

Granville Catholic Church Record

Vol. II. No. 1.

January 4, 2026

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



THE EPIPHANY of the LORD

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. The word "epiphany" is Greek meaning "to manifest" or "to show" for it was the new-born baby that revealed or showed God to all the world. Epiphany marks the twelfth day of Christmas, as it is traditionally celebrated on January 6.

The Magi, often referred to as kings or wise men, and traditionally named Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar, came from the East, most likely Persia, modern-day Iran, and were properly speaking a class of priests who saw in the movement of the stars and planets the annunciation of major events. Coming from the East they were not Jews and so were held to be foreigners, or Gentiles, and it is because of this that this feast of the

Epiphany is significant for it marks the revelation of God in the birth of Christ to the Gentiles—the people of all the world. Whereas at Christmas the incarnation was made manifest to the Jews represented by the shepherds, at Epiphany the incarnation was made manifest to the gentiles represented by the Magi.

There are many customs that surround Epiphany.

There is the blessing of chalk which is then distributed to the people who then take it to their homes to mark the year by writing the initials of the three Magi over the door of their house (20 + C + M + B + 25) to remind all who enter and leave through the main door that they also must be ready to leave all, if necessary, and follow Christ.

Then there is the blessing of water on the Vigil of Epiphany which is then given to the faithful to use in their homes, and also for the sick.

There is also the blessing of the homes where the Priest may either climb the steeple of the church and bless the homes of the parishes in all four directions of the compass or he may visit the homes of parishioners to impart the blessing personally.

And then there is the blessing of gold, frankincense, and myrrh—with the gold used for the making of sacred vessels, and the frankincense burned in the thurible and also given to the people to be burned at home.

These customs remind us of the rich tradition of the Church and that our faith is embodied in things both seen and unseen, both the physical and the spiritual. It is body and soul.

THE PARISH OFFICE

Address

200 The Trongate,
South Granville, N.S.W. 2142

T 0497 190 444

E granville@parracatholic.org

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Parish Administrator

Rev. Fr. Galbert Albino

Assistant Priest

Rev. Fr. Joseph Nguyen

Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

Holy Family Primary School

T (02) 8633-8200

Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton, John Augustus, Frank Azzopardi, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, John Borg, Vincenzo Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia, Carmel Galea, Carmello Giovenco, Evangeline Grabato, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins, Terese Jones, Therese Khalil, Kay King, Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Don Provest, Ricardo Tognini, Lorraine Vella, Sam Wardan, Gerard Watts.

⌘

*Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
by the grace of your Holy Spirit
cure the weaknesses of your servants,
and mercifully restore them to full health.*

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,
11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Church and Toilets Cleaning

Volunteers Needed

Flower Arranging

Samar Rjeily and Maroun Rjeily

SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Holy Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Mass in Latin

First Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

Second and last Sunday of the month,
11:30 a.m.

Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning Group 2: P. Zaiter,
N. Chidiac, C. Buultjens

Readers

Vigil Gerry Pinto, Katherine Jenner,
Racquel La Rosa

10:00 a.m. Merlin Sandhiya, Armani
Barakat, Sisters

Children's Liturgy

Will resume in new school year

IN MEMORIAM

Victor Azzopardi, Joseph Baini, Engedi Brown, Jim Brown, Dick Cahill, Gwen Cahill, Vincent Cahill, Albert Camilleri, Les Camilleri, Tessie Camilleri, Doris Casha, Joseph Cunmao Chen, Jamil Chidiac, Christine Derwin, Maria Dinh, Maria Vu Thi Duyen, John Dover, Joe Paul Fehir, Estrella Francisco, Alan Frost, Carmen Galea, Maria Gambin, John Graham, Joe Grech, Mary Grech, Sam Grech, Melissa Irons, Salim Karaki, Paul Karam, Chini Maya Kc, Nouhad Khoury, Thomas Lam, Rustica La Rosa, Laurie Lowe, Frouzine Malkoun, Jacob Malkoun, Mouna Malkoun, Ofimia Malkoun, Nancy McIntyre, Giovanna Mondello, Santo Mondello, Kudzai Gerald Mutongerwa, Anthony Newell, Jessica Nguyen, Vincent Nguyen, Michael O'Brien, Zackary Orenshaw, Oswald Pasqual, Samuel Pickering, Robert Pidgeon, Anna Pham, Flory Pinto, Peter Robertson, Saliba family, Geoff Senior, Garry Smith, Carlito So, Noel So, Emanuel Tabone, Alex Taktak, John Toye, John Vella, Peter Van Duc Vu, Graham Wales, Carmel Watts, Phyllis Webb, Mershed Wehbe, Yesmine Wehbe, Dib Zaiter, Laila Zaiter.

⌘

NOTICES

Important Notice Regarding Receiving Holy Communion

There has been an unfortunate increase in Sacred Hosts being dropped when receiving Holy Communion. Whilst these are accidents, we all have a responsibility to ensure that the Sacred Host—the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our Lord, Jesus Christ—is guarded and protected.

When receiving Holy Communion, please do not step to the side to consume the Sacred Host, and under no circumstances, turn away from facing the altar before you consume the Sacred Host. Please ensure that you consume the Sacred Host whilst still facing the altar and the Priest or the Extraordinary Minister.

Mass Offering Envelopes

Requests for Masses to be offered for various intentions can be sought by completing the Mass Offering envelopes which are located near the doors of the churches. Please clearly write the details of your intention on the envelope, and hand it directly to the priest before or after a Mass.

This will ensure your intention is not missed and will allow the priest to confirm your request.

Weekly Adoration at Holy Family Church

Join us each week for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament held every Wednesday evening, after the 6:00 p.m. Mass at Holy Family church.

Opportunities for confessions will still be available every Wednesday evening between 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Use this opportunity every week to spend some time before Our Lord, present in the Blessed Sacrament and to receive the mercy given in the Sacrament of Penance.

Online Donations in Support of the Parish

Online donations can be made through the Holy Cross Parish website (holycrossgranville.org.au) using our BPoint facility by visiting the website or scanning the QR code below. Thank you to all those who regularly support the parish by your contributions. Your regular support of the parish is greatly appreciated and allows us to continue to undertake the many works of the parish and to look at what other works we can achieve, including the continuing restoration and maintenance of our two parish churches for generations to come.



Become a Parish Volunteer

We're always grateful for the dedication of our volunteers, and encourage others to come forward and get involved.

If you have a passion for service and some time to offer, consider joining one of our many parish ministries. There are opportunities for all ages to join in and take part in the life of the parish.

Please be aware that some volunteer positions will require a Working With Children Check whilst completion of safeguarding training is also required. Assistance will be available. For more information on how you can become a volunteer, contact the parish office. Begin the new year by becoming a parish volunteer!

Parish Office Closure During the Holidays

The Parish Office will be closed until the 19th January, and will reopen for regular office hours on 20th January.

For urgent sacramental emergencies or other emergency matters during this time, please call 0499 033 392.

Weekly Sacrament of Penance (Confession)

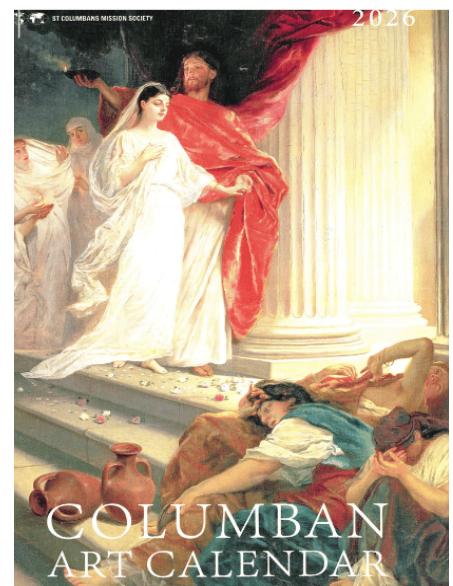
Experience the peace of God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Confession.

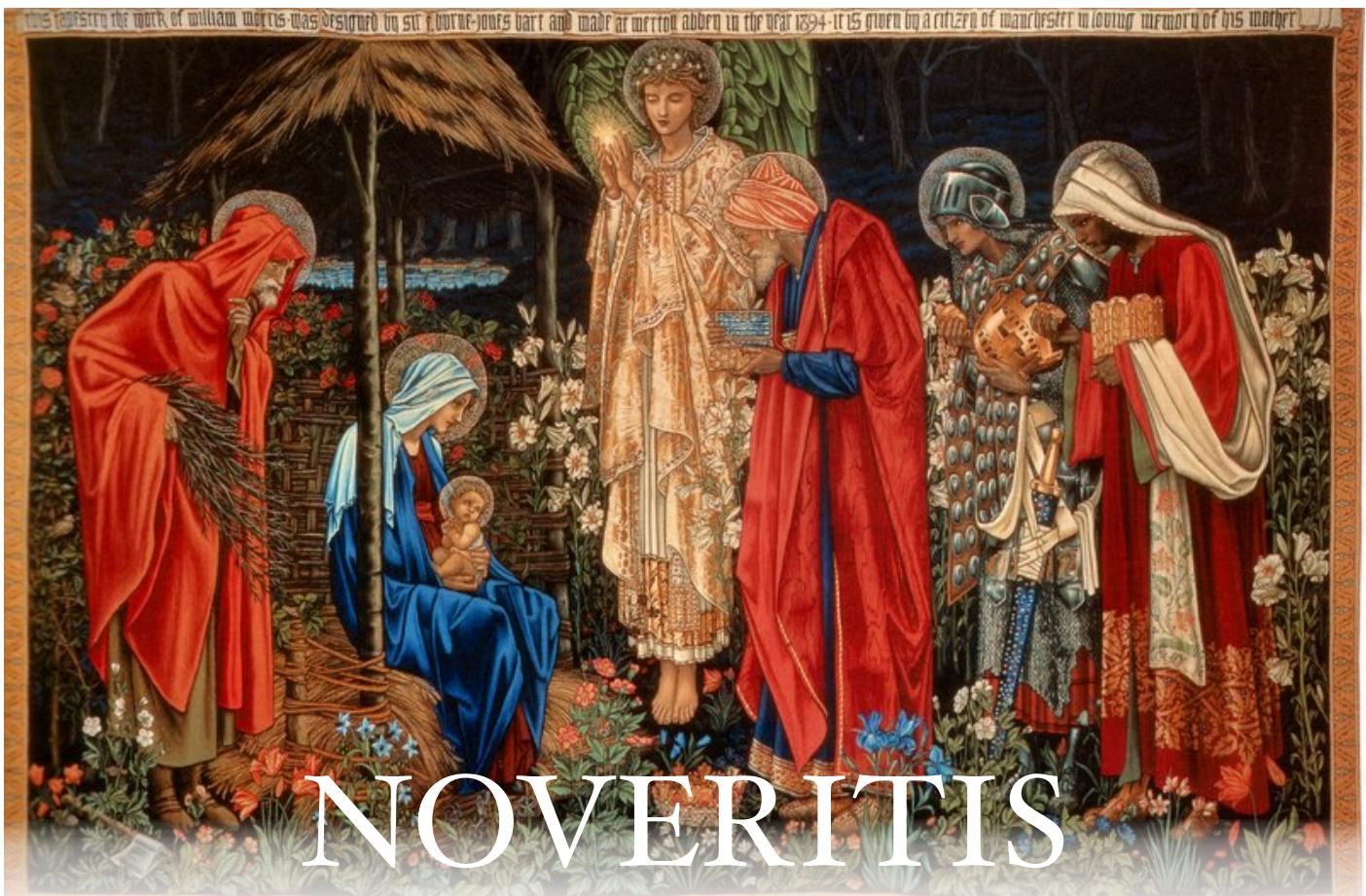
Confession times are available at Holy Family Church on Wednesday between 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and Sunday between 4:15 p.m. and 4:45 p.m. or at Holy Trinity Church on Saturday evening between 5:00 p.m. and 5:45 p.m.

No matter how long it has been, the Lord is waiting for you.

2026 Columban Art Calendars for Sale in our Piety Shops

The 2026 Columban Art Calendar is on sale for \$11 from our piety shops which supports the work of the Columban Missionaries and the parish.





NOVERITIS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF EASTER AND THE MOVEABLE FEASTS
FOR THE YEAR A.D. 2026

Know, dear brethren,
that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ,
so by leave of God's mercy
we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection, who is our Saviour.

On the eighteenth day of February will fall Ash Wednesday,
and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

On the fifth day of April you will celebrate with joy Easter Day,
the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the seventeenth day of May will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the twenty-fourth day of May, the feast of Pentecost.

On the seventh day of June the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

On the twenty-ninth day of November, the First Sunday of the Advent
of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom is honour and glory for ever and ever.
Amen.

This traditional proclamation of the day of Easter and the other moveable feasts on Epiphany comes from a time when calendars were not readily available. It was necessary to make known the day of Easter in advance, since many celebrations of the liturgical year depend on its day. The number of Sundays that follow Epiphany, the day of Ash Wednesday, and the number of Sundays that follow Pentecost are all computed in relation to Easter.



THE CHALKING OF THE DOOR OF YOUR HOME

With blessed chalk mark the top or the side of your door with these numbers and letters

20 ✕ C ✕ M ✕ B ✕ 26

The initials have two meanings.

In the historical sense they refer to the names traditionally given to the the three kings,
also called the three wise men or the Magi:

Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar.

Spiritually, however, they refer to the blessing itself,
given by the Latin prayer "*Christus mansionem benedicat*"

("May Christ bless this house"),

the numbers are the year of Our Lord, the *Anno Domini*,
and the Crosses remind us of the reason for the birth of Christ:

that by the salvation won for us by His passion and death
we may be brought to share in His resurrection and eternal life with God.



*May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us;
and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet,
that same Jesus who is your incarnate Word, now and forever.*

Amen.

2025

IN REVIEW

A YEAR THAT WAS



Saints & STUFF

THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

The month of January is traditionally dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus.

In Philippians 2, St. Paul tells us that "At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord."

Small wonder, then, that the Church sets aside the first month of the year in honour of the Holy Name of Jesus. Through this devotion, the Church reminds us of the power of Christ's Name and encourages us to pray in His Name. In our society, of course, we hear His Name uttered quite often, but all too frequently, it is used in a curse or blasphemy. In the past, Christians would often make the Sign of the Cross when they heard Christ's Name uttered in such a manner, and that's a practice that would be worthwhile to revive.

This month, why not take a few minutes to memorise the Jesus Prayer, and pray it during those moments of the day when you are between activities, or travelling, or simply taking a rest?

Keeping Christ's Name always on our lips is a good way to ensure that we draw ever nearer to Him.

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

Epiphany

528 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").

CATHOLIC



MT
VOCALS

Maryanne Takchi
0402 704 274
maryannetakchi@gmail.com
instagram.com/mtvocals



JOHN PORTELLI
PIANO AND ORGAN INSTRUMENTALIST

WWW.JOHNPORTELLI.COM.AU

OVER 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN CATHOLIC SACRED MUSIC

John.Portelli@outlook.com.au
0401 463 343

JohnPortelliMusician
 John.Portelli.Musician

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

The Readings

Introit (*Mal. 3:1; I Chr. 29:12*)

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come;
and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

First Reading **The Prophet Isaiah** (60:1-6)

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come,
the glory of the Lord is rising on you,
though night still covers the earth
and darkness the peoples.
Above you the Lord now rises
and above you his glory appears.
The nations come to your light
and kings to your dawning brightness.
Lift up your eyes and look round:
all are assembling and coming towards you,
your sons from far away
and your daughters being tenderly carried.
At this sight you will grow radiant,
your heart throbbing and full;
since the riches of the sea will flow to you;
the wealth of the nations come to you;
camels in throngs will cover you,
and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;
everyone in Sheba will come,
bringing gold and incense
and singing the praise of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm (*Ps. 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13. R. see v. 11*)

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds. R.

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts
shall pay him tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him. R.

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. R.

Second Reading

The Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians (3:2-3, 5-6)

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation (*Mt. 2:2*)

Alleluia, alleluia!
We have seen his star in the East;
and have come to adore the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel **The Gospel of Matthew** (2:1-12)

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote: And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.' Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

Communio (cf. *Mt. 2:2*)

We have seen his star in the East,
and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.