

the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, and said 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,
a name which means 'God-is-with-us'.
When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

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. May the Holy Spirit, O Lord, sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar, just as he filled with his power the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. 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 II OF ADVENT

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: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, 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 Isa 7:14
Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Having received this pledge of eternal redemption, we pray, almighty God, that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer, so we may press forward all the more eagerly to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your Son's Nativity. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
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 in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.
R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

GOD CARES

While many people can assert that God exists, it is often a huge leap to be able to say with confidence that God cares about what we are going through. It is even a greater leap to be able to say that God actually cares enough to be with us in the complexity and challenges of our lives. Both the first reading from Isaiah and today's Gospel proclaim that God cares enough to be with us and that the living God often works in and through the most disturbing and surprising events. King Ahaz had given in to despair in the face of the imminent attack on Jerusalem by more powerful forces. Joseph was struggling to come to terms with Mary's pregnancy which was both disconcerting and unexpected. Both Ahaz and Joseph were led to recognise that God's presence was to be seen in the birth of a child whose very name – God with us – was a constant reminder not to lose heart in the God who loves us.

As Paul begins the letter to the Romans, he reflects on the marvellous call that he has received to be an apostle. He sets the story of Jesus firmly within the saving history of God's dealings with the people of Israel, but this is not the end of the story. The God of surprises has made it clear to Paul that what happened in the birth of Jesus belongs to all humanity. In Jesus, God has come close to all peoples and Paul's mission is to preach this message to the nations.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

18 DECEMBER 2022

A MAN OF HONOUR. Today's Gospel invites us to reflect on Joseph, the husband of Mary, who played such an important role in God's plan of salvation. Joseph was a man of honour who combined respect for the law with compassion for Mary. He was open to hear God's word to him. He is an example for us all.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Isa 45:8
Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.
P. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
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. You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.
P. You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy.
R. Christ, have mercy.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: 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.
The Gloria is not said during Advent.

COLLECT

P. Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.
R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isa 7:10–14
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
The virgin will conceive.

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself

coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:
'Listen now, House of David:
are you not satisfied with trying the
patience of men
without trying the patience of God, too?
The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.
It is this: the maiden is with child
and will soon give birth to a son
whom she will call Emmanuel,
a name which means "God-is-with-us".

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 23:1–6. R. cf. vv. 7, 10
R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm. **R.**
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things. **R.**
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

SECOND READING Rom 1:1–7
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from



the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 1:23
Alleluia, alleluia!
The virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God-is-with-us. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 1:18–24

P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit
P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
R. Glory to you, O Lord.
Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when



HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH RYDALMERE

Fourth Sunday of Advent / A
18 December 2022

Church: 4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere
Mail: 2 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere 2116
Phone: (02) 9684 1541, 0432 950 895
Email: admin@holymary.org.au
Website: www.holymary.org.au



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

MASS TIMES

SUNDAY EUCHARIST:	Saturday Vigil	5.30pm
	Sunday	7.30am & 10.00am
WEEKDAY EUCHARIST:	Tuesday - Saturday	9.15am
RECONCILIATION:	Saturday	4.30pm - 5.15pm
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT	Exposition: Wednesday and Saturday	8.30pm
	Exposition: Monday - Friday	7.00pm - 12.00am
BAPTISMS:	2 nd and 4 th Sunday of month	11.30am

Please Pray For

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Betty, Griffin, Des Howard, Maurice Reid - Fr Peter Maher - Marco Lulic, Margaret Taylor, Alston Mortier

ANNIVERSARIES:

Geoff Kirby, Carol Rosario, John Rizk, Fr Brian Rooney, Autel Basha, Desmond Howard, Bernard Griffin, Wayne Williams, Fred Wickman, Bernard Otter, Robbie Keegan, George Sant, Peter Barnes - Brad Yates, Ursula Kennedy, Rhonda Gaffney, Phyllis Ryder, Lynne Yates, Ruth Rogan, Maria Martin, Orazio Coco, Anne Nolan, Alan Ball, Shirley Ball, Martha Abraham.

Rosters - 24/25 December

Cleaning Ministry

Computer Operators:

	Susan Boulous & family
Vigil 6.00pm	Lynette Rodrigues
Vigil 8.30pm	Anthony Wong
Sun. 7.30am	Anne Marie Lyons
Sun. 10.00am	Antonya Fernando
	Joe Zammit, David Boulous
Vigil 6.00pm	Matheus Liberato, Anne Betteridge
Vigil 8.30pm	Sue Farrugia, Len Farrugia
Sun. 7.30am	Helen Wong
Sun. 10.00am	Linda Tsang, Samuel Yu

Counters:

Lectors:



DIOCESAN WORLD DAY OF THE SICK MASS

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on **Saturday 11 February 2023** at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6 February 2022 to met@parracatholic.org



FAITH & FORMATION SESSION FOR CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

You are invited to a faith & formation session for those who work & volunteer in the health care ministries of the Church on **Saturday 11 February**, from 9am to 10.30am at the All Saints of Africa Centre, 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown. Join us afterwards for the World Day of the Sick Mass at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown. Please **RSVP for catering purposes by 6 February** to met@parracatholic.org. For enquiries, please contact Michael.Tan@parracatholic.org



THANK-YOU

A sincere thank-you to Pam McKay and to the members of the planning committee for organising the Parish Christmas lunch last Wednesday. It was a great success - Fr Peter

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Sincere thanks to the 74 parishioners and friends who attended our parish lunch on Wednesday. It was wonderful to catch up with friends and have time to chat particularly after the two years of restrictions during the onset of the covid virus. Merry Christmas and all the blessings of this Christmas season and may 2023 be a year of peace and good health for all - Pam McKay

MONTHLY ROSARY AT THE SHOPS

Please join us in a Public Rosary which takes place at 3pm on the 4th Saturday this month. We pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by the Rosary (and a few Hymns). It takes about 40 minutes. Prayers will begin at **3pm sharp** at Ermington Shops, opposite the post office on **Saturday the 24th of December**. Comment: At Christmas time we give thanks to Our Lord. Each day we give thanks to Our Lord. (Brian Nairn 0409306381).

MYSTERY OF ST MICHAEL AND SECRETS OF ST FAUSTINA: A SERIES OF LITURGICAL GATHERINGS IN AUSTRALIA, 6-13 JANUARY 2023

Parishioners are warmly invited to join Fr Peter Prusakiewicz CSMA, in a series of liturgical gatherings from **January 6-13** across dioceses in New South Wales. Fr Peter from Marki, Poland, is a well-travelled international speaker for over twenty years and has spoken at many conferences, retreats, and parish missions all over the world. Don't miss this incredible opportunity to join Fr Peter for Holy Mass with Eucharistic Healing Service through the intercession of St Michael the Archangel and Individual blessing with a relic of St Faustina with a devotion to Divine Mercy. Details on Parish Notice Board.

MUSCIANS

We ask parishioners to volunteer their talents as musicians. We have a great team of musicians but we require more to help share the load. Please give it some thought over Christmas - Fr Peter

MASS TIMES

Mass will be celebrated on St. Stephen's Day, Monday 26th December at 10am. Also St. John's feast day on Tuesday 27th December at 10am. The remaining Masses for the rest of the week will be celebrated at the usual time of 9.15am - Fr Peter

Important Notice!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



The Altar Society invites you to donate some Christmas flowers that will enhance our worship and glorify God with gifts of natural beauty. They will accept Christmas Bush, Agapanthus or any other flowers from you garden. Please ensure your flowers are left in the Meeting Room by **1pm Friday 23rd December**. Thank you!

THANK-YOU

Thank you for supporting this year's Catholic Mission Parish Appeal. On behalf of Catholic Mission thank you to all the parishioners who contributed to the appeal. Your generosity has provided support to families from disadvantaged backgrounds. **Total amount raised: \$1860**. Best wishes, Danielle - Diocesan Support Administrator.

CATHOLIC OUTLOOK MAGAZINE

Copies of the Summer 2022 edition of Catholic Outlook magazine are located at the back of the Church.

FEAST OF THE WEEK

Wednesday, 21 December - St Peter Canisius

Born in 1521, Father Peter Canisius led the Catholic Reformation in Austria, Bavaria, and Bohemia. With stupendous energy he preached and taught in parishes, reformed and founded universities, wrote many books including popular catechisms, restored lapsed Catholics, converted Protestants, preached retreats, and found time to care for the sick. In his last 30 years traveling more than 20,000 miles on foot or horseback, St. Peter Canisius spearheaded the renewal of the Catholic faith in southern Germany.

"If you have too much to do, with God's help you will find time to do it all." - St Peter Canisius

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME

MASSES

Christmas Eve, 24 December 6.00pm - Vigil Mass
8.30pm - Vigil Mass

Christmas Day, 25 December 7.30am and 10.00am

Please note there will be NO Midnight Mass.

FIRST RITE OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

Saturday, 17th December 4.00pm - 5.15pm
Thursday, 22nd December 4.00pm - 5.15pm
Friday, 23rd December 4.00pm - 5.15pm

Confession after 9.15am Mass and anytime by appointment.

