



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.*



On behalf of the parish of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop — welcome to each of you to this celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. *Merry Christmas.* May you receive wonderful graces and blessings this Christmas that will strengthen you in your faith, heal and renew your family, bring meaning to your work and fill your hearts with hope in the abundance of God's love for us.

A warm welcome is extended to all family and friends of our parishioners and to every visitor from near or far. We are proud and happy that you are able to join us for this celebration.

Today our hearts are full of joy as we celebrate that wonderful moment in human history when God chose to come into our earthly life as one of us. God took on our human form in a most surprising way—as a baby born at night to a young woman betrothed to a young man in a stable for animals far from their family. The first people to greet them were young shepherds full of the smell of sheep. God became one of us alright—and how!

As we gather to celebrate, let us also pray for peace in our world and in our families. Let us remember in prayer those who have died and the families who grieve for them at Christmas. Let us pray for families that are troubled, the sick and the housebound. Let us remember the poor and outcast, the lost and the lonely. God bless.

Farewell Shayne

As we bid farewell to our visiting seminarian, Shayne, we will him many blessings as he continues on the pathway to priesthood.

Thank You to our Volunteers

To all the parishioners who came along and helped with the church working bee. The church is looking beautiful for Christmas.

Also once again thank you to all our wonderful volunteers for another year of donating your valuable time. The parish would not be able to function without you. Blessings to you and may the light of Christ shine upon you and your families. *Fr Philip*



No Mass 29th & 30th December

Please note that on Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th December, Mass will be replaced with Communion Services as Fr Philip will be on leave.

Sunday Mass

Sat (Vigil) 5pm,
Sun 8am, 10am, 5pm

Family Mass

Every Sunday at 10am
Includes Children's Liturgy

Weekday Mass

Mon—Communion Service

Tues - Fri 9.15am

Wed 7.30am

1st & 3rd Sat 9:15am

Devotions

Rosary after weekday Mass

Anointing Mass

Third Saturday of the Month
at 9:15am

Reconciliation

Sat 4 - 4.30 pm

Baptisms

Sunday 11.30am Contact the
Parish Office for details.

Baptisms Preparation

3rd Tuesday of each month at
7pm in the church

Weddings

By appointment

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tues to Fri 8am to 9am

RCIA/Faith Renewal

Thurs 7-8pm with Fr Philip

Parish Luncheon

2nd Thursday of the month
12noon at Doylo

Men's Breakfast

Fourth Saturday of the month
at Warnies Café.

Syro-Malabar Mass

1st Friday at 6pm
2nd & 4th Saturday at 9:15am
1st & 3rd Sunday at 7pm

Priest: Fr Philip Thottam MSFS, Administrator (philip.thottam@bbcatholic.org.au)

Secretaries: Kim McCarthy & Kate Clark

Church: Cnr Minnesota & Sparks Rd, Woongarrah

Telephone: 8379 1740

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Office hours: Tues 8:30am—2:30pm, Wed 11am - 5pm, Thurs 8.30am - 2:30pm, Fri 8.30am - 2.30pm

Bookkeeper: Johnson Mani

Mail: PO Box 4367, Lake Haven, 2263

Parish Mobile: (out of hours) 0423 279 263

Web: www.bbcatholic.org.au/warnervale

Safeguarding: When safeguarding is embedded in Parish leadership, governance and culture; members of the Parish recognise that it is a shared responsibility to safeguard children, young people and adults at risk.

If you have any concerns please contact our Safeguarding officer - Bill Mifsud (bill@earthgold.com.au) 0412 051 839

Last Minute Christmas Gifts

There are some lovely Christmas gifts available in the piety stall. If unattended monies can be left in the envelopes in the glass cabinet and place in the church donations box outside the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Farewell Mass for Alf Beer

The anointing Mass of 15 January will also be a farewell and thank you to Alf and Margaret who are moving to Kin-cumber. Alf has donated much of his time to the maintenance of the church. All welcome for a cuppa after Mass.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December

For Catechists

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.



Vox Episcopi - The Voice of the Bishop

Born in a darkened stable and placed in a humble manger, the birth of Jesus is the wonderful reminder God's love for us is so great He became one of us, so that we in turn might become one with him. The Christmas story is also one of joy and hope.



For all of us, in varying degrees, it has been another challenging year. However, during the Holy Season let us not forget this overriding message of hope which started with the miraculous, hidden and vulnerable act of a baby born for all people.

I pray you and your family all have a peaceful and blessed Christmas and are filled with the hope of the Christ Child. Click below link for full message
[Bishop's Christmas Message 2021](#)

Evangelisation Challenge

This month we ask parishioners to:
Invite a friend or family member to attend Church with you.



Baptism Information Evening



Our next information session is on **Tuesday 18th January 2022 at 7pm** in the church. Please come along if you wish to have your child baptised.

Working with Children Renewals

Working with Children Check clearances extended in September are coming up for renewal. Renew early to avoid delays over the holiday season.
<https://www.ocg.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-organisations/working-with-children-check>

Social Justice

Further programs available from Catholic Care in Our Diocese

Our **Domestic Violence Response Enhancement (DVRE)** team provide after-hours crisis support to women and children who have left, or are wanting to leave, a violent relationship.

This team, located at our *Family Centre in Waitara* is available 365 evenings a year for assistance which can include emergency accommodation, practical items, safety planning and access to specialist domestic violence, visa and immigration services.
Call (02) 9488 2400 (business hours) or 9488 2588 (after hours and weekends)

Our **Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service** is run out of our Naremburn Family Centre. It provides women and their children with information on how to get protection from the court.

This service covers the Upper and Lower North Shore of Sydney and the Northern Beaches.
Call (02) 8425 8700
www.catholiccaredbb.org.au

If you wish to come to our meetings please email Chris Firmstone on chrisfirmstone@gmail.com.

Social Justice Committee
Warnervale Catholic Church
www.marvmackillopsocialjustice.wordpress.com



THIS WEEK

Sunday 26 December
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Monday 27 December
St John

Tuesday 28 December
The Holy Innocents
9:15am—Communion Service

Wednesday 29 December
No 7:30am Mass
9:15am—Communion Service

Friday 31 December

Saturday 1st January 2022
Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Tap N Go



Thank you to all our parishioners utilising the tap n go device near the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Just a reminder that you need to place your credit card near the terminal and when the beep is heard a \$5 donation has been made.

Return and Earn



Thank you to all who continually donate their cans and bottles.

A reminder to keep your empty cans, plastic and glass bottles and juice boxes that have the 10c refund logo to donate to this parish fundraiser.

Please remember containers need to be empty of liquid; and not crushed or broken.

Please place glass the crates. Cans and Bottles must have the 10c refund logo on.



Coronavirus restrictions from 15 December

All public Masses have been reinstated. There are no density limits within the church.

Face masks are no longer mandatory but are strongly encouraged, particularly when social distancing is not possible.

Please remember to **always use the QR code** when entering the Church. Please continue to use hand sanitiser.

Please remember our sick: Anne Firmstone, Con Pantos, Terence McBride, Allan Curtis, Jim Swanson, Finn McConnon, Justin Lonergan, Cara De Guzman, Olga White.

Deceased/Anniversary: Trinidad, Alberta, Genina, Clive & Family, Alex Robinson, Sue Lauder, Michael McQueen, Michael McQueen (Snr), Peter Larkin, Alice Kumarasinho, Diana & Alida Mitchell, Drew Barlow, Reg & Beryl Gribble, Bob Pulle, George Tennakoon, Cecil & Ethel Milchell, Sunil Parera, Corear Family.

Mass Intentions: Rebecca & Amelia, Peter & Frank Walsh, George & Helen Pantos, Connie Claramunt, Mary & Nicholas Gatte, Mary Spiteri, Polito & Aloisi Families, Hector Serpes, Brandi & Jessica Lozario.



Christmas Time, Year C

Christmas Eve Readings

First Reading

Isaiah 62:1-5

The Lord takes delight in you.

About Zion I will not be silent, about Jerusalem I will not grow weary, until her integrity shines out like the dawn and her salvation flames like a torch.

The nations then will see your integrity, all the kings your glory, and you will be called by a new name, one which the mouth of the Lord will confer. You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord, a princely diadem in the hand of your God; no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken', nor your land 'Abandoned', but you shall be called 'My Delight' and your land 'The Wedded'; for the Lord takes delight in you and your land will have its wedding. Like a young man marrying a virgin, so will the one who built you wed you, and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 88:4-5, 16-17, 27,29

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.' R

Happy the people who acclaim such a king,
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,
who find their joy every day in your name,
who take your justice the source of their bliss. R

'He will say to me: "You are my father,
my God, the rock who saves me."
I will keep my love for him always;
for him my covenant shall endure.' R

Second Reading

Act of the Apostles 13:16-17, 22-25

Paul spoke of Christ, the son of David.

When Paul reached Antioch in Pisidia, he stood up in the synagogue, held up a hand for silence and began to speak:

'Men of Israel, and fearers of God, listen! The God of our nation Israel chose our ancestors, and made our people great when they were living as foreigners in Egypt; then by divine power he led them out.

'Then he made David their king, of whom he approved in these words, "I have selected David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart, who will carry out my whole purpose." To keep his promise, God has raised up for Israel, one of David's descendants, Jesus, as Saviour, whose coming was heralded by John when he proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the whole people of Israel. Before John ended his career he said, 'I am not the one you imagine me to be; that one is coming after me and I am not fit to undo his sandal'.'

The word of the Lord.

Christmas Time, Year C, Christmas Eve Readings

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed:
the Saviour of the world will be our king.

Alleluia

Gospel

Matthew 1:1-25

A genealogy of Jesus Christ, son of David.

A genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham became the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers. Judah became the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar. Perez became the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Amminadab. Amminadab became the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab. Boaz became the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth. Obed became the father of Jesse, Jesse the father of David the king. David became the father of Solomon, whose mother had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon became the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asaph. Asaph became the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, Joram the father of Uzziah. Uzziah became the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah. Hezekiah became the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amos, Amos the father of Josiah. Josiah became the father of Jechoniah and his brothers at the time of the Babylonian exile. After the Babylonian exile, Jechoniah became the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, Zerubbabel the father of Abiud. Abiud became the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor, Azor the father of Zadok. Zadok became the father of Achim, Achim the father of Eliud, Eliud the father of Eleazar. Eleazar became the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. Of her was born Jesus who is called the Christ. Thus the total number of generations from Abraham to David is fourteen generations; from David to the Babylonian exile, fourteen generations; from the Babylonian exile to the Christ, fourteen generations. Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son, and he named him Jesus. Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son, and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Christmas Time, Year C

Christmas Day Readings

First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

All the ends of the earth shall see the saving power of our God

How beautiful on the mounts, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!'

Listen! Your watchman raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion.

Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem. The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 97:1-6

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation. **R**

The Lord has made known is salvation;
has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
for the house of Israel. **R**

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord all the earth,
ring out your joy. **R**

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,
with the sound of music
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
acclaim the King, the Lord. **R**

Christmas Time, Year C

Christmas Day Readings

Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-6

In our own time, God speaks to us through his Son.

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets: but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than his own name.

God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father, or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

A holy day has dawned upon us.
Come, you nations and adore the Lord.
Today a great light has come upon the earth

Alleluia

Gospel

John 1:1-18

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us, and we say his glory.

In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will or man but of God himself.

The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John appears as his witness. He proclaims: 'This is the one of whom I said: he who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.'

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received—yes grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.