Israel's royal city and to the king's palace. That, surely, is where the future king must have been born [Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives].

This, of course, played into Herod's paranoia for his throne and led to the slaughter of the innocents.

<https://www.ncregister.com/blog/9-things-you-need-to-know-about-epiphany>



Pope Francis' Prayer for Protection during the Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas — we who are put to the test — and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. I am the LORD your God: you shall not have strange gods before me.
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.
4. Honour your father and your mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
9. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife.
10. You shall not covet your neighbour's goods.

SUMMARY

Jesus said there is no other commandment greater than this—"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind, and with all your strength. And the second is this—Love your neighbour as yourself." Mark 12:29-31

www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism

INTROIT

II
B Ehold, * the Sovereign Lord is coming; kingship,
 government and power are in his hands.

- O God, give your judgment *to the king*, *
 to a king's son your *justice*,
 that he may judge your people *in justice*, *
 and your poor in *right judgment*.

Glory Be to the Father...

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

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

OFFERTORY

V
T HE kings of Tarshish and the islands shall offer
 presents; * the kings of the A-ra-bians and of Sheba
 shall bring gifts; all the kings of the earth shall adore
 him, all nations shall serve him.

- O God, give your judgment *to the king*, *
 to a king's *son your justice*,
 that he may judge your people *in justice*, *
 and your poor *in right judgment*.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

The Epiphany of the Lord - 3 January 2021

1st Reading - Isaiah 60:1-6

2nd Reading - Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

Gospel - Matthew 2:1-12

Baptism of the Lord - 10 January 2021

1st Reading - Isaiah 55:1-11

2nd Reading - 1 John 5:1-9

Gospel - Mark 1:7-11

COMMUNION

IV
W E have seen his star in the East, and we have
 come with our gifts, to worship the Lord.

- O God, give your judgment *to the king*, *
 to a king's son *your justice*,
 that he may judge your people *in justice*, *
 and your poor in *right judgment*.

Glory Be to the Father...

COMMUNION HYMN

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:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

They look-ed 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:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

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 where-ever it went:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

Then entered in those wise men three
 and reverently upon their knee,
 they offered there in his presence
 their gold and myrrh and frankincense.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

We three kings of Orient are,
 bearing gifts, we traverse afar
 field and fountain, moor and mountain
 following yonder star.

**O~ star of wonder, star of night,
 star with royal beauty bright, westward leading,
 still proceeding, guide us to the perfect Light.**

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

**O~ star of wonder, star of night,
 star with royal beauty bright, westward leading,
 still proceeding, guide us to the perfect Light.**