

St Patrick's Parish Gosford



Put your
Hope
in God!

Psalms 42:5

St Patrick's Year of Hope



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.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EDITION



Mary, he added, does not hesitate or impose conditions on God.

Without considering the cost

The Pope reflected on how often we procrastinate in life, even in our spiritual life.

He said we know it would be good to pray, but that we say we don't have time.

"I know it is important to help someone, but today I can't. I will do it tomorrow."

Yet, as we cross the threshold into the Christmas Season, Mary invites us to offer our quick and courageous "yes", no matter the cost.

Read also

Pope's Angelus of 20 December 2020
20/12/2020

Pope's Angelus of 20 December 2020
20/12/2020

Pope: 100 Nativity Scenes exhibition 'great catechesis in our faith'

POPE AT ANGELUS

CHRISTMAS 2020 'A CHANCE TO HELP OTHERS WITHOUT COMPLAINING'

Ahead of the Angelus prayer on Sunday, Pope Francis reflects on Mary's "yes" to God's invitation, and warns against allowing consumerism to distract our hearts from the true spirit of Christmas.

By Devin Watkins

Pope Francis led the prayer of the Angelus in St. Peter's Square on the fourth and final Sunday of Advent.

Reflecting on the day's Gospel of the Annunciation (Lk 1:26-38), the Pope said the invitation to become the Mother of the Messiah carried with it both pure joy and great trial.

According to the Gospel, Mary was betrothed to Joseph, and faced the death penalty if found to be pregnant.

"Certainly, the divine message would have filled Mary's heart with light and strength," said the Pope. "Nevertheless, she found herself faced with a crucial decision: to say 'yes' to God, risking everything, even her life, or to decline the invitation and to continue her ordinary life."

Active "yes" to God

Pope Francis noted how Mary offered her assent to God's invitation with a wholehearted fiat: "Let it be done to me according to your word."

He pointed out that, in the original Greek, the expression attributed to Mary "indicates a strong desire, the firm will that something happen."

Hers was no simple, submissive "yes", said the Pope. Mary actively bound herself to God.

"She is a woman in love prepared to serve her Lord completely and immediately."

In spite of difficult conditions

Pope Francis urged Christians to consider in what ways God is inviting us to say "yes", especially in the difficulties surrounding Christmas in 2020.

"Instead of complaining in these difficult times about what the pandemic prevents us from doing, let us do something for someone who has less: not the umpteenth gift for ourselves and our friends, but for a person in need whom no-one thinks of!"

The Pope then warned against letting gift-buying consume our heart ahead of the holidays.

"Consumerism has stolen Christmas," he said, pointing out that the Holy Family filled the stable in Bethlehem with poverty and love, not consumerism.

Pope Francis concluded by inviting everyone to prepare our hearts for Christmas through prayer, "like Mary's: free from evil, welcoming, ready to receive God."

From: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-12/pope-francis-angelus-catechesis-mary-annunciation.html>



76 York St East Gosford NSW 2250

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CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM FR GREG



As we gather together to celebrate Christmas, we acknowledge that another year has passed which was filled with many challenges, especially COVID-19 touching our lives and those of the people in our parish community in various ways. There's no doubt that 2020 has brought both joy and sadness

in different measure to each person, all colouring our memories of this past year. Let us strive to open our hearts to others, especially being aware of those who have lost a loved one since last Christmas, or the many who are over-burdened, whether by worries, sickness and family problems or for any other reason. This Christmas, let us see the incarnation as God's invitation to us to see Him present in our brothers and sisters who are hurting.

We are invited this coming year by Pope Francis to follow the example of St Joseph, who is a great example of patience, care, love and much more, as we celebrate the Year of St Joseph with the universal Church. In addition, we will celebrate the Year of Hope in our parish, which we launched at the beginning of the Advent season. We look towards the future with hope, that our country and the whole world will be safe again. We all have hope in our hearts for a better tomorrow, for both ourselves and our loved ones. Hope is an essential part of our faith. This is why we look today at baby Jesus and His promise of eternal life as our greatest hope of this world and ask Him for His unconditional blessings upon all of us.

Christmas is an opportunity to thank the many parishioners who abundantly give the gifts of their time and talents in making our parish the vibrant, faith-filled community that it is. It is calculated that around 250 parishioners take an active part in some form of ministry or parish activity, letting Christ's light shine in the midst of the struggles and joys. To these volunteers who are the heartbeat of the parish, I am truly indebted.

I would like to also acknowledge at this time our amazing parish staff:

- † Fr Paul Tran SDS, our Assistant Priest, who has spent his first few months of priestly ministry enthusiastically proclaiming the Risen Lord through many ways and means, and touching the hearts of so many in our parish with his kindness and care.



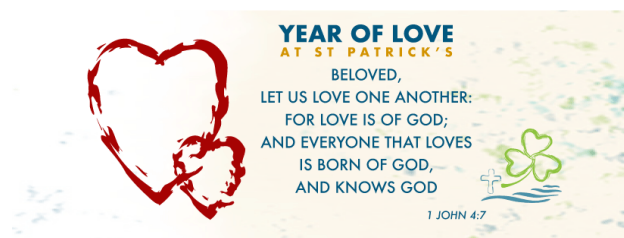
- † Colleen Kirk, our parish secretary, for her hard work over this difficult year! She has often worked after hours to ensure everyone could be connected with our parish, especially during the time of lockdown.
- † Tom Croll, our media coordinator, for his outstanding work and many many hours working to make

sure that our bulletin and live streaming was well prepared, so we received all necessary information and could participate in the Mass and the rosary.

A big thank you also to Alain Corne (catechist coordinator), Darren Fitzgibbon (finance manager), Jaimi-Lea Andrews (youth coordinator), Frances Mathey (sacramental coordinator), Grace Bowyer (young adults coordinator) and Denise Jay (office volunteer) for their hard work over this past year and for the love, passion and care they have showed in helping with the mission of our parish.

I also would like to thank all of the principals and staff of our three schools who have worked strongly in partnership with both myself and the parish in tirelessly providing a strong Catholic identity and high-quality education, promoting the dignity and the potential of each person. May I take this opportunity to thank all of our parishioners and friends here at St Patrick's for helping us along the journey. A special thank you as well to the Parish Council for their amazing support throughout the year. This difficult year was still a blessing for our parish because of all of the many parishioners being involved in many areas of the proclamation of the Holy Gospel.

Looking back, some of the highlights of 2020 include:



- ✓ - The Year of Love,
- ✓ A new young adults formation group,
- ✓ Food collection initiative for people in need,
- ✓ The relics of St Therese of Lisieux and her parents



visiting our parish,

- ✓ The celebration of the 60th Anniversary of St Patrick's School and the 55th Anniversary of St



Patrick's Church in March,

- ✓ Fr Paul's Ordination



- ✓ The entrustment of our parish to the protection of the Sacred Heart of Jesus,
- ✓ A new youth coordinator,
- ✓ Masses being live-streamed,
- ✓ Live-streamed rosary every evening,
- ✓ Online youth groups (during lockdown),



- ✓ Online bible study (during lockdown),
- ✓ Confession in the garden (during lockdown),



- ✓ New carpet and flooring in the church,



- ✓ Alpha program,
- ✓ The compilation of a Parish Cookbook
- ✓ Parish survey,
- ✓ Fundraising and installation of air conditioning in the church,
- ✓ Renewal of the commitment to Safeguarding in our parish and schools by the parish priest and three principals,
- ✓ Renovation of the back of the church and preparation for the new piety shop,



- ✓ Launch of the welcoming committee, and
- ✓ The launch of the Year of Hope

Some interesting numbers reflecting the Sacramental life of our parish this year:



- 60 baptisms,
- 51 funerals,
- 46 first reconciliations,
- 47 first Holy Communions,
- 5 confirmations (St Eddie's boys),
- 3 weddings/ 1 convalidation, and
- 3 receptions for the RCIA candidates and their relevant sacraments.

This year was a big challenge for many of us, but by working together and supporting each other, we have achieved a lot of beautiful and spiritual things. Today I look forward to the new year of 2021 and hope to see many new possibilities for formation, socialising and building our parish community to make it even more welcoming, more vibrant and especially more Christ-centred.

I pray that this Christmas will be a time of true conversion of us to become more like the incarnated Christ - His complete selflessness by becoming one of us and His audacious identification with those on the periphery. As we approach this Christmas season, let it be a time in which we as the Church identify with the powerlessness of the baby Jesus and the fundamental ethos of care for the weak and justice for the excluded. Then the Church can truly stand with confidence as the conduit of mercy and the sign of hope for all.

Merry Christmas
Fr Greg Skulski SDS
Parish Priest



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

PS 2:7

The Lord said to me: You are my Son.
It is I who have begotten you this day.

FIRST READING

IS 9:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

A son is given to us.

The people that walked in darkness as seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone.

You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian.

For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt and consumed by fire.

For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him:

Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace.

Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity.

From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 95:1-3. 11-13 R. LK 2:11

(R.) Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth.

O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

(R.) Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Proclaim his help day by day, tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples.

(R.) Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad, let the sea and all within it thunder praise, let the land and all it bears rejoice, all the trees of the wood shout for joy at the presence of the Lord for he comes, he comes to rule the earth.

(R.) Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

With justice he will rule the world, he will judge the peoples with his truth.

SECOND READING

TI 2:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus
God's grace has been revealed to all people.

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

LK 2:10-11

Alleluia, alleluia!

Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

LK 2:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Today a saviour has been born for you.

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing:

'Glory to God in the highest heaven and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

JN 1:14

The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.

REFLECTION

BY DIANNE BERGANT CSA

The Gospel situates the birth of Jesus within Roman rule of the first century. Through the Incarnation, the ordinary becomes transparent and reveals the extraordinary; the divine is known in the child. Only those of humble heart experience this wonder. They behold it and they come to embrace it. In fact, it is the nature of this child, born in history, to reverse the orders of power.

God is portrayed as a valiant liberator who champions the cause of justice and who brings a liberation that reverses history and the ways of war, power and oppression. This reversal is made more shocking by the fact that the one who is the mighty warrior and conqueror of the nations is a child. This child is the weak and voiceless one, the one who has neither power nor legal rights. God's reversal of the long-standing realities of this world is accomplished through the apparently insignificant, through the gift of this child who is given to us in the middle of the night.

Something new has happened: the age of God's fulfilment has arrived. The age of grace and fresh hope, made available to all people of good will, is an era of redemptive presence. Now all people can walk in the newness of life and grace. Yet, while this new age has begun, it is not yet fully realised. We live believing in its presence and awaiting its fulfilment. Although we are celebrating Christmas, we still await the final coming of the Lord.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

Dianne Bergant CSA was a Professor of Biblical Studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, where she taught from 1978 to 2014. She holds a BS in Elementary Education from Marian College, Fond du Lac, WI; an MA and PhD in Biblical Languages and Literature from St Louis University. Amongst other things, she served as President of Catholic Biblical Association of America (2000-2001) and has been awarded honorary doctorates from several other universities. She was an active member of the Chicago Catholic/Jewish Scholars Dialogue (1988-2017) and sat on the editorial boards of The Bible Today (1979-2005), Biblical Theology Bulletin (1990-2014), Catholic Biblical Quarterly (1992-2001), New Theology Review (1997-2003), Teaching Theology and Religion (2003-2005), and Chicago Studies (2003-2009). She has taught and lectured in many places in the United States and abroad and has written numerous books, articles and chapters in books.



St Patrick's Parish Gosford



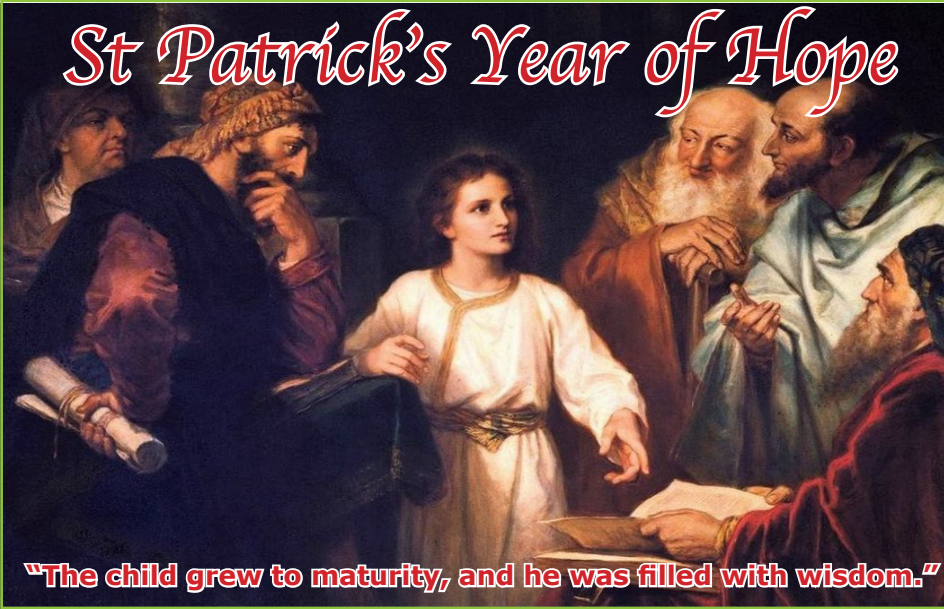
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St Patrick's Year of Hope



"The child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom."

FR FRANCIS JORDAN SDS



"Everyone should carry the other's burden and ease the other's load as far as possible... Do not make life burdensome for one another."
JT 1898/12/31

HOPE IN THE BIBLE

Isaiah 42:1 TNIV

"Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations.

Mark 9:23 TNIV

"If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes."

Exodus 34:6 TNIV

And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.

Romans 5:5 TNIV

And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Corinthians 1:7 TNIV

And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.

Psalms 71:14 TNIV As for me, I will always have hope; I will praise you more and more.

Romans 12:12 TNIV Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Hebrews 2:18 TNIV Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Romans 4:7 TNIV Blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Psalms 39:7 TNIV

But now, Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in you.

Matthew 6:33 TNIV But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

John 16:13 TNIV

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

Isaiah 40:31 TNIV But those who hope



**POPE FRANCIS'
DECEMBER 2020
INTENTION**

For a Life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.



76 York St East Gosford NSW 2250



ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD
PASTORAL CARE

Fr Grzegorz [Greg] Skulski SDS
Parish Priest
Email: greg@sds.org.au
Fr Paul Tran SDS

Assistant Priest
email: paulduongsds@gmail.com
SALVATORIAN



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
Catechists' Coordinator: Alain Corne
Email: saintpatscdd@acs.net.au
Wed: 9:00am – 1:00pm
Thurs: 9:30am – 1:30pm
Youth Ministry: Jaimi-Lea Andrews
Ph: 0452 480 112 Email: jaimilea.andrews@gmail.com
Media Coordinator: Tom Croll
Thursday: 9:00am – 2:00pm
Email: tcroll@photom.com.au
Phone: 0411- 962 122.

VOLUNTEER ROLES

Office Admin: Denise Jay
Friday: 9:00am – 3:30pm
AV Presentation: Peter McLean
Greg McBride
Ron Begg & Tim Mara
Maisie Tenev
Ph: 0416 803 334
Caretakers: Trevor Byrne
Joyce Byrne
Victor Camilleri
Barbara McCarthy
Ph: 4322 0250
Baptism Co-ordinator:
All bookings must be made through the parish office.
Gardeners:
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 at 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

CHURCH OPEN DAILY 8:30AM – 4:30PM.

STANDARD WEEKDAY MASSES

GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD

Mon: 9:00am	Wed: 11:30am	Fri: 12:00pm
Tue: 9:00am	Thu: 9:00am	Sat: 9:00am

Adoration and Confession 30 minutes before each weekday Mass.

WEEKEND MASSES INCL CONFESSION 30 BEFORE EACH MASS

GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD

Sat Vigil: 5:00pm	Sun: 7:30am, 8:45am, 10:15am & 6:00pm
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SOMERSBY, 30 LUTANA RD

Sat Vigil: 5:30pm

ADORATION IN OUR CHURCH

Before the Blessed Sacrament

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

ROSARY

Mon, & Thu	8:05am to 9:00am
Tuesday	8:05am "Right to Life"
Wednesday	11:05am to 11:30am
Fridays	11:35am to 12:00pm
Saturday	8:05am until 9:00am: 1st Priests & Religious 2nd Mothers & Babies 3rd Persecuted Christians
Sunday	7:05am

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL, AT THE ADMIN CENTRE, CHAPEL LANE

Mon to Thu: 8:30am to 3:30pm	Fri: 9:00am to 3:30pm
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ST PATRICK'S GROUPS MEETINGS

Cancer Prayer Group	After 9:00am Mass, 4th Tuesday of the Month, in the Jordan room.
Craft Group	9:30am to 12:00pm Every Friday of School Terms
Grief & Loss Support	2:00pm 1st Thursday of the month, in the Jordan room.
MenAlive	7:00pm 1st Tuesday of the month. Mass followed by meeting in the Jordan room.
Prayers for Christian Unity	9:30am 3rd Monday of the Month
Prayer Group DVDs	9:30am 1st Monday of the Month
Prayer Group & Bible Discussion	9:30am 2nd, 4th and 5th Monday of the Month
Bible Study - Monday night	7:00pm to 9:00pm Monday, in the Jordan Room, all are welcome!
Bible Study - Wednesday Morning	10:00am, Wednesdays in the Jordan Room. Will recommence in 2021.
Salvatorian Colaborators	After 9:00am Mass, 1st Thursday of the month, in the Jordan room.
Womens Faith Circle	2nd and 4th Thursday of the Month in the Jordan Room 9:00am to 11:00am

NATIONAL CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP STANDARDS

LEADERSHIP, MONITORING & IMPROVEMENT

STANDARD 1 – COMMITTED LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE & CULTURE

KEY ELEMENTS OF STANDARD 1:

- † A COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING
- † PROMOTING A SAFEGUARDING CULTURE
- † SAFEGUARDING POLICIES
- † CODE OF CONDUCT

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

HILARY POPE

If you see any activities involving children or vulnerable adults that concerns you, please email Hilary Pope, our Safeguarding Officer at hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au

PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

IMPORTANT EVENTS

- Advance Notice, The Parish Office closes 1:00 pm Christmas Eve. Will open on Monday 11/01/2021 at 9:30 am and again on Friday 15/01/2021 at 9:30 am. Resumes normal hours Monday 18/01/2021.
- End of Year Mass, Thursday, 31st December will be mass at the end of the year at 6:00 pm in St Patrick's Gosford

A NEW METHOD OF MASS COLLECTIONS

PLEASE HELP OUR PARISH FINANCIALLY SURVIVE COVID

To keep in line with other parishes and as our collections have decreased considerably we will be reintroducing collections via the 'plate' but this time it will be a bag which will be passed in front of you via a pole so that you don't have to touch something that someone else has touched. We hope that you will react favourably to this in support of your parish.

We are aware that many people have converted to monthly planned giving via their bank, or even direct giving which is our preferred method of giving and we thank them sincerely. If you would like to give in either of these ways please simply contact the parish office to arrange it.

Tap n Go is also available in the foyer.

SO MANY PEOPLE TO THANK

Thank you Hazel for your years of stewardship at this parish in your roles as Catechist and as a member of the Altar Linen Laundry group. We will miss you in both these roles. Thank you!

FOOD PARCELS FOR ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Thank you to all of the people who brought in food to be handed over to St Vincent de Paul.

The wonderful folk at Vinnies have made up food parcels and have been distributing them to needy families. This has been a very successful campaign and those who contributed food can pat themselves on the back.

Well done everybody!

The following photos show the results of your efforts and the efforts of the wonderful team at St Vincents

CAN YOU HELP?

ALTAR LINEN LAUNDRY GROUP VACANCY

Would you like to fill it? Once a month you would be asked to collect the linen used during the Mass and return it before the next weekend. Full training would be given. Please email patsgos@acs.net.au if you are interested, or call the office on 4325 1042 after the January 18.



8 WAYS TO GAIN A PLENARY INDULGENCE

DURING THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH!

NOTE: Each indulgence requires the individual to follow the three usual conditions with the intention of complying as soon as possible. One must receive sacramental confession, Holy Communion, and pray for the Holy Father, as well as detach oneself from all sin.

1. Meditate for 30 minutes on the Our Father
2. Attend a spiritual day retreat that includes St. Joseph meditation
"Saint Joseph, an authentic man of faith, invites us to rediscover the filial relationship with the Father, to renew fidelity to prayer, to listen and to correspond with profound discernment to the will of God."
3. Carry out a corporal or spiritual work of mercy
"The virtue of justice practiced in an exemplary way by Joseph is full adherence to the divine law, which is the law of mercy, 'because it is precisely the mercy of God that brings true justice to fulfillment.'
"Therefore those who, following the example of St. Joseph, will carry out a corporal or spiritual work of mercy, will also be able to obtain the gift of Plenary indulgence."
4. Recite the Holy Rosary with your family (or if engaged, with your future spouse)
"The main aspect of Joseph's vocation was to be guardian of the Holy Family of Nazareth, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and legal father of Jesus. So that all Christian families are stimulated to recreate the same climate of intimate communion, love and prayer that was lived in the Holy Family."
5. Entrust your day and/or work to St. Joseph, invoke his protection and intercession
"The plenary indulgence can therefore be achieved by anyone who entrusts their activity daily to the protection of St. Joseph and any faithful who invoke the intercession of the Artisan of Nazareth with prayers, so that those looking for work can find a job and the work of everyone is more dignified."
6. Pray to St. Joseph for persecuted Christians
"The plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful who will recite the Litanies to St. Joseph (for the Latin tradition), or the Akathistos to St. Joseph, in whole or at least some of it (for the Byzantine tradition), or some other prayer to St. Joseph, proper to other liturgical traditions, in favor of the Church persecuted ad intra and ad extra and for the relief of all Christians who suffer every form of persecution."
7. "Recite any legitimately approved prayer or act of piety in honor of St. Joseph"
"The Apostolic Penitentiary grants a plenary indulgence to the faithful who will recite any legitimately approved prayer or act of piety in honor of Saint Joseph, for example 'To you, o Blessed Joseph,' especially on the recurrences of March 19 and May 1, on the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, on St. Joseph's Sunday (according to the Byzantine tradition), on the 19th of each month and every Wednesday, day dedicated to the memory of the Saint according to the Latin tradition.
8. For the elderly, sick, and dying: recite act of piety in St. Joseph's honor, entrust life and discomforts to St. Joseph
"In the current context of health emergency, the gift of the plenary indulgence is particularly extended to the elderly, the sick, the dying and all those who for legitimate reasons are unable to leave the house, who with a soul detached from any sin and with the intention of fulfilling, as soon as possible, the three

usual conditions, in their own home or where the impediment holds them, they will recite an act of piety in honor of St. Joseph, comfort of the sick and patron of a happy death, offering with trust in God the pains and discomforts of your life."



ADVERTISEMENT – POSITION VACANT

CATECHIST COORDINATOR, GOSFORD PARISH

Part Time Role: 8 hours per week

The Catholic Parish of Gosford requires a committed person to lead the Special Religious Education (SRE) ministry in the Parish. This involves supporting the catechists; coordinating classes and resources; communicating with the various stakeholders at the schools, Parish and Chancery; and looking after the administration of the ministry in the Parish.

The successful applicant should be enthusiastic for the work of SRE, and be able to inspire and direct the catechists in their implementation of classroom programs and the organisation of activities beyond the classroom, in the spirit of the Parish Pastoral Plan.

Selection Criteria

As the successful candidate you will have the following skills and attributes:

1. An understanding of the Catholic Church, its mission and the sensitivities and nuances of dealing with various stakeholders;
2. An understanding of Catholic SRE, Scripture, Tradition and contemporary SRE ministry programs;
3. Sound experience as a Catechist or Religious Education teacher;
4. Excellent interpersonal and communication (both written and oral) skills, including negotiation, consultation and the ability to facilitate collaborations between the parish and public schools;
5. High level skills in contemporary computer applications including the Microsoft office suite;
6. Excellent organisational skills and the ability to reprioritise and reorganise priorities.

For a position description, please click here:

Applications close: January 29, 2020

Applications should be emailed to patsgos@acs.net.au and include:

- Cover letter
- Statement addressing the selection criteria
- Resume

The successful applicant must be eligible to work in Australia; hold a current unrestricted driver's licence; and will be required to undertake a pre-employment National Police History Check and WWCC.

BISHOP ANTHONY'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Bishop Anthony has recorded a Christmas Message that is available by clicking on [this link](#).

BISHOP'S NORMAL WEEKLY MESSAGE.

21 December 2020

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ, Driving along the Pacific Highway heading towards Chatswood this morning, I saw a sign that said, "Faith does not make things easy, but it does make things possible." I paused for a moment to acknowledge the truth behind this simple statement, and then I delighted as I realised that the sign was on our Catholic parish property at Pymble. I was delighted because tens of thousands of people pass by that sign every day, and the message that they receive is one that is needed in these challenging times. Throughout our community of the Church of Broken Bay, many people have been caught up in the latest episode of COVID. I am very conscious of our communities on the Northern Beaches, especially the vulnerable and the infirm. In solidarity with the parishes of the Northern Beaches, we pray for the safety and wellbeing of all people in the community. Our experience over this year has taught us how best to respond and how to be responsible citizens. I urge everyone to follow the good practices that we have undertaken throughout this time of trial. I also urge you to pray, to keep faith, and to hold fast to our Christian hope. As the Pymble Parish sign reminds us, it does not make it easy, but it is possible to rise above the immediate challenge. What is important is that we do not abandon each other, especially those who are in need. I realise that there might be some confusion around our celebrations for Christmas, and I would ask you to stay connected to your communities for the correct flow of information. As the Government attempts to manage the general situation, the Diocese will facilitate the communication amongst our community of the Church. Please exercise the gift of patience and be reassured that the safe celebration of the Nativity of the Lord is my highest priority for you. In these final days of Advent, may the Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph, intercede for us and for the whole world, as we anticipate our salvation when Christ is born.

Blessings and thanks,
+Anthony



Merry Christmas!

One of our favourite times of the year, for the St Patrick's Choir and Band students, is performing for our local community. We love visiting retirement villages and nursing homes, playing for our parents and school community and local carolling at shopping centres.

With COVID-19 this has not been possible this year. Our band students spent a good chunk of the year learning via online lessons and rehearsals (for some of them it was their first year learning an instrument!) and our Choir were not able to sing together ALL YEAR!

In true St Patrick's spirit that did not stop our teachers and students from sharing music together and we wanted to share this with you too :)

Click on the images below to view recordings of our St Patrick's choir and band students in action.

We wish you every blessing for Christmas this year and know that you are in our hearts and prayers.



WATCH: Choir signing 'You Got a Friend in Me' from Toy Story



WATCH: Choir performing 'T was the Night Before Christmas'



WATCH: A special Christmas message for you from our Choir



WATCH: Our Training Band (beginners) play the pieces they have been learning in Term 4



WATCH: Our Concert Band play 'Rockin' Robin'



WATCH: Our Concert Band play 'Tequila'



Scan this QR code to take you directly to the above website.

Any problems please email Suzie Morris,
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School at
susan.morris@dbb.catholic.edu.au

MARRIAGE TRIBUNAL – DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

The Marriage Tribunal in the Diocese of Broken Bay is a service of the Diocese to assist with the pastoral care of:

- divorced persons seeking to remarry in the Catholic Church;
- divorced and remarried persons seeking to have their marriage recognised in the Catholic Church;
- divorced persons seeking clarification of their standing in the Catholic Church for peace of conscience or for reassurance in developing relationships in the future.

Marriage Tribunal Contact Details

Diocesan Director: Fr Julian Wellspring JV

Administrative Assistant: Mrs Alda Mendezona

Phone: 9307 8309

Email: tribunal@bbcatholic.org.au

Postal address:

Level 7

Polding Centre

133 Liverpool Street

Sydney NSW 2000

The Marriage Tribunal will reopen on Monday, 4 January 2021.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

LK 2:16

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

FIRST READING

ECCL 3:2-6. 12-14

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons.

Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune.

Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays.

Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord.

My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life.

Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 104:1-6. 8-9. R.VV.7.8

(R.) The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

O sing to him, sing his praise; tell all his wonderful works!

(R.) The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Be proud of his holy name, let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.

Consider the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

(R.) The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, the judgements he spoke.

O children of Abraham, his servant, O sons of the Jacob he chose.

(R.) The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

He remembers his covenant for ever, his promise for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac.

(R.) The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

SECOND READING

COL 3:12-21

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Concerning the Christian life in the world.

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

COL 3:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

LK 2:22-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the

Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

BAR 3:38

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

THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 25/12

Christmas Day

SATURDAY 26/12

St Stephen, the first martyr

NEXT WEEKS READINGS

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

1st: Is 60: 1 - 6, 12 - 14
2nd: Eph 3: 2 - 3, 5 - 6
Gospel: Mt 2: 12 - 12

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Pam O'Malley-Jones, Raie Brady, Judith Wennerbom, Jenny Schrama-Stuart, Pat Low, Patrick Brennan, Peter Harrison, Leonie Barnes, Judy Ryan, Peter Gloss, Marie O'Donovan, Megan McGowan, Kellie Nevin, Charlie Sammut, Rachael Lees, John Burg, Peter & Lena O'Donovan, Tina Learwood, Allan Francis, Bev Meehan, Michael Graham, Glenn Mills, Frank McGuinness, Angela Cunningham, Simon

YOUR ROSTER - JANUARY 3, THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

MASS	VIGIL 5:00	7:30am	8:45am	10:15pm	6:00pm	Somersby - 5:30
DATE	02.01.21	03.01.21	03.01.21	03.01.21	03.01.21	02.01.21
Audio/Visual	Johann Fernandes	Ron Begg	Greg McBride	Arthur Holland	Thomas Werner	Michael Xuereb
Acolytes	Johann Fernandes -	Sheila Evans Eunice Dal Busco	Katrina Pratt Peter Cho	Peter McLean -	Peter Forbes Patrick Nicholls	Altar Society: Vicki Muscat
Commentator	Jan Blanch	Chris Golden	John Miller	Emily Rudd	Barbara McCarthy	Nai Herford
Lectors	Jan Blanch Maisie Tenev	Chris Golden Gerard Price	Wendy Stringer Carol Bailey	Ellen Antonino Liz Malik	Rob Surdich Robyn Nevin	Dakota Xuereb Cheryl Barany
Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist	Anita Fernandes Maisie Tenev	Lucy Price	Keith Quinn	Molly Holland Stephanie Trevenen	Nora Koleszar	Alyce Chin + Senior Server
Altar Servers						Matthew Xuereb Jessica Xuereb Flowers: Dorris Vassallo
COUNTERS 01/01 Gary Smith Ron Begg Fiona Eaton 11/01 Eunice Dal Busco Lyn Beglin Dianna Addis	ALTAR LINEN P/up Jan 4. Josie Mc Guinness Ret'n by Jan 8	ALTAR SOCIETY Sat, Jan 02 Eunice Dal Busco Kerryl McGrath Mabel Kan Jo Pugh Rita Chao	CHILDRENS LITURGY Sunday Dec 27 School Holidays	PARISH BUS Dec 27 Driver: John Moriarty Helper Ros Moriarty		HOSPITAL VISITATION Suspended due to COVID-19

Low, Frances Cannon, Margaret Gunnison, Sonia Cummings, Helen Bligh.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Paul Sheeran, Pauline Howard, Angela Vitalie, Tina Luci, Wojciech Pietrzyk, Anthony Obied, Nikola Petrovic.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Maria & Paul Bigeni, Saverio Pirrottina, Alan Nolan, Grace & Lorenza Attard.

REMEMBRANCES:

Ric & Laura McGuire, Wally and Nancy Kirk, Moore & Maher Families, Lionel & Phyllis Owens, Janina & Adam Sztajner, Francine Luci, Daryl Collins, Magdalen McNamara, Paul Kim, Kung Ram Park, Knight & Merchant Families.

CONDOLENCES:

To Paul Sheeran's daughters Helen & Clare, the family of Pauline Howard and also Anthony Obied. Also the Luci family on the loss of overseas relatives Angela Vitalie & Tina Luci

FUNERAL NOTICES

Paul Sheeran's funeral - At South Kincumber church, Wednesday December 30, 10:00 am.

Pauline Howard's funeral - St Patrick's church, Thursday, January 7, 11:00 am .

Live in the Love
of the Lord

MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Mass	Intention	Date	Mass	Intention
Sat 26/12	9:00am Gosford & On Line	Birthday Blessings JOHNSON FERNANDES	Thu 31/12	9:00am Gosford & On Line	+ Remembrance Francine Luci
Sat 26/12	5:00pm Gosford	+ Anniversary Saverio Pirrottina	New Years Eve	6:00pm Gosford	+ Anniversary Amelia Kolodziej
Sat 26/12	5:30am Somersby		Fri 01/01	12:00pm Gosford & On Line	
Sun 27/12	7:30 am Gosford	Recently Deceased Paul Sheeran	Sat 02/01	9:00am Gosford & On Line	
Sun 27/12	8:45 am Gosford	PARISH INTENTIONS	Sat 02/01	5:00pm Gosford	
Sun 27/12	10:15 am Gosford	Recently Deceased Fionelio Montilla	Sat 02/01	5:30am Somersby	
Sun 27/12	6:00 pm Gosford	Recently Deceased Joseph Zalewski	Sun 03/01	7:30 am Gosford	
Mon 28/12	9:00am Gosford & On Line		Sun 03/01	8:45 am Gosford	PARISH INTENTIONS
Tue 29/12	9:00am Gosford & On Line		Sun 03/01	10:15 am Gosford	
Wed 30/12	11:30am Gosford & On Line	+ Remembrance Keevers, Knight & Merchant Families	Sun 03/01	6:00 pm Gosford	

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