



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



**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**

It was a great pleasure to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at Our Lady of Dolours Church, Chatswood last Friday for all those in my Chancery team and remembering all the men and women who support my ministry – be it in the Chancery, in Catholic Schools Broken Bay or CatholicCare Broken Bay.

I said it had once again been a most challenging and humbling year for all but it was also a year filled with graces and blessings, thanks to the hard work of many people and the Holy Spirit who guides us.

My thanks also to our Vicar General and Parish Priest of Our Lady of Dolours, Very Rev Dr David Ranson who hosted us in his church so beautifully and warmly decorated in preparation for the birth of Christ.

*(To read the full message go to our website or facebook page)*



**First Reading**

Micah 5:1-4

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19. R.v.4

**Second Reading**

Heb 10:5-10

**Gospel Acclamation**

Lk 1:38

**Gospel**

Lk 1:39-44

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**



**OLOR Cathedral:**

**Fri 24th December –  
Christmas Vigil**

5pm  
8pm  
*(Carols from 7.30pm)*  
12am Midnight  
*(Carols from 11.30pm)*

**Sat 25th December -  
Christmas Day**

9.30am  
*No Saturday Vigil  
Masses*

**Sun 26th December—  
Feast of the Holy Family**

9.30am  
6pm

**QOP Church:**

**Fri 24th December –  
Christmas Vigil**

5.30pm  
**Korean Christmas  
Vigil**  
8pm

**Sat 25th December -  
Christmas Day**

8am  
*No Saturday Vigil  
Masses*  
**Korean Christmas Day**  
11am; 7pm

**Sun 26th December—  
Feast of the Holy Family**

8am  
**Korean**  
11am; 5pm

**THANK YOU to those who stay after  
Mass to clean the pews.**

**If a Priest is needed** in a matter of emergency, after hours or on the weekend, please call **0458 351 843**.

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**The Angel's Candle (4)**

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Saviour, the true light who has come into our world. We ask you to send your blessings on this community who gather around this wreath, which we honour as a remembrance of your first coming at Bethlehem, your daily coming amongst us in grace and your final coming in glory. Strengthen our hearts with the example of your love that we may receive you with joy and gladness on the day of our redemption, when you will come to reign as Universal King for ever and ever. We ask this through Christ our Lord.



**REFLECTION BY FR Rogelio Delmonte**

**The Grace of Visitation**

One of the great blessings we receive this Christmas is the opportunity to visit families and loved ones and reconnect with them not just physically and emotionally, but more graciously and spiritually. Thanks to the opening of our country's state borders and the easing of travel restrictions, the spirit of Christmas can be more felt and joyfully celebrated. It may not have come in an easy way for our government and was demanding from our people and communities; it surely means a great deal to both.

In today's gospel, it certainly was a great deal for Mary to be able to visit her cousin Elizabeth. She was visited herself by the angel Gabriel bringing her the good news that she was to become the mother of the Savior, Jesus Christ. Yet instead of basking in the glow of the astounding piece of news, she went off immediately to visit Elizabeth, who was also expecting a child. Hence, with some lovely words of affirmation and confirmation, Elizabeth spoke to her: *"Blessed is she who believed that the promise made to her by the Lord, would be fulfilled."*

Friends, we can receive by giving. And one of the ways we can give is through visitation. More than a time of giving and receiving gifts, sending and receiving love through Christmas cards, text messages, and emails; Christmas is a great time for physically visiting people we may have neglected all year long. And of course, it invites us to open ourselves to God who comes to visit us in the person of his beloved Son. Like Mary, we may have come to visit and give, only to find that we are receiving more and our hearts coming alive. – Fr. Roger

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

The Sacramental Program returns to our Parish. This weekend we welcome our six newest members to the Cathedral Parish as they receive the sacrament of Baptism. Please pray for: Maeve, Aaron, Benjamin, Gryffin, Nalika, Gabrielle, Leo. Remember their parents in prayer as they commit themselves to teaching their children to love God and his people.  
*Marie Gately—Sacramental Coordinator*

**Thank you to our PMC Members** for leading us into the Advent Program over the last 3 weeks. Thank you for helping us on our journey in faith. May the Infant Child be a special blessing to each of you in the coming days and year ahead. Thank you to all those who made time and joined us during the sessions.

### Lawnmower wanted

If anyone has a spare self propelled mower (suitable to mow slopes) in good working order please contact the parish office. (to be used at QOP Church)

**May I ask you to pray for** those who are sick, those who are struck with the virus, those tested positive, those in isolation, and those vaccinated for COVID-19.

**We remember those who died recently :** Betty Borg (Fr Robert's mum) • Richard Thomson • Ofelia Morales • Theresa Rodrigo • Patricia Symmington • Sister Christopher Neal IBVM

**Anniversaries :** Petronila Cruz • Warren Niven • Brian Niven • Assunta Fraietta • Maria Lombardo • Caterina Di Losa Randazzo • Mrs Bodh Singh • Nona & Louis Noach

**We pray for the sick :** Albert Leung • Allan Ivers • Lisa Kaye Willatt • Pauline Carr • Martin Palisi • Lisa Hogarth

## ANNUAL LEAVE

Fr Roger on annual leave from 26<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.  
Fr Manoj Manual on leave from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

**We wish them both a relaxing break!**

## COVID Restrictions easing in NSW from Dec 15

The NSW Government has committed to the easing of COVID restrictions and from Wednesday 15 December, the following will apply:

1) No density limits will apply in any venue, including Places of Worship.

2) **Electronic sign-in** will REMAIN mandatory in a number of venues, including Places of Worship by one of the following methods:

- **An individual using their device to check in with the venue's QR Code**
- **Welcomers assist those without their own device by checking them in via the Service NSW webform** associated with your parishes' COVID Safe Business registration.
- **Please note** – QR Codes are no longer mandatory for parish offices and meeting rooms.

3) Singing and dancing is allowed by all.

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

## CATECHIST RECRUITMENT -TRAINING NOW FOR 2022

**Catechist or Assistant needed for the following public schools:**

**Tuesdays at Hornsby South PS –**  
Kindergarten, Yrs 1 and 2 at 1:45 - 2:15 pm.  
Yrs 5 and 6 at 2:20 – 2:50pm.

**Wednesdays at Normanhurst PS –**  
Yrs 1, 2, 3 and 4 at 10:30 – 11:00am.

**Wednesdays at Thornleigh West PS -**  
Yrs 1 and 2 at 2:15 – 2:45pm.

**Wednesdays at Waitara PS -**  
Yr 3 at 2:30 – 3:10pm.

**Thursdays at Normanhurst West PS –**  
Yrs 1, 2, 3 and 4 at 10:30 - 11:00am.

**Thursdays at Thornleigh West PS -**  
Yrs 5 and 6 at 2:15 - 2:45pm.

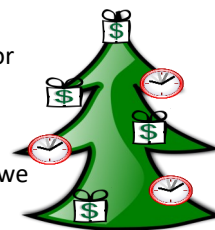
**To become a Catechist or an Assistant, contact via email:**  
[louise.spencer@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:louise.spencer@bbcatholic.org.au)



**"Thank you** to Jacob, Jessica, Pierre, Renee, Luzviminda, Jess, Mary, Editha, Joey, Bettina and Zena who signed up to be Catechists!!! We still need more Catechists for next year. Please still come forward to join this wonderful team of people doing God's good work."

## PARISH GIFTING TREE

**"Our journey to Bethlehem"** during this time also invites you to reflect as a **"Community of faith" on our Parish Gifting Tree.** This is an opportunity, for each of us to stop and focus on what best way we can gift of our persons, for our personal growth, and that of our community, in whatever capacity we are in.



Let us ask ourselves, how can we best use our time, our talents and our treasures to be of greater and richer use. We are invited to open our hearts in prayer, and our hands in an act of commitment, so that our journey stands enriched when we carry the incarnated Lord on our travels.

On behalf of the Clergy of the Parish, I extend my deepest gratitude to each of you in advance for considering this, and my prayer is for us to walk together in faith. Let us pray for the star of "Bethlehem" to guide us through.

## Curious about Catholicism, or Christianity in general?

Are you, or someone you know, interested in finding out more about what Catholics believe and practise, and why? Do you think you might like to become a Catholic?

Free information and discussion sessions start very soon. Come and see with no obligation.

Contact Peter, parish Christian Initiation team leader on Mobile 0411389300 or via email [rcia.hornsby@gmail.com](mailto:rcia.hornsby@gmail.com)

**HAVE YOU CHANGED ADDRESS, EMAIL ADDRESS OR CREDIT CARD DETAILS?** Please let the parish know if you have changed your address, email or credit card details so we can update our data system. Thank you.

**PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE CHRISTMAS BREAK from noon 24 December 2021—3 January 2022 (incl).**

**LAST BULLETIN FOR 2021 WILL BE ON 19 DECEMBER 2021**  
We will recommence publishing a bulletin from 30th January