



Gosford Parish

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.



Community
Gloria in Excelsis Deo!

CHRISTMAS LETTER TO THE PARISH

FROM FR GREG

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests."

I wish a Holy and Blessed Christmas and Peaceful New Year to all my dear parishioners. May the Love, Joy and Peace of the Baby Jesus be in your hearts and make Christmas a really joyful occasion.

As we celebrate Christmas Masses on this special day of the year as one big parish family, each one of you can be sure and certain that you are all remembered at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

All the readings for all the various Christmas liturgies proclaim the same mystery. God not only authors life and pours out grace in the midst of it, he chooses to join us in our lives by becoming one of us. Jesus enters into life that we might do the same. Whatever the circumstances of your life right now: grief or joy, struggle or success, faith or doubt; Jesus has lived it himself, and he longs to live it with you. Choose life with Jesus! Let Him be born again in your heart. Allow Him to enter into your moments and give you the life for which you were created.

I would like to thank all of our parishioners for your commitment to our parish this past year. The giving of your time, talent and treasure to the Lord continues to bear fruit for the Kingdom of God. I would also like to extend my gratitude to all who worked so hard to make our Christmas celebrations truly wonderful. Thanks to all who were involved in decorating our churches and setting up for the different liturgies, this season and throughout the liturgical year. And a special thank you to the devoted members of the various ministries in our parish and especially to those few who work quietly behind the scenes.

Especially our amazing staff members!

Maybe the Christmas message this year should be a challenge for all of us to become more involved especially in this year of community we have in our parish? It is not so much a question of giving more; it is a question of giving more of ourselves. After all, that's what God was doing when he got involved with us and our world at the first Christmas. Christmas belongs to faithful, to those who believe that Jesus Christ, Son of God, was born of the Virgin Mary to reconcile us to one another and to the Father. This is why He came. God will fill us with His peace if there is room in our lives for Him.

I would also like to sum up the 2021 year and acknowledge the many new initiatives and projects we were able to accomplish this past twelve months, such as:

- Monthly Markets
- Family Group formation
- Development of our Youth Ministry
- Winning the government grant for the refurbishment of the foyer
- The Salvatorian order celebrated beatification of Francis Jordan, founder of the Salvatorians

"We have come from the East to worship the King."



- Youth group meetings on zoom
- Live streamed Masses, adorations, rosaries
- Gosford church ranked as number one of all Christian churches in Central Coast
- Faithful counselling instituted.
- Our Parish Secretary, Colleen, celebrated the 25th anniversary of her work in the office
- Fr Paul was able to visit his family in Vietnam and after 18 months of his priesthood, finally celebrated Thanksgiving Mass for his family
- We painted the drive and walkways around the church and presbytery
- Formation talks about St Joseph and Sacrificial love
- We renovated and successfully reenergised the Piety shop
- Our parish was able to prepare videos with prayers for the Plenary Council in Australia
- In September together with the principals of our three schools we renewed our safeguarding commitment in our parish
- We celebrated a Christmas in July party on zoom during lockdown
- On 28th May I celebrated the 10th anniversary of my priesthood at a parish dinner
- During Lent our parish had a parish retreat on Hope
- Members of our parish prepared a booklet with written reflections for each day of Lent

In closing, my only prayer today is that you, your family and homes be filled with the Blessings of Peace, Hope, Joy and Love. At the same time, I thank you all sincerely for your thoughtful prayers and the Christmas greetings and gifts Fr Paul and I received. May all my dear parishioners be overshadowed with the mighty and powerful blessings of the Baby Jesus.

Yours in Christ
Fr Greg Skulski SDS
Parish Priest

76 York St East Gosford NSW 2250

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



Readings for Sunday, 2nd JANUARY THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

CF. MAL 3:1; 1 CHR 29:12

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

FIRST READING

IS 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears.

The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round:

all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13, R. SEE V.11

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement.

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

2. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.

He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds.

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute.

The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts.

Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him.

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will

adore you.

4. For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless.

He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor.

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

SECOND READING

EPH 3:2-3, 5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

MT 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

MT 2:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

We have come from the East to worship the king.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a

leader who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

CF. MT 2:2

We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

THIS WEEK

Mon 03	Weekday of Christmas Time
Tue 04	Weekday of Christmas Time
Wed 05	Weekday of Christmas Time
Thu 06	Weekday of Christmas Time
Fri 07	Weekday of Christmas Time
Sat 08	Weekday of Christmas Time

NEXT WEEKS READINGS

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

1st:	Is 40:1-5, 9-11
or	Is 42:1-4, 6-7
Ps:	103:1-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-30
or	28:1-4, 9-10
2nd:	Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7
or	Acts 10:34-38
Gos:	Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Enjoy the
Community of
St Pats in the
New Year

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK

The office staff will be taking the Christmas break from the afternoon of 24th December until 17th January.

During that time the office will be only be opened on Monday 10th Jan and Thursday 13th Jan from 9am-1pm

GROUPS IN THE PARISH – PLACES YOU CAN BELONG

Group	Description	How to Find Out More
Youth Ministry	Arise – Youth in years 5 and 6, gathering on alternate Fridays for fun, friendship, food and faith. At St Patrick's hall, Victoria St school campus at 7pm. Ascend - Youth from high school, gathering every Sunday for fun, friendship, food and faith. At Jordan room near the church from 7pm. Awake – 18-35 gathering on the last Saturday of the month for fellowship, formation through talks, discussion about important topics of life, conversation, etc. In Jordan room near the church from 7pm.	If you would like to join any of these groups, please contact our Youth Minister, Jaimi-Lea at jaimilea.andrews@gmail.com or 0452 480 112.
Family Group	An opportunity for families to get together for fellowship, friendship, formation specific to family life, children's activities, support and encouragement.	Contact Maria via Gosford.Families@gmail.com
MenAlive	This is a group for men of all ages gathering together on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7pm, starting with Mass in the church and followed by gathering for prayer, discussions, talks, reflections, sharing and socialising in the Jordan Room.	Contact Peter Axon ptaxon11@gmail.com
Women's Faith Circle	An opportunity to explore our faith, to reflect, pray and build community. 9am Mass followed by formation and morning tea at the Jordan Room. 2nd and 4th Thursday of the Month. For Mothers with school aged children. School Terms only.	Contact Jane Eager 0417 660 078
Seniors Ministry	Meeting first Tuesday monthly at the Jordan room (after morning Mass) at 9:30am, for fellowship, reflection, sharing, discussion, support. Once in a while there will be also be an outing – please see Bulletin for details. Please also note that there is a Healing Mass on the first Friday of the month, followed by lunch for seniors in the Jordan room.	Contact Barbara - 4322 0250, or Eunice – 4365 1857.
Salvatorian Collaborators	A group of people who support the works of the Salvatorian religious order, to whom our parish is entrusted. Meeting once a month (time TBA)	If you would like to know more, please contact katrina.pratt.laysalvatorian@gmail.com
Children's Liturgy	Every Sunday during 9:30am Mass (except Family Mass and school holidays). Activities relating to the Sunday readings aimed specifically for children. Join us for drawing, craft, videos etc.	Contact Margaret Eadie E26margaret@outlook.com
Bible Study	Gathering of people who wish to deepen their knowledge of the Word of God. Every meeting provides new opportunities and new reflections with like-minded people. Our parish offers different times to meet at the Jordan Room: - Monday 9:30am a couple of times a month - Monday 7pm weekly	Monday Morning Contact Cecilia Coughlin ccoughlin3@bigpond.com Monday Evening John & Ros Van Lierop Johnros_6@bigpond.com
Monday Morning Group	Come and join in to pray and reflect on Bible readings or watch Christian DVDs after the 9am Mass at the Jordan Room. 1st, 2nd & 4th Mondays monthly.	Contact Cecilia Coughlin ccoughlin3@bigpond.com
Craft Group	Every Friday morning during school term gathering in the Jordan Room from 9:30am-12pm for sewing, knitting, etc.	Contact: Eunice Dal Busco eunice.dalbusco@bigpond.com Helen Moore helenandbobmoore@gmail.com
Cancer Prayers	This group meets the 3rd Tuesday monthly, 10am at the Jordan Room in support and prayers for those who have a Cancer diagnosis or are family or carers of someone who has Cancer.	Cecilia Coughlin ccoughlin3@bigpond.com
Grief & Loss Prayer & Support Group	This group meets the 1st Thursday monthly at 2pm at the Jordan Room in support of those suffering grief or loss in any form.	Margaret Eadie E26margaret@outlook.com
Prayers for Christian Unity	Every 3rd Monday monthly at the Jordan Room after the 9am Mass. This group dedicates strives through prayer for unity amongst all Christian Churches.	Robyn Nevin 0403 052 229

COVID UPDATE

MASKS AND COVID-19 CHECK-IN

The current rulings from NSW Health relevant to places of worship like churches states.

- **COVID-19 QR-code check-in is still mandatory**
- **Masks are mandatory indoors again as of Midnight 24 December 2021**

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YOUR ROSTER - JANUARY 9, THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

MASS	VIGIL 5:00	7:30am	9:30am	6:00pm	Somersby - 5:00pm	
DATE	08.01.22	09.01.22	09.01.22	09.01.22	Function	08.01.22
Audio/Visual	Michael Lynch	Peter McLean	Tom Croll	Cheryl Walsh	Audio/Visual	Michael Xuereb
Acolytes	Johnson Fernandes Anna Jung	Sheila Evans Eunice Dal Busco	Peter Cho Peter Julius	Patrick Nicholls Mark Bennett	Altar Society	Nai Herford
Commentator	Jan Blanch	Gerard Price	Liz Malik	Kevin O'Donnell	Commentator	Michael Monaghan
Lectors	Maisie Tenev Jan Blanch	Regina Fong Gerard Price	Stephanie Trevenen Nicole Mead	Lee Sullivan Kevin O'Donnell	Lectors	Sarah Xuereb Mary Luci
Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist	Anita Fernandes	Anna Neale	Katie Moss	Elvira Bennett		Michael Monaghan
Altar Servers	Lorenzo Arango Alvita Fernandes Annette Fernandes	Rowan Talbot Lily Talbot	Cameron Moss Cara Eades Felicity Gottardo Lincoln Gottardo Dennie Paget	Alex Golden Gabby Golden Natasha Golden	Cleaning	Nai & David Herford
					Flowers	Mia Xuereb Doris Vassallo
COUNTERS	ALTAR LINEN	ALTAR SOCIETY	CHILDRENS LITURGY	PARISH BUS	FRIDAY HOSPITAL VISITATION	SUNDAY HOSPITAL VISITATION
03/01 Gary Smith Lyn Beglin Margaret Hunter 10/01 Gary Smith Diana Addis Marie Cradock	P/Up 03/01 Thea Dowsett Ret'n by 07/01	Sat, Jan 09 Fran Thompson Audrey Morris Thea Dowsett Barbara Mills	Postponed until after School Resumes	Postponed	07/01 Christina Miller Margaret Eadie Patricia McCaskie Coleen Martin Denise Nicholson Sandra Petith Gary Wills	09/01 Sheila Evans Michael Lynch