

BULLETIN

St Pius X Church

The Nativity of the Lord - Year A

25 December 2022



Christ our Anchor

Manning Parish

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

23 Paterson Street, Manning WA 6152

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Parish Website: manningparish.org.au

Christmas Message from Archbishop Timothy Costelloe



In the first letter of St John, we find what it means to speak of God's grace and peace. The letter encourages us to "think of the love which the Father has lavished upon us by letting us be called God's children - for that is what we are ... what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed. All we know is that when it is revealed, we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is" (1 John 3:1). The gift of life, which the Lord gives us now, and which will reach its fulfilment with the Lord in heaven, is a wonderful gift indeed: it is a gift of grace and peace. How grateful we should be.

While this year of 2022 has been so very challenging; it is also a chance to see, particularly for us as Catholics, the miracle of life and grace which God gives us – and his great love for us which is revealed in this gift.

Christmas is a time when we remember that God has come so near to us in the person of Jesus, born not in luxury and splendour but in the most humble of circumstances. As we welcome him once again, at the end of a very challenging year for many, we know that he comes, as he always does, to heal our wounds and warm our hearts. As we contemplate him lying helplessly in the manger, we see what it means to say that God loves us. God's love for us is expressed in closeness - as love always is.

God wants to be so close to us, in fact, that he becomes one of us, sharing in everything that is ours as human beings, except sin of course. He in turn invites us to share in everything that is his. This is why, in Matthew's Gospel, the newborn child is given the name "Emmanuel", a

name which means "God is with us" (Matthew 1:23).

We then watch as this little child, born in the stable of Bethlehem, grows up to begin his life's work. He describes this as "bringing good news to the poor, proclaiming liberty to captives, giving sight to the blind, setting the downtrodden free, and announcing a year of favour from the Lord". This is what it means to heal wounds and warm hearts. Sometimes Jesus heals physical wounds and often, perhaps even more importantly, he heals the deeper, spiritual wounds, as he did for Peter when he forgave him for his threefold cowardly betrayal and denial (cf. John 21:15-17). Jesus warmed hearts that had grown cold and hard through fear, rejection, suffering or despair - and we are called to do the same.

The events of the first Christmas reveal something extraordinary about God. It is as if, through Jesus, he is saying to us: in the extraordinary vastness and complexity of my creation, you are the ones whom I have created and chosen to enter into a relationship of profound and intimate love with me.

So much do I love you, and want to be one with you, that I have, in my Son Jesus, become one of you and one with you. In a world in which it is so easy to lose sight of me, misunderstand me, or even forget me, I have given you my Son, so that in him you might hear me speak, see me reach out with compassion, recognise me as the one who heals and forgives, and see me, in his suffering and death, as the one who will go to any lengths to save you - because I love you.

As we celebrate Christmas this year, I invite you to gaze with wonder on this helpless baby, lying in his manger. Recognise in him the extraordinary love God has for you. Allow that love to be the foundation of your lives, a source of strength and hope in times of struggle and sorrow, and an inspiration for that reaching out to others with compassion and care which is the defining characteristic of life lived to the full, of life lived as a disciple of Jesus.

May this be a time of deep happiness, of reconciliation and peace, and of joyful hope for the future for you, your families and all those who are dear to you. A happy and holy Christmas to you all.

Archbishop Timothy Costelloe

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Vinita Rai

Parish Secretary

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Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday 9am to 12 noon

SCHEDULES

Confession

Saturday 5.00 to 5.30pm

Or anytime by appointment

Normal Weekend Masses

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 7.30am, 9.00am Mass

& 11.00am Chinese Mass

Normal Weekday Masses

Monday 8.00am Communion Service

Tuesday to Saturday 8.00am Mass

(Check Parish Calendar for Variations)

Sacrament of Baptism

Saturdays at 10.30am

**No Baptism during Lent
Other Time**

Negotiable with Father Patrick

Sacrament of Marriage

By appointment with Fr Patrick

At least 6 Months before wedding

Marriage Preparation Course Enrolment

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SPX Safeguarding Officers

To ensure the safety of children, young people and the vulnerable in the Catholic Church

6pm Vigil Mass - Ryan Gonsalves 0423 708 777

7:30am Mass - Marie Chaperon - 9313 4585

9am Mass - Tina Fernandes 0411 821 065

11am Chinese Mass

Gregory Lo 0435 383 417, Andrew Tai 0435 950 532 ,

Juliana Tseng 0438 864 689

Email: safeguarding@manningparish.org.au



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Melissa Vranjes

Principal

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ROSTER

Weekend 24/25 December

Weekend 31 Dec/1 January

Readers	Sat 6.00pm	Christine Carvalho /Les Price 9.00pm	6.00pm Volunteer
	Sun 9.00am	Christmas Day - Vincent Whyte	7.30am Volunteer
	Sun 11.00am	Christmas Mass in Chinese	9.00am Volunteer
Counters		D & B Molony	Mark & Erica Lazarus

Parish Calendar

Dec 26	8.00am	No Communion Service
Tue 27	8.00am	Mass (St John)) Church
Wed 28	8.00am	Mass (The Holy Innocents)) Church
Thu 29	8.00am	Mass (5th day in the Octave of Nativity) Church
Fri 30	8.00am	Mass (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph) Church
Sat 31	8.00am	No Mass
	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (Mary, the Holy Mother of God - Year A) Church
Jan Sun 1	9.00am	Vigil Mass (Mary, the Holy Mother of God - Year A) Church
	11.00am	Chinese Mass (Mary, the Holy Mother of God - Year A) Church

Schedule for January 2023

Please take note that as of 31 December 2022 to end of January Monday Communion service and Saturday 8.00am Morning Mass is cancelled due to Fr Patrick taking a break from the parish. They will resume again in February 2023



The Knights of the Southern

Cross wish to invite exemplary youth leaders in our Parish to apply for the Knights Catholic Leadership Academy for 2023.

The Knights Catholic Leadership Academy is an accessible training program that develops and builds the leadership skills of young Catholics. The Academy is now in its 6th year and over 45 graduates have completed the program, many of whom are active leaders in parishes today.

In partnership with Acts 2 College of Mission and Evangelisation, the Academy will provide students with mentoring and personal formation to witness to and evangelise their peers in a theologically sound and sustainable manner.

The total time commitment for students includes 3 single-day workshops between April and December (during school holidays), plus a youth conference in January.

The Academy is for actively practicing Catholics who will be studying in Years 10, 11, or 12, and who demonstrate leadership aspirations. As such, they are reaching out to you to nominate a suitable candidate from our Parish.

For more information and registration, please visit www.knightsyouth.com. **Registration closes on 27/02/2023.**



Line Dancing Classes

Wednesday 21st December will be the last class for this year and will recommence on Monday 23 January '23. All proceeds go to the Parish

This is a community building initiative to keep you fit and active with the help of Francis & Hellen Tay. All are welcome



Tai Chi Group

Mondays in Parish Hall except holidays Starts 7:30pm and finishes at 8:30pm All parishioners are most welcome For more information, please contact or text Maurice on 0408 782 224 or Stephen on 0403 167 838



Christmas Schedule

Saturday 24 December 2022

No 8.00am morning Mass
6.00pm Christmas Family Mass
9.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass

Sunday 25 December 2022

9.00am Christmas Morning Mass
11.00am Christmas Mass in Chinese



Thank you to all those in the parish who supported Catholic Mission's Christmas Reflection on Modern Slavery last weekend.

The CathNews link to the article about this Concert event is <https://cathnews.com/2022/12/12/music-stirs-up-modern-slavery-reflection/>

and the link to the keynote address is <https://cathnews.com/2022/12/12/music-stirs-up-modern-slavery-reflection/>

An inspiring video of this Christmas concert will be available shortly. Please contact director.cm@perthcatholic.org for further information.



Join us on Friday 30 December at 7.00pm for a night of Karaoke music, dancing, fun and great food In the parish hall

Please bring a dish to share BYO Drinks. Cost is only \$5.00



Manning Parish Youth Quest Youth Ministry

Guiding our youth on a Quest to know, love and serve the Lord. The youth ministry for the parish is open to youth aged in High School or University, and meet every second Saturday after mass.

Get in touch with us by finding us online at <https://www.facebook.com/youth.manningparish/>

First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!' Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion. Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem. The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 97:1-6. R. v.3

(R.) All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

1. Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation. (R.)
2. The Lord has made known his salvation;
has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
for the house of Israel. (R.)
3. All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord all the earth,
ring out your joy. (R.)
4. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,
with the sound of music.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
acclaim the King, the Lord. (R.)

Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-6

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name.

God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father, or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth. Alleluia!

Gospel

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to

all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John appears as his witness, He proclaims: 'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.'

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Reflection for Young People

By Lisa-Marie Calderone Stewart

For people surrounded by department store decorations, commercials, Christmas carols, special foods, and the like, believing that today's Christmas celebration actually evolved from the humble story of a young woman giving birth in the straw is a stretch. It might help to focus on the characters involved.

What do you think went through Joseph's mind as he witnessed Mary giving birth to a baby? What do you think went through Mary's mind as she struggled with the birth experience?

The Christmas story is full of symbols. Jesus, who becomes our bread and wine – our nourishment – is laid in a manger, the feeding trough for the animals. Jesus, who is the champion of poor people, is born into a homeless family. Poor shepherds were the first to welcome the Messiah that the Jewish people had been awaiting for generations. The symbol of angels singing, praising God, and flying madly all over the sky was a good clue that something out of the ordinary was happening.

Modern Christmas stories use different symbols to make the same points: Rudolph, the 'poorest' reindeer, becomes the champion; and Frosty, a snowman, transforms children's lives.

What story from your own personal Christmas experiences has special meaning or symbolism?

Next Sunday Readings

1 January 2023

Mary, the Holy Mother of God - Year A

First Reading: Numbers 6:22-27

Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

CHILDREN'S CORNER



Draw a picture of the newly born Jesus lying in the manger.

