



HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH RYDALMERE

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph / C
26 December 2021

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Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Lamont
Ass. Priest: Fr. Yong Ho Jang (Fr. Pio)
St Mary's School: Mr. Richard Blissenden
St Patrick's Marist: Mrs. Angela Hay

MASS TIMES

SUNDAY EUCHARIST:	Saturday Vigil	5.30pm
	Sunday	7.30am & 9.30am
WEEKDAY EUCHARIST:	Tuesday - Saturday	9.15am
RECONCILIATION:	Saturday	4.30pm - 5.15pm
ANointing OF SICK WITHIN MASS	1 st Saturday bi monthly (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)	9.15am
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & BENECTION	Exposition/Benediction: Friday	7.30pm
	Exposition: Wednesday & Saturday	8.30am
BAPTISMS:	2 nd and 4 th Sunday of the month	11.30am

Please Pray For

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Les Harris, Brad Yates, Isaac Moses, Frank Malkoun, William (Bill) Wright, Elizabeth Paricka, Yvonne Vane, Ray Martin, Carmel Treholme, Deacon Owen Rogers, Fr Renato Paras, Issac Moses, Michael Spratt, Maureen Nicholls, Annette Herft, Renato Banaag.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Stanley Szolta, Irene Szolta, Lynne Yates, Rhonda Gaffney - Noel Lamont, Brian Oxlee, Robbie Keegan, Tony Malkoun, Michael Saad, Katie Saad, Andree Hardy, Fred Wickman, Wayne Williams, Bernard Otter, Bernard Griffin, Autel Basha, John Rizk, Carol Rosario, Geoff Kirby, Bernard Lourey, Martha Abraham, Shirley Ball, Alan Ball, George Khier.

Rosters – 1/2 January

Cleaning Ministry

Computer Operators:

Vigil 5.30pm	Lynette Rodrigues
Sun. 7.30am	Glenys Oxlee
Sun. 9.30am	Vartguess Markarian
	Lawrence Tsang, Patricia Hild
Vigil 5.30pm	Len & Sue Farrugia
Sun. 7.30am	Anne Marie Lyons
Sun. 9.30am	Samuel Yu, Sr Maureen Crick

Counters:

Lectors:



DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION

The Divine Retreat Centre in Somersby, NSW is holding a New Year's Eve celebration from 9pm to 12am on Friday 31 December. The event will include Confession, Thanksgiving Adoration and a New Year's Mass. Bookings are required and limited numbers are available. Please call (02) 4372 1598 or drcretreatreg@gmail.com to confirm attendance. Visit www.divineretreatcentre.org.au for more information.

MADONNA MAGAZINE

Madonna magazine, published by Jesuit Communications, is an ideal spiritual companion – containing daily prayers, deep reflections and faith-focused articles. We invite you to subscribe or consider taking out a gift subscription for a loved one for only \$53 a year. You can find out more about Madonna, how to subscribe, purchase a gift subscription or donate a subscription on the website: www.madonnamagazine.com.au/article/subscriptions

A CHRISTMAS 2021 MESSAGE FROM BISHOP VINCENT LONG OFM CONV, BISHOP OF PARRAMATTA

Dear brothers and sisters,
Peace and joy to you all, as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus of Nazareth.

After nearly two years of the pandemic and months of hard lockdown, we rejoice as the country slowly recovers and we regain our freedoms thanks to the great work of getting people vaccinated.

During this special season of thanking God for becoming one of us, let's reflect on how the God of love makes himself known to us in our daily lives.

Christmas is God coming to us in human form and showing us that we are loved inherently, abundantly and eternally. As a Franciscan, I believe that the incarnation was not an accident of history. It was not plan B because we messed up plan A.

Jesus is the fullness of God's revelation of love for us and for all of creation. This means that no matter who we are: male or female, black or white, straight or gay, rich or poor, high or low, citizen or refugee, God's love embraces us and reverences us all.

Jesus came down to live in a typical Middle Eastern village called Nazareth, that was home to a couple of hundred 'country' people. He did not decide to brandish his power, but to spend most of his time with the powerless and disenfranchised.

As God breaks ranks and becomes vulnerable for us, so must we have the courage to leave our comfort zones and discover the presence, the beauty, the love of God in unfamiliar places, in the margins and the shadows of life. We cannot worship the Christ child in truth without honouring him in the needy, the poor and the marginalised.

The incarnation also means that God has embraced the world and the cosmos. Jesus is not only God's yes to humans but God's yes to all forms of life.

We need a radical new way of relating and living that brings harmony and sustainability to all of life. We humans are part of the interconnected cosmic web of creation and we need to live a new paradigm of communion with all that is.

Long ago, Francis of Assisi grasped this fundamental reality. He intuitively understood the importance of living not as a self-centred individual but as part of the larger whole. He championed the art of living in deep harmony and communion.

Inspired by his namesake, Pope Francis says the awareness of God incarnate in the world that can "motivate us to a more passionate concern for the protection of our world" and an "ecological conversion". We must learn that 'less is more'.

We must learn to envision a new economy that shifts away from consumption and exploitation to one that celebrates radical interdependence and reciprocity within diverse webs of life. Only by taking less from the earth can we move to an alternative model of living in radical harmony and deep connection with the planet.

The pandemic has highlighted how vulnerable and interconnected everyone is. If we do not take care of one another, starting with the least, with those who are most impacted, including creation, we cannot heal the world. Let us follow the footsteps of Jesus as we listen and respond to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

I wish you my blessings and prayers for a Christmas season filled with peace, joy and hope.

**Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta**

COVID-19 UPDATE

Parishioners attending the church are required to complete their details on the Mass Attendance Sheet provided at the back of the church or scan the QR code with your smartphone camera before entering the church.

Wearing face mask is **mandatory**.

Please sanitise your hands.

If you are experiencing cold or flu-like symptoms, having a temperature or have been in contact with anyone that is either a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, you should not enter the church.

THANK YOU

Thank you to our parishioners for their kind thoughts, gifts and food that I've received over the Christmas period. The beautiful words written in the Christmas cards are especially moving. I wish you and your families a happy and holy Christmas and a better 2022. May Christ the King always reign in your hearts.

Fr Peter

PHONE RECONNECTION

Our phone has finally been reconnected. The active landline number is **9684 2948**. Temporarily 9684 1541 is NOT active. As the last resort we have a mobile number **0484 378 103**.



MASS PROGRAMME

The daily Mass programme during the octave of Christmas is as follows:

~ Monday, 27th December: **10.00am**
~ Tuesday, 28th December: **10.00am**
~ Wednesday, 29th December: 9.15am
~ Thursday, 30th December: 9.15am
~ Friday, 31st December: 9.15am
~ Saturday, 1st January: 9.15am

LIFE, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY OFFICE MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES

Dates for the Diocesan Life, Marriage and Family Office's in-person marriage preparation weekend courses in 2022 are now available, with the SmartLoving Engaged Online course another option to prepare for your marriage. For more information, or to book your course, visit www.parracatholic.org/pmp or call (02) 8838 3460.



FEAST OF THE WEEK

Friday, 31 December – Saint Sylvester

When you think of this pope, you think of the Edict of Milan, the emergence of the Church from the catacombs, the building of the great basilicas—Saint John Lateran, Saint Peter's, and others—the Council of Nicaea, and other critical events. A great store of legends has grown up around the man who was pope at this most important time, but very little can be established historically. We know for sure that his papacy lasted from 314 until his death in 335. Reading between the lines of history, we are assured that only a very strong and wise man could have preserved the essential independence of the Church in the face of the overpowering figure of the Emperor Constantine. In general, the bishops remained loyal to the Holy See, and at times expressed apologies to Sylvester for undertaking important ecclesiastical projects at the urging of Constantine.

His parents found him in the temple, sitting among the learned men listening to them.

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.

He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. We offer you, Lord, the sacrifice of conciliation, humbly asking that, through the intercession of the Virgin Mother of God and Saint Joseph, you may establish our families firmly in your grace and your peace. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I, II OR III OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray . . .

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said . . .

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace.

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bar 3:38

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Bring those you refresh with this heavenly Sacrament, most merciful Father, to imitate constantly the example of the Holy Family,

so that, after the trials of this world, we may share their company for ever. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL

HOW LOVELY IS YOUR DWELLING PLACE!

Have you ever felt a yearning to visit some special place? Perhaps the place of your childhood that you have not seen for many years. Or perhaps some country that has always fascinated you. Imagine how excited you would feel if you were about to set out on a journey to this place. Or perhaps you have been longing to meet some special person, and the opportunity will soon happen. What joy you would feel.

These are the kinds of emotions the Jewish pilgrims experienced as they journeyed to Jerusalem to visit the great temple. As they made their pilgrimage to Jerusalem filled with longing and joy they sang hymns to God including today's responsorial psalm.

The temple was very special for the people because it signified that God was dwelling in their midst, that God was among them. Our churches and cathedrals have a similar role: they are signs that God is with us in our towns, communities and countryside.

God does not dwell in sacred buildings only. The boy Jesus did not remain in his Father's house in Jerusalem but returned with Mary and Joseph to their humble home in Nazareth, and Jesus continues to dwell with us in our homes. With all their struggles and imperfections our homes are indeed dwelling places of God.

We can sometimes search everywhere for Jesus only to find that he has been with us, in our homes and communities, all the time.

FR MICHAEL GOONAN SSP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH / C

26 DECEMBER 2021

GOD, BLESS OUR HOME. A house is made of materials that are replaceable. But a home is founded on relationships, love, memories, joys and pains, births and deaths. No material compensation can ever be made for the loss of these. On this feast of the Holy Family we pray, 'God, bless our home', whatever its shape may be.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Lk 2:16

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Lord Jesus, you are the image of the unseen God: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the first born of all creation:

Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the head of the body, the Church: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT

P. O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in

practising the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

For the whole of his life, Samuel shall be lent to the Lord.

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.'

When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.'

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my Lord. As you live, my Lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.'

There she left him, for the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM

Ps 83:2-3, 5-6, 9-10. R. v. 5

R. How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

1. How lovely is your dwelling place, / Lord, God of hosts. / My soul is longing and yearning, / is yearning for the courts of the Lord. / My heart and my soul ring out their joy / to God, the living God. **R.**

2. They are happy, who dwell in your house, / for ever singing your praise. / They are happy, whose strength is in you; / they walk with ever growing strength. **R.**



3. O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer, / give ear, O God of Jacob. / Turn your eyes, O God, our shield, / look on the face of your anointed. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24

A reading from the first letter of St John. *He calls you his own children, and that is what you are.*

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed, all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 2:41-52

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.