Parish Notices

- New number for the Parish Office: 98323896. Old number will be diverted to this number within the next few weeks.
- If you like to pray for someone sick, recently deceased or death anniversary, contact the office on the parish email or talk to one of the clergy. A family Book of Remembrance is at the back of the Church to write the death anniversaries that fall in JANUARY. Names on bulletin will show for 4 weeks at a time.
- Sacrament of **CONFIRMATION 2022** on FRIDAY 13TH MAY. Celebrant Rev Mons. Ron McFarlane EV. Registrations from early next year.
- The morning Masses will commence at 9.10 am to give a chance for parents who are leaving children at school to attend.
- The pastoral council has recommended that the Wednesday evening Mass will commence at 7.00pm not 7.30pm from 1st January 2022.

From Fr. Fabius K. Bainakanaama from Uganda

Dear funders/collaborators,

With great joy, I have the pleasure of sending to you the last photos indicating the completion of the construction project of the pit latrine.

Due to the underlying hard rock, we couldn't reach the expected 30 feet; we, therefore, raised it high above the ground level in compensation. That is why you see it in its such appearance. It has 6 stances - 3 on each side. We have also connected to electricity for night lighting. Circumstances have caused us to adjust in such manner.

The entire cost has gone to UGX 18.142.740; around A\$ 7,559.50

Allow me, therefore, to request you, once again to extend a word of gratitude to all those who participated in the project mobilization and contributions. May the Almighty God reward you a hundredfold. Best regards and blessings.



PRAYERS FOR THOSE in our COMMUNITY

SICK: Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Fe Llave, Boyet Llave, Stella Edwards, & Fara Vargas, Marjorie Tonks.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Lila Rylewski; Marija Blazevic; Paul Wood **DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:** Max & Naty Llave, Bogart, Rino, Eddie & John Llave; & Prima Llave; Giovanni & Caterina Palumbo; Guiseppa & Graziella Palumbo; Vincenzo DiBartolo; Lorenza li Vigni.

Names submitted to Parish for prayers will show for 4 weeks at a time.



SACRED HEART PARISH South Mount Druitt

From Fr Florito's desk

Happy Christ-Mass!

It is interesting that we can gain some insights from various terms from different languages referring to Christmas. The Latin Missal calls it: "Nativitas Domini", the birth of the Lord. In this name the fact of



salvation is indicated: we celebrate the birth of the Lord, his becoming flesh, his becoming man. The Italian language with "Natale", the Spanish language with "Natividad" and the French language with "Noel" follow the Latin term which refers to the birth of a child (Lord). In English, we have the word "Christmas", which derives from old English "Crist Maesse", literally translated Christ's Mass. In this word, the specific aspect of this feast is not indicated but rather the form of its celebration, namely, the Holy Mass, the Eucharist. If the word "Mass" were to be taken in its original form and meaning of "mission" (missa=missio), this name gives a beautiful interpretation of what Christmas is all about. It could be related to Hebrews 10:5 where Christ is presented as having said on his coming into the world: "you who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me... God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will." Christmas would therefore be the beginning of Christ's mission in this world, namely, to assume a human body and to do the will of the Father.

The Filipino term "Pasko" which is derived from Spanish "Pascua" (Hebrew pesah, cognate in English Pasch/Paschal which means 'offering') also follows the English term Christmas that connotes the birth as the beginning of mission or self-offering and then its fulfilment in Easter. In German language, they have the term "Weihnachten", which means "blessed night" which alludes to the night that is blessed because the "light of the world" is born (cf. Jn1,4). The emphasis is on Christ's mission as "light" amidst darkness (night) in the world.

Summarising the notion of Christmas as expressed in various languages, we can say that Christmas is the feast of the birth of our Lord who came as light into this world; and we celebrate this in the form of the Eucharist.

Happy Christ-Mass everyone.

Pastoral Revenue (1st Collection)

For Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) supporting the clergyBSB: 067950Acc. 00004265Ref: 6025 – South Mount DruittMaintenance & Upkeep of Church (2nd Collection)BSB: 062315Acc: 00901486Ref: 446-s5/153



Sunday Masses	<u>Saturday</u>	6.00 pm \	Vigil 4th Sunday of ADVENT			
	<u>Sunday</u>	7.30 am &	& 9.00am 19 <u>/12/2021:</u> Yr C			
Weekday Masses	<u>Monday</u>	9.00 am	4 th week of Advent			
	<u>Tuesday</u>	9.00 am	Saint Peter Canisius			
	Wednesday	7.30 pm	4 th week of Advent			
	Thursday	9.00 am	Saint John of Kanty			
	<u>Friday</u>	9.00 am	4th week of Advent			
	<u>Saturday</u>	9.00 am	The Nativity of our Lord			
Confessions <u>Saturday: 5.30pm</u> Fr. Florito Apalias						
	• -		-			
Pastoral Director: Deacon Roderick Pirotta						
Resident Priest: Fr Florito Apalias						
Parish Chairperson: Dr Mark Buhagiar						
Church Office: 22 Ropes Creek Rd, Mt. Druitt Ph: 9625-8847/98323896						
Email: <u>mountdruittsouth@parracatholic.org</u>						
Website: <u>https://southmountdruitt.org.au</u>						
Baptisms & Weddings: By arrangement.						
	-					



Looking for signs

When Mary went to visit Elizabeth she was not looking for a sign that she had made the right decision. Rather, because she had accepted God's will the sign was given to her. Her acceptance and action came first. The sign came later as a confirmation. At times we look to God to provide us with a sign that our impending action is the right choice. However, faith acts in trust and confidence; it doesn't wait around for a green light from God. When we do act in faith, the flow-on effects are the sign of confirmation.

CHRISTMAS MASSES:

Friday Vigil Mass @ 8pm Christmas Day Masses: 7.30am & 9.00am (no vigil Mass for Sunday)

Sunday Masses: 7.30am & 9.00am

Confessions for the week of Christmas: After Tuesday, Thursday and Friday morning Masses from 9.30-10.00am and Wednesday evening Mass from 8.00 – 8.30pm.

Readers	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am
December 18/19 th	H.VILLIARICA	J. MENDEZ	J. BUGAYONG
4th Sunday of ADVENT	S. FRENANDEZ	V. NAGARAJAN	M. BUGAYONG
Friday Christmas	8.00PM . M.	E. MERJUDIO	M BUHAGIAR
VIGIL/	M.FARQUHARSON	T. MERJUDIO	B. BUHAGIAR.
CHRISTMAS DAY	W. FARQUHARSON		
Sunday 26th December	No Vigil Mass	VNAGARAJAN	H. CRUZ
		A. WIGGINS	NAGARAJA

Entrance Antiphon: A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

Responsorial Psalm: All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Gospel Acclamation: A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord.

Today a great light has come upon the earth.

Communion Antiphon: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God



DONATE NOW Bishop's Christmas Appeal - Parramatta Catholic Foundation

For many of us, Christmas is a season of faith, joy, and love. Often, we spend this special time together with our loved ones, celebrating the miracle of the birth of Jesus with our families and friends, our fellow parishioners, and our community

It's easy to get caught up in the excitement of Christmas, in shopping for gifts and preparing food and treats. It is perhaps harder to realise that not everyone is able to share our same joy at this time of year. At Houses to Homes, 'Lucy' learned how to be a mum and gained access to financial support, health care and most importantly, a place to call home.

Can you please give a gift of \$25, \$50 or a very generous \$75 today so that more young homeless women and their children have access to the unconditional support they need this Christmas to find not just a house, but a home and hope for a brighter future. My heartfelt prayer is that we may all experience a peaceful, loving, and joyful Christmas. If you are able, would you please help to make this possible for homeless mothers and children with a compassionate gift today.

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv Bishop of Parramatta

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

MASS OBLIGATION on Sundays

On 20 March 2020 Catholics from the Diocese of Parramatta were dispensed from their Sunday Mass obligation until further notice (Canon 1248 §2 and Catechism 2181) by virtue of a Decree issued by Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv.

From 15 December 2021 this Decree is now revoked, and the Sunday obligation is now imposed once again given that public health orders no longer require adherence to density limits in our church buildings.

Synod of Bishops – Have your say

What would you say to Pope Francis if you had 10 minutes? Catholics across the world are invited to participate in a period of local consultation for the next international Synod of Bishops. Find out how to send your message at parracatholic.org/synod-of-bishops

Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses 2022

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will begin early next year in February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information please contact the Office for Worship on (02) 8838 3456 or <u>anne.stanton@parracatholic.org</u> or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <u>https://officeforworship.org.au/</u>

Arabic Mass available in the Diocese

There is an Arabic Mass open to everyone in the Diocese of Parramatta celebrated every Sunday at 7.15pm in St Michael's Church, Blacktown, celebrated by Fr Chadi Ibrahim SDB.

New COVID-19 rules from 15.12.2021 in the Church

- Do not come to Church if unwell/have flu symptoms.
- QR code or write on sheet when entering Church remain **mandatory**.
- -Wearing of face masks is **no longer** mandatory at places of worship but highly recommended.
- No capacity limits in the church or social events.
- Choir and congregation can sing whether vaccinated or not.
- -Leave windows and doors open for ventilation.