



# PYMBLE CATHOLIC PARISH

SACRED HEART & OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

*Building a Christ-centred community of Love and Mercy*



*Pymble Parish is under the Pastoral care of the Salvatorian Fathers*

"Are you the one who is to come,  
or have we got to wait  
for someone else?"

Matthew 11:2

## Advent Prayer

*I lift my heart up to you, Lord,  
to thank you for the blessings  
you shower on me each day.*

*You are the 'joy of my soul.'  
I know that in your great love,  
I am held and protected by you.*

*I pray and listen to the good news you send;  
I ask and feel the healing.  
I am freed by you  
from the things in this world  
that let me hide from you.*

*I rejoice, I rejoice, down to my soul.  
Help me to prepare my heart  
to be open and able to receive your immense  
love.  
Amen.*

A warm welcome  
to all our  
Parishioners  
who are  
celebrating the  
Eucharist with us  
this weekend.



## POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

For Volunteer Not-for-Profit  
Organisations

We pray that volunteer non-  
profit organisations committed to human  
development find people dedicated to the  
common good and ceaselessly seek out new  
paths to international cooperation.



## Prayer for the Intercession of Blessed Francis Jordan

Lord Jesus Christ, Saviour of the world, you called Francis  
Mary of the Cross Jordan to be your apostle, to make God  
known and loved by all people everywhere, using all the  
means your love inspires. You filled him with universal  
apostolic zeal, with a deep trust in God's loving providence,  
with a profound spirit of prayer, with a sincere devotion to  
Mary, Mother of the Saviour, and with the courage to  
follow you, even into the mystery of the Cross.

Grant also to me the grace to proclaim the Gospel in this  
spirit, and make me an effective apostle in today's world.

Through the intercession of Blessed Francis Jordan, I pray  
to you for my special needs (include your personal  
intention). I make this prayer through you, my Saviour, who  
lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, forever  
and ever. Amen.

[www.sds.org.au](http://www.sds.org.au)

We welcome to Pymble Parish  
the newest members of  
our community

*Theo Nguyen*

*William Faulkner*

who will be Baptised this  
weekend at our Parish.



## Baptisms at Pymble Parish

If you would like to know or if you have any  
questions about the Baptism process in our  
Parish, please contact the Parish office  
on 9144 2702 or via email on  
[office@pymblecatholicparish.org.au](mailto:office@pymblecatholicparish.org.au)

Baptism Formation Classes will resume in  
February 2023.

Have a most blessed Christmas!



## Parish Team

### Pastoral care

#### Salvatorian Fathers

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Ireneusz Czech SDS

**Email:** [fr.irek@pymblecatholicparish.org.au](mailto:fr.irek@pymblecatholicparish.org.au)

**Youtube:** [youtube.com/@IreneuszCzech](https://www.youtube.com/@IreneuszCzech)

**Podbean:** <https://pawelc8.podbean.com/>

**Assistant Parish Priest:** Fr. Paul Tran SDS

**Email:** [fr.paul@pymblecatholicparish.org.au](mailto:fr.paul@pymblecatholicparish.org.au)

### Parish Staff

**Parish Secretary:** Daniela Foote

**Email:** [daniela@pymblecatholicparish.org.au](mailto:daniela@pymblecatholicparish.org.au)

**Assistant Secretary:** Claudia Chen

**Email:** [claudia@pymblecatholicparish.org.au](mailto:claudia@pymblecatholicparish.org.au)

**Youth Coordinator:**

**Email:** [info@pymblecatholicparish.org.au](mailto:info@pymblecatholicparish.org.au)

**Sacramental & CCD Coordinator:** Melanie Benbow

**Email:** [melanie@pymblecatholicparish.org.au](mailto:melanie@pymblecatholicparish.org.au)

Youtube QR code:



Podbean QR code:



## Parish Mass Times

### Sacred Heart

2 Richard Porter Way, Pymble NSW 2073

#### Weekdays:

Tuesday to Friday 9:00am

**Rosary:** Tuesday to Friday after morning Mass

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** Friday after morning Mass

#### Weekend:

Saturday (Vigil Mass): 5:30pm

Sunday: 7:45am, 9:30am and 6:00pm

**Reconciliation:** Friday 8:45am, Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 5:30pm

### Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

64 Kendall St, West Pymble, NSW, 2073

#### Weekdays:

Tuesday: 12pm

*During School Term as advertised in the Parish weekly calendar section*

#### Weekend:

Saturday (Vigil Mass): 9:00am and 5:00pm

Sunday: 9:00am

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 9:30am

## Contact details

**Address:** 2 Richard Porter Way, Pymble, NSW 2073

**Postal address:** PO BOX 231 Turramurra NSW 2074

**Telephone:** (02) 9144 2702

**Email:** [office@pymblecatholicparish.org.au](mailto:office@pymblecatholicparish.org.au)

**Website:** [www.pymblecatholicparish.org.au](http://www.pymblecatholicparish.org.au)

**Office hours:** Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 4pm &

Friday 8.30am to 1pm

*For information about Baptisms and Weddings please contact Daniela in the Parish Office.*

*For information about the sacraments of Confirmation, Reconciliation and First Eucharist, please contact Melanie at [melanie@pymblecatholicparish.org.au](mailto:melanie@pymblecatholicparish.org.au)*

## PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

### SACRED HEART

**Principal:** Mrs Mary Hor

**Telephone:** (02) 94408056

[www.shpdbb.catholic.edu.au](http://www.shpdbb.catholic.edu.au)

### OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

**Principal:** Mrs Sue Host

**Telephone:** (02) 9498 6060

[www.olpsdbb.catholic.edu.au](http://www.olpsdbb.catholic.edu.au)

Pymble Catholic Parish

# Christmas Break

Parish groups taking a break over the Christmas New Year period will resume as below

Office: Monday, 16 January 2023  
RCIA: Friday, 30 January 2023  
Charismatic Prayer Group: Tuesday, 31 January 2023  
Mens Fellowship: Thursday, 2 February 2023  
Taizé Group: Friday, 3 February 2023  
Bible Study: Friday, 3 February 2023  
Youth off the Streets: Friday, 17 February 2023

**We wish everyone all the blessings of Christmas**

*Our Parish wouldn't be what it is without all the time and talent given by you!*

Please join us as we celebrate your service to Pymble Parish with a

## Volunteer's Dinner

Saturday, 10 December 2022 at 6.30pm  
Sacred Heart School Hall

Kindly RSVP by November 27th to the Parish Office on 02 9144 2702 and advise any dietary requirements.

Sponsored by Pymble Parish

Please inform the Parish Office if you have recently changed your address, phone number or email.  
For Parishioners who give via credit card, please let us know if your credit card has expired or if you have changed your card. Thank you!

# Lighting the Advent Wreath

## Third Candle - The Candle of Joy



**Meditation:** "He will baptise you in the Holy Spirit and in fire." (Luke 3:16)

**Priest:** In the Third Week of Advent, we are called to respond to the gifts and graces we received in our baptism. We ask, "Does my life today fulfil the expectations and responsibilities of bearing the name of Christian?" What are we doing for the hungry, the oppressed, the sick, the lonely? Do we truly care about the needs of others? Do we accomplish cheerfully all that is expected of us in the work place or the classroom?

Light the pink candle.

**Priest:** Almighty and loving God, Your Son has taught us the way to live as Your children. We were blessed in our baptisms with special gifts and graces, and still there are times when we find it hard to be all that we should be. We ask for an increased awareness of the needs of others and for the courage to stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves. Please, God, help us to live in Your grace that all who know us will know You and Your love.

The Penitential Rite follows

### WHAT’S ON IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

<b>Sunday, 11 December</b> <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> 7:45am Mass at Sacred Heart 9:00am Mass at OLPS 9:30am Mass at Sacred Heart 6:00pm Mass at Sacred Heart	4:30pm Baptism Class for Primary Aged Children
<b>Monday, 12 December</b> <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe (Optional)</i> 9:00am Carols at Sacred Heart	<b>Thursday, 15 December</b> 9:00am Healing Mass at Sacred Heart, followed by morning tea
<b>Tuesday, 13 December</b> <i>St Lucy, virgin, martyr (Memorial)</i> 9:00am Mass at Sacred Heart 2:00pm Carols at Sacred Heart 7:00pm Advent Reflections Sacred Heart Church Meeting Room 7:30pm Charismatic Prayer Group	<b>Friday, 16 December</b> 9:00am Mass at Sacred Heart with Adoration and Litany to the Sacred Heart of Jesus 10:00am Bible Study 12:00pm OLPS School End of Year Mass
<b>Wednesday, 14 December</b> <i>St John of the Cross, priest, doctor (Memorial)</i> 9:00am Mass at Sacred Heart 11:30am Sacred Heart School End of Year Mass	<b>Saturday, 17 December</b> 9:00am Mass with Morning Prayer at OLPS 5:00pm Mass at OLPS 5:30pm Mass at Sacred Heart
	<b>Sunday, 18 December</b> <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i> 7:45am Mass at Sacred Heart 9:00am Mass at OLPS 9:30am Mass at Sacred Heart - Past SH Parents 6:00pm Mass at Sacred Heart

The Rosary is recited after all weekday Masses.



## Parish Prayer Zone

Praying for others gets our focus off ourselves and onto the needs of those around us. As we “carry each other’s burdens,” we “will fulfil the law of Christ” (Galatians 6:2). Praying for each other makes us stronger and helps us to grow our faith and Christian love.

<b>Recently Deceased:</b> Peter Pedulla, Nina Gomes, Julian Costa Silva, Maria Elizabeth Miranda, Elaine Giddy, Matthew McFadden, Judith Clubb, Judith English, Monica Steele, Janice Lemon, Michael Schmaedicke, Louisa Garcia, Lisbello Do Rozario, Mary Dunne, Mdm Wei Took Heng, Ranjan Fernando, Lorenta Vida Water.
<b>Death Anniversaries:</b> Tony Sanchez, Franciszek Lucjan Skrodzki, Les Cashman, Jim Hussin, Jane & David Wilkinson, Maria Karayannis ,Yu Tso Kwong Tsui, Paul & George Neily, Salim, Virginia, Carlos & Salvador Younes, Maria Hui, Charles and Joan Bernie, Peter Goh, Ricardo Ramos, Lois Rae, Katherine Cashman, Martin Gilsenan, Jack Chan, John English, Carmel Nola Conway.
<b>Prayers for the sick:</b> Angie, Wendy Tan, Alice Chapman, David Gardener
<b>Weekly prayer intention:</b> We pray for all refugees and migrants who have travelled to a new country seeking a new life, that they are brought safely to the place they long to be. And help us always to show your kindness to strangers and those in need. Amen.  If you would like the names of your relatives to be included in the prayer list (anniversary of deaths, recently deceased, illnesses, wedding celebration or anniversaries, birthdays, etc.) please contact the Parish Office by midday each Wednesday. Remember that due to privacy policy, names of the sick can only be put on the bulletin with permission of the immediate family. This list will be updated every month and we would appreciate if we are advised of any updates. Thank you.

# CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Tickets for sale after all Masses at both Churches  
10-11/12, 17-18/12  
Raffle will be drawn after 6pm Mass on  
18 December

1 for \$5  
3 for \$10  
CASH ONLY

## Introducing RCIA Candidate Erryn Lloyd-Jones

Hi, my name is Erryn Lloyd-Jones and I am currently doing the RCIA programme here at Sacred Heart, Pymble. I am 45 years old and work in the Financial Services industry.

I have been married for 11 years to my wife Rebecca and we have 4 wonderful children Oscar (9), Hamish (6), Alice (5) and Maximus (2).

I would like to become a Catholic because I have always been seeking a deeper meaning from spiritual life and this has grown stronger as I have watched my family grow and thrive in the catholic community through school and Parish life. I look forward to being baptised at Easter and am excited to be complete and truly connected with the Church and the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. If you see me at Mass, please say hello and introduce yourself, as I would like to get to know some of the parishioners here.

Regards  
Erryn Lloyd-Jones



## Christmas: Pymble Parish

### Pymble Catholic Parish Christmas Events

<b>Tuesday, 20 December</b> <b>Parish Reconciliation Night</b> 7:00pm Sacred Heart	<b>Friday, 30 December</b> <b>Feast, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</b> 9:00am Sacred Heart 9:00am Our Lady of Perpetual Succour
<b>Saturday, 24 December</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>Sacred Heart</b> 5:00pm Family Mass 7:00pm Christmas Eve Mass 9:00pm Christmas Eve Mass 11:30pm Carols Midnight Mass <b>Our Lady of Perpetual Succour</b> 5:00pm Family Mass	<b>Saturday, 31 December</b> <b>New Year's Eve</b> 9:00am Our Lady of Perpetual Succour 5:00pm Our Lady of Perpetual Succour 5:30pm Sacred Heart
<b>Sunday, 25 December</b> <b>Christmas Day</b> <b>Sacred Heart</b> 7:45am Christmas Mass 9:30am Christmas Mass 6:00pm Christmas Mass	<b>Sunday, 1 January</b> <b>Solemnity, Mary Holy Mother of God</b> 7:45am Sacred Heart 9:00am Our Lady of Perpetual Succour 9:30am Sacred Heart 6:00pm Sacred Heart

**Our Lady of Perpetual Succour**  
 9:00am Christmas Mass  
 5:00pm Christmas Mass

**Pymble Catholic Parish**  
**Sacred Heart Church**  
 2 Richard Porter Way Pymble NSW 2073  
**Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church**  
 64 Kendall Street West Pymble NSW 2073  
[www.pymblecatholicparish.org.au](http://www.pymblecatholicparish.org.au)

## Advent Reflections

Join us as we reflect and journey together in welcoming Jesus at Christmas this year.

Tuesday Evenings during Advent at 7pm  
(29Nov, 6Dec, 13Dec & 20Dec)  
Sacred Heart Church meeting room

Reminder: December frozen meal donations for the Father Chris Riley's Youth Off The Streets program should be dropped off at the Parish office between **9am and 10am on Friday, 16 December 2022**. At 10am, the meals will be transported to Youth Off The Streets. Collections are scheduled for the third Friday of each month except January. The program will return in 2023 with the first collection on Friday, 17 February 2023.

Thank you for your support during the year. We wish you and your family a happy Christmas and all of the very best for 2023.

## PARISH RECONCILIATION NIGHT

### Sacred Heart Church

### Tuesday, 20 December 2022

### 7-8pm

Everyone is encouraged to join us for this special celebration in preparation for Christmas. Reconciliation will take place on **Tuesday, 20 December 2022** between **7 and 8pm at Sacred Heart Church**. A number of priests will be available on the evening.

*"To celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation means to be wrapped in a warm embrace" Pope Francis*

## St Vincent de Paul Annual Christmas and Hamper Appeal

**A huge thank you to the wonderful Parishioners of Sacred Heart and OLPS for their outstanding support of the St Vincent de Paul 2022 Christmas Hamper Appeal.** Over a hundred families in Pymble, Wyong and Glebe will receive a beautiful hamper this year, thanks to your generosity. What a huge difference it will make to their Christmas, not only to receive a welcome hamper of nutritious food, but to know that a stranger is sending them love and support. In addition, \$2,700 has been received so far in contributions to the Appeal.

## Invitation to Past Sacred Heart Parents

We extend a special invitation to everyone, including past Sacred Heart School parents to our 9:30am Mass at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday, 18 December. Take a moment out of your busy Christmas preparations to join us for a sausage sandwich and free barista coffee, and to pray for our now teenage and adult children. We will be having a coffee van on site after Mass. Everyone is welcome.

## Christmas Assembly at Turramurra Public School

Pymble Catholic Parish was given the opportunity to run the combined Christian (Catholic and Protestant) 2022 Christmas Assembly at Turramurra Public School. Year six Catholic children presented the assembly supported by Mrs. Margaret Drylie leading the carols backed by Mr. Tim Rowland (TPS), and the Intermediate School Band.

Fr. Irek brought his guitar and engaged the students with a couple of songs before giving his talk about Advent and the Joy of Christmas.

It was particularly exciting for us because, for the first time we, the Catholic Catechists for Turramurra Public School, have been given the opportunity to run such an assembly.

A huge thank you goes out to Melanie Benbow our CCD Co-ordinator for all her support.

Please consider volunteering your time to become a Catechist. Call the parish office 9144 2702 for more information.



L-R: Michele Brack, Fr. Ireneusz (Irek) Czech, Margaret Drylie and Deirdre McGreal



Fr. Irek Czech, and Mr Anthony Moran (Principal)

You've got a lot to give beyond Christmas gifts.



In January you can prepare for mission at home or abroad.

Palms Australia has trained Australians to live and work within cultures and communities overseas since 1961. Now four days of that training will be available for parishioners interested to assist harness the diverse gifts of our community and make it stronger.

### At Home

Palms' [Neighbours Without Borders](#) program (January 7 – 11) will “focus on building communities that are welcoming to all, with particular attention to those on the margins of society and the church” as urged by the recent Plenary Council.

### Overseas

Completing a further four days (January 12 – 15) will prepare you to meet one of the [many requests Palms has from communities](#) in Africa, Asia and the Pacific who need educators; health professionals; administrators and others to assist build on the strengths of their people who otherwise have little opportunity for training.

Enquire about Palms Orientation for mission via [www.palms.org.au](http://www.palms.org.au) or call 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567.

## PYMBLE PARISH SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

Our final collection for 2022 the communities of Griffith is now underway. We would appreciate donations of clean and good quality clothing for men, women and children and also toiletries, blankets and towels. We would also appreciate donations of used Lego.

There will be a collection box in the Sacred Heart Crying Room from **Monday 5 December to Sunday 11 December**. Please do not leave donations before Monday 5 December as the St Vincent the Paul hamper appeal is running until then.

Thank you so much for your support of these communities. They are so thankful for our ongoing support. Please contact Jocelyn Barber [jocelynbarber@optusnet.com.au](mailto:jocelynbarber@optusnet.com.au) if you need any further details.



**WELCOME TO THE CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASSES 2022**

*Simbang Gabi Launch*

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHEDRAL  
10 December | 5:00 PM  
27 Yardley Ave, Waitara

<p><i>Hornsby</i></p> <p>OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY 15-23 December   7:00 PM 27 Yardley Ave, Waitara <a href="mailto:Cynthia.alipalo@gmail.com">Cynthia.alipalo@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:bbfc.hornsby@gmail.com">bbfc.hornsby@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><i>Dee Why</i></p> <p>ST. KEVIN'S CHURCH 15-23 December   7:30 PM 50 Oaks Ave, Dee Why c/o Marlon Cabilao Mobile no. 0430249450</p>
<p><i>Chatswood</i></p> <p>OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CHURCH 16-24 December   5:30 AM 94 Archer st, Chatswood <a href="mailto:fccpadmin@gmail.com">fccpadmin@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><i>Wyong</i></p> <p>ST. CECILIA'S CHURCH The Tridumm 21, 22, 23 December   7:00 PM 23 Bryon St, Wyong <a href="mailto:monette2905@gmail.com">monette2905@gmail.com</a></p>

**Pastoral Coordinator**  
Deacon Roberto Corpuz | m: 0414 525 448  
Facebook: Filipino Chaplaincy Broken Bay

## HEALING MASS

"COME TO ME, ALL YOU WHO ARE WEARY AND BURDENED..."

We'd like to invite all our senior parishioners to come and celebrate Healing Mass with the Anointing of the Sick, at **9am on Thursday, 15 December at Sacred Heart Church**. We'll be holding a Christmas morning tea afterwards in the Crying Room and we'd love for you to come.

**We look forward to seeing you all there!**

*We Wish You a Merry Christmas*

**Sacred Heart School will be presenting Christmas carols at Sacred Heart Church on:**

**Monday, 12 December at 9am**  
**Tuesday, 13 December at 2pm**

**All parishioners are welcome to join.**



# Liturgy of the Word

## Third Sunday of Advent

Year A

<p><b>Entrance Antiphon</b></p> <p>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.</p> <p><b>First Reading</b></p> <p>Is 35: 1-6, 10</p> <p><b>A reading from the prophet Isaiah</b></p> <p>Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing or joy.</p> <p>The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God.</p> <p>Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and say to all faint hearts, ‘Courage! Do not be afraid.</p> <p>‘Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.’</p> <p>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy, for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.</p> <p>They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended.</p> <p><b>Responsorial Psalm</b></p> <p><b>(R.) Lord, come and save us.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. <b>(R.)</b></li><li>2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. <b>(R.)</b></li><li>3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion’s God, from age to age. <b>(R.)</b></li></ol> <p><b>Second Reading</b></p> <p>Jas 5: 7-10</p> <p><b>A reading from the letter of St James</b></p> <p>Be patient, brothers, until the Lord’s coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains!</p>	<p>You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord’s coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. .</p> <p><b>Gospel Acclamation</b></p> <p><i>Alleluia, alleluia!</i> <i>The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;</i> <i>He sent me to bring Good News to the poor</i> <i>Alleluia!</i></p> <p><b>Gospel</b></p> <p>Mt 11: 2-11</p> <p><b>A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew</b></p> <p>John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?’ Jesus answered, ‘Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.’</p> <p>As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: ‘What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.’</p> <p><b>Gospel Reflection</b></p> <p>John saw from a distant what Jesus would accomplish through his death on the cross - our redemption from bondage to sin and death and our adoption as sons and daughters of God and citizens of the kingdom of heaven. When King Herod tried to silence John by throwing him into prison, John sent his disciples to Jesus after John had heard the reports about Jesus performing signs and wonders and speaking to people about the coming of God's kingdom. John wanted his disciples to hear and see firsthand what Jesus was doing to bring the kingdom of God to those who were receptive and ready to receive his message.</p>	<p><b><i>Jesus the Messiah performs the signs of God's kingdom power</i></b></p> <p>Jesus confirmed for John that the miracles and healings which he performed were in direct fulfillment of the Messianic prophecies announced by Isaiah some 700 years previously. Isaiah had prophesied that when the Messiah would come to save his people he would "open the eyes of the blind and the ears of the deaf, the lame would leap, and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy" (Isaiah 35:5). Jesus' miracles are a demonstration of the power of God's kingdom at work in the midst of his people. When God acts to save his people he turns their sorrow and weeping into joy and singing, and their fear and weakness into strength and hope.</p> <p><b><i>The greatness of John's life and witness of the Messiah</i></b></p> <p>When Jesus had answered the disciples of John, he in turn asked them a question. "Why did you go out in the wilderness to see John the Baptist?" "Did you go because you were hungry for the word of the Lord?" Jesus said that John was more than a spokesman for God. John was the faithful witness and friend of the bridegroom who pointed others to the coming of the Messiah in their midst. Jesus contrasted John with the image of a reed shaken by the wind. Unlike a reed which is weak and spineless and can be easily crushed or bruised, John stood as a pillar of strength and truth in the face of opposition and persecution. No demonic force could weaken or crush John in his unswerving trust in God and his word.</p> <p><b><i>Jesus offers us abundant life and joy to be his witnesses</i></b></p> <p>Jesus knew that what the Father in heaven had sent him to accomplish for our sake would supersede all that the prophets had done and foreseen in the past. Jesus' atoning death on the cross cancels the debt of our sins and sets us free to live as citizens of his kingdom. He gives us pardon, healing, and abundant life through his Holy Spirit, and the promise of unending joy with him in his everlasting kingdom.</p> <p>John the Baptist paid the ultimate sacrifice of his life for speaking God's word and preparing the way for Jesus the Lord and Saviour of the world. The Lord Jesus offers us the same assurance of faith and the strength to stand against every force that would try to rob us of our conviction and courage to live and proclaim the good news (the Gospel) of God's kingdom. Do you know the joy, strength, and power which Jesus gives to every one who puts their trust in him and the power of the Holy Spirit? Ask the Lord Jesus to increase your faith and hope in his promises for you.</p> <p>© 2022 <a href="#">DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS AND MEDITATIONS</a></p>
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Pymble Parish Roster 17/18 December 2022				
Sacred Heart (Pymble)	Saturday 5.30pm	Sunday 7.45am	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 6.00pm
Acolytes	J Walton	R Shankland	C Wawrzyniak	P Adams
Altar Servers	Volunteers	Volunteers	N Liem	R Samson
Music	L Drinkwater M Drylie	Quiet Mass	E Cho J Whiting	T Sato Youth Choir
Projector	J Witcombe	C Greedy	M Ordonio	M Ereve
Readers	C Tan	M Dias	R Bordignon	T Meers
Altar Society	17 December: M D’Alessandri / J Murton / T Meers			
Counters	18 December: P Meers / M Boland / J Witcombe			
OLPS (West Pymble)	Saturday 5.00pm		Sunday 9.00am	
Acolytes	I Chisholm		A Mazzei	
Altar Servers	Volunteers		Volunteers	
Readers	G Lynch		M Achurra	
Music and Projector	M Mead / K Haddrick / D Blahut		E & A Chan	
Altar Cloth	17 December: P Ryan			

## Children's Corner

Jesus is coming to save us

X	A	L	E	P	R	O	S	Y	P	A	L	A	C	E
Y	J	O	H	N	P	F	Q	K	R	R	I	R	O	K
C	R	B	U	S	O	W	T	K	F	E	J	B	A	I
R	Q	A	Z	J	O	D	F	N	R	J	B	N	X	Y
Z	E	Y	Z	U	R	C	T	L	Q	E	B	W	O	T
N	M	E	S	S	E	N	G	E	R	C	M	W	J	L
F	O	L	E	A	S	T	A	W	X	T	K	U	A	M
T	P	Q	G	F	J	L	L	Y	U	G	O	E	X	K
P	N	Z	N	V	Q	X	M	M	A	M	I	X	H	S
J	Y	W	U	W	I	G	I	Z	V	Z	H	U	B	T
I	M	A	R	G	R	E	A	T	E	R	Y	O	P	P
D	K	I	N	G	D	O	M	X	V	K	T	L	M	X
F	O	L	L	O	W	E	R	S	T	B	I	Q	B	H
G	O	P	H	V	Y	O	O	L	A	M	E	E	K	R
Q	M	A	G	A	G	O	O	D	A	K	K	P	L	P

Try to find these words:

- followers
 kingdom
 least
 palace
- good
 leprosy
 poor
- greater
 lame
 messenger
 reject

Jesus told John the Baptist’s followers to tell him all they had seen and heard. How did Jesus help the following people?

Blind People

Deaf People

Lame People

Lepers

## Advent Wreath

Each Sunday during the season of Advent, we light a candle on the Advent Wreath. The candle which is lit on the third Sunday of Advent is pink. All the other candles are purple. Color in the Advent Wreath.



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