



## OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Acacia Ridge | Algester  
Calamvale | Parkinson  
| Larapinta | Pallara

### PARISH ADMINISTRATION

#### Fr Dang Nguyen

Administrator  
nguyend@bne.catholic.net.au

#### Deacon Hugo Silva

silvah@bne.catholic.net.au

#### Virginia Sharpe

Parish Assistant (Volunteer)

#### Efren Altez

Liturgy/Newsletter (Volunteer)

#### Seivland Poh

Safeguarding Officer (Volunteer)  
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### PARISH OFFICE

#### Located in Presbytery

350 Mortimer Road  
Acacia Ridge QLD 4110

**Hours** Monday (Closed)

**Tuesday to Friday -**  
**9:30am to 3:30pm**

**Telephone** 07 3274 5513

#### Email

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#### Website

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

### MASS TIMES

**Tue: 5:30pm—Holy Mass**

**6:00pm Eucharist Adoration**

Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat 9 am

Saturday 4.30pm (Vigil)

Sunday 9am & 5pm

### CONFESSIONS

**Tues: 6:00pm to 6:30pm**

**(or by appointment)**

### BAPTISMS

3rd Sunday of the month 10.15am

### PIETY STALL

1st Sunday each month

### SCHOOLS

#### Our Lady of Fatima School

[www.ourladyoffatima.qld.edu.au](http://www.ourladyoffatima.qld.edu.au)

07 3275 1152

[pacaciaridge@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pacaciaridge@bne.catholic.edu.au)

#### St Stephens School Algester

[www.ststephens.qld.edu.au](http://www.ststephens.qld.edu.au)

07 3711 4911

[palgester@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:palgester@bne.catholic.edu.au)

Please check out our [Parish Webpage](#) and [Facebook Page](#) for regular updates.



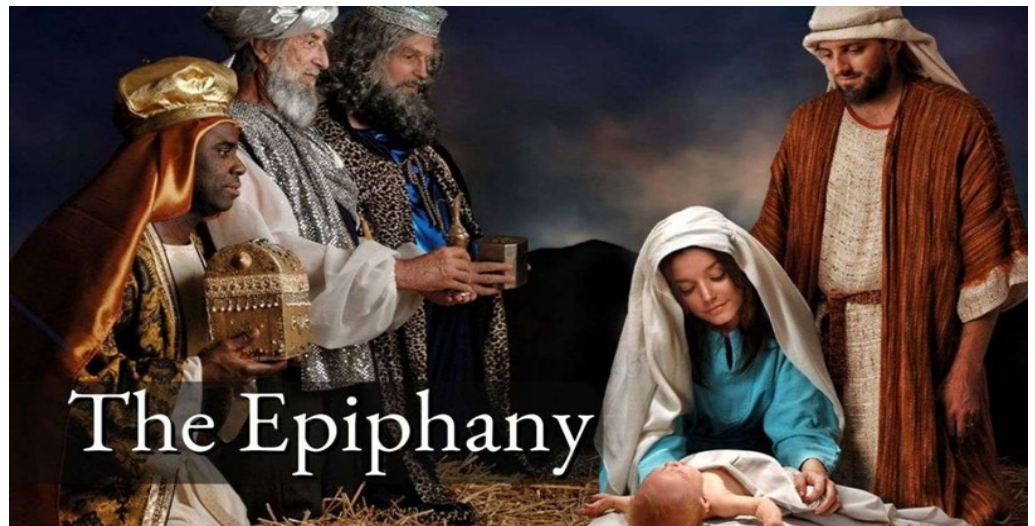
# FATIMA NEWS

Feast of The Epiphany of the Lord, 7 January 2025

### Greetings to all,

The Epiphany of the Lord, celebrated on Sunday, 5 January 2025, invites Christians to reflect on the manifestation of Jesus Christ to the world. The feast marks the visit of the Magi, or Wise Men, to the infant Jesus, as recounted in the Gospel of Matthew (2:1-12). This event is often seen as the moment when Christ's divinity is revealed to the Gentiles, symbolized by the journey of these non-Jewish figures from distant lands.

In the Christian liturgical calendar, the Epiphany is a celebration not just of the birth of Christ, but of the universal reach of His mission. It invites believers to reflect on the light that Christ brings into the world, guiding all peoples towards Him. In today's Gospel, the visit of the Magi follows a clear narrative of divine guidance. These Magi came from the east, possibly Persian or Babylonian, noticed a star rising in the sky, signifying the birth of a king.



Their journey is long and fraught with uncertainty, yet they are led by a star, which becomes a powerful symbol of divine revelation. The star is often interpreted as a sign of Christ's role as the Light of the World, illuminating the way to salvation for all, regardless of their background or nationality.

This is significant because the Magi, coming from distant lands, represent the first non-Jews to recognize and worship Jesus. Their recognition of Christ is a revelation of the later mission of the Church, which would spread the Gospel message to all nations.

The Magi's journey to see Jesus highlights several theological themes that are central to the Epiphany. **First**, it emphasizes the universality of Christ's mission. While Christ was born into a Jewish family and heritage, His message is meant for all people, Jew and Gentile alike. The visit of the Magi underscores that Jesus is not just the King of the Jews, but the Saviour of the world.

The Magi's homage to Jesus is a powerful declaration of this universal kingship. In their act of worship, they not only acknowledge the divine nature of the child but also symbolically offer Him their gifts, which include gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These gifts have deep symbolic meanings: gold represents Christ's kingship, frankincense signifies His divinity, and myrrh points to His humanity and future suffering. Together, they encapsulate the fullness of who Jesus is—the King, the Divine Son, and the Saviour who would suffer for the salvation of humanity.

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**Another important theological aspect** of the Epiphany is the idea of divine revelation. The Magi's recognition of the Christ child is not due to their wisdom or abilities but is the result of divine guidance. The star they follow is a symbol of God's revelation to humanity.

The Magi's journey invites believers to trust in God's guidance, even when the path may seem unclear. Their journey is not just a physical one, but a spiritual pilgrimage towards truth, understanding, and worship. This theme resonates deeply with the Christian journey of faith, where God continues to lead believers toward the ultimate truth found in Christ.

As we reflect on the meaning of the Epiphany, it is worth considering how we, like the Magi, respond to the revelation of Christ in our lives. The Epiphany challenges us to look beyond ourselves and recognize the significance of Christ's coming not just for us, but for all of humanity. It calls us to a deeper sense of inclusion and universality in our faith, reminding us that the light of Christ is meant to shine for all people.

*How can we, in our daily lives, reflect the light of Christ to others, as the star led the Magi to the infant Jesus? What are the ways in which we can offer our own "gifts" to Christ in our daily acts of worship, kindness, and service? As we celebrate the Epiphany, let us remember that the story of the Magi is not just an event of the past, but an invitation to all of us to seek Christ, to worship Him, and to bring our own gifts to the King of Kings. Alleluiah!*

Happy New Year in Jesus Christ!

*Deacon Hugo*

## First Holy Communion

Holy Communion, or Eucharist, is the last Sacrament of Initiation and often takes place following the Sacrament of Confirmation. The first time you receive Eucharist completes your initiation into the Church. The Eucharist is celebrated during Mass and is sometimes called the "source and summit" of the life of a Catholic. Unlike many other Sacraments, Holy Communion is not celebrated once. Each week, Catholics go to Mass to participate in the celebration of the Eucharist, the ritual in which, by the power of the Holy Spirit, bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ. We, who celebrate, are also transformed, becoming Christ's presence to others, and recognising the presence of Christ in others.

For Catholics, the Eucharist or Mass, is the most powerful way to encounter the real presence of Jesus Christ.

### Sacramental Program 2025 - First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation (For Grade 4 or older)

Parents Information Evening	6pm, Wednesday 5th February
First Week: Class on Holy Communion	6-7pm, Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Second Week: Class on Holy Communion	6-7pm, Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb *
Third Week: Class on Holy Communion	6-7pm, Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Fourth Week: Class on Reconciliation	6-7pm, Thursday 6th March
Fifth Week: Class on Reconciliation	6-7 Wednesday 12th March
<b>Sixth week: Reconciliation Celebrations</b>	6-7pm, Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March
Seventh Week: Rehearsal and recap on HC	6-7pm, Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March



### First Holy Communion Mass **4:30pm, Saturday 29th March 2025**

*Due to Ash Wednesday being on 5th Feb, the class for the 4th week will be on Thursday 6th March*

**Registrations:** Please contact the parish office through email at [acaciaridge@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:acaciaridge@bne.catholic.net.au)

## LAY COMMUNION MINISTERS

Lay people who help distribute Holy Communion at Mass and to the sick are called *Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion*. The word 'extraordinary' indicates that they are not the ordinary or usual ministers of communion – ordained clergy.

The ministry was first established by Pope Paul VI in 1973. Because more people were now coming to Communion at Mass and it was being offered under both kinds, the distribution of Communion had become difficult for the clergy to manage alone. Also, when the ordinary ministers are unable to take Communion frequently to the sick and aged, lay ministers are needed to take on this ministry.

The role of special ministers is to serve the assembly by distributing the elements during the Communion Rite, so they are Ministers of Communion not 'ministers of the Eucharist' or 'eucharistic ministers'.

Communion ministers are carefully selected and commissioned by the parish. They are required to undertake liturgical and spiritual formation as well as practical training. -Elizabeth Harrington