

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

**3 December 2023, First 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: 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

**Sunday 3 December**

Pray and Play after 10am mass

**Monday 4 & Thursday 7 Dec**

Parish Update Forum -Church 10am  
(4th) and 7pm (7th)

**Tuesday 5 December**

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

**Wednesday 6 December**

Christmas Choir rehearsals 7pm  
Men Alive meeting 7pm in the  
Parish Office

**Thursday 7 December**

Parish Social Craft Group 10am



*“Yet, O Lord, you are our  
father; we are the clay  
and you the potter:  
we are all the work  
of your hands.”  
(First Reading)*

Dear Parishioners and visitors to the Parish,

‘Advent’ means ‘coming’ and this season reminds us of the ‘already’ and the ‘not yet’. Jesus has ‘already’ come in his incarnation, and at Christmas we recall the events of his historical coming among us as a babe at Bethlehem. But today’s liturgy invites us to consider the ‘not yet’ which will happen at the Parousia or his second coming.

Jesus will come again to gather everything and present it to the heavenly Father. While waiting for that blessed time, we have to keep awake and attend to our duties as responsible servants of the Lord, waiting for his return. Times will continue to be trying, but we are strengthened by our blessed hope and our conviction that the Messiah has come and will come again in glory.

At Jesus’ first coming, the angels sang of ‘joy to the world’. This joy, Pope Francis reminds us, fills the hearts and lives of people today when they encounter Jesus. This joy will be complete when Christ comes again in glory. At that time, God ‘will wipe away every tear; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone’ (Apocalypse 21:4).

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](http://www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiChurchStIves) and  
Instagram [www.instagram.com/CorpusChristiStIves](http://www.instagram.com/CorpusChristiStIves)**



## Social Justice Corner

### Cana Stall: Sunday, 3 December 2023

A stall will be held outside the church to support Cana Communities today (Sunday).

Cana Communities is a not-for-profit charity working with men and women, who have experienced homelessness, addiction, mental health issues, and other barriers that have prevented them from creating a positive life for themselves. At Cana Farm at Orchard Hills, locally grown and chemical-free produce is grown with the help of volunteers and community members, often people who have been homeless or are transitioning back into society following time in jail.

Cana is run by volunteers and regularly runs stalls in parishes in the Sydney area. Funds raised go towards providing employment, education, and sustainable opportunities for people transforming their lives. Your support of this worthy cause will be appreciated.

### 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.



Fr Greg and the Parish Finance Committee invite all parishioners to attend a

presentation at the Church to hear about the plans for the new presbytery. The Finance Committee assisted by parishioners who are skilled in the building trade have been working hard to finalise plans for the new presbytery. The presentations will be held on Monday 4 December at 10 am and again on Thursday 7 December at 7 pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Fr Greg and the Finance Committee**

## Prayer Zone



**Anniversary:** Charles Liaw

### 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

Thurs 7th, St Ambrose, bishop, doctor  
 Fri 8th, The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
 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



### PARISH SOCIAL CRAFT GROUP

A happy group for a relaxing morning every fortnight - bring your own craft or handiwork if you wish.

Next get together **Thursday 7 December 2023 @ 10.30am** in the Parish Hall.  
 Enq.: Angela 0405 507 982

## 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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

# CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

## REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Dear Parishioners

We are grateful for the wonderful support of our parishioners, many of whom work behind the scenes to assist with the day to day running of the parish. We are also grateful to our office staff who work hard to provide the support services needed to keep the parish going. We also thank our parishioners who continue to support our Parish financially.

This last year to 30 June 2023 has been a busy one for the Parish and the finance committee. Our income was slightly up compared to last year, but our expenses were also up, resulting in a deficit for the year. It would have been greater but for the generosity of our parishioners. The Diocese requires the Parish to meet a quota for the Pastoral Works (formerly the Charitable Works Fund). Unfortunately this year we had a shortfall of \$8,424 on the Parish contributions so had to make this up out of Parish funds.

The main focus of the finance committee last year was the plan to rehouse our Priests as the lease on Murphy House (currently paid by the Diocese) ends in the middle of December 2023. We will be briefing the Parishioners on the latest plans in this regard at the beginning of December. Due notice will be given in the bulletin as to when the briefings will be.

We are fortunate to have received further donations of \$31,600 from generous parishioners towards the cost of building a presbytery. The market day raised \$11,300 towards the building costs. Our thanks to all those who organised and assisted with the market day. We also thank Kit Ling Chow for arranging the sale of various second hand and used items donated by our generous parishioners and friends. If you have any usable but no longer required items please consider donating them to the parish who can then sell or give the items away to those who are needy.

We would greatly appreciate further donations. Please contact Fr Greg, Michelle Miles (in the parish office on 9144 6998) or Ed Wales (our finance officer on 0412 626 258) if you are able to assist with further contributions. The donations received specifically for the new presbytery are not shown on the income and expenditure statement as they are being kept separate and appear on the balance sheet.

During the year we welcomed Christina Surjan to our office staff as administrative assistant. Christina is doing a great job in assisting our office manager, Michelle Miles.

The banner on the Mona Vale Road side of the church advertising the hall for hire is being replaced. This banner continues to generate interest in the hiring of the hall and contributes to our finances.

In order to be able to better plan and budget our finances we would like to phase out our envelope collection and request parishioners to donate by way of a direct debit or by monthly or annual credit card donations. We understand that not all parishioners are comfortable with direct debit arrangements so we will not phase out envelopes completely, but we do ask that if you can and have not already, please consider a direct debit or credit card donation for the second collection. It is this second collection that we rely on for the maintenance of the parish and the growth of our pastoral activities. There is a form at the back of the church for this purpose that can be completed and handed to the parish office. Our first collection is for our priests, the running of their ministry and their stipend.

Our parish continues to follow its mission of seeking to "Evangelise, celebrate our faith, foster community and serve God and each other." Our goal is Missionary Discipleship. We are moving from a maintenance church to a missionary one in keeping with Jesus' great commission: "Go make disciples of all nations, baptise them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and teach them to obey all I have commanded you" (Mt 28).

Our mission depends on our parishioners' support and we thank you for your contributions over the last twelve months.

### **Sacramental programme**

The Children's Sacramental Programme is a three stage process that is delivered over a twelve month period. The first sacrament in this programme is Confirmation, followed by Reconciliation and is completed with First Holy Communion, when the children become fully initiated into the Church.

Our thanks go to Gerri Hadwen, our Sacramental Co-Ordinator, for the wonderful work she does in working with the families to prepare the children for the sacraments.

Over the year we had 124 children through the programme, 43 for Confirmation, 35 for first Reconciliation and 46 for first Eucharist. The children came from both our local Corpus Christi Parish School and the state schools in our area.

## **Catechists**

Our catechists, led by Jennifer Perrot, put a lot of work into preparing lessons, activities of significance and attending professional development opportunities. Our catechists bring the Word of God to children in state schools in our area and assist in preparing those children to receive the Sacraments. We are still looking for catechists and would welcome further volunteers for this very important ministry. Please contact Jen Perrott at the parish office on 9144 6998 if you can assist.

## **Significant Parish Statistics**

Sacraments and services:

Baptisms	36
Weddings	0
Funerals	16

## **Parish Team and staff**

Our thanks to Michelle Miles and Christina Surjan for their efficient running of the Parish Office. Our thanks to our Carmelite priests who do a significant amount of pastoral work, including home visits and anointing of the sick.

## **THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS WHO PROVIDE VITAL AND NECESSARY SERVICES NOT PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED**

Parish Pastoral Council	9 (7 parishioners and 2 ex-officio representing the schools and the diocese)
Parish Finance Committee	6
Hall booking co-ordinator	1
Weekly counters of Parish and Charities Collections	not active
Wardens who organise the collection and support parishioners	3
Altar Society	3
Altar linen	6
Lectors at weekly and Sunday masses	41
Music ministry	35
Acolytes, senior and junior servers	15
Communion to the sick, elderly and housebound	27
Welcoming and hospitality	30
Morning tea	32
Liturgy Committee	4
Childrens' Liturgy	10
Adult and young adult Lectio groups	16
Floral arrangers	7
Social Justice Group	8
Piety stall	not active
Catechists	20
RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	2
All our volunteers who contribute without acknowledgement.	Numerous

In addition to the above we have an active St Vincent de Paul team who provide vital services in our parish. We also have an organised roster for providing food to Youth off the Streets. Our priests are very active serving our spiritual needs and those of patients at the San and Hornsby hospitals and Neringah Hospice. They conduct spiritual services to residents at BUPA and Fernbank. In addition, they run study groups examining the gospels.

As you can see there are many ways to become involved in the work of the Parish. If you are not yet a part of one or more of the Ministries and are able to assist please contact the Parish Office as it would help share the load with those already involved. As mentioned before we depend on our parishioners for their various contributions. Without your help we would not be able to function.

As baptised disciples of Christ we have the privilege and responsibility of being Christ's presence and action in the world both within and outside the church structure. To live this discipleship out of love for Christ in a way that cares for others, facilitates the effective running of this parish and influences, for the better, the world around us. Let us help each other to grow in this discipleship together.

Thank you for helping our community.

**Fr Greg Chee and the Parish Finance Committee**

**CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH, ST IVES**  
**Income & Expenditure**  
**For the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023**

	ACTUAL \$ 30-Jun-23	ACTUAL\$ 30-Jun-22	ACTUAL \$ 30-Jun-21
<b>INCOME</b>			
Planned Giving Credit Cards, Envelopes & EFT's	113,837	142,766	149,386
Loose Second Collection	38,009	17,447	20,601
Tap & Go	28,220	21,690	30,120
Donations	430	3,942	5,033
Pastoral Activities, Piety store & other income	23,094	18,845	22,811
Bulletin Advertising	1,482	2,652	7,013
Alpha	4,792	-	1,931
Discipleship	250	195	2,920
Formation	200	6,320	-
Interest Received	7,508	673	1,256
Building donations	995	100	100
Job Keeper Subsidy	-	-	54,000
Cash Boost Stimulus	-	-	10,000
Fund raising income -Mothers Day Raffle	-	3,660	3,709
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>218,816</b>	<b>218,290</b>	<b>308,880</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Church Requisites	9,539	8,349	6,691
Employment Expenses including on-costs	124,963	127,963	125,137
Job Keeper Expense	-	-	32,377
Insurance	25,359	22,323	20,357
Utilities, Rates and Taxes	14,047	14,025	16,368
Office Expenses	16,018	6,655	11,880
Pastoral programmes, Admin. & other exp.	3,926	4,180	8,545
Alpha Program	423	3,581	3,742
Discipleship Program	197	1,323	3,069
Formation	3,110	1,962	-
Repairs and maintenance	41,024	34,188	39,879
Clergy Car Expenses	8,827	8,959	8,566
Charitable Works Fund - CWF	8,424	-	-
Interest repayment on Roof Loan	-	133	1,271
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>255,856</b>	<b>233,642</b>	<b>277,882</b>
<b>Operating Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>(37,040)</b>	<b>(15,351)</b>	<b>30,998</b>
<b>Non Operating Income</b>			
Specific Sponsorship	-	-	1,910
NSW Business Grant	-	7,500	-
NSW Jobsaver Grant	-	18,000	-
Building Donations - Presbytery	-	2,120	-
Fundraising - New Presbytery	-	892	-
<b>Total Non -Operating Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>28,512</b>	<b>1,910</b>
Total Non -recurring expenses	0	(16,333)	(16,333)
Roof Repayments to 30 June 2022	0	(13,321)	(33,401)
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) after roof repayments</b>	<b>(37,040)</b>	<b>(16,493)</b>	<b>(16,825)</b>

The amount raised at the Mothers' Day raffle in 2023 was \$5,096.

This has been added to cash raised for the presbytery.

The total amount raised or donated for the presbytery in 2023 was \$47,996.



Come and join our Parish Facebook Group to share in the news and photos of all the wonderful things that are happening within our parish! Scan the QR code or join by going to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CorpusChristiStIves>



**PIANIST NEEDED**

Can you play the piano? Are you available for one 10 am mass a month? The parish choir is looking for someone to play for us starting February 2024. We are a very friendly and welcoming group and we would love you to join us. You would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the parish office if you can help



**CHRISTMAS IN OUR INTERCHURCH CONGREGATIONS**

7 December at 8pm. Handel's Messiah by Hornsby Kuring-gai Ecumenical Choir at Hornsby Cathedral, 23 Yardley Ave, Waitara. Supporting women's shelter. Tickets at the door—\$30 adults / \$20 concession / \$10 children.

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**



Pray and Play is for babies, toddlers, and primary school children together with their families.

It is an opportunity for the families to spend time together after Sunday 10am Mass for some running around and a simple lunch. The final date for 2023 is 3 Dec. We will meet on the grassed area next to the school oval, or in the Church Hall if it is wet. Hope you can make it!

**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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 6th 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.

Broken Bay Diocese  
 FILIPINO CHAPLAINCY

**Simbang Gabi 2023**  
 CHRISTMAS NOVENA LAUNCH MASS

SATURDAY 09 DEC AT 7:00 PM

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CHATSWOOD PARISH  
 Fellowship & Short Program follow from 8 - 9 PM

DAWN MASSES	EVENING MASSES	TRIDUUM MASS
Chatswood	Waitara & Dee Why	Wyong
16 - 24 DEC   6:30 AM OUR LADY OF DOLOURS PARISH 94 ARCHER ST CHATSWOOD	17 - 25 DEC   8:00 PM 7:00 PM - 7:30 PM HORNSBY CATHEDRAL ST KEVIN'S CHURCH 23 YARDLEY AVE, WAITARA 50 OAKS AVENUE DEE WHY	21-23 DEC 2023   7:00 PM ST PETER'S CHURCH 23 BYRON ST, WYONG

**Launch of Christmas Novena Masses**  
 That wonderful season of Christmas is just around the corner! We are excited to announce the LAUNCH of our Novena Masses for Christmas. Our Lady of Dolours Parish in Chatswood invites you to step into the season of joy and hope with its LAUNCH of the Novena

CATHOLIC VOCATIONS  
 BROKEN BAY

Calling all Young Adults  
 You are invited to our  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS HOLY HOUR & DINNER PARTY**

Thursday evening, December 14  
 Holy Hour at 6:00pm  
 Dinner at 7:00pm

Holy Name Parish  
 35 Bilyard Ave Wahroonga, 2076

RSVP's Essential to 0418 522 449 or  
 vocations.ministry@bbcatholic.org.au



## POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

### For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father, as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

## Thinking of Selling or Renting your Home or Investment Property?

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Contact: Matthew Johnson - 0418 767 150 or 9488 8200

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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 3 December 2023, First Sunday of Advent Year B

#### Collect

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,  
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ  
with righteous deeds at his coming,  
so that, gathered at his right hand,  
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly  
Kingdom.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
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 63:16-17;  
64:1. 3-8

*Oh that you would tear the heavens apart and  
come down.*

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer  
is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray  
from your ways and harden our hearts against  
fearing you?

Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of  
your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the  
heavens open and come down – at your Presence  
the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no  
eye has seen  
any god but you act like this for those who trust  
him.

You guide those who act with integrity and keep  
your ways in mind. You were angry when we were  
sinners;

we had long been rebels against you. We were all  
like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy  
clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our  
sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked  
your name  
or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid  
your face from us and gave us up to the power of  
our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the  
clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your  
hand.

The Word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R.  
v.4

*(R.) Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your  
face and we shall be saved.*

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from  
your cherubim throne. O Lord, rouse up your  
might, O Lord, come to our help. *(R.)*
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down  
from heaven and see. Visit this vine and  
protect it, the vine your right hand has  
planted. *(R.)*
3. May your hand be on the man you have  
chosen, the man you have given your  
strength. And we shall never forsake you  
again: give us life that we may call upon your  
name. *(R.)*

#### Second Reading

From the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 1 Cor 1:3  
-9

*The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.*  
May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send  
you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have  
received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you  
have been enriched in so many ways, especially in  
your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has  
indeed been strong among you so that you will not be  
without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are  
waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and  
he will keep you steady and without blame until the last  
day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by  
calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and  
God is faithful.

The Word of the Lord.

#### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.  
Alleluia!

#### Gospel

From the holy Gospel according to Mark Mk 13:33-37

*Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.*  
Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay  
awake, because you never know when the time will  
come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone  
from home, and left his servants in charge, each with  
his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay  
awake. So stay awake, because you do not know  
when the master of the house is coming, evening,  
midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly,  
he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I  
say to all: Stay awake!'

The Gospel of the Lord.