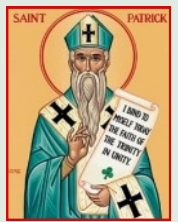


KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH

Diocese of Broken Bay

CHRISTMAS DAY 25 DECEMBER 2019

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord— Vigil Mass

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord—Midnight Mass

A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us—Dawn Mass

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God—Day Masses

Lying in a manger

It's night, but brightness illuminates the darkness over Bethlehem.

The light surrounds the shepherds who hear the message.

The child is hidden in an obscure, unknown place.

Some effort is needed, to discover him.

Here are life-giving words we need to hear: ***"Do not be afraid. Look, I bring you news of great joy."***

Something really great is happening, and all of us have reason to rejoice. That newborn child doesn't belong only to Mary and Joseph. He's been born for all of us, for all people everywhere. We Christians mustn't be the only ones to celebrate this evening. Jesus belongs to all who follow him with faith and those who have forgotten him, those who trust in God and those who doubt everything. No one is totally alone with their fears or their loneliness. There's always this special *'someone'* who's thinking of us. His name is *'Emmanuel'*, God-with-us.

The messenger proclaims: ***"A Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."*** He's not the son of the emperor Augustus, proud ruler of the Roman world, celebrated as saviour and bringer of the Roman Peace, through the power of his armies. The birth of an emperor isn't good news in a world where the weak are victims of every kind of abuse. This child in the manger has no Roman citizenship, no rights under Roman law. He won't be in service to any Caesar nor work for any empire. He's the Son of God who has become human for people who need him. He will live his life in order to make life more fair, more generous and more humane. In him the unjust world will find God's salvation.

Where is this child? How can we recognize him? The messenger says: ***"Here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."*** The child has been born as an outsider, one of the marginalised majority, a displaced person in need of housing. His parents weren't able to find a room in the local boarding house. His mother gave birth to him in a kind of hut, without anyone's help. She did as best she could, wrapping him in swaddling clothes and laying him in a manger. In this simplest of shelters begins God's adventure among us. We won't find God among the powerful, but in the weak. God isn't in the grand and spectacular, but in the poor and the little one. Let's go in spirit to Bethlehem and return to the roots of our faith, where God has become incarnate.

© <https://www.associationofcatholicpriests.ie/2017/12/22294/>



Let peace prevail – People from all over the world make it a point to try and come together and spend time with all their families, relatives and friends at Christmas to celebrate the birth of Our Saviour, the Christ Child.

You, the parishioners of KCCP, are our extended family and we ask the Infant Christ, to shower you with His blessings during this Season of Christmas.

We also wish each of you great joy, safe travels and good health in 2020. **Merry Christmas & God Bless, Fr Shaju, Fr Joy & staff.**



Hello to all visitors to our parish –

Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish, warmly welcomes all visitors and extended family members to our churches.

It is wonderful to have you among us and to join with us as we celebrate Christmas and experience the Joy of Our Saviour's Birth.

Together we pray that Peace abides in our hearts, homes and homelands, now and throughout 2020.

May God bless you all and keep you safe during your visit with us.

PASTORAL CENTRE

1-19 Woodcourt Road, Berowra Heights 2082
 P.O. Box 335, Berowra Heights 2082
 Phone: (02) 9456 2450
 Email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au
 Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp

Centre Hours: 9am – 3.30pm.

Parish Priest Fr Shaju John, OSH
 Assistant Priest Fr Joy Thomas, OSH
 Parish Secretary Margaret Cooper
 Bookkeeper Karen Price
 Youth Ministry Co-ord. Michelle Chahine
 School/Parish Liturgy L. Patricia Smith
 Sacramental Team: kccpsacraments@gmail.com

RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday 9.30 am at St Patrick's
 Every Friday After 9am Mass at St Bernard's
 (except First Friday—see below)

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday	5pm	St Bernard's
	6pm	St Patrick's
Sunday	8am	St Patrick's
	9am	St Bernard's
	10am	St Patrick's
	6pm	St Patrick's

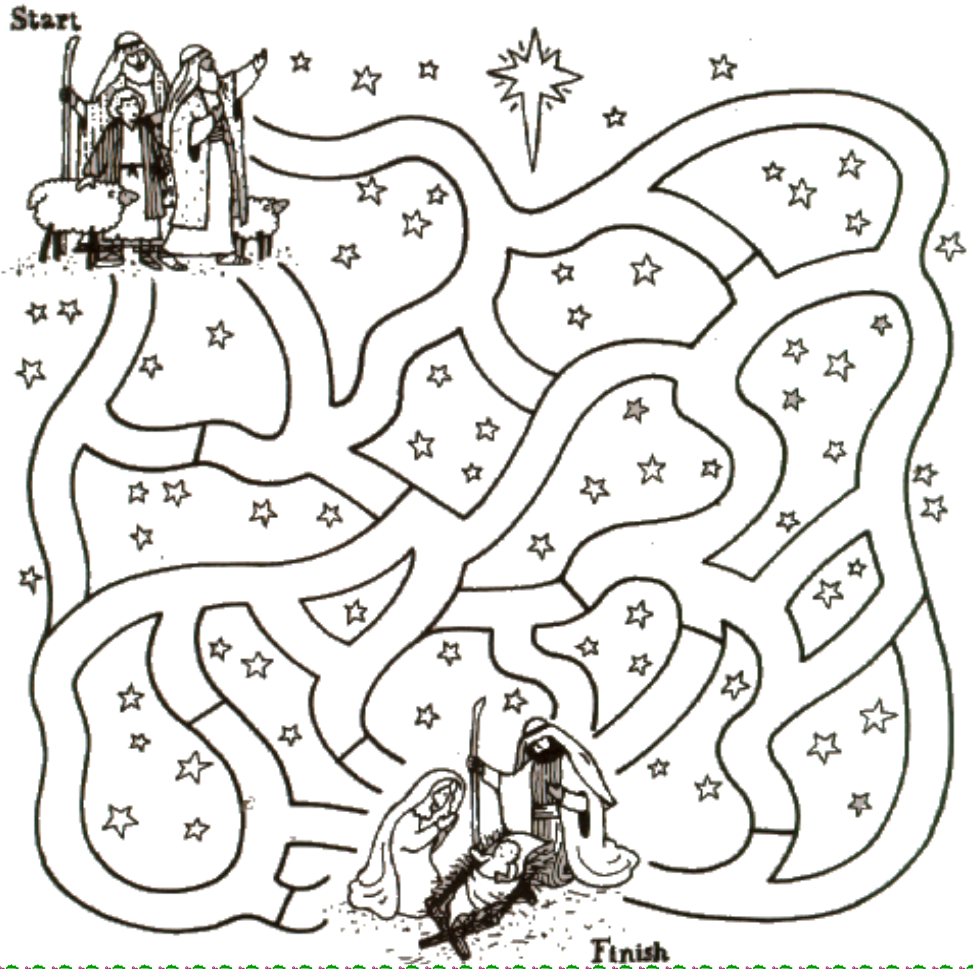
WEEKDAY MASSES

St Bernard's	8am	Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
	9am	Wednesday and Friday
St Patrick's	8am	Wednesday and Friday
	9am	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

First Friday –

No First Friday Healing Mass or Night Vigil during January.

Help the shepherds find the path to Jesus.



Christmas Candy Cane Poem about Jesus

*Look at the Candy Cane
 What do you see?
 Stripes that are red
 Like the blood shed for me
 White is for my Saviour
 Who's sinless and pure!
 "J" is for Jesus My Lord,
 that's for sure!
 Turn it around
 And a staff you will see
 Jesus my shepherd
 Was born for Me!*



A Christmas Prayer for Children

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

COLLECTIONS Did you realise?

The 1st Collection & Christmas Offering (special envelopes) go to our Diocese to support the Clergy.

The 2nd Collection is ESSENTIAL for our **PARISH ACTIVITIES** such as insurance, maintenance, parish events and programmes as well as office expenses and wages. *Our parish thanks you for your generosity.*

**Thursday 26:
 Boxing Day NO MASSES**

**Wed 1 Jan: Solemnity,
 Mary, the Holy Mother of God
 Mass is at 9am at both
 Asquith & Berowra**

**LITURGICAL SERVICES &
 PASTORAL CARE**

Rosary After weekday Mass both Churches

Visit Housebound Fr Shaju & Fr Joy - 9456 2450

Nursing Home Visits By request

Emergency Priest 0468 341 841 (Out of office hours only)

Clergy Days Off Fr Shaju – Monday
 Fr Joy – Tuesday

Home Visits For Masses,
 House Blessings & Pastoral Requests—
 Please phone the office 9456 2450.

HOSPITAL ADMISSION: If you are admitted to hospital, please write down your religion as Catholic to receive Catholic Services.

Be sure to notify the Pastoral Centre, if hospitalised and you would like our own priests to attend.