

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

24 December 2023, Fourth 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

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
Starting in February
Exposition/Adoration at 7pm
followed by Mass at 7:30pm

Saturday 23 December
Children's Christmas Nativity
Rehearsal – 4pm in the Church

Sunday 24 December
5pm Children's Nativity Mass
8:30pm Carols
9:00pm Evening Mass

Monday 24 December
8:00am & 10am Mass
No evening mass

Parish Office closed until
Monday
15 January

Please email
office@corpuschristi.com.au if
there are any urgent issues.



***The angel Gabriel was sent
from God ... to a virgin ...
whose name was Mary.
He said, "Hail, full of grace!
The Lord is with you."
(Gospel)***

Dear Parishioners and visitors to the Parish,

Writing in the 12th century, St Bernard of Clairvaux offers a stirring drama of the annunciation to Mary. God seeks to enter the world anew after the error of Adam and Eve that shrouded the world in darkness. Now God knocks at Mary's heart. He needs human freedom, a free 'yes' to his will. His power is tied to the unenforceable 'yes' of a human being. St Bernard addresses Mary: *'This is what the whole world earth waits for, prostrate at your feet. It is right in doing so, for on your word depends comfort for the wretched, ransom for the captive, freedom for the condemned, indeed, salvation for all the sons (and daughters) of Adam, the whole of your race ... Open your heart to faith, O blessed Virgin, your lips to praise, your womb to the Creator.'*

See, the desire of all nations is at your door, knocking to enter. If you should pass by because of your delay, in sorrow you would begin to seek him afresh, the One whom your soul loves. Arise, hasten, open. Arise in faith, hasten in devotion, open in praise and thanksgiving.' Then came the sweetest 'Yes' ever said: 'I am the handmaid of the Lord; let what you have said be done to me.'

Wishing you and your family a very blessed Christmas from
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**



Corpus Christi Parish, St Ives
Christmas Mass Times 2023

Christmas Week
Parish Reconciliation, Thursday 21st December
 7-8:30pm

Sunday 24th December *
 Saturday Vigil; 8:00am & 10:00am
 * Sunday mass obligation

Christmas Eve Masses**
 5:00pm Family Mass / Pageant
 8:30pm carols in preparation for 9:00pm Mass

Christmas Day, Monday 25th December **
 8:00am, 10:00am (no evening Mass)
 ** Christmas Obligation

After Christmas
Tuesday 26th - Friday 29th December
 9:00am Morning Masses

Saturday 30th December 2023
 9:00am Mass, & 6:00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 31st December 2023
 8:00am, 10:00am & 5:00pm Mass

Monday, 1st January 2024
 9:00am Morning Mass



263 Mona Vale Road, St Ives 2075 | Phone 9144 6998 or office@corpuschristi.com.au

PRESBYTERY FUNDRAISING

As you know our dedicated priests, who have served our congregation for many years, are in need of a new home. It is our turn to show our appreciation and gratitude by contributing to the renovation of the Parish Office to construct a new residence for the Carmelites. Your generous donations will not only provide a comfortable and secure living space for our priests, but also symbolize our collective commitment to sustaining the spiritual well-being of our community. Every contribution, no matter the size, will make a meaningful impact and help create a nurturing environment for our priests. Let us come together in unity to support the ones who have devoted their life to nurturing our faith and fostering a sense of belonging among us.

We would like to acknowledge and express gratitude for the parishioner donations that have been received in the past week in response to this appeal. A further \$28,000 has been received taking total parishioner fundraising towards the presbytery project to \$208,000. So the gap to reach the \$500,000 goal is now \$292,000. If you have not yet had the opportunity to contribute, then please consider making a donation today and further demonstrate the strength of our community through our shared generosity.

For every \$1 we raise for the presbytery the Diocese will give us 50 cents. So for every \$10 donated we will eventually receive \$15.

You can donate directly to our bank account as below:

Please reference: **New Presbytery Build** in your payment message. This will ensure that the entire amount will be used for the presbytery and the Parish won't be subject to Diocesan tax on these donations.

Account Names: St Ives Catholic Parish
 BSB: 062 784
 Account No: 100001798

Thank you for your generosity! Please note, any donations made are **NOT** tax deductible.

PRESBYTERY BUILDING PROJECT

On Monday 4th December and Thursday 7th December, the Parish Finance Committee (PFC) invited members of the Parish to come along to a briefing on the upcoming Presbytery Development Project. We thank everyone who attended and shared their ideas and the PFC have taken all suggestions away for further discussion and consideration. We will come back shortly on some Question and Answers related to suggestions that were made. Any parishioners who were unable to attend and would like to discuss the project, please reach out to a member of the PFC or watch out in the Bulletin for regular updates that will be made.

The plans drafted by Corpus Christi parishioner Roman Pazniewski, who is a practicing architect and builder, have been very well received and we are excited with the momentum that is building. These plans are now available to view on our website.

The PFC would like to encourage any parishioners to come forward if you who would like to participate and support this project. There are numerous ways that one can contribute, starting from donations to participating on either a building or fundraising sub-committee, through contribution of materials. If anyone has any ideas or skills that you would like to share, the PFC would love to hear from you.

Regards the PFC.

Children's Nativity Rehearsals Family Christmas Eve Mass 5pm



A full rehearsal will be held on **Saturday 23rd December at 4pm** for one hour in the Church and 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 final rehearsal is on **Sunday 24th December from 7—8.20pm**. Carols will begin at 8.30pm before the 9pm mass.

Christmas Blessings

May the blessing of joy abide within you;

May the blessing of peace rest upon you;

May the blessing of love flow out through you;

May all the blessings of the Lord be yours at Christmas and in the New Year.



Fr Greg, Fr Gerard, Fr Sunny, Michelle, Christina, Jen, and Gerri

Prayer Zone



Anniversary: Colleen Bosci;
Joseph Li (4 Jan)

Please pray for the ill:

Michelle Fisher; Fr Sergio Chauira; Jessie Chang; 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

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

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE OVER CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR

The Parish office will be closed from midday on Friday 22 December will re-open on Monday 15 January 2023.

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.

HAMPER MASS 2023

Last Sunday we experienced an amazing sense of community spirit in the Parish. It was the annual Hamper Mass for Mt Druitt Parish. Fr Greg Jacobs from Mt Druitt concelebrated Mass with Fr Greg Chee. Following mass the community banded together to load the 120 hampers onto the truck. A sausage sizzle and morning tea was a good way to finish the morning.

Not only did our Parish and schools (Brigidine and Corpus Christi) provide 120 hampers, \$3740 was donated by Parishioners towards the Hamper Mass. This goes a long way to provide 500 hampers that the Mt Druitt Parish needs.

Thank you to Sid Veyret who organizes, promotes and liaises with Mt Druitt, the schools and the Parish.

To Etienne and Charmaine Lubbe, Danielle Hadley, Teresa, Les and Ethan Leong. Sherwell Fernando, Atat Li-Kim-Mui, Wendy Phoa, Clary Antao and John O'Connell.

The biggest thank you to you all for your hampers, donations and everyone's help on Sunday.







WELCOME

TO CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH, ST IVES

We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, or those for whom English is a second language, no matter who you are.

We extend a special welcome to those who are newborns, children, teenagers, young adults, middle aged or elderly.

We welcome you if you can sing like an angel or can't carry a tune.

You are welcome here if you're "just browsing", just woke up or just out of jail.

We don't care if you are more Catholic than the Pope or haven't been to Church since little Joey's Baptism.

We welcome those who are young at heart and those who are old souls.

We welcome Mums and Dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians and junk food eaters.

We welcome you if you don't like "organised religion". We've been there too. If you work too hard, don't work, can't spell or because Grandma is in town and wanted you to go to Church.

We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer now, had religion shoved down their throat as a kid, or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake.

We welcome tourists, seekers and doubters, bleeding hearts... **and especially, YOU!**

Jesus has room in his
heart for YOU!





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:

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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 24 December 2023, Fourth Sunday of Advent Year B

Collect

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,
your grace into our hearts,
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son
was made known by the message of an Angel,
may by his Passion and Cross
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

First Reading

A reading from the Second book of Samuel 2 Sm
7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16

*The kingdom of David will be established for ever in
the sight of the Lord.*

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord
had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding
him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am
living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells
in a tent'. Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that
is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to
Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord
speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to
dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following
the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have
been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off
all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as
great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will
provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them
there and they shall dwell in that place and never be
disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to
oppress them as they did, in the days when I
appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give
them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make
you great; the Lord will make you a House. And
when your days are ended and you are laid to rest
with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of
your body after you and make his sovereignty
secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me.
Your House and your sovereignty will always stand
secure before me and your throne be established for
ever.'"

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 88:2-5. 27. 29. R. see v.2

(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all
ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. Of this I
am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your
truth is firmly established as the heavens. *(R.)*
2. 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I
have sworn to David my servant: I will establish
your dynasty for ever and set up your throne
through all ages.' *(R.)*
3. He will say to me: 'You are my father, my God, the
rock who saves me.' I will keep my love for him
always; for him my covenant shall endure. *(R.)*

Second Reading

From the first letter of St Paul to the Romans Rom 16:25-
27

*The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now
revealed.*

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live
according to the Good News I preach, and in which I
proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept
secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be
broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the
obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has
predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God
wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory
therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

Gospel

From the holy Gospel according to Luke Lk 1:26-38

You will conceive and bear a son.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee
called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named
Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was
Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly
favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed
by these words and asked herself what this greeting could
mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid;
you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive
and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be
great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord
God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will
rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will
have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this
come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will
come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the
Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child
will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too:
your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself
conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is
now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.'
'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you
have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord.