



St Patrick's Parish Gosford

The Communities of St Patrick's East Gosford,
St Francis of Assisi Somersby & Holy Trinity Spencer
Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.



WELCOME TO OUR YEAR OF LOVE

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

A Time of Hope, Joy and Promise Advent is a time of reflection and promise. It opens up a new cycle of the Liturgical Year and turns our minds to prepare for the coming of the Lord, not only the birth of Christ but his coming at the end of all time. In this season the prophets offer us a vision of the future and call us to look at our lives and recognise our need for God. John the Baptist challenges us, pointing to the anointed one and his promise of a kingdom of justice and peace. In the final week, Mary, the pregnant mother, is presented as the model of discipleship. This time of preparation is like no other; its tone is one of joyful expectation which springs from our desire to be ready to meet Christ when he comes. Advent, then, is a time of hope, joy and promise. Advent provides us with the assurance that Christ will indeed come again. We are also reminded that the renewal of the world has already begun. Christ is among us now; we are already a redeemed people. The Church lives between Christ's coming in the flesh and his cosmic presence at the end of time. Advent brings into focus that we live our lives working towards a kingdom of a new heaven and a new earth and await the final coming of Christ in glory. The twofold character of Advent helps us to prepare not only for the coming of Christ at Christmas but also this second coming of Christ. It will be at a time that we do not know or expect. As people of faith we possess hope but we do not always see it. Our lives must be lived in readiness. Advent and the Liturgical Year as we begin the new A Cycle of the Liturgical Year, the four weeks of Advent focus us on the coming of the Lord. We ponder not only the incarnation but also the end of the world. We are mindful that these two events frame the whole mystery of Christ: his coming among us, his death and resurrection into glory. More than a timeline of monthly observances, the seasons of the Liturgical Year are expressions of this central mystery of our faith in Christ Jesus.

- Advent prepares for the coming of Christ
- Christmas celebrates the coming of Jesus among us, the Incarnation and our faithful response
- Lent is a penitential season preparing us for Easter and initiation
- Holy Week celebrates Christ's suffering and death
- Easter (and every Sunday) celebrates Christ's resurrection
- Ordinary Time celebrates and explores discipleship
- Advent celebrates the promise of Christ's coming again for all time God's time is eternal

MAT 3 :1 - 12

Stay awake, you must be ready.



The liturgical seasons provide a human context for a reflection on these mysteries in all their richness. Advent is an important expression of aspects of this mystery. It is of note that the emphasis at the beginning of Advent on the second coming has already been evident in the weeks leading up to Advent. The last Sundays of Ordinary Time are associated with Christ's coming at the end of time, culminating in the Solemnity of Christ the Universal King. Blessing of an Advent Wreath The Book of Blessings is a collection of more than 70 ritual prayers that are suitable for a variety of needs and occasions. In these rites all aspects of life are made holy and directed to the glory of God, for God is the source of all goodness. Chapter 47 of the Book of Blessings contains the Rite of Blessing of an Advent Wreath. It can take place during Mass, within a celebration of the Word, or as a stand alone short rite. Visit LiturgyHelp to view the Book of Blessings. The time of Advent is the four week period of preparation for the season of Christmas. Advent begins the cycle of the Liturgical Year and focuses on the coming of the Lord. The first weeks offer a vision of the future, looking to the end of time when Christ will come again. The final weeks point more specifically to the birth of Christ. Christ, the promised one, is awaited with joyful expectation. The First Sunday of Advent follows the final Sunday of Ordinary Time and the season concludes on Christmas Eve. Special considerations for Sunday Masses in Advent include the advent wreath and lighting of the candles each week and also the omission of the Gloria.



FR FRANCIS JORDAN SDS

"You must have a mutual love that comes from God, which is rooted in virtue, which doesn't seek itself, and therefore comes from God"

Jt 1897/11/19



POPE FRANCIS' DECEMBER 2019 INTENTION

The Future of the Very Young

That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

A warm welcome to our parishioners and visitors who are celebrating the Eucharist with us this weekend at St Patrick's Parish.

76 York St East Gosford NSW 2250

Tel: 4325-1042 ♦ email: patsgos@acs.net.au ♦ Web: www.bbcatholic.org.au/gosford



ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD

PASTORAL CARE

Fr Grzegorz [Greg] Skulski SDS

Parish Priest

Email: greg@sds.org.au

Paul Tran SDS

Deacon:

SALVATORIANS

Society of the Divine Saviour

<http://www.sds.org.au>

PARISH OFFICE

Secretary:

Colleen Kirk Mon - Thurs: 8:30am - 4:30pm

Friday: 8:30am - 1:00pm

Bursar: Darren Fitzgibbon

Sacramental Programme

Coordinator: Frances Mathey

Email: franceshanna@yahoo.com Ph: 0427 773 317

Catechists' Coordinator: Alain Corne

Email: saintpatsccd@acs.net.au

Wed: 9:00am - 1:00pm

Thurs: 9:30am - 1:30pm

Youth Ministry: Matthew French
Ph: 0411 792 587

Media Coordinator: Tom Croll

Thursday: 9:00am - 2:00pm

Email: tcroll@photom.com.au

VOLUNTEER ROLES

Office Admin:

Denise Jay

Judith Myers

Maria Andrzejewska

9:00am - 3:30pm

Friday:

AV Presentation:

Peter McLean

Greg McBride

Ron Begg

John Malicki

Caretakers:

Gardeners:

Trevor Byrne

Joyce Byrne

Victor Camilleri

Barbara McCarthy

Ph: 4322 0250

Seniors' Ministry:

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Hilary Pope

If you see any activities involving children or vulnerable adults that worries you, please email Hilary Pope, our Safeguarding Officer on

hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au

School Principals

St Patrick's Primary: Mrs Cheryl Walsh 4325 1159

St Joseph's College: Mr Tony McCudden 4324 4022

St Edwards College: Mr Mark Bonnici 4321 6400

St Peter's College: Mr Tim Hilderbrandt 43512344

Christian Brothers' Community

Frederick Street, East Gosford

Br Peter Hester cfc [Community Leader]

Br Rod Shoebridge cfc

MONDAY, DEC 2 - LECTIO DIVINA

In the Jordan Room after 9:00 am Mass.

Why not come into the Jordan Room after Mass this Monday and experience the spirituality of Lectio Divina?

CHURCH OPEN DAILY 8:30AM - 4:30PM.

STANDARD WEEKDAY MASSES

Gosford:

Monday: 9:00am Wednesday: 11:30am Friday: 12 noon

Tuesday: 9:00am Thursday: 9:00am Saturday: 9:00am

WEEKEND MASSES

Gosford:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm Sunday: 7:30am Children's Liturgy: 9:00am During 9:00am Mass
6:00pm Each Sunday of School Term.

Somersby, 30 Lutana Road: Saturday Vigil: 6:30pm

Spencer, Wiseman's Ferry Rd: 2nd Sunday Monthly: 4:00pm

OTHER MASSES

Filipino Mass 2nd

Korean Mass Monthly:

Sunday Monthly:

[Enq: Peter 0409-

12 noon

508-123] 6:00pm

ADORATION IN OUR CHURCH

Before the Blessed Sacrament

Mon: 8:30am - 9:00am Wed: 11:00am - 11:30am Fri: 12:30pm - 3:00pm

Tues: 8:30am - 9:00am Thur: 8:30am - 9:00am Sat: 8:00am

RECONCILIATION - 1ST RITE

Gosford:

Mon-Thur:

during Adoration - see above.

1st Friday of Month

Prior to Mass 11:30am

Other Fridays

After Mass 12:30pm

Saturday:

8:30am and 4:30pm.

Sunday:

7:00am and 5:30pm

St Francis of Assisi 30 Lutana Road, Somersby:

Saturday after Vigil: 7:30pm

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

After weekday Masses to 3:00pm and to 1:00pm Fridays.

ROSARIES

Weekday

Monday, Tuesday Thursday 8:05am

Wednesday 10:35am

Friday 11:35am

Saturdays Monthly

8:05am: 1st - For Priests & Religious.

8:05am 3rd Saturday - For Mothers & Abortion.

8:05am 4th Saturday - For Persecuted

Christians and their Persecutors.

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

Last Wednesday of each Month at 12 noon

ADORATION AT BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL

Located on Chapel Lane at the Admin Centre

Monday to Thursday 8:30am - 3:30pm

Friday 9:00am - 3:30pm

GROUP MEETINGS

Bible Study Lectio Divina / Christian Unity / Christian DVD:

Mondays at 9:30am twice monthly,

Wednesday at 10:00am in the Jordan Room.

Bible Study Monday Night

7:00pm in the Jordan Room.

RCIA: in Admin Centre 7:30pm Tuesdays.

Contact the Parish Office to register interest.

menALIVE:

7:30pm commencing with Mass

1st Tuesday of Month

Cancer Prayers:

9:00am 4th Tuesday Monthly

in Jordan Room

Grief & Loss, Prayer & Support:

1st Thursday Monthly 2pm in Jordan Room

Craft Group - Friday each week of School Term

9:30am - 12:00pm

Movie Night 4th Sat Night Monthly after 5:00pm Mass.

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE SHOP

After 9:00am Mass in the Jordan Room.

All proceeds to Charities



IN YOUR PARISH OF ST PATRICK'S THIS WEEK

Sunday Dec 1	7:30am 9:00am 10:00am 10:30am 6:00pm 7:00pm	Mass with Breakfast afterward in the Jordan room Mass including Baptism Presentation Breakfast after Mass in the Jordan room Baptism Youth Mass including Youth commissioning for ACYF Youth Group meeting in J/Room
Monday Dec 2	8:30am 9:00am 9:30am 7:00pm	Adoration. Mass. Advent Lectio Divina prayer group in the Jordan Room Bible Study in Jordan Room.
Tuesday Dec 3	8:30am 9:00am 7:00pm	Adoration. Mass. Mass for Men Alive with meeting afterwards in Jordan room
Wednesday Dec 4	11:00am 11:30am 12:00noon	Adoration. Mass. OLPH Novena
Thursday Dec 5	9:00am	Communion Service.
Friday Dec 6	12:00am 12:30pm	Mass Adoration in St Patrick's from 12:30 to 3:00pm
Saturday Dec 7	8:30am 9:00am 10:15am 5:00pm 6:30pm	Adoration. Mass Choir Practise in Church. Vigil Mass Gosford Vigil Mass Somersby
Sunday Dec 8	7:30am 9:00am 6:00pm	Mass Mass Mass

KIDS CORNER PINT SIZED PADDIES

**NEXT EVENT IS FRIDAY, DEC 13.
THE LAST EVENT THIS YEAR.**

In the School Hall 7:00 pm on 2nd and 4th Friday of each Month. Parents of Primary School Children contact Melissa Monaghan and book your youngsters in for a few hours of fun in a spiritual environment. Enquiries to Melissa 0434 251 481

ST PATRICK'S PARISH YOUTH GROUP

YOUTH GROUP MEETING

Tonight, Fr Greg will be commissioning our youth during Mass in preparation for their pilgrimage to Perth and the Australian Youth Festival next weekend.

The youth will meet after 6:00 pm Mass in the Jordan Room.

ANNIVERSARY BLESSING.

Jason and Marisa Xuereb were Married on 27th November 1999 at St John's Catholic Church Riverstone. Fr Greg will bless their marriage at the Somersby Mass on 30/11/19 .

MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY GROUP

7:00pm in the Jordan Room, all are welcome.

GIVING TUESDAY: DECEMBER 3, 2019 – AND WE SAY 'THANK YOU'!

Giving Tuesday started as a global fundraising movement in the USA in 2012. Still, we see giving as more than financial, though we are always deeply appreciative of financial support! We are taking this opportunity to say THANK YOU. To EVERYONE who, in our parish gives financially, gives time, talents, your love and support of this community and its clergy, or who comes in worship each weekend. You all contribute to making St Patrick's the thriving, flourishing parish it is today.

PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

MENALIVE IN GOSFORD PARISH

The next meeting of menALIVE will commence with Mass at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 3 and we especially invite all men who are interested in coming along as we will have a speaker from the Catenians present. Catenians are an association of Catholic laymen who are committed to their Faith, their families, to those in need and each other. Their primary purpose is to establish a network of friends, which enhances their family life, strengthens their Faith and sustains them in difficult times.

MINISTRY TO THE SENIORS' CHRISTMAS BUS TRIP

Wednesday December 11, departing at 9am from Victoria StreetCome, enjoy a trip to the Royal Motor Yacht Club at Toronto for lunch.

Morning tea provided. Lunch at your own cost.

\$15 only. Please RSVP to Barbara on 4322 0250 by Friday December 6.

VOLUNTEERS' THANKSGIVING MASS & DINNER

We had 80 of our wonderful volunteers attend the Mass and dinner last Tuesday evening, and we would like to thank the event helpers, especially Alain Corne and Peter McLean, as well as Fr Greg whose emceeing skills provided a night of song and dance! We have so many dedicated volunteers at St Pat's and hopefully next year we will be able to show more of you our deep appreciation for your time and talents.

THIS WEEK OUR YOUTH ARE OFF TO THE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL IN PERTH!

Your generous financial support of the 20 youth from our

parish [within the 40 Salvatorian youth from the East Coast] sees them winging off to Perth this week for an intensive spirituality and renovation festival with Fr Greg as Youth Coordinator! This parish managed to raise the \$11,000 required to support them and they send you their deepest gratitude, whilst we send them off with our prayers and our love.

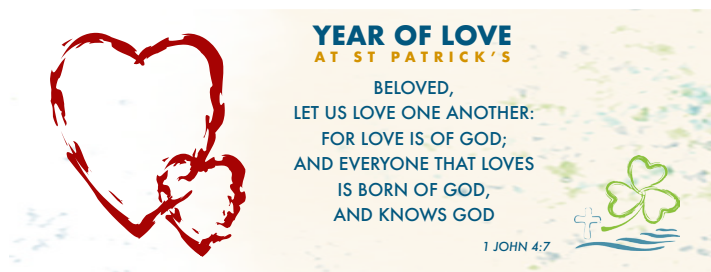
CATECHIST CORNER

Our catechist team has had a hectic week with combined Christmas Assemblies at five of the State schools in our Parish area. On these occasions, all students enrolled in Special Religious Education (SRE), Catholic and Protestant alike, come together to celebrate the occasion. There will be three more Assemblies next week in the Mountains area and then it will be the end of SRE lessons for the 2019 year.

It is a delight watching the children respond to the various portrayals of the Christmas story. This year there were three different approaches. At two schools, Y9 students from St Phillips Christian College lead the Assembly with a Nativity play, a "true/false" game and carols. At another two schools, two presenters from Quiz Worx Kids' Ministry delivered the message "Jesus is a real person who lived in a real time, in a real place, for a real reason". And finally, at the other schools, the SRE teachers and children themselves organized and participated in the Assembly with Bible readings, video clips, carols and group prayer.

Perhaps the joy of these occasions is God's way of saying thank you to the catechists for "a job well done". You too can join our catechist team to spread the Good News to the 400 or so Catholic children in our State schools.

For more details pick up a yellow pamphlet from near the Church doors, speak to a member of the team, call Alain (0414273654) or the Parish office. We would love to have you join us.



DEAR PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS!

Another calendar year is fast coming to a close, and as a Church we begin our new liturgical year with the start of Advent. I invite you at this time to take a moment to reflect on the past year, and also to open yourselves to new possibilities in both your personal spiritual life, as well as our common spiritual life as a parish.

Each year that I am here as parish priest I would like to provide some universal guidance for this important reflection by introducing a new annual theme. When I arrived to the parish in February, I announced a Year of Trust. Over the last few months, we have had a special opportunity to reflect on, learn and renew our trust in God, in the Church and in others that are around us. We hosted different priests and guest speakers to help us further our understanding of trust. In almost every parish bulletin we have had a reflection or a prayer for trust. Year of Trust candles with a beautiful prayer for trust attached were available to purchase and take to our homes and share with others. Those of us who wanted to use this opportunity to reflect on Trust had many opportunities to do so. It is my hope that this year of trust helped many of you to trust more than before and to open your hearts for the next step in your spiritual life.

As we continue our faith journey together at St Patrick's community I would like to announce a different theme for this new liturgical year which we begin today! The next step after we learn how to trust is to love. This is why, together with the parish pastoral council, I have decided to launch the YEAR OF LOVE in our parish!

The theme for this year will be based on a fragment of 1 John 4:7 "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loves is born of God, and knows God."

In the YEAR OF LOVE I would like to invite all of us to reflect on love in the same way as we did with trust. We will reflect on how to love God, His Church and one another. This will be an opportunity for different generations in our community to reflect on love, to learn how to love with a pure heart and how to renew our love. During this year I will once again invite different guest speakers and in the parish bulletin we will have a different reflections and prayers for love. We will also organise different events and prayer times to help us all better understand love as well.

Love is not all hearts and flowers or what is presented in a sappy romantic film, Pope Francis said.

- "Love is something else. Love is taking responsibility for others."
- "Love isn't playing violins, all romantic," the pope said in his homily at Mass. "No. Love is work."
- "Do I remain in the Lord's love? Or do I leave it, seeking other things, forms of fun, other ways of leading my life?" the pope told them to ask. "To remain in his love is to do what Jesus did for us. He gave his life for us. He was our servant; he came to serve. The love Christians are called to show others is not something that should be occasional "but must be a constant in our existence."
- "This is why we are called, for example, to care for the elderly as a precious treasure and with love, even if they create economic problems and difficulties. But we must care for them... This is why we must give every assistance possible to the sick, even at the last stages. This is why the unborn always must be welcomed."
- "Life always must be safeguarded and loved from conception to its natural end... This is love."

With this short reflection of Pope Francis I would like to encourage you to start this journey of love together so we as St Patrick's Parish community will grow in our understanding of love and share it with one another. I would also like to invite the three local schools, St Joseph's, St Edward's and St Patrick's, to join us and reflect on love together, building a whole community in our area founded on Christ who is love, and learn from him how to share and reach out with love to others in our parish and school communities.

Let us pray together that we all will be filled with God's love and will share it with one other!

God bless

Fr Greg Skulski SDS

Parish Priest

ARE YOU ALONE ON CHRISTMAS DAY?

Don't eat your lunch alone, come and join us at our Christmas Lunch starting at 11.30am at St Patrick's Hall.

You bring yourselves, and we'll bring the food and the fun! We look forward to seeing you there, or perhaps you know someone who should come along too?

There's a sheet in the foyer on which to RSVP for catering.

If any parishioners would care to donate funds towards catering, they would be gratefully received. Gifts of food etc are difficult to handle and anticipate therefore we find less wastage if we use the cash to buy the goods we know we will need.

Thank you.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ALL CHRISTMAS MASSES

Traditionally our Christmas Masses are beautiful liturgies in celebration of the birth of our saviour and are enhanced by the exceptional level of involvement by our ministries. We are hoping for that same level of support this year. We have placed a sheet in the sacristy on which readers, commentators, altar servers and A/V people may nominate their preferred Mass/es, and we look forward to and thank you in anticipation of your usual support.

Please note that finalising the roster will need to be by the week of December 14/15.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S MASS AT ST PATRICK'S

It's going to be held outdoors on the infant's campus.

Kelly Paget is looking for children to do the nativity play.

Contact Kelly on 0423 338 136

Jane is looking for children to do the readings/prayers of the faithful, offertory, collections, altar service etc.

Contact Jane on 0417 660 078

BAPTISM PRESENTATIONS THIS WEEKEND:

We welcome Lennox James Cameron and parents Samantha & Andrew who will be presenting Lennox to his new faith family prior to his upcoming baptism.

SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Each year during Advent each Parish celebrates the 2nd Rite of Reconciliation which is a way all Catholics can participate in the Rite of Reconciliation.

- 18/12/2019 at St John the Baptist Woy Woy, 7:00 – 7:30 pm
- 19/12/2019 at St Patrick's Gosford, 7:00 – 7:30 pm
- 20/12/2019 at Our Lady of the Rosary Wyoming, 7:00 – 7:30 pm
- 23/12/2019 at Holy Cross Kincumber, 7:00 – 7:30 pm

OUR CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE

As there will be a few changes this year, we thought it best to get in early so that you can be aware, and spread the word!

We are breaking with the tradition of Mass at St Edward's and trying to make this a very festive and memorable occasion for the children. More info coming soon.

CHRISTMAS EVE AT ST PATRICK'S

5:00 pm Children's Outdoor Mass on the grounds of St Patrick's Primary School's Melbourne St Campus.

9:00 pm Youth Mass

Join us for Port and Christmas cake after mass

12:00 - Midnight Mass

Join us for Port and Christmas cake after mass

CHRISTMAS EVE AT ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, SOMERSBY

6:00 pm [**NOTE TIME CHANGE**]

CHRISTMAS DAY AT ST PATRICK'S

7:30 am

9:00 am

No evening Mass.

CHRISTMAS CANDLES ON SALE

So many of you loved our Year of Trust candles we have produced a Christmas Candle and Prayer for you to light and pray each day during Advent!

Or perhaps they may make the perfect Christmas gift for someone?

On sale from today, only \$20 and all funds raised support this parish.



SALVATORIAN FOUNDATION DAY ANNIVERSARY

FOUNDED 8TH DECEMBER 1881

Over the years, our Salvatorian Family has enhanced the significance of our December 8th Foundation Day with a number of "firsts." On December 8:

- 1881 Father Francis Jordan founded the Salvatorians (formerly Apostolic Teaching Society) in Rome.
- 1888 Mother Mary of the Apostles (now Blessed) co-founded the Sisters branch of the Salvatorians in Tivoli, Italy near Rome.
- 1914 The Society of the Divine Savior celebrated the first U.S. professions by Salvatorian Fathers and Brothers
- 1925 Mother of Good Counsel Parish was established in 90

years later, it remains a Salvatorian parish.

- 1971 First Lay members in the U.S. make commitment to the Salvatorian Family.
- Read more about our co-founders and our international congregation.
- Milwaukee. More than 90 years later, it remains a Salvatorian parish.
- 1971 First Lay members in the U.S. make commitment to the Salvatorian Family.

Read more about our co-founders and our international congregation.

<https://www.sds.org/about-us/history>

<http://www.sds.org.au/about/our-history/australia>



ST PATRICK'S CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MASS 24 DECEMBER

5:00 PM

NEW VENUE

ST PATRICK'S INFANTS SCHOOL

MELBOURNE ST EAST GOSFORD

Mass followed by:

- Animals
- Dancing
- Birthday Cake for Jesus
- Plus other activities

Bring your own chair



PARKING TOWARDS ST EDDIES OR ON VICTORIA STREET SIDE



St Patrick's Parish Fundraising Breakfasts are coming back!

Breakfast This Sunday

Join us in the Jordan room on the first Sunday of the month after the 7:30am and 9am Masses

Bacon/sausage and egg sandwich \$5
Coffee \$4 Tea \$3
Hot Choc \$4



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

CF. PS 24:1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.

In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

The Gloria in excelsis.

FIRST READING

IS 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills.

All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles.

Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war.

O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 121:1-2. 4-5. 6-9. R. SEE V.1.

(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'

And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name.

There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David.

(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray: 'Peace be to your homes!'

May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!'

(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

For love of my brethren and friends I say: 'Peace upon you!'

For love of the house of the Lord I will ask for your good.

(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

SECOND READING

ROM 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under the cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

PS 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

MT 24:37-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Stay awake, you must be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

PS 84:13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

BY DIANNE BERGANT CSA

The first reading of the first Sunday of this liturgical year contains a vision of universal peace and an invitation to participate in that peace by fidelity to the word of God. This vision of the future describes the eschatological age of complete faithfulness to God and the peace and harmony among people that will flow from it. Although the peace depicted here can come only from God, people do in fact play a very important role in its advent. Because this eschatological age has not yet come in its

fullness, this vision is a promise, and an invitation that will continue to be relevant to each succeeding generation.

The responsorial psalm, a song of Zion, is an individual hymn of joy and praise of one who had the opportunity to go to the temple in Jerusalem. The city was built on Mount Zion, a hill that towered above much of the neighbouring low-lying terrain. This not only gave it a vantage point from which one could to survey the surrounding territory, an important asset in case of possible attack, but its height enabled it to be seen from a distance, thus creating the impression of watchfulness and protection. Peace, as spoken of here, incorporates more than the absence of war or strife. It includes prosperity, well-being, and completeness. It is for this peace that the psalmist requests prayer.

Paul speaks about the decisive time of fulfilment, the *kairós*, the period of transition from the present age of sin to the long-awaited age of fulfilment. He employs several images to characterise this division of time: 'this age' is like slumber, or night and darkness; 'the age to come' is like wakefulness, or day and light. The statement 'already but not yet' acknowledges that the age of fulfilment has already dawned, but it has not yet been brought to completion. The new life that Christians are called to live is characterised as putting on clothing – armour, because they face spiritual warfare. To 'put on the Lord Jesus Christ' means to become identified with him.

The gospel reading is a lesson on the character of the *parousia* or future coming of the Son of Man. It addresses the sudden nature of this imminent time of fulfilment and of the need to be ready at all times for its dawning. In order to explain this, Jesus draws an analogy with one of the stories of ancient Jewish tradition, and then sketches two very ordinary experiences of life as demonstrations. He concludes with a kind of parable that teaches a lesson. All of these teaching devices follow the same twofold pattern: 1) the people had no idea of what was in store for them; 2) calamity befell them because they were unprepared. The message here is clear: 'Stay awake!' 'Be prepared!'

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TUESDAY DEC 3

St Francis Xavier, priestly

SATURDAY DEC 7

St Ambrose, bishop, doctor

NEXT WEEKS READINGS

SUNDAY DEC 8 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1st Reading:

Is 11: 1 – 10

2nd Reading

Rom 15: 4 – 9

Gospel

Mt 3: 1 – 12

TUESDAY DEC 3

St Francis Xavier, priest

SATURDAY DEC 7

St Ambrose, bishop, doctor



Your Roster – December 8, 2nd Sunday of Advent Year [A/2]					
MASS	VIGIL 5:00	7:30am	9:00am	6:00pm	Somersby - 6:30
DATE	7.12.19	8.12.19	8.12.19	8.12.19	7.12.19
Audio/Visual	Johann Fernandes	Glad Williams	Greg McBride	Joe Tropiano	Melissa Monaghan
Acolytes	Johnson Fernandes Anna Jung	Gerard Price Alan Pont	Alan Dillon Peter Julius	Kevin O'Donnell Rosie Na'ati	Altar Society: Vicki Muscat
Lectors	Terry Cooke Val Dibben	Eunice Dal Busco Sheila Evans	Carol Bailey Kaitlyn Crawford	Rick Llidge Anne Mackson	Alyce Chin Judy Grenfell
Commentator	Jan Blanch	Ron Burgess	Frances Mathey	Corrie Dunn	Charlene Xuereb
Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist	Anita Fernandes Rosemary Lee Jan Blanch Fiona Bolton Vic Camilleri Terry Cooke	Lucy Price Ron Burgess Cecilia Coughlin Eunice Dal Busco Margaret Eadie	Amanda Dillon Scot Frazer Molly Holland Frances Mathey Margaret Mathieson	Nora Koleszar Anna Llidge Anne Mackson Margaret Pratt Jessica Russell	Maria Lentini + Senior Server
Altar Servers	Taz Parry Harry Cockerton Lachlan Murphy	Sebastian Eager Laura Eager	Hannah Farris Logan Farris Yuna Iwasaki	Lorenzo Arango Vito De Toffol Remi De Toffol	Jessica Xuereb Dakota Xuereb Flowers: Nai Herford
COUNTERS December 2/12 Fiona Eaton Joyce Byrne December 9/12 Lyn Beglin Neryl Tyrrell	ALTAR LINEN P/up Dec 9. Thea Dowsett Ret'n Dec 13.	ALTAR SOCIETY Sat, Dec 7 Fran Thompson Barbara Mills Roslyn McMahon Audry Morris Catherine Shaw	CHILDRENS LITURGY Sunday Dec 8 Margaret Eadie Cecilia Coughlin	PARISH BUS Dec 8 Driver: John Donnelly Helper Brenda Donnelly	HOSPITAL VISITATION Dec 8 Robyn McBride Theresa Giddings

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

MASS INTENTIONS		
Date	Mass	Intention
Sat 30/11	9:00a Gosford 5:00p Gosford 6:30p Somersby	NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCES + Anniversary TONY LOWE PARISH INTENTIONS
Sun 1/12	7:30a Gosford 9:00a Gosford 6:00p Gosford	+Remembrance KEEVERS, KNIGHT & MERCHANT FAMILIES + Birthday Remembrance MARY EMMA MIDDLETON Recently Deceased TOM CAVES
Mon 2/12	9:00a Gosford	Recently Deceased PAT HENNESSY [AND PEACE FOR HIS FAMILY]
Tue 3/12	9:00a Gosford 7:00p menAlie	'FOR THE FARMERS & BUSH FIRE AFFECTED PEOPLE "THANK YOU FROM EVA"
Wed 4/12	11:30a Gosford	+Remembrance LEO FRY
Thu 5/12	9:00a Gosford	COMMUNION SERVICE
Fri 6/12	12:00n Gosford	
Sat 7/12	9:00a Gosford 5:00p Gosford 6:30p Somersby	PARISH INTENTIONS
Sun 8/12	7:30a Gosford 9:00a Gosford 6:00p Gosford	PARISH INTENTIONS + Birthday Remembrance STEVEN KIM

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Peter Gloss, Ray Maher, Marie O'Donovan, Margaret Kings, Megan McGowan, Kellie Nevin, Charlie Sammut, Rachael Lees, Brian Graham, Arlene Peters, Kath Ryan, John Burg, Peter & Lena O'Donovan, Tina Learwood, Allan Francis, Brian Loo, Bev Meehan, Michael Graham, Glenn Mills, Frank McGuinness, Angela Cunningham, Simon Low, Christopher Graham, Frances Cannon, Margaret Gunnison, Sonia Cummings, Anna-Marie Rowan, Melita Waters, Judy Wennerbom, Helen Bligh, Scott McKinnon.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Pat Hennessy, Fr Barry Nobbs, Ashley Johnson, Maryann Wilkins, Tom Caves, Ann Williams, Nelson Fernandes.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Tony Lowe

REMEMBRANCES:

Keevers, Knight & Merchant Families, Mary Emma Middleton, Leo Fry, Michael Kokegei.



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We thank John Malicki for what turned out to be quite a finicky job putting it together! The donation tap device will now remain permanently in place in the foyer, a convenient method for those who are cashless but would still like to give in support of the parish.



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14/dec waitara 7:00 PM
The Launch Mass
 Hornsby Cathedral Parish
 23 Yardley Ave, Waitara
 Followed by food & festivities.

15-23/dec dee why 7:30 PM
Christmas Novena Masses
 St Kevin's Church
 50 Oaks Avenue, Dee Why

16-24/dec chatswood 5:30 AM
Christmas Novena Dawn Masses
 Our Lady of Dolours Parish
 94 Archer St, Chatswood

20, 22, 23 /dec wyong 7:00 PM
The Triduum
 St Cecilia's Church
 23 Byron Street, Wyong

Fellowship & light refreshments follow after each of these Masses.

More inquiries:
 fb bbfilipinochaplaincy
 Contact: Deacon Roberto Corpus, Pastoral Coordinator
 Mobile: 0424 529 448 Email: roberto.corpus@bbcatholic.org.au

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