

Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

(This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws)



Third Sunday of Advent - Year C 16th December 2018

Dear friends

Do not lose Heart

As Christmas draws near, the scriptures encourage us "not to lose heart" and to overcome anxiety through patience. We are asked to remember that the Lord is near, close at hand, and that His gentleness and peace will overcome any of our trials.

Perhaps the most beautiful image at Christmas is the gentleness and peace that we find when we meditate upon the Nativity scene. Jesus is at peace in the care of Mary and Joseph. His security is placed in the gentleness of Joseph and the beautiful heart of Mary His mother. Even the warmth of the animals and hay keep Him from being overcome by the bitter cold of winter. God, made a baby in Jesus, finds His peace in the love provided for Him by God our Father in his parents Mary and Joseph.

This is the season for peace. We can find this gift only in Jesus. Like Christ we only have to be patient and trust in God our Father to provide us with the security we need. God is with us always, Emmanuel, and we only have to search for Him and we will find that strength to face our difficulties that comes from trust in God.

The grace and peace that comes from a good confession is always the perfect gift of Christmas. We can be renewed in grace and strengthen our resolve not to lose heart and to become patient and gentle as Christ.

God bless

Fr Frank

Parish Diary:

Monday 17th December

6:00pm Rosary (note change of time)

Tuesday 18th December

9:00am Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

10:30am Mass at Sylvan Woods

Wednesday 19th December

10:00am Prayer Group

5:00pm Music Practice

Thursday 20th December

9:00am Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

5:30pm Reconciliation

6:00pm Mass

Friday 21st December

9:30am Mass

10:40am Mass at Dutch Village

Saturday 22nd December

6:15pm Mass

Sunday 23rd December

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00am Mass

"In Advent we rediscover the beauty of all being on a journey ... across the paths of time."

- Pope Francis

This Week's Readings:

First Reading: *Zeph 3:14-18* – With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Psalm Response: For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits, truly my hope is in you.

(Alternative Psalm Response if spoken): Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Second Reading: *Phil 4:4-7* – The Lord is near.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; He sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia.

Gospel: *Luke 3: 10-8* – What, then, must we do?



Next week's Readings

First: *Micah 5:1-4*

Second: *Heb 10:5-10*

Gospel: *Luke 1:39-44*

Mass Times: Saturday 6:15pm & Sunday 8:00am

Reconciliation: Thursday 5:30pm

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9am to 1pm. Wednesday Closed.

Pastor: Fr Frank Jones

Associate Pastor: Fr Epati Tamati

Associate Pastor: Fr Thomas Zaranski

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A VOCATION VIEW: Rejoice in the Lord always and again, I will say rejoice. Our joy comes only from God when we listen and follow his voice.

Lord, what is your voice and call for me today?

Parish Primary School

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Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them: Brian Cannon, Ann Brown, Sally Legarda, Kade Battersby, Lesley West, Gemma Paxman, James Thomas, Cindy Cummins, John Bacon, Winifred Linton, Jodie Bromiley, Casey Whitby, Trish Swan, Ian Splatt, Jan Hurst, Steven West, Ava Loda, Joan Thorpe, Denise Hodgson, Patricia Haines, Kathy Stone, Christine Inch, Belinda Wheeler, Jim Gair, Cely Salisbury, Anne Delamere, The Bade Family, Carol Parker, Brian Crimmins, Brian Johnston, Medi Camelli, Hazel Foster, Dan Mullan, Dianne Charlton, Stana Matic, Page Brosnan, Dot Abrahams, John Schoites, Corrie Roser, Amelia Ramsay, Betty Reagan, Mary Chylewski, Jeanette Moore, Nola Murphy, Christiana Becker, Cathy Leane, Pauline McNamee, Pat Crimmins, Gina Mather, Paul McKean, Marina Weightman.


May God embrace all who have recently died: Rod Adams, Valda Grey, Gert Smit, Celsa Obligado, Michael Mossop.

Anniversaries & Remembrances December: Les and Ruby Richards, Alberto & Vittorio Poloniato, John Jorna Snr, Antonio Cailotto, Amalia Bandiera, John Williams, Madeline Gauci, Eve Buckmaster, Peter Moores, Carmen Jagga, Hans Adam, Fayline Fraser, Alma Prove, Mary Boyle, Josefina Wilcox, Rita Fantov, Michael Newman, Maria Bosso, Mark Ciavarella, Ron Tamatea, Meg Griffiths, Mal Carlson, Luigi Santarossa, Arnold Splatt, Arthur McCarthy, Ray Murphy, Sr Dot Newberry, Jack and Mary Ward, Graeme & Sonia Giles, David Boyd, Irene Kearney, Clare Rubach, Ivan Randall, Jordan Smith, Vladga Smith, Franco Peressini, Dorothy McInroy, Annie Neale, Fr Tom Boland.

Please record any further names in the Anniversaries & Remembrance Diary at the Welcome Desk

Roster 22nd & 23rd December

Junior Ministers		Readers		Extraordinary Ministers of Communion		Music		
6:15pm	Volunteer needed	6:15pm	(1st) Matty M (2nd) Martin M (POF) Emma M	6:15pm	John E, Therese E, Tom M, Anne Maree C, Suzanne G	6:15pm	Gp 3	
8:00am	Douglas M Xavier R	8:00am	(1st) Monica O (2nd) Peter L (POF) Hilda A	8:00am	Lena B, April M, Brian C, Walter G, Mark C, 2 Volunteers	8:00am	Gp 2	
						Powerpoint		
						6:15pm Emma M 8:00am David C		
						Counters: Gp 4 Clinton T, Stanis D, Jeff C		
						Cleaning: Superb Cleaning		
Weekend Mass Times			Week Day Mass Times			Sacrament of Reconciliation		
Saturday	Manly - 5:00pm Birkdale - 6:15pm		St John Vianney Manly Ph 3131 2610 Tuesday - 6:00pm and Wednesday - 9:30am			St Mary MacKillop Birkdale Thursday 5.30pm to 6:00pm		
Sunday	Gumdale - 7:00am Birkdale - 8:00am Manly - 9:30am		St Mary MacKillop Birkdale Ph 3822 2139 Thursday - 6:00pm and Friday - 9:30am			St John Vianney Manly Saturday 4.30pm to 5:00pm		
			Carmelite Monastery 7:00am Monday to Saturday			St Jude Gumdale Sunday following 7:00am Mass		

Christmas Eve Mass Times		Christmas Day Mass Times		New Year Masses Tuesday 1st January	
5:00pm St John Vianney's Manly		8:00am St Mary MacKillop, Birkdale		9:30am St Mary MacKillop, Birkdale	
7:00pm St Jude's, Gumdale		9:30am St John Vianney's Manly		6:00pm St John Vianney's Manly	
7:00pm St Mary MacKillop, Birkdale					
Midnight Carmelite Monastery Ormiston					

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND AND ROME Fr Frank will be accompanying a 15 Night/18 Day pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Rome departing 29th September 2019 and returning Wednesday 16th October 2019. The tour is being organised by Harvest Journeys and will be visiting Amman, Jerash, Dead Sea, Bethany Beyond the Jordan, Sea of Galilee, Nazareth, Cana, Mt Tabor, Mt Carmel, Haifa, Jericho, Jerusalem and Rome. Brochures available from the Parish Office. *For more information please see Fr Frank.*

Thanksgiving Mass for Fr Epati will be celebrated on Sunday 23rd December at 8:00am (celebration will also be held at St John Vianney Church, Manly on Saturday 22nd December at 5:00pm). We will have a morning tea following Mass. Please bring a plate of food to share.

Catholic Leader due to an error at the printers the incorrect edition of the Catholic Leader was distributed last weekend. If you purchased a newspaper last weekend please take a complimentary paper this weekend. The Catholic Leader apologise for any inconvenience.

Christmas Raffle Tickets are \$2.00 each (3 for \$5.00) and are on sale after Masses this weekend. To be drawn on Sunday 23rd December.

Hospitality Roster Anyone who'd like to join the roster for a Cuppa after Mass would be very welcome. We'd love to have a couple of more people on Sundays to share the workload. You would be required to help (and bring a plate) just three times a year. Please let the Parish Office know ASAP if you can help.

Tree Removal work on the tree removal will begin next week. We are very grateful for all donations received and particularly thank the St Mary MacKillop School P & F for their donation of \$1,500.00. **TOTAL RECEIVED TO DATE - \$4,729.55. Fr Frank.**

Children's Christmas Pageant 2018 – will be presented at the Christmas vigil Mass on **24th December at 7:00 pm.**

Children wishing to be a part of the pageant will need to be at the following rehearsal sessions in the Church:-
Tuesday 18th December – 9am to 10am and Thursday 20th December - 9am to 10am

Some costumes will be provided. Thank you so much for all the generous donation of children's dress up items, clothing and fabrics received in previous years. We are still in need of the following items. **Children's dress up items:** angel wings & halo; white dresses; crown; shepherd's tunic, soldier's shields. **Toys:** Sheep.

NEW PARISHIONER? WELCOME! If you are new to our Parish, you are most welcome. Please fill out the form below and place on one of the collection plates.

NAME(S): Mr / Mrs / Miss _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____