

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah   Isaiah 2:1-5

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord. The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm   Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9

*R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.*

I rejoiced when I heard them say:  
'Let us go to God's house.'  
And now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem. *R.*

It is there that the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord.  
For Israel's law it is,  
there to praise the Lord's name.  
There were set the thrones of judgement  
of the house of David. *R.*

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:  
'Peace be to your homes!  
May peace reign in your walls,  
in your palaces, peace!' *R.*

For love of my brethren and friends  
I say: 'Peace upon you!'  
For love of the house of the Lord  
I will ask for your good. *R.*

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans  
Romans 13:11-14

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon - let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in

the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.  
The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation   Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.  
Alleluia!

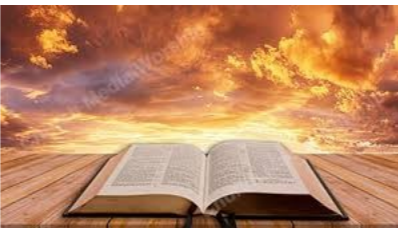
Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew  
Matthew 24:37-44

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



Next Weeks Readings: First week of Advent Year A

First Reading               Is 11:1-10

Second Reading           Rom 15:4-9

Gospel                       Mt 3:1-12

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**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*

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Mrs. Di Healey                       0401 162 287

Sacramental Coordinator

Please contact parish office   4396 4455

Sunday Parish Bus Service

Mrs. Joan Haslam                       4392 6892

Parish Schools

St Mary's

Principal Mr Kevin Williams   4396 5100

St Brendan's

Principal Mrs Luanna Fletcher 4358 1501

St Brigid's College

Principal Mrs Julie Terry           4358 4278

First Sunday of Advent Year A  
1st December 2019



Advent: A time to be awake and make a fresh start

Today's Gospel passage urges us to stay awake because we do not know the day or the hour when the Christ comes again. Jesus used an unusual imagery of a thief coming at night. The passage is a warning for us not to be engrossed in worldliness so as to forget what is most important - that is doing God's will. We need to be always alert and watchful.

Hence through this metaphor of a thief Jesus tells us the following. We are warned to be vigilant; the time for the coming of the Lord cannot be calculated and disciples are to be busy with their assigned mission and not to spend time in speculations. We know from experience that; thieves often break in and steal when we least expect them. Secrecy is their best weapon. Similarly, the day and hour of Christ's coming is unknown to us. That necessarily implies that our lives must be a constant preparation for His coming. Hence, the first Sunday of Advent set our sights on life's horizon, when Christ comes to us again. For many people today, the presence of Christ means very little. It is our duty to make Christ's presence real for the unbelievers and doubters.

"Advent gives us the message, "stay awake...watch" because Christ is certainly coming into our lives.

"Arise, awake and stop not, until the goal is reached " - Swami Vivekananda

Fr Tomy

**PARISH LITURGIES**  
**WEEKEND MASS TIMES**

**St Mary's Church Toukley**

Saturday: Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday: 7:30am  
9:00am

Children's Liturgy 1st & 3rd Sunday  
(except school holidays)

6:00pm

**St Brendan's Lake Munmorah**

Saturday: Vigil 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am

**WEEKDAY MASS TIMES**

**St Mary's Church Toukley**

Monday 7:45am & 6:00pm

Tuesday 7:45am St Francis Xavier

Wednesday 7:45am

Thursday 7:45am (Ordinariate of Our Lady  
of the Southern Cross)

Friday 9:15am  
(Except 1st Friday of Month)

**First Friday of Month** Anointing of Sick  
11:00am

Saturday 7:45am St Ambrose

**St Brendan's Lake Munmorah**

Wednesday 9:00am

**First Wednesday of Month** Anointing of Sick  
9:00am

Thursday 9:00am

Friday 9:00am

**EXPOSITION BLESSED SACRAMENT**

**St Mary's Church Toukley**

Each Saturday – After Morning Mass

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

**St Mary's Toukley**

Saturday 8:15am—9:00am

**St Brendan's Lake Munmorah**

Saturday 4:30—5:00pm

**MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**St Mary's Toukley**

7:25am Monday to Thursday & Saturday

8:45am Friday



We welcome all of our parishioners and visitors, who have joined us for the celebration of Holy Eucharist this weekend. You are all most welcome here in our Parish Family. Please feel free to make yourself known to us, and we look forward to speaking with you.

**Formation of Mission Councils**

As this year draws to a close we wish to form two new Mission Councils for the new year, one for Toukley and one for Lake Munmorah.

The purpose of these Councils is to ensure representation, from across the parish, to assist the efficient functioning of the parish community. Each Mission Council will be formed of Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary and two members. The policy we have in the parish is **one person, one position**.

*Membership:* Members of the Mission Council are to be representative of the life of the Parish community, not representing a particular group or ministry to which they may belong.

The members are expected to possess at least some of the following qualities: A commitment to the practice of the faith, the parish community and its mission. The ability to collaborate and consult with others for the mission of the church and active in the life of the parish, to plan strategies to implement Pastoral Plans. It would be most appreciated if you could assist in this mission. Please feel free to contact the Parish office or the clergy if you could help in this exercise of serving the Church.

Fr Tomy

**Formation of Parish Finance Committee**

The Parish Finance committee is composed of Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary and two members. I would really appreciate if members of good will can come forward for this important structure of the Church. The Role of Finance Committee is to assist the Parish Priest perform his role of the administering the ecclesiastical goods of the parish. To advise on financial policies and transactions for the parish; Prepare Annual Budget of Income and Expenditure; to assist the priest to keep current and accurate financial records; implementing and supervising Fund-Raising programmes etc.

Fr Tomy

**Formation of Liturgy Committee**

The Liturgy Committee is an important structure in the Spiritual Life of the Parish. Its main role is to help the Clergy in the liturgical events and Sacraments of the Parish. I extend my sincere appreciation and gratitude to all the members of the Parish Pastoral Council, Finance and Liturgy Committees for the past years. If you are able to help in the exercise, please contact me, Fr Baby or the Parish Office.

Fr Tomy

Thank you for your generosity

**Golden Jubilee—St Mary's Church Toukley 1969 – 2019**

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make our Golden Jubilee such a wonderful occasion, on Saturday. We especially thank Bishop Anthony, Fr David Ranson and all the clergy,. Thanks to all those who worked so hard to make this day come about.. We thank also the students from our 3 Parish Schools, who combined with our parish choirs, in singing. We also thank those students who acted as welcomers and servers. And of course, you our wonderful parishioners, who joined in the celebration of mass and enjoyed sharing memories over lunch.

**Upcoming Parish Events**

**Memorial Mass—All Souls Monday 2nd December**

Memorial Masses will be celebrated for all the Faithful Departed, bringing the month of the Holy Souls to a close. Masses will be celebrated, at 6pm on Monday 2nd December at both St Mary's Toukley and St Brendan's Lake Munmorah. All welcome to pray for the Holy Souls at these masses.

**Advent Reflection**

On this **Tuesday 3rd December** from 6pm to 7.15pm, Fr Roni George VC will lead us in an Advent Reflection on Preparation for Christmas. We invite all of our parishioners to join us as we prepare, in prayer and reflection, to celebrate the birth of Christ.

**Ordinariate Parish of St Ambrose**

Will celebrate their Patron Saint on Thursday, **5th December** with a Mass at 7.45 am in St. Mary's Church. Refreshments after the Mass will be served in the Parish Centre. All parishioners of Toukley/Lake Munmorah Parish are welcome to attend.

**Volunteers' Thank You Dinner**

All volunteers, in any parish ministry, are invited to attend a thank you dinner, at Toukley Golf Club, this **Thursday 5th December** at 6pm for 6.30pm.

Please advise the parish office if you wish to attend.

**Special Morning Tea - Sunday 8th December**

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception**

Fr Tomy and Fr Baby are members of the Congregation of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary; and it is the custom of their Congregation that members renew their Religious Vows annually, on this Feast.

They will renew their vows during the 9:00am Mass next Sunday; and to mark this special occasion and Feast Day, everyone is invited to join in the celebration of this mass and share morning tea with them following mass.

Please bring a plate to share.

**Pilgrimage of the Relics of St Therese, "Little Flower" of Lisieux and her parents.**



For the first time in 18 years, the relics of St Thérèse of Lisieux, one of the most popular saints of modern times, with her parents, saints Louis and Zélie Martin will visit our area. The faithful will be able to gather and pray on 8th March at St Patrick's East Gosford and on 9th March OLR The Entrance

Resources for formation, including prayers and a documentary to share are available for download from the

Catholic Mission webpage [catholicmission.org.au/relics-of-saint-thérèse-of-lisieux](http://catholicmission.org.au/relics-of-saint-thérèse-of-lisieux)

**2nd Rite of Reconciliation**

In order to prepare worthily for the Christmas Season, the 2nd Rite of Reconciliation will be available in these parishes, on these days.

St Mary's Toukley	Tuesday	17th December at 6pm
St Cecilia's Wyong	Wednesday	18th December at 6pm
MacKillop Warnervale	Thursday	19th December at 7pm
OLR The Entrance	Friday	20th December at 6pm

*Mackay Family Funerals*

In Association with Mackay Family Crematorium

A.B.N. 79 085 423 589

Head Office: 249 Pacific Highway West, Ourimbah 2258

PO Box 89 Ourimbah NSW 2258.

Phone: (02) 4362 2733 Fax: (02) 4362 2899

***In your charity, please pray for those who have died and those who are sick.***

**Please Pray for the Sick**

Eileen O'Kane, Vicki Buttel, 4 year old Ethan, Brendon Andrews, Brett Harkins, John Daniel, Shanon Bradler, Ron McDonough, Brian Torrington, Teresa Wegrzyn, Maurean Baxter, Luc Bouquet, Margaret Downing, Daisy Realo, Donatus Morrison, John and Helen Loader, Maria Loisa Etello, Kevin and Therese Harvey, Brenda Durley, Jeff Henshaw, Len O'Shea, Ray Slucher, Michael Wiggin, Koby Bourke, Lina Phillips, Vanessa Miller, Alexis Hagen, Francis Lim, Tony Hodges, Eleanor Matthews, Wendy Lott, Arne Jensen, Fred Butterfield, Betty Carroll, Leanne Knight, Mary Mahony, Arnold Fletcher, Stephen Knight, Adrienne Gibson, Heather Niblett, Kathleen Strong, Evan Shepherd, Rosa M Santos, Betty Tattersall.

**Safeguarding**

We, the people of the Catholic Parish of Toukley/Lake Munmorah, are committed to fostering communities of safety and care for all people, especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable. Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ.

Safeguarding is the responsibility of all of us and we are seeking one parishioner from St Mary's, and one from St Brendan's, to be contact people for the parish. Please speak to any of the clergy if you are able to assist with this important matter.

**Prayer for Rain**

Dear Heavenly Father, source of love & mercy. We thank you for all the gifts you have given us. We pray most earnestly for your precious rain, to fall on the parched earth of our country. We pray especially for those who work the land, and are suffering severely at this time. Please help the people of Australia to have the courage to become good stewards of the gifts you give us. Please give us generous hearts, so that we can share our bounty with all others in need. Amen

**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.

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**TOUKLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE**  
  
HEADOR STREET, TOUKLEY  
Ph: 02 4396 1555 / Fax: 02 4396 5818  
[www.tnc.org.au](http://www.tnc.org.au)

**Volunteer Angels**  
**Male & Female**

Do you have a caring heart & time to become a friend to a lonely person in an Aged Care Facility

Please call Anne-Marie 4396 1555

The Community Visitors' Scheme