

Parish Notices.

- 1.. The Summer edition of the Catholic Outlook is out. Pick one up from the back of the Church.
2. Confession during this Christmas week: Wednesday 6-7pm and Saturday 9.45-10.45AM
3. We will have a new resident priest full time to replace Fr Florito sometime in the New Year. As soon as the name of the priest is known, we will communicate it to you.
4. Marisa Pongan will be outside the Church after the 9am Mass to sell the 'Cuppa books'.



CONFESSIONS CHRISTMAS WEEK

Wednesday: 21/12/2022 from 6-7pm

Saturday: 24/12/2022 from 9.45-10.45am

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS: 8PM MASS

(no usual 6pm Vigil Mass)

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES:

7.30am & 9.00 AM

PRAYERS FOR THOSE in our COMMUNITY

SICK: Maria Belisario, Annette Buttigieg; Alice Cassar; Stella Edwards, Fe Llave, Boyet Llave; Ernie Merjudio, Marjorie Tonks; Fara Vargas;. Maria Llave; Rudi Zele

RECENTLY DECEASED: Marlon Blando; Nancy Kwan; Raymond Sica; Pero Kotarac; Beverly Panlilio; Rocky Deomampo; Teresita Parducho Alignay; Nadia Gomez; Perla Mansibang; Odile Nicholas; Perla Mansibang; Jaime Bal; Judelyn Gatchalian-Garcia; Douglas Kerr; Anthony Leong; Paul (Saki) Faleono; Thomas Dubier; Roxanne Cavanagh.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Wilhemina & George Lavis. Jess Garcia jr; Epifania & Edilberto Salazar; Lorenza Umbao; John Marjorie William; Aurther and Edith Holmes; Peggy Wheatley; Thomas & Patricia Wiggins; Margaret Smith; Sr Mary Stephen, Marija Blazevic; Jack & Joseph Staszak; Vicenta & Domingo Perales; E. Perafiel; Irene Alfonso; Efipania Flojo; Luis Perales; Teodoria Alfonso; Narciso & Juana Reyes; Elisa & Manuel San Jose; Jesus, Teresa, Edgardo & Antonio Miguel; Pat Oliver Freemay; Linda Camba; Jerry Meyer; Anthony Fernandez; Shelia Harrington; Danielle Domingo, Gladys Herft; Marietta Ignacio.
Death anniversaries remain on the bulletin for max 4 weeks.



SACRED HEART PARISH

SOUTH MT DRUITT

9 Ropes Creek Road Mt Druitt NSW 2770 tel: 98323896

4th Sunday of ADVENT (A)

18th December 2022



From Deacon Rod's desk

JOSEPH by John Kavanaugh, SJ

Was it good news for Joseph when the angel appeared and told him about Isaiah's "virgin with child"? Was he thrilled that Mary would give birth to a baby boy called Immanuel? The angel was speaking, we may presume, of the woman Joseph loved. "Have no fear about taking Mary as your wife. It is by the Holy Spirit that she has conceived this child."

I've often thought about the incident in somewhat literal, realistic terms. Here is this man betrothed to a woman who is going to bear a child that is not his own "flesh and blood." Everything is already worked out: the child will be a boy and have the name of Jesus. It's one thing to believe that such an event could occur. It is quite another to accept it and take joy in it. I wonder if Joseph ever felt he was in some way robbed. Anyway, when Joseph awoke, he did as the angel directed and welcomed Mary into his home.

Even if we assume that Joseph was happy with the prospect of being a foster father to this future Saviour of his people, things did not work out very well. In fact, just about everything was botched up. Instead of security and comfort, they found themselves facing a treacherous journey during the last stage of Mary's pregnancy. So much for well-wrought plans that any father, foster or not, would want to make. They would have no suitable place to stay, no family or friends around. The earliest days would be full of fear and flight. The first ceremony in the temple would be marred by the ominous prediction of an old seer that his Son would be rejected, and his wife would have her very soul pierced.

Joseph, the foster father of Jesus, was the man who would be Christians' historic image of the good provider, the protector. Did he feel like that, this man of flesh and blood, this decent and just man? Was it a struggle for him to believe that any good would come of it?

Sunday Masses **Saturday** **6.00 pm 4th Sunday of ADVENT (A)**
 Sunday **7.30 am & 9.00am**

Weekday Communion

Services: Monday 9.10 am 4th week of Advent.
 Tuesday 9.10 am 4th week of Advent
 Wednesday 7.00pm 4th week of Advent
 Thursday 9.10am 4thd week of Advent
 Friday 9.10am 4th week of Advent
 Saturday 9.10am 4th week of Advent

Confessions Saturday: **9.45-10.45 morning ONLY**

Pastoral Director: **Deacon Roderick Pirotta**
Resident Priest: **Fr Florito Apalias**
Parish Chairperson: **Teresa Samuels**
Church Office: 22 Ropes Creek Rd, Mt. Druitt Ph: 98323896
Email: moundruittsouth@parracatholic.org
Website: <https://southmoundruitt.org.au>
Baptisms & Weddings: By arrangement only

Fr. Fabius of Fort Portal Uganda visited the parish about 4 years ago. He made an impression on everybody by his honest, emotive, and dedicated attitude to his people. Fr. Martin, friend of Fr. Fabius wrote two booklets called 'Cuppa books.' These booklets are 'gems'. These books sell for \$20 each. \$10 to pay the printer and \$10 goes to Fr. Fabius. Money will go towards buying maize flour for the children so they can have a cup of porridge at school. Sample copies available back of the church for browsing.

Parishioners can book ahead this weekend by putting their name on the list at the back of the Church. Marisa Pongan will be at 9am Mass 18th December to purchase

| Readers | 6.00pm | 7.30am | 9.00am |
|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 17th/18th December 4th Sunday Advent | Herminia Villarica Gloria Cardoza | Thomas Merjudio Joaquim Mendes | Mary Zore Jerry Cardoza |
| 24th/25th December Christmas Day | Montana Farquharson Edna Gemzon | Vinod Nagaraja Annette Wiggins | Sara Mendonca Fadi Antown |
| 31/1st January Holy Mother of God | Jeric Salazar Sara Mendonca | Grace Bondoc Elijah Merjudio | Jovita Abolencea Herbie Cruz |

Entrance Antiphon: Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

Responsorial Psalm: Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

Gospel Acclamation: A virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

GOSPEL FOCUS

What's in a name?

It appears from the passage that Mary's child is to be called both Jesus and Emmanuel. Emmanuel is not intended as a different name for Jesus but rather one of the many titles that will be applied to him. The title means God-is-with-us. That one word, Emmanuel, sums up the essence of Jewish and Christian belief. The Jewish people's faith in God was built on the basis that God travelled with them and through their lives. Christians believe that God took on an even closer sense of being with us through God's incarnation in the life of Jesus.

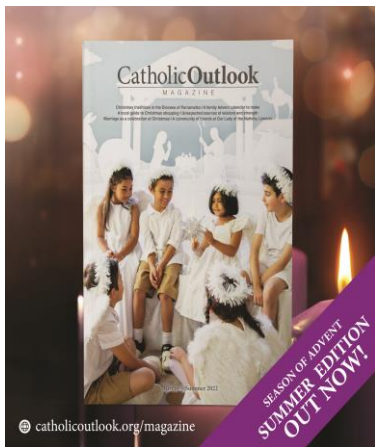
Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses 2023

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence 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 0460 037 795 or

mary.gale@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

2022 Christmas Mass and Reconciliation Times

Christmas Mass and Reconciliation Times from parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are available now on our Diocesan website (www.parracatholic.org), on Catholic Outlook (www.catholicoutlook.org) and on our Diocesan social media channels. Merry Christmas from the Diocese of Parramatta.



Advent/Summer 2022 Catholic Outlook Magazine out now!

Pick up one at the back of the Church



CHURCH CLEANING:
23rd Dec: Legion of Mary (Inrs)