

# St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall



Epiphany of the Lord | Year B | Sunday 3rd January 2021



## Mission Statement:

We the St Mary Queen of Heaven parish, are called to be a strong, loving, caring family united in faith. Guided by the Spirit of Jesus we desire to use our diverse talents to reach out and encourage others. We cherish the living tradition of our Catholic church and will seek to heal misunderstandings and hurt in our midst so that Jesus' prayer may be realised, "Father may they be one, as you and I are one."

## Parish Priest:

Fr Joseph Kolodziej

## Parish Office:

Monday - Friday ph: 9727 3759  
[parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com)

## Safeguarding Officer/Secretary:

Veronica Denning  
[veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com)  
(Please email to join our Bulletin mailing list)

## Parish Website:

[www.smgh.org.au](http://www.smgh.org.au)

## Parish Facebook:

Follow: [fb.me/smgh2](https://fb.me/smgh2)



## Parish School:

Ph: 9727 0000  
[www.stmgeorgeshall.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmgeorgeshall.catholic.edu.au)



## A Message from Fr Joseph

An Epiphany House Blessing 2021 is when family and friends gather to ask God's blessing on their homes and those who live in or visit the home. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home, our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows.

One way of doing this is to use chalk blessed during the Epiphany liturgy and write above the home's entryway; 20 + C + M + B + 21. The letters C, M, B have two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the three Magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar, followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty-one years ago. They also abbreviate the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless the house." The "+" signs represent the cross, and 2021 is the year.

The instructions for blessing the home using the blessed chalk are: write 20 + C + M + B + 21 on the lintel of your front door while saying:

*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.*

"Chalking the door" is a way to celebrate and physically mark the occasion of the Epiphany and God's blessing of our lives and home. With time the chalk will fade. It is a reminder to let the meaning of the written symbols sink into the depths of our heart and be manifest in our words and actions.  
Happy New Year 2021!

## EACH WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

### SATURDAY:

Mass // 9am  
Reconciliation // 4pm  
Vigil Mass (English) // 5pm;  
Vigil Mass (Vietnamese) // 6.30pm

### SUNDAY:

Mass (English) // 8am, 10am, 5pm  
Mass (Vietnamese) // 3pm

### MONDAY:

Mass // 8am  
Prayer Group in the Chapel // 5.00pm

### TUESDAY

Holy Hour and Rosary // 5pm  
Mass // 6pm

### WEDNESDAY

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am

### THURSDAY

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am

### FRIDAY

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am

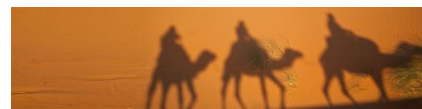
## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

### Saturday 2:

Saints Basil and Gregory

### Sunday 3:

The Epiphany of the Lord



### Monday 4:

XX

### Tuesday 5:

XX

### Wednesday 6:

### Thursday 7:

Saint Raymond of Penyafort

### Friday 8:

XX

### Sunday 10:

Baptism of the Lord

***"Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: Heaven on earth, earth in heaven, man in God, God in man, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body"***

**- Peter Chrysologus**

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Sick:**

Bourke Gibbons  
Christina Apolinari  
Daniel Matesic, Daniel Clarke  
David Sanders, Eileen Ellery  
Heather Graham, John Sanders  
Kerry Gibbons, Margaret Ward  
Marie Reich, Mary Strambio  
Paul Roughley Phillip Nehme  
Romela Onkowitzaja  
Rosa Agostino, Tamara Kalass  
Tony Strambio, Vic Ryan  
Warren Clarke

**Recently Deceased:**

Dennis Graham, June Ryan  
Eddie Marks, Luisa Ius  
Peter McMartin  
Dawn (Lawrence) McHugh

**Remembrances:**

Joseph Wehbe, Paul Loc Van  
Phan Maria Thi Tuu Nguyen  
Rosario Ivan Kucic (2017)  
Sylwester Szatan (2019)

**Anniversaries:**

Lavina Bahri  
Joyce Violet Pereira  
Mary Ellen King  
John Francis McGauran  
Marie Therese Stanislas  
Pierre Ducasse  
Fiore Simeone (2011)  
Cecil Perkins (2016)  
Louise Price (2018)  
Ken Monsell  
Dora Doonan (2015)  
Margaret Graham  
Marie Louise Khoury

**For the Souls of the Faithful Departed:**

Eternal rest grant unto them  
O Lord and let perpetual light  
shine upon them.

May all the souls of all the faithful  
departed, through the mercy of  
God, rest in peace.  
Amen.



**Youth Corner (Ephesus)**

As 2020 comes to an end, the Ephesus leaders would like to thank everyone who joined us this year! We wish you all a happy and blessed New Year 2021!  
*Stay tuned for details on our next Ephesus night on Instagram (@smghephesus)*  
Stay safe and God bless!



**Pope Francis' New Year Message**

In his New Year message Pope Francis, referring to the global pandemic, said people may ask God, 'What is the point of a drama like this?' 'We must not be in a hurry to answer,' Francis said, 'Not even God responds to our most distressing 'whys' by resorting to *higher reasons*'. Recalling the parable of The Good Samaritan, he pointed out that the Samaritan does not give the wounded man a speech to explain the meaning of what is happening to him perhaps to convince him that it was basically for his own good. Rather, overcome by compassion the Samaritan cared for the stranger with love and devotion. This story, Pope Francis said, can be a place where meaning is found amid the pandemic. Despite the loss of life and the massive economic fallout of the pandemic, there are many people who, without making a lot of noise, have tried to make the burden of the trial more bearable through acts of kindness and gestures of closeness, care and solidarity.

**Sacraments**

- **Baptism:** Any weekend Mass or Sundays at 11am; bookings via Parish office.
- **Marriage:** At least 6 months notice is needed, a preparation course if required.
- **Reconciliation:** Sat @ 4.00pm or by appointment, please contact Fr Joseph.

**Family & Faith**

**Did you KNOW?**

Epiphany is the day that you bless your home for the coming year with chalk. The "20" is for the first 2 numbers of the year, the 3 letters are the first Initial of each of the kings (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar) and the last 2 numbers are the last half of the year. The "C, M, B also stands for the Latin blessing *Christus Mansionem Benedicat* which means "May Christ Bless this House".

**Do It:**

*With chalk, blessed by Fr. Joseph, write the following symbols above your front door.*

**20 + C + M + B + 21**

**WHAT'S IN YOUR PRAYER SPACE?**

**A Star**

Baby Jesus,  
You are our light.  
We are like the three wise men who followed the star to find you.  
Help us continue to be like them always, as we honour and praise you as our Saviour.  
Amen.



Our lived streamed Masses are available from <https://cutt.ly/StMarys>





### Blessing the Chalk 2021

**Priest:** Our help is the name of the Lord: All: The maker of heaven and earth. Priest: The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in: **All:** From this time forth for evermore.

**Priest:** The Lord be with you. **All:** And with your spirit. 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 all who use it in faith to write upon the doors of their homes the names of your saints, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar, may receive health of body and protection of soul for all who dwell in or visit their home; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### Supporting your parish

It is possible to support your parish by:

- Christmas Offering envelopes are available in the church
- make an online donation from the [website](#) - click on the Support Us link and follow the prompts.
- Using the cashless tap devices available in the church
- Join the Planned Giving Program - application forms are available in the sacristy

### Safeguarding our Parish

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at 93905810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. Safeguarding resources are available in the sacristy. Enquiries: [veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com)

### The Epiphany of the Lord

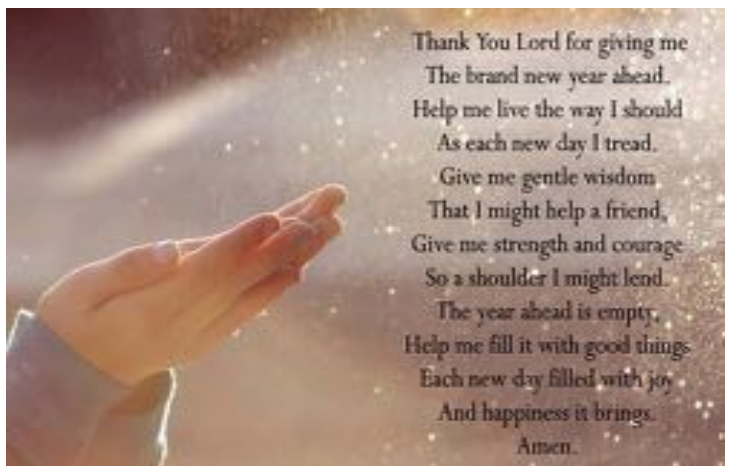
The earliest Christmas feast, originating in the East in the third century and passing to the West in the fourth century celebrates the divine 'manifestation' or 'coming'. In the East it commemorates the baptism of the Lord and in the West the visit of the Magi. The mystery of the incarnation is now revealed to everyone in the world, represented by these wise men from foreign lands.



### The Pope's intention for January

Human Fraternity - May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

### New Year Prayer



### Children's Corner

Help the three wise men find their way to Bethlehem - watch out for King Herod!



First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p><b>Is 60:1-6</b> A reading from the prophet Isaiah <i>The glory of the Lord shines upon you.</i></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p><b>(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.</b></p> <p>1. 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.)</p> <p>2. 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.)</p> <p>3. 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.)</p> <p>4. 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.)</p>	<p><b>Eph 3:2-3. 5-6</b> A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians <i>The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.</i></p> <p>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.</p>
	<p><b>Next Week's Readings</b></p>	<p><b>Gospel Acclamation</b></p>
	<p><b>Baptism of the Lord</b> <b>1st Reading:</b> Is 42:1-4. 6-7 <b>2nd Reading:</b> Acts 10:34-38 <b>Gospel:</b> Mk 1:7-11 - Jesus is baptised</p>	<p>Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!</p>

**Gospel**

**Mt 2:1-12**  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew  
*We have come from the East to worship the king.*

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.



**Reflection by Greg Sunter**

The wise men, or Magi, are warned in a dream not to go back to Herod and they go home by a different way. How could they do anything but go home another way – indeed, go home as different people? They are changed by their encounter with the child Jesus and they go home a different way; in a different state; in a whole different frame of mind. When we genuinely encounter Jesus – in scripture, in life, in prayer, in ourselves – then we cannot go home the same way; we must go home by a different way as the Magi did.