



Westmead Catholic Community PARISH HEARTBEATS

Official Weekly Bulletin of Sacred Heart Parish, Westmead

Parish Office: 14 Ralph Street, Westmead 2145 NSW Telephone: 9635 9262

Email Address: office@sacredheartwestmead.com.au Website: www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au

'The sacred heart of Jesus is an open heart...' St Teresa of Kolkata

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

30 - 31 December 2023

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Lk 2:16

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

FIRST READING

GEN 15:1-6, 21:1-3

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great'. 'My Lord', Abraham replied, 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless...' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir.' And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be one of your own flesh and blood.' Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants,' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her.

So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 104:1-6. -9. R.vv.7-8

R. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

1. 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!
2. Be proud of his holy name, let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.
Consider the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.
3. 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.
4. He remembers his covenant for ever, his promise for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac.

SECOND READING

SHORT VERSION

COL 3:12-17

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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

HEB 1:1-2

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

GOSPEL

Lk 2:22-40

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.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

BAR 3:38

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

PARISH CONTACTS

(02) 9635 9262

www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au

www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Westmead

Parish Priest

Rev Fr Walter Fogarty PP

Email: frwalter@

sacredheartwestmead.com.au

Parish Administrator

Virginia Knight,

Tuesday - Thursday: 10am - 4pm

Email: office@

sacredheartwestmead.com.au

Sacramental Coordinator

Anne Monahan,

Friday: 10am - 4pm

Email: sacraments@

sacredheartwestmead.com.au

Parish Primary Schools:

Sacred Heart Primary

Telephone: 8633 4500 Fax 9893 7415

Principal: Natalie Mifsud

Assistant Principal: Jodie Smith

Mother Teresa Primary

Telephone: 8841 2600 Fax 9687 5893

Principal: Elizabeth Devlin

Assistant Principal: Katherine Stennett

Westmead Hospital Chaplain

Fr Domingo Barawid MI

Tel: (02) 8890 6037; Pager: 8512

MASS TIMES

Parish Church:

Saturday: 6:00pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 8:00am & 9:30am

Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat: 9:00am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 5:00pm to 5:30pm

BAPTISMS

1st Sundays or by arrangement

MARRIAGES & FUNERALS

By arrangement with the Parish Priest

(min 6 months notice for weddings)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

By arrangement with the Parish Priest

The Westmead Catholic Community acknowledges the Burramattagal people of the Darug nation, traditional custodians of the land on which we gather, recognising elders past & present. We aim to be an inclusive faith community, welcoming people of all ages, races, creeds, genders, orientations, marital status & cultures.

PARISH DIARY DATES

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------|
| 30 / 31 December | The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph | Feast |
| 1 January | Mary, the Holy Mother of God | Solemnity |
| 1 January | New Years Day | |
| 2 January | Sts Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen | Memorial |
| 6 / 7 January | The Epiphany of the Lord | Solemnity |
| 14 January | Tamil Pongal Celebration Mass | 11.30am |
| 23 December 2023 - 9 January 2024 | Parish office closed | |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The parish office will be closed from 23 December 2023 to 9 January 2024 and operate on reduced hours from 10 - 31 January 2024. It will return to regular 10am - 4pm Tuesday to Friday hours from 1 February 2024.

For matters of importance during this time please email:

office@sacredheartwestmead.com.au or telephone: 9635 9262 to leave a message.



Please note there will be no 9am Daily Parish on the following dates:

Tuesday 16 January
 Wednesday 17 January
 Monday 22 January
 Tuesday 30 January
 Friday 2 February



At Sacred Heart Westmead, Baptism is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month at 11am. Please contact the parish office to book for 2024.



2024 Parish Based Sacramental Program

Dates and eligibility requirements for the Parish's 2024 Sacramental Program will soon be published in our parish bulletin and on the parish website -

www.sacredheartwestmead.com.au. The Sacramental Program is open to Catholics who have made Sacred Heart Parish their primary place of worship.

Commencing March

Commencing June

Commencing September

Sacrament of 1st Eucharist

Sacrament of Confirmation

Sacrament of 1st Reconciliation

9AM MASS - SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD - 1 JANUARY

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King, who rules heaven and earth for ever.

FIRST READING

NUM 6:22-27

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 66:2-3. 5. 6. 8. R.v.2

R. May God bless us in his mercy.

SECOND READING

GAL 4:4-7

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

HEB 1:1-2

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

GOSPEL

LK 2:16-21

The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem

and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told. When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

HEB 13:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever.

WEEK 1 ROSTERS—WEEKEND MASS

Please notify Fr Walter you are in attendance

EMoE - 6 / 7 January

6:00pm: R. Tuason San Juan

8:00am: M. Schinella

9:30am: F. Khouri

Readers - 6 / 7 January

6:00pm: J. Cicchini / A. Enriquez

8:00am: A. Priya / M. Budwee

9:30am: C. Khouri / C. Esterado

Junior Altar Servers - 6 / 7 January

6:00pm: C. Cristobal / S. D'Souza

8:00am: A. Dave

9:30am: G. Vicente / L. Vicente

Senior Altar Servers - 6 / 7 January

6:00pm: B. Fernandes

8:00am: J. Chandran

9:30am: N. Emmanuel

If you are unable to attend your rostered date, please arrange a swap with another minister.



The Good News

(excerpt from CathNews)

Whether simple or elaborate, the same every year or constantly changing, a Nativity scene echoes "the beauty of our faith", writes Pope Francis. A key message of the Nativity scene is that the mystery of Christmas "loves to hide within what is infinitely small. Awe and wonder are the two feelings that move everyone, young and old, before the Nativity scene, which is like a living Gospel overflowing from the pages of Holy Scripture. Safeguarding the spirit of the Nativity scene becomes a healthy immersion in the presence of God manifested in the small, sometimes trivial and repetitive, everyday things. The shepherds in the manger are those who welcome God's surprise and live in wonder at their encounter with him, adoring him: in littleness they recognize the face of God. Humanly we are all inclined to seek greatness, but it is a gift to know how to really find it: to know how to find greatness in that smallness that God so loves." On Christmas night, the angels lead the shepherds to a baby born in a manger – "not a sign of power, self-sufficiency or pride. No. The eternal God is reduced to a helpless, meek, humble human being. God lowered himself so that we could walk with him and so that he could stand beside us, not above and far from us."

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 7 JANUARY

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

1ST READING: IS 60:1-6

2ND READING: EPH 3:2-3, 5-6

GOSPEL: MT 2:1-12

