



# MANLY FRESHWATER CATHOLIC PARISH

Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist Churches

HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary & Joseph – 27th December 2020

***"Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted . . ."***

*Luke 2: 22-40*

**Today's Gospel:** In today's Gospel, the faithful Joseph and Mary bring their son to the temple for his presentation to the Lord, a ritual required by the Law. The Book of Exodus taught that a family's first-born son "belonged" to the Lord who saved them when the first-born sons of the Egyptians were destroyed at the first Passover (Exodus 13: 15).

The prophet Simeon and the prophetess Anna are idealized portraits of the faithful "remnant" of Israel awaiting the Messiah's coming. Simeon's canticle praises God for the universal salvation that will be realized in Jesus; in his prophecy, the shadow of the cross falls upon the Holy Family.



Anna, as an elderly widow, is considered among the most vulnerable and poor of society. Her encounter with the child typifies the theme woven throughout Luke's Gospel: the exaltation of society's poorest and most humble by God.

In Matthew and Luke's stories of Jesus birth and childhood (which were later additions to those Gospels, drawn from the many stories about Jesus' life that were part of the early Christian oral tradition that had developed), life for the family of Joseph, Mary and Jesus is difficult and cruel: they are forced from their home; they are innocent victims of the political and social tensions of their time; they endure the suspicions of their own people when Mary's pregnancy is discovered; their child is born under the most difficult and terrifying of circumstances; they experience the agony of losing their beloved child. And yet, through it all, their love and faithfulness to one another do not waver. The Holy Family is a model for our families as we confront the many tensions and crises that threaten the stability, peace and unity that are the joys of being a family.

**Reflection:** Today's Feast of the Holy Family calls us to re-discover and celebrate our own families as harbors of forgiveness and understanding and safe places of unconditional love, welcome and acceptance.

The Holy Family is a model for our families as we confront the many tensions and crises that threaten the stability, peace and unity that are the joys of being a family.

The prophet Simeon proclaims that this child will be a "light" for Israel — but that light will endure great suffering and pain before finally shattering the darkness. Luke's Gospel of the Child Jesus reminds us that the crib is overshadowed by the cross, that this holy birth is the beginning of humankind's rebirth in the Resurrection.

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LIVE STREAMING OF MASS

**Manly Freshwater Parish Facebook**  
Sunday 8:30am Mass

LET US PRAY FOR

27th December 2020

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary:

Prayers for the sick in our parish: Gavin Greenwood, Zacchaeus Emmanuel Joseph Ratnam; Mark Taylor; Kay Flenady; Leon Cochrane; Robina Dwyer; Prionsias Kearney; Brian Davies; Debbie Vernon; Lauren Hannahan; Rosalba Galuis; Vanessa Squirrel; Judith McKenzie; Jonathan Keil; Les Reilly; Wayne Smedley; Margaret Burridge; Jill Carmichael; Stephen Robertson; Richard & Cynthia Connolly; Maureen Williams; Gerry Wybrandt; Kathleen Hudson; Amy Farrow; Patricia Duffy; Florencia Lira; Jacqui Dawson; Ken Waller; Mary Helen Fogarty

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL REOPEN ON MONDAY 11TH JANUARY 2021



Parish Collections and Donations

A VERY BIG THANK YOU to all of you who have continued to support the Parish financially.

One of the health restrictions on our re-opened Churches is that we no longer use collection plates during Mass.

To help you to make your offering you can use one of the following options:



- 1. Use the tap and go machines at the Church entrance
2. Place envelopes and cash in the collection plates (1st collection and 2nd collection) at the Church entrances.
3. Continue to use direct debit with your credit cards
4. Making deposits directly into the Parish 1st and 2nd collection accounts (details in the bulletin).

Table with 2 columns: January 2021 and Year B. Rows include dates from Mon 28/12 to Sun 3/1 with corresponding Bible verses.

PARISH SOCIAL MEDIA

Parish facebook:

facebook.com/manlyfreshwaterparish

Parish website:

bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater

Visiting sick at home - If you, or if you know of anyone who are unwell and would like a home visit please contact the parish office 9977 5822 to organise for Communion or Anointing

Manly Freshwater Parish promotes SAFEGUARDING which involves the implementation of proactive, common sense and practical ideas that ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults in our community



Parish Bank Account - 2nd collection funds the running of the Parish

Acc Name: Manly Freshwater Parish
Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank
Acc# 13958001
BSB: 062 784
Please include your name or envelope number as reference

Parish Bank Account - 1st collection Support of our Priests

Acc Name: Manly Freshwater Parish Pastoral
Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank
Acc# 13958002
BSB: 062 784

To make a credit card donation via the internet please right click below to open hyperlink



https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/manlyfreshwater



NSW COVID QR Code are now being used in our Parish Churches.

WEARING OF MASKS IN OUR CHURCHES

Fr David requests that anyone attending St Mary's and St John's Churches must wear a mask for the safety of everyone.

IF THE COVID RESTRICTIONS ARE EASED NEXT WEEK we will hold a

- NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS at Manly at 6pm
NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES will be held at 9.15am at St Mary's Manly and St John the Baptist, Freshwater.



Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



We would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to our Christmas Day Lunch sponsors - Manly Warringah Leagues Club, Rotary Club, Manly Brezel Bar and Ben & Jerry Ice Cream. A

BIG thank you to those who supported the Christmas Day Picnic Lunch with gifts, money and food donations and all the volunteers who assisted on the day.

A special thank you to our primary schools Mission Groups at St Mary's & St John the Baptist for their thoughtful gifts and cash donations.

# HOLY FAMILY – Year B

## First Reading

Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3 (JB)

A reading from the book of Genesis

*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.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 104:1-6, 8-9 (JB)

### **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 (JB)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*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 seashore. 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.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm

Colossians 3:15, 16 (JB)

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

Luke 2:22-40 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*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.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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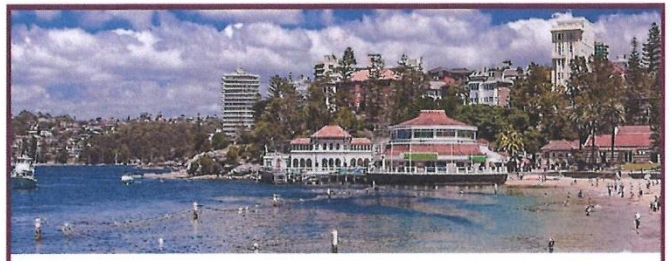
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Denison Street,  
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### St John the Baptist Primary Catholic School K - 6

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E: [stpauls@dbb.edu.au](mailto:stpauls@dbb.edu.au)

**Parish Priest:** Fr David Taylor

**Assistant Priest:** Fr John Puliparambil  
[john.puliparambil@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:john.puliparambil@bbcatholic.org.au)

**Parish Secretaries:** Jenny Beninati & Paula Martin

**Pastoral Coordinator:** Michelle Ellis

#### Mary Immaculate Church

6 Raglan St, Manly NSW 2095

#### St John the Baptist Church

cnr Johnson & Oliver St, Freshwater NSW 2096

**Administration Office:** 9977 5822 (Parish Office)

[manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au)

[www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater)

**Presbytery:** 9977 2100

**After Hours Urgent Sick Calls:** 0499 910 010

**Parish Pastoral Council:** Paul Pervan (Chair), Ian Press (Deputy Chair), Margaret Dent (Secretary), Ivica Covic; Laurie de Ambrosis; Joanne Druery; Robert Marshall; Michael McGrath

#### Weekend Masses:

**Manly:** Saturday Vigil 6:00pm  
Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am, 6:00pm

**Freshwater:** Saturday Vigil 5:00pm Sunday 9am

#### Weekday Masses:

**Manly:** Tuesday - Friday 9:15am

**Freshwater:** Tuesday - Friday 9:15am

**Baptisms:** please contact the parish office  
*Manly* 4th Sunday of the month  
*Freshwater* 2nd Sunday of month

**Reconciliation:** *Manly* Sat 10am - 11am

**St Mary's Primary School** 9977 2225

Principal: Paul McGuire

**St John the Baptist Primary School** 9939 6699

Acting Principal: Fiona Dignan

**St Paul's Catholic College** 9977 5111

Principal: Chris Browne

**Stella Maris College** 9977 5144

Principal: Elizabeth Carnegie