

The Nativity of the Lord 2018

Holy Name Catholic Parish

DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

35 Billyard Avenue Wahroonga 2076

Web | www.holynamewahroonga.com.au



Welcome!

A very warm welcome to anyone visiting our parish. It is good to have you with us. If you have any questions or would like to know more about our community at Holy Name please visit our parish website at www.holynamewahroonga.com.au. We hope you enjoy your time here at Holy Name Wahroonga. Please visit us again soon.

My dear friends,

on behalf of Fr. Anselm and Deacon Adrian and myself a very Happy Christmas!

Each year the generosity of people towards us is quite remarkable and very touching. Thank you for your many gifts and good wishes this Christmas. It is a little overwhelming, and not possible to thank everyone personally for your kindness. However, know that your generosity and affection is deeply appreciated. Christmas is not just a time to give and receive gifts, but more significantly it is a time to be grateful for the gift of others in our lives. The most important gifts come wrapped, not in paper, but in persons, and this Christmas I am truly grateful for the gift that each of you is in our community of faith.

This year finishes so differently from how it started. Bishop Peter was announced as Archbishop of Melbourne on the 29 June, and was installed on 1 August. Two days later on 3 August I was elected to the service of Diocesan Administrator to lead our diocese until such time as the Holy Father appoints us a new Bishop. It has hard to believe that I have now been in this ministry for nearly 5 months. It is impossible to know how long we might wait, though it would seem most likely our waiting will extend at least into the first half of 2019. In the meantime, we have been so gifted by the presence of Fr Anselm with us. It would not be possible for me to undertake both roles as Diocesan Administrator and Parish Priest without Fr Anselm's presence with us, and on behalf of the whole community, I thank him for his gentle, caring ministry. We look forward to him being with us for well into the future. This year we have also welcomed the appointment of Deacon Adrian Gomez. Deacon Adrian has brought his many gifts to us and it is wonderful that we are celebrating this Christmas as a great team of men dedicated to the life and up-building of our parish family. I am particularly grateful to Deacon Adrian for his contribution during the time of my proposed 'sabbatical' (which never quite eventuated!) during the months of July and August.

Though every year brings its changes, your unmistakable goodness and generosity truly enliven our community. There are too many people to thank personally in such a short space. However, I take this opportunity to pay tribute to all those who, most often in very hidden ways, give life to our community: our parish office and pastoral staff and volunteers, all those associated with maintaining the beauty and order of our church through cleaning, flower display, banners; those who so diligently keep our grounds looking so attractive; our many gifted musicians and singers and ministers who lead us so faithfully and beautifully in our liturgies; those who exercise a ministry of welcome and hospitality and service to those who join us at the Eucharist; those who welcome our children at Eucharist and those who prepare our children and families for the sacraments in different ways; all those who coordinate and undertake our various parish ministries, particularly in outreach to our children at our government schools, to those who are sick in the hospitals and nursing homes in our parish, and to those less advantaged than ourselves; the leaders and members of our parish committees, especially our Parish Pastoral Council, our Parish Finance Committee, our Parish Fundraising Committee. And then, there is the army of those who have enabled us to celebrate such memorable liturgies this Christmas time. They have given of their time and expertise so generously in such diverse ways.

For the gift of everyone who makes the life of Holy Name Parish so special, this Christmas, we give humble thanks to God.

Fr David

Parish Masses This Week

Monday	24 December	No Mass	Monday of the 4th week of Advent
Tuesday	25 December	9.15am Mass	The NATIVITY of the LORD (Christmas)
Wednesday	26 December	9.15am Mass	St Stephen, the first martyr
Thursday	27 December	9.15am Mass	St John, apostle, evangelist
Friday	28 December	9.15am Mass	The Holy Innocents, martyrs
Saturday	29 December	5.00pm Mass	Vigil of the HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Sunday	30 December	9.15am and 5.30pm	The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Please Remember in your Prayers

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Charlie Deguara (husband of Sue and father to Brendan, Ben, Sam and Jared, died 20 December), Eleanor Shirley Firkins (friend of Leila and Conor McCreton, died 20 December), Ron Aboitz (nephew of Rose Planas, died in The Philippines), Paul Limbers (father of parishioners Jane Watson, Julia Burfitt, Peter and John Limbers, died 30 November), Brian Priestley (Candy Cosgriff's father, died 10 November aged 92), Joyce James (died 1 November), Elaine Kaz, Sylvia Hebblewhite (mother of Janet Fitzpatrick passed away 21 October aged 94), Brian Dunning (cousin of Leila McCreton), Cedric Wright (brother of Chris Le Gras, died 17 October),

RECENT ANNIVERSARIES:

Margaret Couch (Paul's mother) 1st anniversary on 25 December, Mario Severino (26 December), Joe DeGuara, (father of Damian, first anniversary on 19 December), Tony Coutinho (5th anniversary on 16 December), Yvonne Pickup (1st anniversary on 14 December), Neville (George) Thornton (Jackie's father in law) 1st anniversary on 15 December, Molly Goldsworthy (sister of Chris Madden, 1st anniversary 19 December), Joan McNally (mother of Greg) Barry Fields (brother of Helen Tysoe), , Terry Goldrick (Chris' father, 4th anniversary on 7 December), Marie Shortis (1st anniversary on 27 November), Frances Sim (1st anniversary on 30 November), Samir Nader (brother in law of John Kassis, 13th anniversary on 29 November), Swarna Perera (Lucian Wijetunga's sister, 1st anniversary on 14 November), Toufic Kassis (father of John Kassis, 51st anniversary on 16 November), Ron Young (father of Monica Dinnar, 2nd anniversary 5 November), Arie van der Plaats (Sandi Candotti's Dad, 3rd anniversary on 13 November), Dr Martin Flood (father of Gemma and Martin, 1st anniversary on 20 October), Joe Couch (Paul's Dad, 9th anniversary on 25 October), Melba Cincotta (Trish Maiolo's mother, 5th anniversary 23rd October), Genevieve Mangos (Granddaughter of Pam Gallagher, 7th anniversary on 20 October), Dr Anthony Lopes (brother/brother-in-law of Quinnie & Tony Machado - 4th anniversary on 19 October), John Vince (Cecilia Kean's father, 33rd anniversary on 9 October), Monica Foote (Patrice Buzinskas' Mum, 9th Anniversary on 9 October).

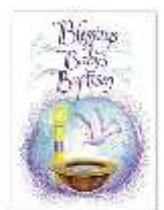
PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Mike Tighe, Margaret Woodlands, Julia Farrell, Byrant and Yvonne McGrath (brother and sister-in-law of Ves McGrath), Ina Evans, Helen McGrath (friend of Jo and Frank Waldron), Evelyn Ridings, Joseph Gilmore (grandson of Leila and Conor McCreton), Ron Phillips (Lynne Attard's Dad), Charlie Attard (Ray's brother), Nancy Portelli (Ray Attard's sister), Athol Higgins, Chris Le Gras, Mary Stanley, Hildegard McLaughlin, Barbara Dunning, Eleanor Shirley Firkins, Bryan O'Brien, Joan Dell, David Coombes, Mary Salter, Liz Rodgers (friend of the Waldrons in Melbourne), Steve Ralph, Doris Buzinskas, Christopher Anderson, Jim Clayton (Fran's father-in-law), Gus Almgren, Madeleine Ryan, Gabrielle Flood, Mary Greco (friend of Eleanor Cooray), Grant Jepson, Noeline Mannix, Madeleine Reicher (granddaughter of Patricia Cox), Philip Stanley, Thomas Nash, Donna Lucas, Andrew Watson, Ross Truda, Frances Hall, Anne Sutcliffe (Walter's wife), Helen Gait (wife of Tom), Kevin Madden (brother of Chris), Lillian Whitty, Mary Gibbs, Chad Walkaden, Noelene Burke, Eunice Spangaro, Maureen Ritchard, Martin McCreton (brother and brother in law of Conor and Leila McCreton), Margaret Hayes, baby Kendal, Reginald Broderick, Denise Waudby (Patrice Buzinskas' sister), Michael Walsh, Caoimhe Browne, Murray Howe, George Dunne, Sue Roche.



Congratulations
to the Richards Family

Arabella Patricia Jane
will be baptised on Saturday, 29th December at 11:00am



Christmas Reflection from Fr David

Dear friends,

There is a magic in every beginning, wrote the German philosopher Herman Hesse. How true this is when we experience the birth of our children, when we hold a newborn baby in our arms, when we delight in the pure wonder and sense of play evidence in young children. When we gaze upon a child we are caught intensely between an immediate experience of the present and a heightened expectation of the future.

The recovery of the 'child in us' is indeed a task that is always set before us. It is the challenge for us even in our old age when we might "blow away the chaff of many things, so as to reveal the essential wheat of our time on earth," according to Daniel O'Leary. He goes on to observe, "Our souls are always young. They have preserved, in a safe place, the fields of dreams that once lay beautifully across the landscapes of our childhood. It is in these fields, and in no other, where the seeds of our God-like beauty were first nurtured, that our eternal harvest will be reaped. We do not outgrow our childhood. We grow into it more fully as we grow older. And it is only in heaven that we will possess it completely."

It is not surprising then that for Jesus the child is the image of the gospel's invitation. Every child "represents a new beginning of life . . . original, completely incomparable" and every birth "strengthens and confirms the great hope for the victory of life" that each of us cherish deep within us even in the midst of the distortions of our life journeys, our failures, our cynicism and frustration. In every child God waits for us to stir again within us the sense of new beginnings, of fresh possibilities, of awakening hopes. The divine invitation set before us is forever to become like a child so that, no matter our circumstances, life might be born again and begin afresh. On this most holy day we dare to proclaim that God has become a child. We celebrate that God has not only emptied himself of divinity to become one of us so as to share our humanity but that God has become a child. Childhood remains in God eternally. For God is an eternal beginning, an infinite possibility, an unquenchable awakening, pure presence. And if this be so, then, as we gaze upon the Divine Child at Bethlehem, we can let go of life's dead ends. We can see beyond the apparent blockages created by our failures and mistakes. We can glimpse beyond the stifling messages that we have received about ourselves. We can break open the tomb of our hurts and our bitterness. We can break open the numbness created by our fear of imagination. We can breathe again, weep again, laugh again, love again. The child within us, ever open to the dawning fullness of life, can be born again and stretch out into the future once more.

Parish Notes

The Parish Office will be closed from
26th December 2018 to
7th January 2019.



Jackie will be on leave until Monday, 21st January. The answering machine will be checked regularly should you wish to leave a message.

Fr David will be away from the Parish from the 30th December for several weeks, though returning each weekend. Fr Anselam will be present attending to the pastoral needs of our community during this time. Deacon Adrian leaves for World Youth Day in Panama on 16 January, returning on 30 January.

A Christmas Prayer for Children

Gentle Jesus born today In a manger filled with hay. We your Christmas children be. Help us now your love to see. Gentle Jesus, come today Be our shepherd, Lord we pray. Gentle Jesus, come this hour Fill us with your love and power. You fell asleep in Mary's arm God kept you safe from all alarm. Gentle Jesus come today Be our shepherd now we pray. Amen



Parish Diary in the Coming Week

Monday	24 December	4.30pm	Children's Carols
		5.00pm	Children's Mass
		7.30pm	Christmas Vigil Mass with Parish Schola singing
		11.30pm	Carols
		Midnight	Mass - Traditional Gregorian Mass by Candlelight (bring small torch)
Tuesday	25 December	9.15am	Christmas Mass with Pop Up Choir
Thursday	27 December	11.00am	Funeral Mass for Charlie Deguara

Parish Contact Information and Mass Times

Parish Priest	Fr David Ranson	david.ranson@bbcatholic.org.au
Assistant Priest	Fr Anselam Lakra	anselam.lakra@bbcatholic.org.au
Deacon	Rev. Adrian Gomez	adrian.gomez@bbcatholic.org.au
Parish Secretary	Mrs. Jackie Thornton	secretary@holynamewahroonga.com.au
Sacramental Coordinator	Mrs. Sally Oong	sacrament@holynamewahroonga.com.au
Office Hours	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8.30am—5pm	
Phone	(02) 9489 3221	
Postal Address	P O Box 385 Wahroonga NSW 2076	
Prouille School	5 Water Street Wahroonga NSW 2076	
School Principal	Mrs. Susan Bevan	
Phone	(02) 9489 3233	
School Website	www.prouilledbb.catholic.edu.au	
Sacristan and Co-ordinator Altar Society	Mrs. Rosalie Talty	
CCD Coordinator	Mrs. Cecilia Kean	
Eucharist Ministry to the Sick Coordinators	Mr. John Boswell; Mr. Chris Madden; Mr. Paul Sutherland (Housebound)	
Weekend Ministries Co-ordinator	Mr Chris Goldrick cgoldrick@optusnet.com.au 0450 963 596	

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 5.00pm

Sunday 9.15am and 5.30pm.

Mass on Tuesday to Friday: 9.15am

Rosary after Mass on Tuesday

Morning Tea after Mass on Wednesday

Special Intercessions/intentions remembered at Friday Mass.

Friday evening: Holy Hour from 7.00pm (not in January)

Mass is also celebrated:

Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara: Monday 9.30am

St Leo's College: Friday 12.55pm during school terms

Eucharistic Adoration is available in the Aquinas Chapel:

Tuesdays and Fridays from 10.00am – 6.00pm

(Vespers with Dominican Lay Chapter 3.00pm on 2nd Sunday)

Baptism:

Every second and fourth Sunday of the month at 11.00am.
Please make an appointment through the Parish Office

Marriage:

By appointment, at least six months in advance.

Sick Calls:

Any time day or night.

Please call 0408 350 885 out of office hours

Confessions:

Saturday 11.30am or by appointment

Sacrament of Anointing:

Last Thursday of the month following the 9.15am Mass
At Hammond Care, North Turrumurra monthly

Parish Pastoral Council in 2019

Gemma McDermott, Tom Waugh, Lucian Wijetunga, Giovanna Flores-Clarke, Ian Edmunds, Samantha Vieira, Chrissie Goldrick, Tess Denham-Fabry, along with Sue Bevan (Prouille) and Vanessa Dillon (St Lucy's) and Terry O'Keefe (St Edmunds)

Parish Finance Committee in 2019

Marinela Mendes, Tony Monardo, Brian McGarry, Robyn Elizondo, Tim Quilty

Parish Fundraising Committee 2018

Noel Kean (Chair), Meredith Baume, Anthony Weaver, Lyn Saul, Sonia Carbone, Ian Edmunds, James Toomey

Thank you for your financial contribution to the support of our Parish Community and its priests—it is very much appreciated.

- The 1st Collection taken up at Mass goes to the Clergy Remuneration Fund for the financial support of the priests.
- The 2nd Collection taken up at Mass is for the upkeep of the Parish.

We invite you to help our Parish by committing to a Planned Giving scheme. Please see the parish office for the way you can participate in this. Another way to assist our parish is to consider a gift in your will. Your gift of any size will help our parish continue our good works & outreach. Please contact the parish office for a confidential discussion or more information.

(Alternatively see the "giving" pages at www.dbb.org.au)

Donation by Electronic Transfer

Wahroonga Catholic Parish Account BSB: 062-784 Account No: 1389 8001 CBA- 48 Martin Place, Sydney

EFTPOS Available in Parish Office

Do be sure to take a copy home of "Our Sunday Celebration" available at the entrances to our church.

Inside there is much wonderful reading for our spiritual nourishment.

Would you like to receive our Parish Bulletin by email? Please contact our Parish Secretary
secretary@holynamewahroonga.com.au

Do you need a lift to Mass? Be sure to let our Parish Office know and we will seek to assist you.