

Diocese of Broken Bay Under the Pastoral Care of the Discalced Carmelites since 2008

10 December 2023, Second Sunday of Advent

Parish Mass Times:

Monday to Friday: 9am
Saturday: 9am, 6pm (vigil)
Sunday: 8am, 10am, 5pm
Public Holidays: 9am
Rock Mass: Once a term

Baptism: Third Sunday of each month by appointment

Wedding: Contact Parish Office at least 6 months prior notice

Morning Prayer: Monday - Friday: 8:30am

Anointing of Sick: 2nd Thursday of the month at 9am or by request

Eucharistic Adoration: Saturday 9:30 – 10am concluding with Benediction

Reconciliation: Saturday 9:30am

Rosary: Immediately after weekday Mass and Saturday (8:35am)



**Every Monday
(during term time)**

Divine Will Prayer Group
10-11:30am - Hall

Second Wednesday of Every Month

Parish Catch Up Coffee Morning
Archies, St Ives Village 10:30am

**Every Friday
(during term time)**

Lectio Divina; Hall & Zoom 10am

Second Thursday of Every Month

Anointing of the Sick – 9am

First Friday of Every Month

Exposition/Adoration at 7pm
followed by Mass at 7:30pm

Tuesday 12 December

Rejoice! Advent Program 7pm in
the **Church**

Wednesday 13 December

Christmas Choir rehearsals 7pm

Wednesday 13 December

Parish Coffee Catch Up - The
Living Room 10.30am

Saturday 16 December

Children's Christmas Nativity
Rehearsal— 4pm in the Church

Sunday 17 December

Hamper Mass 10am



**“John the Baptist
appeared in the desert
proclaiming a baptism of
repentance
(Gospel)**

Dear Parishioners and visitors to the Parish,

The Second Sunday of Advent marks appearance of John, the son of the priest Zechariah, in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. He then leads people to the Jordan River where there is plenty of water for the ritual of ‘immersion’ or baptism.

The people ask John the Baptist if he is the Messiah, the one who is to come. His reply is emphatic: he is not the Messiah. Rather, he is ‘a voice (that) cries in the wilderness’. The desert of Judea, the historical setting of John’s ministry, happily lends to the oracle of Isaiah (40:3). ‘A voice in the wilderness’ is part of an oracle of comfort, referring to the return of the exiled community in Babylon around 538 BC. As the Lord led the enslaved Hebrews by way of the desert into the Promised Land in the Exodus story, so the Lord is leading his people out of the Babylonian exile back to Jerusalem where they can rebuild the Temple and their lives.

Mark now describes John the Baptist as the ‘voice in the wilderness’ who prepares the way for Jesus, the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Indeed he is Kyrios - the Lord himself.

Pope Francis refers to the three-fold vocation of John the Baptist: ‘First - to prepare the way of the Messiah. John did not give in to temptation to believe that he was important. He said that he was preparing the way of the Lord, preparing the hearts of the people for the encounter with the Lord. Second – to discern who the Lord was. The spirit revealed this to him, and he had the courage to say: “This is the one. This is the Lamb of God, he who takes away the sins of the world.” Third - to diminish himself so that others would follow Jesus. For John says, “He must increase, I must decrease.” This does not mean that John had a bad self-image. Each person is very precious.

May God bless you.
Fr Greg Chee, OCD

CONTACT DETAILS

263 Mona Vale Road, St Ives
Phone: 9144 6998
Email: office@corpuschristi.com.au
In an emergency call 9144 6998
Web: www.bbcatholic.org.au/stives

PARISH OFFICE TEAM

Fr Greg Chee, OCD, Parish Priest
Ed Wales, Parish Finance
Michelle Miles, Office Manager
Jennifer Perrott, Faith Facilitator
Gerri Hadwen, Sacramental Co-Ordinator
Christina Surjan, Administrative Assistant

HALL BOOKINGS

Michelle Miles / Christina Surjan
9144 6998

Corpus Christi Parish School
Phone: 7256 2114

17 Link Road, St Ives NSW 2075
Web: www.ccsidbb.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mrs Jayne Wheen
Email: ccsi@dbb.catholic.edu.au

**You can now find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiChurchStIves and
Instagram www.instagram.com/CorpusChristiStIves**

Children's Nativity Rehearsals Family Christmas Eve Mass 5pm



A full rehearsal will be held on **Saturday 16th December at 4pm** in the Church for those who would like to participate as a main character in the Children's Christmas Mass and again on **Saturday 23rd December at 4pm** for one hour.

A final run through will also be held before the 5pm mass on **Sunday 24th December at 4pm**.

For those that would like to join in on the fun, there are lots of roles for younger children who would like to participate. Please turn up dressed as an angel or shepherd at 4.30pm on Christmas Eve, even if you have not attended prior rehearsals.

Rebecca Wehrhahn

Parish Choir Rehearsals for Christmas



We are very close to Christmas now and you are all invited to come to the parish choir rehearsals in the church so that we will be ready to sing for the 9 pm Christmas Eve mass on Sunday 24th December. Even if you are not a regular attender of the choir we would love you to come along.

Our next rehearsal is on **Wednesday 13th December at 7 pm and then every Wednesday at 7 pm until Christmas Eve**.

I know everyone is busy at this time of year and I am hoping you can stretch that little bit more to attend. Even if you cannot come to all the rehearsals you would be most welcome to attend when you can.

CHRISTMAS IN OUR INTERCHURCH CONGREGATIONS

14 Dec at 11am St Swithuns Anglican Church at Pymble is holding a service for people seeking Solace and Consolation followed by light refreshments. Many people feel a loss and loneliness at this time of year. If interested please call 9488 7377 to RSVP.

Cheryl Doyle & Karin Hull
Corpus Christi representatives
Interchurch Group, St Ives, Pymble & Gordon

Prayer Zone



Recently deceased: Raymond Nadeau

Please pray for the ill:

Michelle Fisher; Fr Sergio Chauira; Jessie Chang; Brendan Seeto; Amy O'Connell; James Frederick Riley; Tom Brewer; Sylvia Fishburn; Nicolette Harris; Marshall O'Brien; Helen McCarthy; Quentin Stewart; Rob Sanders; Anne Jardane; Naomi Upton; Vanessa Park; Rebecca Davies; Grace Cheah; Elizabeth Walsh; Rebecca Anderson; Maria Garcia; Jose Mestres; Meacheal; Estelle Sok; Thi Nguyen; Carmel Hadley; Carmel Hurrell, Fergus O'Brien, Michelle Soumier, Gracie Spencer, Brendan Stone

If you know of anyone who can no longer attend mass due to illness; or if you have noticed one of our parishioners is no longer attending mass, could you please let Michelle or Christina know.

FEAST DAYS DECEMBER

Wed 13th, St Lucy, virgin, martyr

Thurs 14th, St John of the Cross, priest, doctor

Mon 25th, The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Tues 26th, St Stephen, the first martyr

Wed 27th, St John, apostle, evangelist

Thurs 28th, The Holy Innocents, martyrs

Sun 31st, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

We wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of these lands on which we gather and show our respect to the Elders past and present. We also wish to pay our respects to all Aboriginal people.

2023 Corpus Christi Parish Christmas Hamper Appeal

Our goal this year is to provide 100 hampers to any needy parishioners in the Holy Family Parish, Mt Druitt. We would appreciate your support to make this happen.

Suggested Hamper Contents—please refer to the insert.

Where and when do I deliver my Hamper?

Please deliver to our Corpus Christi Church at any time during the two week Appeal period. **This runs from the 6pm Mass on Saturday 2nd December and ends at the special Hamper Mass at 10am on Sunday 17th December.**

If you require your hamper to be collected from your home please call Michelle at the Parish Office on 9144 6998 by Monday the 11th of December and we will organise a pickup from your home.

Cash donation

If it is more convenient for you to make a cash donation in lieu of a Hamper you can bring this to the Parish Office or use the Parish's Electronic Funds Transfer account:

Account Name: St Ives Catholic Parish

BSB: 062 784 Account Number: 100001798

Reference: Parish Hamper

Thank You!

For over 36 years our Parish has had a rich heritage of support to the parishioners of Holy Family Parish, Mt Druitt. We thank you for your Christmas spirit generosity.



2023 Christmas Hamper Mass

Suggested hamper contents

- Canned Food (eg soups/seafood) Canned Fruits
- Christmas Pudding / Cake / Biscuits
- Long life custard / Jelly
- Packets of Rice / Pasta / Nuts / Dried Fruit
- Peanut Butter / Honey / Jam / Vegemite
- Mixed Lollies or Chocolates
- Chips / Pretzels / Popcorn
- Non-alcoholic Sparkling Wine
- Cordial / Soft drink
- Juice
- Packets of Tea / Instant Coffee
- Packets of Sugar
- Long Life Milk
- Sauces, Oil or Vinegar
- Tissues / Paper Towel
- Christmas Decorations
- Colouring Pencils
- Shampoo and Conditioner

Plus any other non-perishable good you may wish to provide!

Some families write personal notes or Christmas cards and place that in the Hamper.

Please place in a clothes basket, a strong box, recyclable grocery bags—wrapped in cellophane or Christmas paper.

Catch up with
Corpus Christi
Parishioners!

Coffee Morning

WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER
THE LIVING ROOM | 10:30 AM



RSVP to Andrena | 0438 698 993



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

For the Persons with Disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Thinking of Selling or Renting your Home or Investment Property?

Call now for your **FREE** complimentary Market Appraisal. Also for Corpus Christi parishioners and friends we offer:

FREE partial styling when you Exclusively list your property we our office plus 10% donation to Corpus Christi from the commission from your sale.

Contact: Noelene Johnson - 0410 588 833

Contact: Matthew Johnson - 0418 767 150 or 9488 8200

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Monica Fletcher
0419 484 377

monicafletcher@bigpond.com



The Catenians

*Strengthening family life through
friendship and faith*

Catenians meet every month to pray together, to enjoy each others' company and to support their Clergy and Parishes.

For further information phone
President - John White 0439 851 910
Secretary - David Conoulty 0412 267 538

The Word

Sunday 10 December 2023, Second Sunday of Advent Year B

Collect

Almighty and merciful God,
May no earthly undertaking hinder those
Who set out in haste to meet your Son,
But may our learning of heavenly wisdom
Gain us admittance to his company.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah Is 40:1-5. 9-11

Prepare the way for the Lord.

'Console my people, console them' says your God.
'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her
that her time of service is ended, that her sin is
atoned for, that she has received from the hand of
the Lord
double punishment for all her crimes.' A voice cries,
'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.
Make a straight highway for our God across the
desert.

Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill
be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the
ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be
revealed

and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the
Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful
messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice,
joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear,
say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.'
Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm
subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is
with him,
his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd
feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast and leading to their
rest the mother ewes.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

*(R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us
your salvation*

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice
that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His
help is near for those who fear him and his glory
will dwell in our land. *(R.)*
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and
peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring
from the earth and justice look down from
heaven. *(R.)*
3. The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall
yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and
peace shall follow his steps. *(R.)*

Second Reading

From the first letter of St Peter 2 Pt 3:8-14

We wait for new heavens and a new earth.

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget:
that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years,
and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being
slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be
called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting
nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change
his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and
then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will
catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains
will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should
be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for
the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in
flames and the elements melt in the heat.

What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new
heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness
will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are
waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so
that he will find you at peace.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel

From the holy Gospel according to Mark Mk 1:1-8

Make straight the paths of the Lord.

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the
Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:
Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;
he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight,
and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the
wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the
forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of
Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were
baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their
sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on
locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he
said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more
powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and
undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with
water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.