

KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH

Diocese of Broken Bay

CHRISTMAS DAY 25 DECEMBER 2021 ~ THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord— Vigil Mass

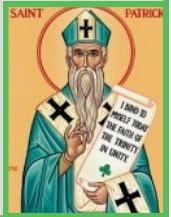
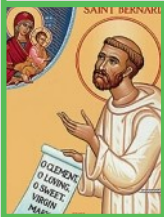
Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord—Midnight Mass

A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us—Dawn Mass

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God—Day Masses

*May every single moment of your Christmas,
Shine with Pure Love, Sweet Joy
and Divine Favour from God.*

Happy Christmas



God's Love for Us © Tommy Lane ~ *Here's a meditation I thought of at Christmas.*

Let us adore baby Jesus in the manger. A baby easily wins the heart and love of anyone with human feelings, but how much more does this baby win our heart and love. Let us kneel before baby Jesus and thank him for coming to save us. Thank baby Jesus now in your own words.

Imagine, Jesus, the Son of God and our Saviour born in a stable and placed in a manger instead of in a cot. When God comes he usually comes in humility, silently and peacefully, without causing a great disturbance. God's humble coming in Jesus would not surprise us if we knew God better. But of course we will never know God sufficiently to understand. So no matter how much we try to understand God becoming human in Jesus we will not be able to comprehend, it will remain a mystery. The best reaction is that of the shepherds, simply to praise God. Let us praise God now in our own words.

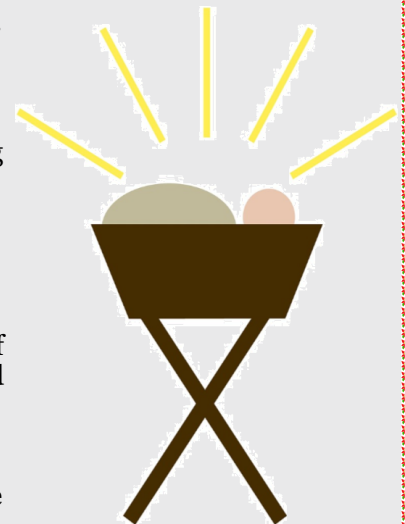
As we look on baby Jesus we think of the mystery of God's love for us. Why did God who is almighty and all-powerful become small and powerless as a baby? Quite simply, out of love for us. God became human so that we might become more like God. Jesus if you had not come as a human like us, we might have had difficulty in believing that God really loved us. But now we know for sure. John the Evangelist says, ***This is the revelation of God's love for us, that God sent his only Son into the world that we might have life through him.*** Let us thank God for revealing his love for us in Jesus, that he who is so big and powerful became so small and weak for us, that he became one of us, to help us be more like him, to have life through him.

As we see baby Jesus in the manger we reflect on God's way being a way of gentleness and tenderness. God's way is not one of violence but gentleness. There is a lack of goodness and love in the world but God is tender and loving. As we look on baby Jesus in the manger we see that he is the answer to today's problems. Instead of violence, in baby Jesus in the manger we see gentleness. Instead of hatred, in baby Jesus in the manger we see tenderness. Instead of selfishness, in baby Jesus in the manger we see love for us. Let us ask baby Jesus to help us to be gentle, tender and loving with those around us as he was in the manger.

Jesus in the manger, you give us hope. In the darkness of our world, your light has shone. Your coming in gentleness encourages us to hold out the hand of reconciliation, to help one another, to work for peace. We remember the message of the angels; Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace.

Baby Jesus, help us to be people of peace and to spread peace everywhere we go. Let us pray now for peace.

© <https://www.associationofcatholicpriests.ie/2017/12/22294/>



Let peace prevail – Happy Christmas & God Bless you all, from Fr Shaju and Fr Joy .

People from all over the world make it a point **to try** and come together and spend time with family and friends at Christmas.

This year, **just like last year**, this is **still hard** to do, and so we **again** adapt.

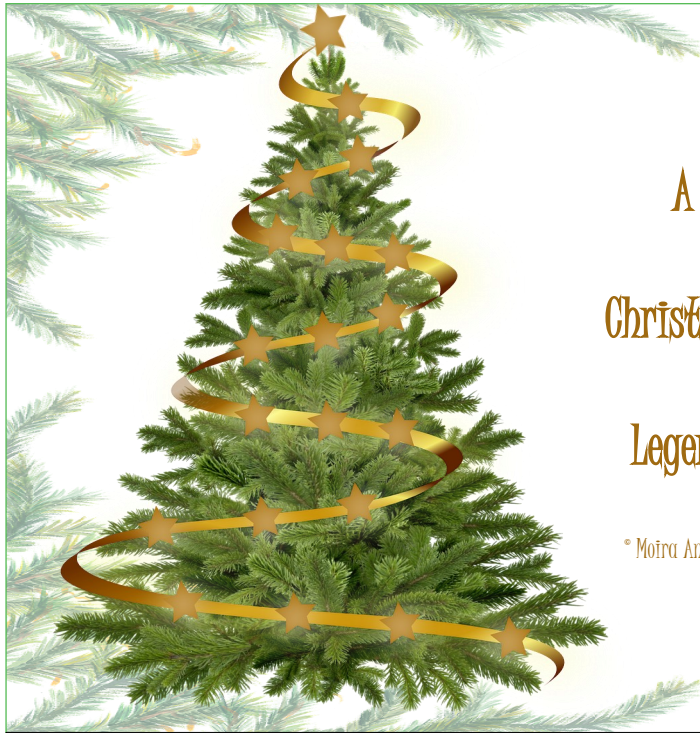
We become creative and we open ourselves up to new ways to celebrate the birth of Our Saviour.

You, the parishioners of KCCP, are again this year our extended family. Fr Joy and myself pray that the Infant Christ, will shower you with His blessings during this Season of Christmas. We also wish each of you great joy, safe travels and good health in 2022.

Hello to all visitors to our parish – Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish, warmly welcomes all visitors and extended family members to our churches. It is wonderful to have you among us again and to join with us as we celebrate Christmas and experience the Joy of Our Saviour's Birth.

Together we pray that Peace abides in our hearts, homes and homelands, now and throughout 2022.

May God bless you all and keep you safe and healthy during your visit with us.



A Christmas

Legend

© Moira Andrew

Three trees shivered in the cold moonshine,
a date palm, an olive and a dark green pine.

They whispered together, saw a light in the sky,
paused, secrets forgotten, heard a new baby's cry.

They stood in the yard near the child's manger bed.
'What can we give him?' the gentle pine said.

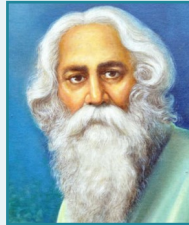
The olive gave oil to soothe his small feet.
The palm promised dates, all sticky and sweet.

'But what about me?' the poor pine tree cried.
'I can't think of a thing. I've tried and I've tried!'

Hearing her cries all the stars tumbled down
to light up her branches like a bright golden crown.

Then the pine tree stood tall so the baby could see
on that first Christmas Day, His first Christmas tree.

Silent Steps is one the most lyrical poems of Rabindranath Tagore [the famous Indian poet] who received the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1913. **The focus of the poem is the Almighty God, Creator, Soul of the universe.** The repetition of the line "he comes, comes, ever comes" intensifies God's concern and love for the human being. This poem strengthens the conceptions: God is Omnipresent (all-pervasive) Omnipotent (all-powerful) and Omniscient (all-knowing). As we celebrate the first coming of God in human flesh over two thousand years ago, Tagore reminds us of the coming of God into our daily lives.



Silent Steps

Have you not heard his silent steps?

He comes, comes, ever comes.

Every moment and every age,
every day and every night

he comes, comes, ever comes.

Many a song have I sung in many a mood of mind,
but all their notes have always proclaimed,

'He comes, comes, ever comes.'

In the fragrant days of sunny April through the forest path

he comes, comes, ever comes.

In the rainy gloom of July nights on the thundering chariot of clouds

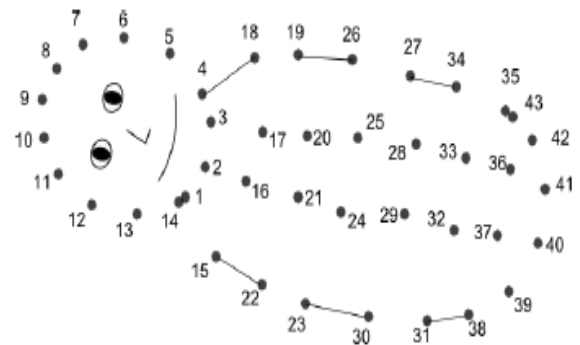
he comes, comes, ever comes.

In sorrow after sorrow, it is his steps that press upon my heart,
and it is the golden touch of his feet that makes my joy to shine.

Jesus is Born

A Christmas activity worksheet from ministry-to-children.com

Connect the dots to see who was born in Bethlehem.



Finish the story with the words at the right.

M _____ and J _____ traveled to

B _____.

M _____ had a baby and named him

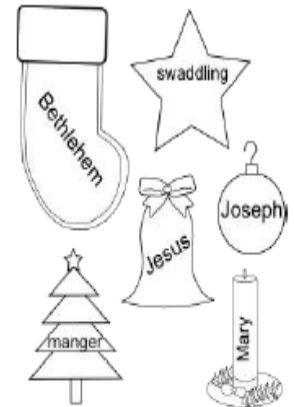
J _____. He was God's Son.

She placed J _____ in a m _____

which was a place for animals to eat.

He was wrapped in s _____

clothes, which were strips of cloth.



CHRISTMAS CLOSURES

The Parish Office will be
CLOSED

from **27 December 2021** and
reopens **17 January 2022**

If you need assistance during this period please email the office on: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au (this will be monitored regularly for urgent matters only) or phone 9456 2450 and leave a message.

Please note, messages will be **CHECKED ONCE PER WEEK.**
REMEMBER: If in urgent need of a priest, the emergency number is: 0468 341 841.

HOSPITAL ADMISSION: If you are admitted to hospital, please write down your religion as Catholic to receive Catholic Services.



PASTORAL CENTRE: 1-19 Woodcourt Road, Berowra Heights 2082, P.O. Box 335, Berowra Heights 2082

Phone: (02) 9456 2450; Email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au; Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp

Centre Hours: 9am – 3.30pm.

Parish Priest Fr Shaju John, OSH

Parish Secretary Margaret Cooper

Bookkeeper Karen Price

Assistant Priest

Vol. Office Assistant

Sacramental Team:

Fr Joy Thomas, OSH

Jan Favaloro

kccpsacraments@gmail.com



RECONCILIATION: Fridays: 9.30am Mass St Bernard's Berowra Hts; Saturdays: 9.30 am St Patrick's, Asquith

WEEKEND MASSES: St Bernard's, Berowra Heights: Saturday Vigil 5pm and Sunday 9am

St Patrick's, Asquith: Saturday Vigil 6pm and Sunday 8am, 10am, 6pm

WEEKDAY MASSES: St Bernard's, Berowra Heights: 8am Monday, Tuesday & Thursday; 9am Wednesday & Friday
St Patrick's, Asquith: 8am Wednesday & Friday; 9am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday

CONDITION OF ENTRY TO CHURCHES: You **MUST** - Electronically sign-in at both our churches

WHEN ENTERING OUR CHURCHES: You are **STRONGLY REQUESTED** to consider wearing a mask and to maintain Social Distancing wherever and whenever possible, thank you.