Our Lady of Perpetual Succour



Catholic Parish Toukley/Lake Munmorah

St Mary's Church 458 Main Rd Noraville
St Brendan's Mass Centre 29 Carters Rd Lake Munmorah

Vision To be A Vibrant Eucharistic Community



Pastoral Team

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Augustinian Sisters of Our Lady of Consolation - Convent

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Sr. Josefa Mabini OSA Sr. Jennifer Canillas OSA

Parish Office Hours

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Sr. Jennifer Canillas PH: 0435 788 759

Sunday Parish Bus Service

Mrs Joan Haslam 4392 6892

Parish Schools St Mary's

Principal Ms Emma Sellars 7256 2143

St Brendan's

Principal Ms Charlene Reid 7256 2127

St Brigid's College

Principal Mr Adam Murdoch 7256 2122

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C **15th December, 2024**



Gospel Reflection WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

The crowds asked John a question: "What should we do?" Like people in every age, they were beset with fear, anxiety, and discouragement. Today's Scripture readings give us a clear, precise, and practical answer: "Shout for joy . . . exult with all your heart! Have no fear... be not discouraged!" (Zephaniah 3) Paul tells us: "Rejoice in the Lord always! Dismiss all anxiety from your minds. Then God's own peace will stand guard over your hearts and minds." (Phil.: 4). John the Baptist answers very specifically in a different vein: "Give to him who has nothing; exact nothing unjustly; do not bully anyone; be content with your pay." (Luke: 3)

The Lord is in our midst. This is not "fake news" but rather it is "Good News!" It is the one reality that can answer all our needs and dispel all our fears. But first we have to believe! We have to make ourselves aware of God's presence all the time. If we can do this then everything can change - for the better. We will then see and feel His presence in all of the ordinary events and circumstances of every day. We will then experience His pain and sorrow in the suffering of our brothers and sisters. So, what should we do?

We must do deeds that reflect what we have received and what we believe. Our presence in the world must proclaim to all that the Lord indeed is in our midst. Our lives must mirror His life. We must become the same miracles of love, healing and reconciliation to all of our brothers and sisters. Our goodness and compassion must touch those who are blind and deaf to the Lord. Our mercy and acts of service must free those who are crippled by pride and hate.

During this time, we must banish fear and be the source of strength and courage to those around us. In answer to our Advent prayer: "What should we do? The answer is abundantly clear: "Rejoice! The Lord is in your midst! God's own peace will stand guard over your hearts."

Fr. Baby

WEEK<u>END MASS TIMES</u>

St Mary's Church Toukley

Saturday: Vigil 6:00pm Fr Tomy Sunday: 7:30am Fr Tomy

> 9:00am Fr Tomy 6:00pm Fr Baby

Children's Liturgy 1st & 3rd Sunday at 9:00am Mass (except school holidays)

St Brendan's Church Lake Munmorah

Saturday: Vigil 5:00pm Fr Baby 8:00am Sunday: Fr Baby

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

St Mary's Church Toukley

Monday 9:00 am Tuesday 9:00 am Wednesday 9:00 am Thursday 9:00 am

Friday 9:15am (Except 1st Friday of Month)

First Friday of Month Anointing of Sick

11:00am

Saturday 9:00 am

St Brendan's Church Lake Munmorah

Wednesday 9:00am

First Wednesday of Month Anointing of Sick

Thursday 9:00am

EXPOSITION BLESSED SACRAMENT

St Mary's Church Toukley

Every Saturday – after Morning Mass

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St Mary's Toukley

Saturday 9.30am -10am (by appointment other times)

St Brendan's Lake Munmorah

Saturday 4:30 -5:00pm

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

St Mary's Toukley

8:20 am Monday to Thursday & Saturday 8:45 am Friday

First Friday Night Vigil

Exposition after 7pm Mass until 12.30am

Children's Liturgy

1st & 3rd Sundays 9am at St Mary's 1st Saturday 5pm at St Brendan's



We welcome all of our parishioners and visitors We welcome an or our pursuant who have joined us for the celebration of Holy Eucharist this weekend.

Parish events - Save the Date:

Mon 16th Dec: Prayers & Carols at St Mary's 6pm Thurs 19th Dec: Lectio Divina 5pm at the Parish Centre.

Tues 24th Dec: Children's Christmas Mass 6pm St Mary's and

5pm St Brendan's

PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON:

Mon 16th, Tues 17th & Wed 18th December and all public holidays being Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New **Years Day**

Bus Drivers Needed!! We are in need of drivers to drive the Parish Bus on Sunday mornings. You need the correct commercial license and it's a manual bus. To do this requires approx. 4 hours on a Sunday morning to pick up and drop off Parishioners before and after Mass. Please call the Parish office if you can help.



Parish Christmas Carols & Prayer Evening St Mary's Monday 16th Dec 6pm - All are invited to come together at St Mary's on Monday 16th Dec at 6pm for a beauti-If the first of carols and prayers. Please spread the word and invite family & friends.

Advertisement Space Available in weekly Bulletin - If you would like to advertise your business in our weekly Parish Bulletin, please contact the Parish office for details. We would like to thank Doug and Helen Cashin and their family for supporting our Parish for many years. Thank you so much!

Annual Christmas Crib Event - The theme for this years Crib will be "Jesus light of the world" and Star. Families or individuals who would like to sponsor the crib this year, please let the Priests or Parish office know.



Thanksgiving Prayer

Dear Heart of Jesus, In the past I have asked for many favours! This time I ask you this very special one! Here pray for your intention! Take it dear Jesus & place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it! Then in your merciful eyes, it will become your favour, not mine! Amen

Christmas Mass Times

St Mary's Toukley Christmas Eve 6pm including Children's Nativity Carols 11.30pm & Midnight Mass Christmas Day 7.30am & 9am

St Brendan's Lake Munmorah Christmas Eve 5pm Vigil and Children's Nativity Christmas Day 8am





<u>Thank you - Renewal of Vows -</u> We thank everyone who came along to share our Renewal of Vows at Mass last Sunday and we are grateful to all who supported our CFIC special collection earlier in the year. Fr Tomy, Fr Baby & Fr Joshi. And thanks to all who organised morning tea.



<u>St Vincent De Paul Giving Tree</u> - The Vinnies Christmas tree is now up in St Mary's Church. Please donate gift cards only, no toys.

<u>Fr Baby holidays & Long Service Leave -</u> Fr Baby will be taking a well-deserved break from 30th December until 26th of February. We wish him safe travels and we hope he enjoys this special time with his family. There will be Communion only at St Brendan's on Wednesdays and St Mary's on Thursdays while Fr Baby is on annual leave.



Baptism Welcome and Congratulations

We have had many baptisms at St Mary's and St Brendan's churches over the last 2 months. Congratulations to the McMahon, Albanese, Bone, Bulmer, Wilson, Ledger, Welling, Cook, Thorn, Thomas, Castro, Dietze, Gustard, Hanrahan, Legge & Langton families. May God's blessings be upon you and welcome to your Parish community.



<u>Thank you to all Volunteers</u> - Thank you to all of our Parish volunteers for everything you do in our church community and to everyone who helped with the Volunteer Mass and BBQ.

<u>First Friday in January 2025 -</u> There will be **no anointing Mass** in January. Our usual Mass will be at 9.15am on the **3rd January**.

<u>Sacramental Preparation</u> - <u>Kathleen, Amira, Zara, Ella, & Mia</u> have completed their sacramental class with Alison. This Sunday they will receive a special blessings during 9am Mass at St. Mary's. Next week they will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, please include them in your prayers.

<u>Lectio Divina</u> - Join us on Thu, 19th Dec at 5pm at the Parish Centre to Break Open the Word and reflect on the coming Sunday's Gospel. We are using the Advent booklet provided by the Diocese.

<u>Children's Christmas Presentation</u> - Please see our Notice Board and scan the QR Code if your child/ren are interested to join on different roles. **St. Brendan's** - final preparation 16th Dec 3pm and look for Alli or Victoria. St. Mary's- general practice 21st Dec at 10:30 to 12pm. Otherwise, come on 24th Dec and dress up like an angel or one of the shepherds or sheep, just be at the church as early as 5:30pm and look for Sr. Jennifer.

<u>St Mary's Working Bee -</u> The Parish would like to thank the working bee volunteers at St Mary's for cleaning and decorating our Church in the Spirit of the 3rd Sun of Advent which is JOY, anticipating the birth of our Lord Jesus. Thank you for sharing your time and effort it was greatly appreciated.

Mackay Family Funerals

In Association with Mackay Family Crematorium A.B.N. 79 085 423 589

Head Office: 249 Pacific Highway West, Ourimbah 2258 PO Box 89 Ourimbah NSW 2258. Phone: (02) 4362 2733 Fax: (02) 4362 2899 Please pray for those who have died and those who are sick Recently Deceased:



Joyce Walker, Fr. Michael O'Toole, Dallas Reichel, Joan MacDonald & Joe Bridgett

Anniversaries: Glen O'Connor, John Dormer, Denis Newey, Cecilia Samaniego, Edna Bath, Lorraine Anderson, Doreen Goonan, Wayne Puckeridge, Vicky Debono, Isabel Ridgewell, Kathleen Nolan & John Glennen

Remembrances: Marie O'Keefe, Stephens Cappa, Margie Hamer, Valmai Joseph & Stark Family & Wendy Woodhouse

Please Pray for the Sick: Kevin Roy, Judy Batson, Kathy Casey, Elaine Horton, Jane, Allen, Helen Sewell, Liz Kelman, Lacey, Chelsea Brame, Nicholas Sheehy, Nicholas Brien, Hunter Peter De Lacy Peek, Patrick Hobson, Rita Edge, Jessica & Lee Abott, Baby Nora, Denis Tansey, Joy Hemera, Lucky Bowen, Sergio, Maxwell, Nacua Sedicol, Sue Reardon, Rita, Sandra Turl, Mia & Johanna Harries, Ana das Gracas, Zona Kable, Elaine Horton, Jose Adelino, Barry Egan, Rose Booth, Suzanne Webb, Judy Kay, Ray Crocker, Patricia, Warren Pope, Elaine Scrivener, John Stuart, Stefano & Paolo Macchi, Stephen Jeffrie, Paul Mizzi, George, Finn McConnon, Sylvia Hudson, Bill O'Keefe, Michelle Maroon, Mick G & Robbie Depares

December Birthdays

Lily Ng (Dec)
Isabel Fiedler (6th Dec)
Melba Voigt (10th Dec)
Christopher Crocker (12th Dec)
Richard Firth (12th Dec)
Charlie Saliba (17th Dec)
Paul Moir (20th Dec)
Yvonne Griffin (23rd Dec)
Kye Sutherland (26th Dec)
Emily Bridgett (27th Dec)





Pope Francis' December Intention For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.



Volunteer Angels

Male & Female

Do you have a caring heart & time to become a friend to a lonely person in an Aged Care Facility Please call Anne-Marie 4396 1555

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Isaiah 12:2-6 R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear. For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. R.

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name! Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples! Declare the greatness of his name. R.

Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds, make them known to all the earth!

People of Zion, sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. R.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians *The Lord is near*

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer

and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Isaiah 61:1

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

Gospel Luke 3:10-18
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke What, then, must we do?

When all the people asked John. 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



Next Sunday - Fourth Sunday of Advent Year C

First Reading: Micah 5:1- 4 Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel: Luke 1:39-44

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