

We Respond

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) The shepherds went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Infant lying in a manger.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 104)

ANTIPHON: The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

RESPONSE: The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

LECTOR: Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. O sing to him, sing his praise; tell all his wonderful works! **R.**

LECTOR: Be proud of his holy name, let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice. Consider the Lord and his strength, constantly seek his face. **R.**

LECTOR: Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, the judgements he spoke. O children of Abraham, his servant, O sons of the Jacob he chose. **R.**

LECTOR: He remembers his covenant for ever, his promise for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. **R.**

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

(Or)

Alleluia, alleluia! In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

TODAY'S READINGS Sir 3: 2-6, 12-14; Col 3: 12-21; Luke 2:22-40

NEXT WEEK (Epiphany, Year B) Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 71; Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

*Brighten up
your day with
The Majellan*

A Big Thank You

We at Majellan Media would like to say thank you to all our loyal readers and customers. This has been a difficult year but with your help we have managed to get through and we look forward to your continued support in 2021.

To one and all, have a blessed, peaceful and relaxing Christmas and New Year with your loved ones. Stay safe! Please visit us at: www.majellan.media

majellan

*They know
they are loved*

Abraham and Sarah, an elderly couple, who trust in God are rewarded with the unexpected gift of a son in Isaac. Jesus is also an unexpected gift to a young woman Mary and Joseph, her spouse.

Abraham is asked to sacrifice his son to show obedience to God, but Isaac is spared, and Abraham and Sarah become the parents of nations. Forty days after the birth of their child, Joseph and Mary travel to Jerusalem to carry out the requirements of the Law which asks that the mother be purified, and the child be dedicated to God. They encounter two wise people who affirm that their son is a blessing from God who will play a major role in the redemption of the people.

Current family experience is distant from these two historical families, but they also cope with the unexpected, in the birth, the raising of children and their journey through life. Contemporary families have many configurations, but all follow the developmental cycle of dependence, independence to inter-dependence and perhaps ultimately dependence in old age. It is a journey of many joys, some disappointments, and a variety of challenges. We all have hopes for our children and these will be fulfilled in ways that exceed or fall short of our expectations.

After the purification and presentation, the Holy Family travelled to Nazareth and we hear that Jesus "grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour

27 December 2020 Holy Family Year B

of God was upon him." At the age of twelve he accompanied his parents on their annual pilgrimage to the Temple for the feast of Passover. On the day of their return, Jesus "lingered" in the Temple, but Mary and Joseph thought that he was among their group.

After a day of travel, they realised Jesus was missing, so they returned to Jerusalem, and found him in the Temple in discussion with the elders. Given his age, they were amazed at his learning. When admonished by Mary, Jesus replied: "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

Jesus grows in maturity and finds his identity in carrying out God's will. We do not know what Mary and Joseph expected from their son, but his public ministry, preaching, healing, death and resurrection must have been unexpected.

We do not know what direction our children will take but the greatest gift we can give them is to let them know that they are loved prior to achievement rather than because of their achievements. Secure in the knowledge of being loved, young people are free to become the people they are called to be and letting them go will enable them to return home no longer as children but as adults.

Michael A Kelly CSSR
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Sacred Heart Parish

South Mount Druitt

Sunday Masses	Saturday 6.00 pm Vigil	The HOLY FAMILY	27/12/2020: B
	Sunday 7.30 am & 9.00am		
Weekday Masses	9.00am	The Holy Innocents	
	9.00am	Octave Day(5th) of Christmas	
	9.00am	Octave Day(6th) of Christmas	
	9.00 am	Octave Day(7th) of Christmas	
First Friday:	12.00pm, 9.00am, 7.00pm	Mary, Mother of God	
First Saturday	9.00 am	Sts. Basil & Gregory, 4th C. Bishops	
Confessions	10.30 am, 12.00-1.00pm, 5.00pm-5.30pm		
Parish Priest	Father C. Ashton		(Confessions after Mass: see Fr)
Presbytery/Church	9 Ropes Creek Rd, Old Mt. Druitt		Ph: 9625-8847
Baptisms	By arrangement – Godparents must be Catholics.		
Weddings	Six Months Notice – Marriage Preparation Course		

1st Reading: This is a commentary on the 4th Commandment. The children who respect and support their parents will be rewarded and doing so will atone for their sins

2nd Reading: Paul in general offers an instruction on Christian living. Love should be the motivation for all practices. Only at the end he speaks of the ideals of the family

Readers	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am
January 3	W. FARQUHARSON	N. MCKENZIE	B. BUHAGIAR
EPIPHANY of the LORD	E. GEMZON	V. NAGARAJA	F. ANTOWN
January 10	L. VILLAPANA	A. WIGGINS	M. ZORE
BAPTISM of the LORD	H. VILLARICA	A. APAP	H. CRUZ

PILGRIM STATUE of Our Lady will be at the home of the Glennon family 40 Saitor Rd 96257421 this week. You are welcome for a Rosary for the Parish each night at 10.00pm. !

The Roman Senate (led by Julius Caesar in 45BC) declared the 1st January to be the first day of the new year. It is known as the Julian Calendar. We follow the "Gregorian Calendar" of 1582 which was an amendment of the Julian Calendar by Pope Gregory XIII dropping 10 days in October of 1582, from 5-14 October, to correct the imbalance caused by inaccuracies of past

FIRST FRIDAY of January will have an evening Mass 7.00pm, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and a Vigil following till Mass at Midnight. Confessions before Midnight !

MIDNIGHT MASS will be celebrated **Thursday night** to commence the new year of 2021 AD

J.P.II Foundation Mass to God to overcome the Culture of Evil in our World, next Sat.9am

GIVE LORD ETERNAL REST to the souls of all the faithful departed especially Michael WONG, Kathleen & Sonny MERJUDIO, Colin FITZGERALD, Owen DAVOREN, Veronica & KeeKiat MAH, KokSiong LIM, Rita & GuanSeng MAH, Beng & Keong LIM, MahPuay KOK, Brian STEWART, Malcomb FARQUHARSON, Vicenta PENALES, Sheila HARRINGTON, Ignac KOZUMPLIK, Karel RAJECKY, Maks & Maria SAMSA, Mark LEE, Reza & Mata TOMICIC, Elizabeth KUNACH, Jean COLLINS, Thomas DAMASKINOS, Michael MONTESL, Sharon MOORE, Kris HUGHES, Igmidio GEMZON, George D'CRUZ, Korial SOSO, Salah EZAT, Marcelo & Rosita ESCARO. Let us be united in the Kingdom of Your Glory

MANY THANKS to all of you who are here at Mass most Sundays and co generously to the Parish to enable it to function as well as it does. Without generosity and support the Parish would fold up. Everyone has committed various degrees, and I'm sure many of you are struggling because of mortgages, insurances, utility bills, emergencies, sicknesses, accidents, and all the other things that fit into those categories somewhere !

Yet most of you do whatever you can to keep this outfit on the road, and it is appreciated by us all ! **Every week**, I offer a specific Mass for all the people of the Parish to help you on your journey to that place God has made ready for us. Our Faith in God, our honouring of Christ, and our following of His commandments guide our lives to that end, and what you do in this Church is a part of that journey. We probably do little to assist Christ's Church through history, but at least we keep in step with His legates in this world, the Pope and Bishops and the Saints, and do as much as we can. We look forward to hearing those words of Christ when we, like so many before us, arrive at the Gates: "Well done good and faithful servant, because you have been faithful in a few things I will set you over many, enter into the joy of your Master" !

SOLEMNITY of the MOTHER of GOD

Entrance Antiphon: HAIL, Holy MOTHER, who gave birth to the King,
Who rules Heaven and earth for ever !

Response. Psalm: May God bless us in His Mercy !

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia !

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the Prophets;
Now He speaks to us through His Son. Alleluia !

Communion Antiphon: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever !

LET US PRAY FOR OUR FAMILIES: (recited after Communion)

O God, in the Holy Family of Nazareth You left us a perfect model of family life lived by total faith in You and in obedience to Your Will.

We thank you for the family life into which we were born, for without our parents we could not have come to exist at all nor have a hope of Eternal life. Help us to remain united to them in gratitude for being your instruments of our creation. Whether they were worthy parents or not we pray for them for without them we would not be.

Help us to transmit the Faith we have received through the Baptism sought by our parents, to any children we have or may have. Open the hearts of our children so that the seed of the Faith which they received through Baptism at our request will grow strongly in them. Give them the Grace to grow in their knowledge of, and dedication to, Christ who died for them. If they lose that Faith through negligence or sin grant them the realisation of their loss and grant them the Grace to repent in time.

Increase love and fidelity in all marriages and give Your guidance, strength, and Faith to those whose marriages are undergoing difficulty and suffering.

O God, You who have given to Christian families the honour and responsibility of handing the Faith onto their children, grant us the strength and conviction to fulfil this task faithfully and resolutely. We ask this through Christ our Lord !

Bishop Vincent's Christmas message can be viewed online at: www.parracatholic.org