

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

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

# 31 December 2023, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

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

**Every Friday** (during term time) Lectio Divina; Hall & Zoom 10am

**Second Thursday** of Every Month Anointing of the Sick -9am

**Recommencing in** February-First Friday of **Every Month** 

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

# Parish Office closed until Monday 15 January

Please email the office on office@corpuschristi.com.au if there are any urgent issues during this time. The email address will be monitored regularly.



### Every first born male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord' (Gospel)

Dear Parishioners and visitors to the Parish,

The Gospel reading on this feast centres on the family that is attuned to God. Luke

presents Joseph and Mary as particularly faithful to the tradition of their people. Joseph and Mary bring the Child Jesus to the Temple in obedience to the law of the Lord, "Every first-born male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord." As the first born son (Lk 2:7), Jesus is consecrated to the Lord as the law requires (Ex 13:2, 12). While holding the child Jesus in his arms, the old man Simeon blesses God who has fulfilled his promise of salvation - 'a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.' When they have fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law, they return to Nazareth where Jesus will spend thirty years of 'hidden life' - waiting for the hour of his manifestation to Israel.

On January 5, 1964, speaking in the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth, St Paul VI gave this beautiful message: "May Nazareth teach us what the family is, in its communion of love, its austere and simple beauty, and its sacred and inviolable character! Let us learn from Nazareth that the formation which one receives here is gentle and irreplaceable, and that, on the social level, it is primordial and without comparison.

'O Nazareth, home of the "carpenter's Son"! It is here that we would like to understand and celebrate the hard and redemptive law of human work; to re-establish the consciousness of the noble value of labour; to remember that work cannot be an end in itself, but that its freedom and nobility, in addition to its economic value, come from the values that underlie its end. And in this place we wish to salute all the workers of the world and show them their great model, their divine brother, the prophet of all their just causes: Christ our Lord!'

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

Corpus Christi Parish School

Phone: 7256 2114

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

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

## PRESBYTERY BUILDING PROJECT

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December and Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>
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 subcommittee, 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. Please communicate these to the Parish Office via email at office@corpuschristi.com.au.

### **FUNDRAISING:**

Thank you for your 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 Name: St Ives Catholic Parish

BSB: 062 784
Account No: 100001798

Please note, any donations made are **NOT** tax deductible. A tally of the funds raised will be provided once the Parish office reopens later in January.

Regards the PFC.

# **Prayer Zone**

Anniversary: 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 JANUARY**

Mon 1st, Mary, the Holy Mother of God Tues 2nd, Sts Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, bishops, doctors Sun 7th, The Epiphany of the Lord Mon 8th, The Baptism of the Lord Wed 17th, St Anthony, abbot Wed 24th, St Francis de Sales, bishop, doctor

# PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE OVER CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR

The Parish office will be closed until Monday 15 January 2023. Any urgent matters, please email—office@corpuschristi.com.au. The email will be monitored during this time.

### 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.



# 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 <u>FREE</u> complimentary

Market Appraisal. Also for Corpus Christi parishioners and
friends we offer:

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### 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 31 December 2023, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

#### Collect

O'God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with youin the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

### First Reading

From the Book of Ecclesiasticus: Sir 3:2-6. 12-14

Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents. The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons. Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune. Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord. My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life. Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins. The Word of the Lord

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 127:1-5. R see v.1

(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

- O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. (R.)
- 2. Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. (*R*.)
- 3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life. (R.)

### **Second Reading**

From the letter of St Paul to the Colossians Col 3:12-21

Concerning the Christian life in the world. You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful. Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through

him. Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

The Word of the Lord.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you. Alleluia!

#### Gospel

From the holy Gospel according to Luke Lk 2:22-40

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.