



MANLY FRESHWATER CATHOLIC PARISH

Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist Churches

The Nativity of the Lord – 25th December 2022



Dear friends, on behalf of Fr John, Fr Eliseus, Martino and myself we wish you a very Happy and Holy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. Families young and old gather to experience the wonder of Christmas Eve and Christmas Morning

and a wonderful time it is for everyone.

The fall of darkness on Christmas Eve brings a hush with it. The hustle and bustle of the day recedes. The lights of the Church shine out in welcome. There's excitement in the air. Whatever strife still troubles the world, the birth of Christ promises Peace, Joy and Hope.

In an obscure outpost of the Roman Empire, at a time when there were not obvious grounds for hope, a child is born in mysterious circumstances. A child born of heaven and earth, of flesh and spirit, of time and eternity. A child who will become the light of the world, a child whose life will end in apparent failure only for that to be transformed into a glorious triumph. A child whose birth prompts us to sing, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will".
(cf Break Open the Word 2022)

We invite you to join us at one of our Christmas Masses

St Mary's Manly 24 December

6pm Children's Mass

8pm Tongan Choir

10pm Parish Choir

25 December 8.30am & 10.30am

St John the Baptist Freshwater

24 December 5pm Children's Mass and 7pm

25 December 9am Parish Choir



CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS

There will be one Christmas collection at all Christmas Masses using cash or your card on the tap and go machines.

FACE MASKS – please bring a face mask with you if you wish to wear it in the Church

JANUARY 2023 ROSTER WILL BE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH

You're invited To
CHRISTMAS
DAY LUNCH

St Mary's Catholic Church

Enter from Denison St, School Entrance

11am - 1pm

This year we will be providing a
Take Away Picnic Lunch and gift.

There will be some tables set up under the big tree if you wish to enjoy your Picnic with some other guests.

It's been a tough year for many, so no matter what your circumstance, you are always welcome to come along!!

- ✓ COVID-19 Safe
- ✓ Free
- ✓ Special Gift Bag for all guests
- ✓ Family friendly
- ✓ Non-alcoholic
- ✓ Friendly Community

Hosted by
Manly Freshwater Parish
Tel: 9977 5822



Farewell to Fr Eliseus...



This week we will farewell Fr Eliseus as he takes up the position of Assistant Priest to the Cathedral Parish, resident at Normanhurst, with special care of the Korean Catholic Community. We will miss Fr Eliseus and his cheerful and happy personality. We wish him well in caring for the Korean Community at Normanhurst. Please keep him in your prayers.

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL REOPEN ON MONDAY 9th JANUARY 2023



Livestreaming on Facebook Sunday 8:30am
Mass [manlyfreshwaterparishfacebook/videos](https://www.facebook.com/manlyfreshwaterparish/videos)



A BIG thank you to those who supported the Christmas Day Lunch with gifts, money and food donations and all the

volunteers who assisted on the day. A special thank you to Dee Why RSL who again this year generously supported the Parish Luncheon.



Pope Francis Prayer Intention for December: Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.



If you are a new parishioner to Manly Freshwater Parish, we invite you to complete a Parish census form. This will assist us in updating our records to include you and your family in our parish community activities. The census form can be found on the back wall of the Church or at the side door entrance and may be left in the collection plate.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION IN MANLY ON WEDNESDAYS -

Quiet Prayer & Adoration 6pm – 7pm **Scripture**

Reflection & Benediction 7pm – 7:30pm.

Divine Mercy Chaplet will be said starting at 6pm

PARISH WEEKLY EVENTS

- Bible Study via Zoom: 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 7pm
- Cenacle of Our Lady: Tues 9:45am Manly Church
- Craft Group: Tues 10:00am in the Parish Centre
- Eucharistic Adoration: Manly Church
Weds 6:00pm – 7:30pm
- Lectio Divina: Tues 7.30pm & Weds 10am in the Parish Centre
- Piety Store: open on weekends or call the Parish Office
- Reconciliation: Manly: Sat 10am – 11am
- RCIA: Contact the Parish Office 9977 5822
- Rosary via Zoom: 1st Thurs 6pm, every other Thurs 7pm
- Rosary – Freshwater Tues – Fri 8.45am in Church.

PARISH MONTHLY EVENTS

- Anointing Mass: Manly & Freshwater on 1st Friday each month at 9:15am Mass
- Parish Pastoral Council: contact Parish Office
- St Joseph's Men's Group: 1st Thurs of the month 7pm
- St Vincent de Paul: Manly & Freshwater Conferences 2nd Mon each month 5:30pm

CHRISTMAS OFFERING envelopes are available



on the pews. This is a special collection to support the sick and retired priests of our Dioceses of Broken Bay.

Thank you for your generous support.



COME AND VISIT OUR NATIVITY SCENE

We invite you and your family to come forward before or after Mass to visit our Nativity scene. Please feel free to take one of the small greeting cards as a remembrance.

Below is an extract from the Angelus on the 16th December 2019 where Pope Frances spoke to the Children present about the Astonishment of the Crib.

"Dear children, when you recollect yourselves in prayer at home before the Crib, fixing your gaze on the Child Jesus, you will feel the astonishment . . . You will ask me, what does "astonishment" mean? It's a stronger feeling; it's more than a common emotion. It's to see God: astonishment because of the great mystery of God made man; and the Holy Spirit will put the humility, tenderness and goodness of Jesus in your heart. Jesus is good; Jesus is tender; Jesus is humble. This is true Christmas! Don't forget it. May it be so for you and your families."



SUPPORT OUR PARISH & PRIESTS FINANCIALLY by using one of the following...

- 1. Planned Giving:** many parishioners support the parish through a monthly direct debit or credit card. Please contact the parish office for more information 9977 5822.
- 2. Tap and Go machines** using your credit/debit card or. **EFTPOS Terminals.**
- 3. Scan to Donate** using the QR code to access our BPoint Donation page. This secure system provided by the Commonwealth Bank will give you the option of having your receipt emailed to you.



4. Directly into Parish Bank Accounts

- **Church Account** Funds the running costs of our Parish
Account Name: Manly Freshwater Parish
Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank
Account # 100002025 BSB: 062 784
- **Pastoral Account** Supports our Priests
Account Name: Manly Freshwater Parish Pastoral
Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank
Account# 13958002 BSB: 062 784

The Nativity of the Lord – Year A

First Reading: Isaiah 9:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
A son is given to us.

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 95:1-3. 11-13

**R. Today is born our Saviour,
Christ the Lord.**

1. O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. O sing to the Lord, bless his name. R.
2. Proclaim his help day by day, tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples. R.
3. Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad, let the sea and all within it thunder praise, let the land and all it bears rejoice, all the trees of the wood shout for joy at the presence of the Lord for he comes, he comes to rule the earth. R.
4. With justice he will rule the world, he will judge the peoples with his truth. R.

2nd Reading: Titus 2:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus
God's grace has been revealed to all people.

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be

his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Luke 2:10-11

Alleluia, alleluia! Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Today a Saviour has been born for you.

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census - the first - took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'God to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour'. Now when the angels had gone from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us.' So they hurried away and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

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St Mary's Primary Catholic School K – 6

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john.puliparambil@bbcatholic.org.au
Assistant Priest: Fr Eliseus Shin
eliseus.shin@bbcatholic.org.au
Parish Secretaries:
Jenny Beninati & Paula Martin
Pastoral Coordinator: Michelle Ellis
Mary Immaculate Church (Parish Office)
6 Raglan St, Manly 2095
St John the Baptist Church
cnr Johnson & Oliver St, Freshwater 2096
Parish Office: 9977 5822
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au
www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater
Presbytery: 9977 2100
After Hours Sick Calls: 0499 910 010
Parish Pastoral Council: Paul Pervan (Chair),
Ian Press (Deputy Chair), Margaret Dent
(Secretary), Joanne Druery; Val Buono;
Ivica Covic; Robert Marshall; Michael McGrath;
Peter Nacard

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 p
St John the Baptist Primary School 9939 6699
Principal: Alicia van der Merwe
St Paul's Catholic College 9977 5111
Principal: Michael Reid
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