Our Lady of Perpetual Succour



Catholic Parish Toukley/Lake Munmorah

St Mary's Church 458 Main Rd Noraville
St Brendan's Mass Centre 29 Carters Rd Lake Munmorah

Vision To be A Vibrant Eucharistic Community



Pastoral Team

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Parish Schools St Mary's

Principal Mr Kevin Williams 4396 5100

St Brendan's

Principal Mr Craig McNee 4358 1501

St Brigid's College

Principal Mr Adam Murdoch 4358 4278

The Baptism of the Lord

10th January 2021

<u>Pope Francis: In this new year, share the blessing of your time</u>

At the beginning of a year people hope will mark the end of the Covid-19 pandemic, Pope Francis urged to create a "culture of care," including by sharing the gift of their time with others. Consecrating the new year to Mary, the pope prayed that she would "care for us, bless our time, and teach us to find time for God and for others." "This year, while we hope for new beginnings and new cures, let us not neglect



care," the pope wrote. "Together with a vaccine for our bodies, we need a vaccine for our hearts. That vaccine is care. This will be a good year if we take care of others, as Our Lady does with us." "Every time we open our hearts to Jesus, God's blessing enters our lives," he said. The example of Mary, blessed in a special way, he wrote, "teaches us that blessings are received in order to be given."

"Our world is gravely polluted by the way we speak and think badly of others, of society, of ourselves," he said. But complaining and denigrating others "corrupts and decays, whereas blessing restores life and gives the strength needed to begin anew." "The heart of the Lord began to beat within Mary; the God of life drew oxygen from her," the pope said. "Through Mary, we encounter God the way he wants us to: in tender love, in intimacy, in the flesh." As 2021 begins, he said, people should make a commitment to finding time for others. "Time is a treasure that all of us possess, he affirmed. "Let us ask for the grace to find time for God and for our neighbours—for those who are alone or suffering, for those who need someone to listen and show concern for them."

Bulletin Notices

Congratulations Fr Tomy

Please keep Fr Tomy in your prayers as he celebrates his Sacerdotal Anniversary on Saturday 9 January.

COVID Update

Our churches our now limited to 100 visitors. Mask wearing is mandatory for adults and children over 12 yrs of age. Please maintain social distancing of 1.5m. Please do not enter the church if you are unwell. See noticeboard and posters for more details. Wardens, please count those entering the church to ensure we do not exceed 100 visitors. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

Catholic Mission Thank you!

Sincere thanks to all those parishioners who contributed to the appeal.

Counters Needed!

Any parishioners interested in helping with counting on Mondays at 9.30am, please contact the Parish office or Judy Kay on 0408 616 236.

St Mary's Rosters—new rosters are available at the back of the church.

Parish Office - January Hours

The Parish office will be open Mon/Wed/Fri 9am-2pm during January.

First Reading

Isaiah 55:1-11

Come to the water; listen to my words and you shall have

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live.

With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David. See, I have made of you a witness to the peoples, a leader and a master of the nations. See, you will summon a nation you never knew, those unknown will come hurrying to you, for the sake of the Lord your God, of the Holy One of Israel who will glorify you.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his ways, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways - it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

Yes, as the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Isaiah 12:2-6

R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salva-

Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear. For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. R.

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name! Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples! Declare the greatness of his name. R.

Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds, make them known to all the earth! People of Zion, sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. R.

Second Reading

1 John 5:1-9

The Spirit, the water and the blood give witness.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God: Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness since the Spirit is the truth so that there are three witnesses, the Spirit, the water and the blood, and all three of them agree. We accept the testimony of human witnesses, but God's testimony is much greater, and this is God's testimony, given as evidence for his Son.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. John 1:29

Alleluia, alleluia! John saw Jesus approaching him, and said: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 1:7-11

You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

In the course of his preaching John the Baptist said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit'.

It was this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Next Sunday - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time First Reading - 1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19 Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20 Gospel - John 1:35-42

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