



CORIO LARA

CATHOLIC PARISH

The Epiphany of the Lord 4 January 2026

The Epiphany is the second major festival of the larger Christmas season, and in the Latin Church, its observation gives principal attention to the visitation of the magi. In fact, some missals subtitle it “The Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles.” And who is Jesus, according to the story of the magi? The gifts give things away. Gold for a king. Frankincense for God. Myrrh for death. Strange gifts, really. We have a child—a child whose birth was announced by a star. And somehow he will be a king, be divine, and die. How exactly do these things go together? Christ is made manifest to the gentiles not because he shows himself to the gentiles, but because the gentiles find him and state in the best way that they can—in the language of gifts—who He is.

One Epiphany tradition is the blessing of chalk for the “chalking” of the doors. Feel free to go around the neighbourhood and offer to chalk the houses of others. That may be the most low-pressure street evangelism you can imagine—a great opportunity to Make Catholicism Weird Again. Our job as Christians isn’t merely to find and worship Jesus. It is to *offer him the kinds of gifts and worship that reveal him to the world*. This is part of what we do in the sacred liturgy—because this is not the kind of gift that would make sense to anyone who is not God. But, like the Epiphany chalk, there’s a public nature to this offering. Even if the wise men hide the location of Jesus from Herod, they still tell Herod exactly what they’re doing. It’s reasonable to imagine them showing him the gifts they intend to give—all the more reason for Herod to quake with confusion and fear, as do the Herods of today. *Who is this child?*

That is the question we ought to hear from the secular world. Not “Whom did they vote for?” or “What cause are they supporting?” or even “What do they believe?”, but “Who is this child? Why do they worship him? Why do they act like that?” Because in the mystery of the word made flesh, there’s nothing to do but to go even unto Bethlehem—like the shepherds, like the magi—and see this thing which has come to pass.

By Fr Samuel Keyes <https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/dont-forget-to-chalk-your-doors-for-epiphany> (edited)

Parish Noticeboard

SUMMER WEEKDAY MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE UNTIL 30 JAN.

FIRST RECONCILIATION PREPARATION APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN.

This preparation course is for children in grade three or above who do not attend a Catholic school. Visit the parish website for more info.

SEÑOR SANTO NINO FIESTA. Saturday 17th January 2026 at St Francis Xavier. 10.30am Procession, 11.00am Mass. See the flyer for details about the Santo Nino novena.

EPIPHANY CHALK. After Mass, you are encouraged to collect a stick of blessed chalk and the house blessing prayer.

LARA TABERNACLE. We are making a donation to Yarra Glen parish for the Lara tabernacle. If you would like to make a contribution towards the cost of the tabernacle, please speak to Fr Marcus after Mass.

CHURCHES

St Francis Xavier Church, Corio
St Anthony of Padua Church, Lara

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Marcus Goulding
marcus.goulding@cam.org.au

PERMANENT DEACON

Rev. Logona Tu’ui

WEBSITE

coriolaracatholicparish.com.au

PARISH OFFICE

Jasna Brdar | *Parish Secretary*
Tues – Fri | 10am – 3pm
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SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Sat. 5pm (Vigil) | Corio
Sun. 9am | Lara
11am | Corio

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES (SUMMER)

Tue. 5.30pm | Corio
Wed. 5.30pm | Lara
Th. 5.30pm | Corio
Fri. 5.30pm | Lara
Sat. 9.15am | Corio

CONFESSIONS (SUMMER)

Tue. - Fri. 5.00pm-5.25pm
Tue. 6.00pm-7.00pm | Corio
Sat. 8.45am-9.10am | Corio
4.30pm-4.55pm | Corio
Sun. 8.30am-8.55am | Lara

THE ROSARY

Weekdays 25 mins prior to Mass
Sunday 8.30am (Lara)
10.30am (Corio)

HOLY HOUR

Tue. 6.00pm – 7.00pm | Corio

LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

Wed. 5.00pm | Corio

PRESBYTERY GIVING (1st Collection)

St Francis Xavier Presbytery Account
BSB 083 347 | ACC 674 963 655

CHURCH GIVING (2nd Collection)

St Francis Xavier Church Account
BSB 083 347 | ACC 543 292 126

The Epiphany of the Lord

Entrance Antiphon | Cf. *Mal 3: 1; 1 Chr 29: 12*

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

First Reading | *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 | *Psalm 71(72):1-2,7-8,10-13*

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 | *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 Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation | *Matthew 2:2*

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Gospel | *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.

Communion Antiphon | Cf. *Mt 2: 2*

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