

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

Catholic Parish Toukley/Lake Munmorah

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



Vision

To be A Vibrant Eucharistic Community

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The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

27th December 2020

Dear friends, today we celebrate the beautiful feast of the Holy Family and child Jesus is presented in the Jerusalem temple. We are reminded that parents of Jesus followed everything that the law commanded them to do. The Gospel passage also mentions about two benevolent old people who were present in the Jerusalem temple. Prophet Simeon and Prophetess Anna. They had lived prayerful lives of faith and with hope and eager expectation of the divine Messiah. Being wise and guided by the Holy Spirit, they recognized the moment of grace: the coming of the Messiah. They were greatly privileged to hold the divine child in their arms and to praise and thank God for all the blessings they have received as well as for the blessings for the whole world through this child.



We are told that after the purification ceremony, Holy Family returned to Nazareth to continue their lives in a simple and humble way.

The Holy Family is a model for all families in adhering to the will of God. Let this feast of the Holy Family inspire all our families to live in peace, love and unity.

Bulletin Notices

Special Crib and Thanks: we thank all parishioners who supported the realization of the wonderful crib at St. Mary's. We are grateful to Sanjay Sebastian, Babu Philip and Lijesh for the artistic work together with the priests. Also we appreciate Judy Kay and family for sponsoring the Crib for this year. May God bless you all.

First Friday: Friday 1st January is the first Friday of the month, so Mass at St. Mary's is at 11 a.m.

St Vincent de Paul, wish to thank the donors to the Christmas Appeal, which raised over \$3000. This money will assist those who are in need at this time of year.

A Big Thank You on behalf of Mary's Macs to all Parishioners who donated items to the food drive last month. Your generosity is appreciated by those less fortunate.

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3

Your own son shall be your heir.

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great'.

'My Lord,' Abram replied 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless.' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir'. And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood'. Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 104:1-6, 8-9

R. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.
O sing to him, sing his praise;
tell all his wonderful works! **R.**

Be proud of his holy name,
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.
Consider the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face. **R.**

Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, the judgements he spoke.
O children of Abraham, his servant,
O sons of the Jacob he chose. **R.**

He remembers his covenant for ever,
his promise for a thousand generations,
the covenant he made with Abraham,
the oath he swore to Isaac. **R.**

Second Reading

Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

The faith of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the sea-shore.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Hebrews 1:1-2

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

The child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord - observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord - and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace,
just as you promised;
because my eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared for all the nations to see,
a light to enlighten the pagans
and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected - and a sword will pierce your own soul too - so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Next Sunday - The Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading - Isaiah 60:1-6

Second Reading - Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6 Gospel - Matthew 2:1-12

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention
for December

For a Life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship
with Jesus Christ be nourished by the
Word of God and a life of prayer.



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