



Image by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj

Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish, Warnervale.

We gather as a community of believers in Jesus,
to grow as his disciples,
using our gifts, to proclaim the Gospel

SOLEMNITY OF CHRISTMAS THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Diocese of Broken Bay
Ancestral home of the
Darkinjung people

Mary, you will give birth to a son and
you must name him Jesus.
I bring you news of great joy.
The Word was made flesh and dwelt
among us.



St Vincent De Paul

thank all parishioners for your generosity to our Christmas Appeal. The Ryan Centre in the school was filled with hampers of food and toys to go out to families in the area. Your willingness to share has made a great difference to many families!

Parish Office

The office will not have regular hours between Christmas and New Year. You can leave a message on the parish answering machine (8379 1740) and someone will return your call. One of the priests can be reached on the parish mobile (0498 036 713).

Southern Cross Banner

That 5th star? Advent has lead us to Christmas which is 'Emmanuel': God is with us in Jesus - think of Jesus born, the emergent star of the Story.

There is a hint of mystery in an influential "spirit" out there among the stars that moved across the night sky millennia ago. Aboriginal people looked into the southern skies and brought the 'cross' into their Dreaming Mythology.

Epsilon Crucis, the 5th star of our Southern Cross, was given the new name of 'Ginan' by the International Astronomical Union in 2017. It has been called Ginan for thousands of years by the Wardaman people of the Northern Territory. It refers to a dilly bag - the 'Bag of Songs'.

Sunday Mass

Saturday: 5pm
Sunday: 8am, 10am, 5pm

Weekday Mass

9.15am Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri
7.30am Wed

Reconciliation

Saturday @ 4.00pm

Family Mass

Every Sunday @ 10am
Includes children's liturgy

Youth Mass

Every Sunday @ 5pm

Seniors Anointing Mass

Third Saturday of the month
at 9.15am.

Men's Breakfast

Fourth Saturday of the month
at Warnies Café.

Baptisms

Most Sundays @ 11.30am
Attendance at Information
Evening is required

Weddings

By Appointment

Thinking of becoming a Catholic?

Please contact Parish staff
for more information.

Devotions

Divine Mercy before Mass at
9am; Rosary after Mass.

Exposition Of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursdays after 9:15am Mass

Christmas Greetings

to all parishioners who have graciously shared the journey of faith together through 2018. May God bless you this Christmas; may your family celebrations be marked by joy and peace; and may children bring delight to your celebrations. Thank you to all who have helped the parish in any way this year. We are all gifted by your faithfulness.

Welcome to our visitors. Thanks for celebrating Christmas with us.

Safe travelling

to everyone who will be away over Christmas.

School Holidays

We ask you to be attentive to security issues and ring the parish mobile (0498 026 713) or Knightguard Protection Group (1300 655 009) if you have any security concerns. During the holidays the gates to the Parish/College site will be locked at 4:30pm most afternoons. Our apologies for any inconvenience.

Note: There is no midnight Mass or evening Mass in the Parish on Christmas Day.

Priests: Fr Vince Casey (vince.casey@bbcatholic.org.au) Fr Philip Thottam MSFS, (philip.thottam@bbcatholic.org.au)

Secretaries: Kate Clark & Kim McCarthy

Church: Cnr Minnesota & Sparks Rd, Woongarrah

Telephone: 8379 1740

Office email: warnervaleparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Office hours: Wed 8:30am - 4pm, Thurs 8.30am - 2pm, Fri 8.30am - 2.30pm

PPC: Ann Jackson, Glenn d'Cruz, Antony Joseph, Bob Madafiglio, Michael McCarthy, Bill Mifsud, Paul Moir, Maureen Mulheron, Christine Owen.

Bookkeeper: Johnson Mani

Mail: PO Box 4367, Lake Haven, 2263

Parish Mobile: (out of hours) 0498 036 713

Web: www.bbcatholic.org.au/warnervale

Return and Earn

This week we raised \$96.40

Bags are available near the grassed area or under the table in the church foyer. Take a bag home for those unwanted drink cans, plastic/glass bottles, poppers

♻️ Thank you for ♻️ & flavoured milk cartons. THANK YOU! **RECYCLING** Must state 10c refund!

Fr Philip's Farewell Dinner

All welcome to farewell Fr Philip on Wednesday 8 January 2020

Time: 6:30pm for 7 pm start

Cost: \$30 prepaid or \$45 at door

Indian restaurant Bollywood, Charmhaven.

Please contact Glenn D'cruz on 0413291129 or see him after 8am Mass to arrange pre-payment

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

The Very Young



That every country resolutely commits to taking the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

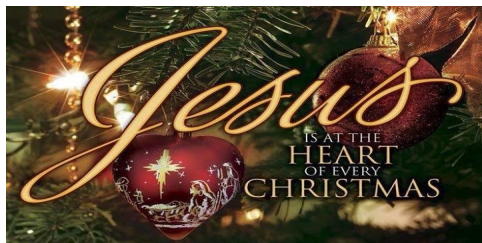
Christmas Lunch Prayer

*Loving God,
Thank you for the gift of Jesus who came into the world to show us your love.*

Bless our food, our conversation and company.

May our gathering at this table be filled with your peace

Amen.



Christmas Lunch a Meal to Remember

Christmas is here.

Whatever the rush, the tension, the money worries and work hassles, Christmas is here and there's only one thing to do: **MAKE THE MOST OF IT!**

The setting. A few visual effects can create an atmosphere of family belonging. A wall collage of family photos is a talking point as people peruse it before lunch and say 'Remember when....' some families make a 'fridge list of all the positive family happenings throughout the year which people add to throughout the day. **Tell stories.** Keep alive your family identity and traditions with stories –true or tall— about your ancestors. **Pray together.** A simple prayer of thanksgiving before everyone hoes into lunch brings life into clear focus. **Celebrate new life.** A newborn baby or a new child has a special way of drawing people out of themselves and softening hearts. **Let go of grudges** and petty resentments. Allow the peace of Christ to reign in your home today.

Acknowledge sadness. Personal losses and disappointments are felt most keenly at Christmas time. Don't be afraid to connect with grieving family member with a quiet word or gesture of support. **Pitch in** and help. Don't allow one or two people to be burdened with all the cooking, serving, cleaning. And be flexible. Allow people to help even if it's not quiet the way you would do it. **Welcome visitors.** Is there room at your inn? An hospitable home both gives and receives the presence of Christ. **After lunch** (or before): Appoint your family's best sports-person or socialite to organise everybody into a game of **cricket**, balderdash or trivial pursuit (your own family questions of course). Then again, some families enjoy a sing-a-long 'round the piano-all the *old hits*. **Mention Christ** during the day. Yes of course Christmas is about Jesus, but sometimes its good to state the obvious-through word or symbol. Place a nativity crib in a prominent place. Read the Christmas story at grace. **Get the children singing Happy Birthday to Jesus.** Most of all : **Enjoy!**

THIS WEEK

Tuesday 24 December

Christmas Eve

5pm, 8pm & 10pm Syro Malabar Mass

Wednesday 25 December

Christmas Day

8am & 10am No evening Mass

Thursday 26 December

St Stephen

9:15am Mass Fr Philip

Friday 27 December

St John the Apostle

9.15am Mass Fr Philip

Next Weekend 28/29 Dec

The Holy Innocents, martyrs

Sat 4pm Reconciliation Fr Vince

5pm Mass Fr Vince

8:00am Mass Fr Vince

10:00am Mass Fr Philip

11:30am Baptisms Fr Vince

5pm Mass Fr Philip

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

Social Justice

Christ "the Prince of Peace"

At Christmas we celebrate the birth of the "Prince of Peace." The Israelites believed peace encompassed the whole of life. They called it "Shalom", an inner contentment despite surrounding conflicts. At Christmas we consider peace with God, peace with our families but also peace within our society.

For Christ peace required hard and uncomfortable labour. Christ worked to enable humans to achieve their full potential. Peace requires society to develop ways of helping vulnerable people to achieve their basic needs and a reasonable quality of life. Sometimes we need to speak truth to power in order to gain this type of peace.

How can we actively follow "the Prince of Peace" this Christmas and this year?



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Social Justice Group

Warnervale Catholic Church

www.marymackillopsocialjustice.wordpress.com

Please remember our sick: Steve Rolls, Dr Louis Fourier, Evelyne Pavlides, Victor Carreon, Luzviminda San Pedro, Cara De Guzman, Vincent Shea, Koby Bourke, Michael Hunt, Sharon King, Adeline de Silva, Neville Brown,.

Deceased: Geoffrey Ranson, Colin Randazzo, Mary Mahoney, Barry Howe, Helen McKeon, Delene Menzies, Kevin May, Kelvin McGuinness, Lorna Hancock, Alberto Go, Mary Mahoney, Alex Robinson, Leo Galea, Raymond Kaifa, Hannah McCool, Anne Snodgrass, Betty Mecelli.

Mass Intentions: Weiss Family, Sue Lauder, Peter Larkin, Dorothy Tinker, Peter Walsh, George Pantos, Helen Pantazopoulos, Linda Bond, Conchita Claramunt, Sr Alma Pollard rsj, Reg/Beryl Gibble, Alice Kumarasiwie, Andrew Barlow, Gerald Weeratunga, Diana/Alicia Mitchell, Cecil Mansfield, Christi Kunandour.

