

Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

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



Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year C 23rd December 2018

Dear friends

Christmas is just around the corner. I take this opportunity to wish all of you a very happy and holy Christmas and a New Year full of grace and peace.

Emmanuel - God is with us – is our joyful word of praise. When we gather this Christmas it is Jesus who draws us and who gives meaning to our experience of family and Church.

In fact we find Jesus in the sweet taste of mercy and compassion. Jesus makes our hearts burst with willingness to help all those in need. Jesus enables us to be close to everyone and everything. He was born to make us available for everyone. You will find Him in the beauty of nature, children, elderly and the young. Especially in those who are weak, sick and poor.

Let us remember that Christmas is a wonderful gift. Emmanuel helps me to go out to the weak and fragile and show them the way to health and wholeness. To be a real comfort for all who are sad and suffering.

God's glory is shown in us when we are fully alive for others. Joy, peace and love all come from the heart in love of God and from a will full of goodness.

Let us make this Christmas a true time of peace and adoration. To be still and feel the presence of God in each other.

Happy Christmas

Fr. Frank

Parish Diary:

Monday 24th December

6:00pm Rosary (note change of time)

7:00pm Mass (presentation of Christmas Pageant)

Tuesday 25th December

The Nativity of the Lord

8:00am Mass

Wednesday 26th December

St Stephen

Thursday 27th December

St John

NO Reconciliation

NO Mass

Friday 28th December

The Holy Innocents

NO Mass

Saturday 29th December

6:15pm Mass

Sunday 30th December

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:00am Mass

"Let us allow ourselves to be guided by Mary this Advent, she who is mother, a mamma and knows how to guide us. Let us allow ourselves to be guided by her during this season of active waiting and watchfulness." - Pope Francis

This Week's Readings:

First Reading: Micah 5:1-4 – *Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.*

Psalm Response: Save us O Lord, carry us back, Rouse your power and come. Rescue your people, show us your face, bring us back.

(Alternative Psalm Response if spoken): Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Second Reading: Heb 10:5-10 – *I am coming to do your will.*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. I am the servant of the Lord: May his will for me be done. Alleluia.

Gospel: Luke 1:39-44 – *Why should it happen that I am honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?*



Next week's Readings

First: 1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28

Second: 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

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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Safeguarding Officer: Lisa Knight ☎ 3822 2139

A VOCATION VIEW:

Like Mary and all the blessed who believed that the promises you made her would be fulfilled, let my soul cry out; "O God, I have come to do your will".

Parish Primary School

Principal: Mr John Spillane

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Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them: Charles Lilley, 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 29th & 30th December

Junior Ministers 6:15pm Volunteer needed 8:00am Volunteer needed	Readers 6:15pm (1st) Mary S (2nd) Paulina P (POF) Tanina D 8:00am (1st) Volunteer (2nd) Julie C (POF) Peter M	Extraordinary Ministers of Communion 6:15pm Carolyn W, Lesley L, 3 Volunteers 8:00am Elaine H, 6 Volunteers	Music 6:15pm CD 8:00am CD Powerpoint 6:15pm Lisa K 8:00am Chris M Counters: Gp 5 Mary S & Lisa K Cleaning:
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Weekend Mass Times Saturday Manly - 5:00pm Birkdale - 6:15pm Sunday Gumdale - 7:00am Birkdale - 8:00am Manly - 9:30am	Week Day Mass Times St John Vianney Manly Ph 3131 2610 Tuesday - 6:00pm and Wednesday - 9:30am St Mary MacKillop Birkdale Ph 3822 2139 Thursday - 6:00pm and Friday - 9:30am Carmelite Monastery 7:00am Monday to Saturday	Sacrament of Reconciliation St Mary MacKillop Birkdale Thursday 5.30pm to 6:00pm St John Vianney Manly Saturday 4.30pm to 5:00pm St Jude Gumdale Sunday following 7:00am Mass
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Christmas Eve Mass Times 5:00pm St John Vianney's Manly 7:00pm St Jude's, Gumdale 7:00pm St Mary MacKillop, Birkdale Midnight Carmelite Monastery Ormiston	Christmas Day Mass Times 8:00am St Mary MacKillop, Birkdale 9:30am St John Vianney's Manly 	New Year Masses Tuesday 1st January 9:30am St Mary MacKillop, Birkdale 6:00pm St John Vianney's Manly
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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. We will have a morning tea following Mass.

Weekday Masses there will be no weekday Masses from 27th December. Regular weekday Masses will recommence on Thursday 10th December at 6:00pm (Reconciliation at 5:30pm).

New Year's Day Mass will be celebrated on **Tuesday 1st January at 9:30am** (6:00pm at St John Vianney, Manly).

Parish Office will close on Friday **21st December at 11:00am** and reopen on Monday 7th January 2019 at 9:00am. Telephone messages will be checked periodically during this time.

Christmas Raffle DRAWN THIS SUNDAY!!!!!! Last chance to buy tickets - \$2.00 each (3 for \$5.00).

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 has been completed with stump grinding to be completed after Christmas. 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 - \$4,779.55. Fr Frank.**

Thank you - Fr Frank, the office staff and the Parish Pastoral Council members would like to take this opportunity to thank all volunteers who have been involved in our many and varied ministry groups at St Mary MacKillop, for their commitment and dedication over the year. Many hands make light work, and we look forward to your continued support in 2019.

May you have a happy and holy Christmas and many blessings for the coming year.

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: _____