

*Diocese of Broken Bay Under the Pastoral Care of the Discalced Carmelites since 2008*

**22 December 2024, Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Parish Mass Times:**  
Monday to Friday: 9am  
Saturday: 9am, 6pm (vigil)  
Sunday: 8am, 10am, 5pm  
Public Holidays: 9am  
Rock Mass: Once a term

**Baptism:** Third Sunday of each month by appointment  
**Wedding:** Contact Parish Office at least 6 months prior notice  
**Morning Prayer:** Monday - Friday: 8:30am  
**Anointing of Sick:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 9am or by request  
**Eucharistic Adoration:** Saturday 9:30 – 10am concluding with Benediction  
**Reconciliation:** Saturday 9:30am  
**Rosary:** Immediately after weekday Mass and Saturday (8:35am)



**Christmas Blessings**

**Second Thursday of Every Month**

Anointing of the Sick – 9am

**Tuesday 24th December**

Children's Christmas Nativity Rehearsal— 4pm in the Church

6pm Children's Nativity Mass

Christmas Choir rehearsal 7pm in the Church

8:30pm Carols

9:00pm Evening Mass

**Wednesday 25 December**

8:00am & 10am Mass

No evening mass

**Thursday 26 - Saturday 28 December**

9:00am Mass

**28th & 29th December**

Normal weekend masses

**The first Friday mass will NOT be held on 3rd January.**

**Parish Office will be closed from 12nn on Christmas Eve until Monday 20 January**

**"Keep Jesus Christ in your heart,  
And you will recognise His Face in every human being."**

**... Pope John Paul II**

**WISHING YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY & HOLY CHRISTMAS & MAY BABY JESUS BE IN YOUR HEART & MAY HE FILL YOU WITH HIS BLESSINGS of PEACE, LOVE AND JOY IN THE COMING YEAR OF 2025 and ALWAYS! FOND MEMORIES, GOOD WISHES & PRAYERS. IT IS CHRISTMAS EVERY TIME YOU LET GOD LOVE OTHERS THROUGH YOU. WISHING YOU ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAVE A VERY BLESSED NEW YEAR!**

**FR GREG CHEE OCD, FR SUNNY PEACKAL OCD, FR GERARD MORAN OCD, MICHELLE, CHRISTINA, JENNIFER AND GERRI.**

**CONTACT DETAILS**

263 Mona Vale Road, St Ives

Phone: 9144 6998

Email: office@corpuschristi.com.au

In an emergency call 9144 6998

Web: www.bbcatholic.org.au/stives

**PARISH OFFICE TEAM**

Fr Greg Chee, OCD, Parish Priest

Ed Wales, Parish Finance

Michelle Miles, Office Manager

Jennifer Perrott, Faith Facilitator

Gerri Hadwen, Sacramental Co-Ordinator

Christina Surjan, Administrative Assistant

**HALL BOOKINGS**

Michelle Miles / Christina Surjan

9144 6998

Corpus Christi Parish School

Phone: 7256 2114

17 Link Road, St Ives NSW 2075

Web: www.ccsidbb.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mrs Jayne Wheen

Email: ccsi@dbb.catholic.edu.au

**You can now find us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiChurchStIves](http://www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiChurchStIves) and Instagram [www.instagram.com/CorpusChristiStIves](http://www.instagram.com/CorpusChristiStIves)**

## Parish Choir Rehearsals



We are very close to Christmas now and you are all invited to come to the parish choir rehearsals in the church so that we will be ready to sing for the 9 pm Christmas Eve mass on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December. Even if you are not a regular attender of the choir we would love you to come along.

Our last rehearsal is on **Christmas Eve and will be at 7pm, followed by Carols at 8.30pm then Christmas Mass at 9pm.**

## Morning Tea Ministry On Break



Our Morning Tea Ministry will be taking a well deserved break over the Christmas / New Year Period.

**Morning tea will not be served from Sunday 22 December to 26th of January 2025.** We would like to thank the morning tea ministry for providing such delicious treats and warm hospitality during the year.

## PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR

The Parish office will be closed from midday on **Tuesday 24 December** will re-open on **Monday 20 January 2025**. Emails and calls will still be monitored during this time for those needing assistance.

## Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

We wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of these lands on which we gather and show our respect to the Elders past and present . We also wish to pay our respects to all Aboriginal people.

## PC ITEMS

We would like to thank those generous parishioners who have already made donation contributions towards the purchase of the PC items.

To date approximately \$24,700 has been either paid or pledged to this appeal, which will reduce the total amount of the building contract.

There is still opportunity to contribute to this appeal. The items that are still available for a "cash in kind" donation are shown in the attached table.

PC ITEMS	Approximate cost \$
Supply & install kitchen, laundry & pantry	20,000
Carpet	8,000
Ceramic tiles (to be selected)	3,000
Alarm system (to be selected)	2,000
WC suites (3) (Mondella Signature)	1,500
Shower roses (3) (Methven Satinet)	600
Floor wastes (7) (Kinetic 100mm Chrome)	210

## Prayer Zone



### Recently Deceased:

Wendy Meyers

### Anniversary:

John Hadley, Joseph Li (4th January)

### Please pray for the ill:

Michelle Fisher; Fr Sergio Chauira; Jessie Chang; Amy O'Connell; James Frederick Riley; Tom Brewer; Sylvia Fishburn; Nicolette Harris; Marshall O'Brien; Helen McCarthy; Quentin Stewart; Rob Sanders; Anne Jardane; Naomi Upton; Vanessa Park; Rebecca Davies; Grace Cheah; Elizabeth Walsh; Maria Garcia; Jose Mestres; Meacheal; Estelle Sok; Thi Nguyen; Carmel Hadley; Fergus O'Brien; Michelle Soumier; Gracie Spencer; Brendan Stone

***If you know of anyone who can no longer attend mass due to illness; or if you have noticed one of our parishioners is no longer attending mass, could you please let Michelle or Christina know.***

## FEAST DAYS - DECEMBER

Mon 25th, The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Tues 26th, St Stephen, the first martyr

Wed 27th, St John, apostle, evangelist

Thurs 28th, The Holy Innocents, martyrs

Sun 31st, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



## Social Justice Corner

### The Carol Loved the World Over

Silent Night, the perennial favourite Christmas carol, had very humble beginnings. In 1816, Fr Joseph Mohr, a young Austrian Catholic priest, wrote the poem *Stille Nacht* at Mariapfarr, just after the end of the Napoleonic Wars. Shortly after, Fr Mohr moved to Oberndorf, Salzburg.

On Christmas Eve 1818, Fr Mohr asked Franz Xaver Gruber, the local schoolmaster and parish organist, to compose a melody and guitar accompaniment for that night's Mass after flooding had damaged the church organ. Remarkably, Franz Gruber composed the *Stille Nacht* melody for Mohr in just a few hours. The carol *Stille Nacht Heilige Nacht* was performed that evening by Fr Mohr and Franz Gruber in front of a traditional nativity scene in the church of St Nikolaas.

The carol's fundamental message of peace, even amidst suffering, became the most popular Christmas carol in the world, building bridges across cultures and generations. It is remembered for its part in the 1914 Christmas Eve truce on the front lines in Flanders when soldiers on both sides laid down their weapons, sang carols, exchanged simple gifts, and played soccer in no man's land. Although the truce was never formally declared, it was a moment of peace in a war that was still so young and had no victory in sight.

In 2011, UNESCO declared Silent Night an "intangible cultural heritage," and in Austria, *Stille Nacht* is considered a national treasure and may not be played publicly before Christmas Eve. Over 200 years after the carol was first performed in a little church in Salzburg, the lilting melody and peaceful lyrics continue to remind us of a universal sense of grace that unites people across diverse cultures and faiths.



**The Social Group wishes everyone a very happy and peaceful Christmas.**

## Children's Nativity Mass

Would your child like to be part of the 6pm Nativity Play at Christmas Eve Mass this year?

### Practice Dates:

- Sat 14 Dec 3:30pm
  - Sat 21 Dec 3:30pm
  - Tue 24 Dec 4:30pm
- Mass at 6:00pm

**Everyone is welcome!**

Parent helpers encouraged to stay during practice times.



Please attend the Saturday practices for main role allocation. If you can't come for the Saturdays, please still come to the Hall before Mass on Christmas Eve to join.

All are welcome to join in.

Contact:  
Rebecca 0407 277 689  
(via text msg)



263 Mona Vale Road, St Ives



## POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

### For Pilgrims of Hope

Let us pray that this Jubilee strengthen us in our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

## Thinking of Selling or Renting your Home or Investment Property?

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Contact: Matthew Johnson - 0418 767 150 or 9488 8200

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## Selbin Cleaning

- ◆ Weekly, fortnightly, spring or occasional cleaning
- ◆ Preparation for sale or rent
- ◆ End of lease cleaning

**Monica Fletcher**  
0419 484 377  
[monicafletcher@bigpond.com](mailto:monicafletcher@bigpond.com)



## The Catenians

*Strengthening family life through  
friendship and faith*

Catenians meet every month to pray together, to enjoy each others' company and to support their Clergy and Parishes.

For further information phone  
President - Harry Hull 0411 818 132  
Secretary - David Conoulty 0412 267 538

## The Word

### Sunday 22 December 2024: Fourth Sunday of Advent

#### Collect

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,  
your grace into our hearts,  
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your  
Son  
was made known by the message of an Angel,  
may by his Passion and Cross  
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

#### First Reading

A reading from the prophet Micah Mi 5:1-4

*Out of you will be born the one who is to rule  
over Israel.*

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
the least of the clans of Judah,  
out of you will be born for me  
the one who is to rule over Israel;  
his origin goes back to the distant past,  
to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to abandon them  
till the time when she who is to give birth gives  
birth.

Then the remnant of his brothers will come back  
to the sons of Israel.

He will stand and feed his flock  
with the power of the Lord,  
with the majesty of the name of his God.

They will live secure, for from then on he will  
extend his power  
to the ends of the land.

He himself will be peace.

The Word of the Lord.

#### Responsorial Psalm Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19.

R. v.4

*(R.) Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your  
face and we shall be saved.*

1. O Shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from  
your cherubim throne. O Lord, rouse up your  
might, Lord, come to our help. *(R.)*
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look  
down from heaven and see. Visit this vine  
and protect it, the vine your right hand has  
planted. *(R.)*
3. May your hand be on the man you have  
chosen, the man you have given your  
strength. And we shall never forsake you  
again: give us life that we may call upon your  
name. *(R.)*

#### Second Reading

From the letter to the Hebrews Heb 10:5-10

*I am coming to do your will.*

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:  
You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation,  
prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in  
holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said,  
just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book,  
'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'  
Notice that he says first: You did not want what the  
Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is:  
the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the  
sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them;  
and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey  
your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it  
with the second. And this will was for us to be made  
holy by the offering of his body made once and for  
all by Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

#### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:  
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

#### Gospel

From the holy Gospel according to Luke Lk 1:39-45

*Why should it happen that I am honoured with a  
visit from the mother of my Lord?*

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a  
town in the hill country of Judah. She went into  
Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as  
soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child  
leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the  
Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all  
women you are the most blessed, and blessed is  
the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured  
with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the  
moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in  
my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who  
believed that the promise made her by the Lord  
would be fulfilled.'

The Gospel of the Lord.