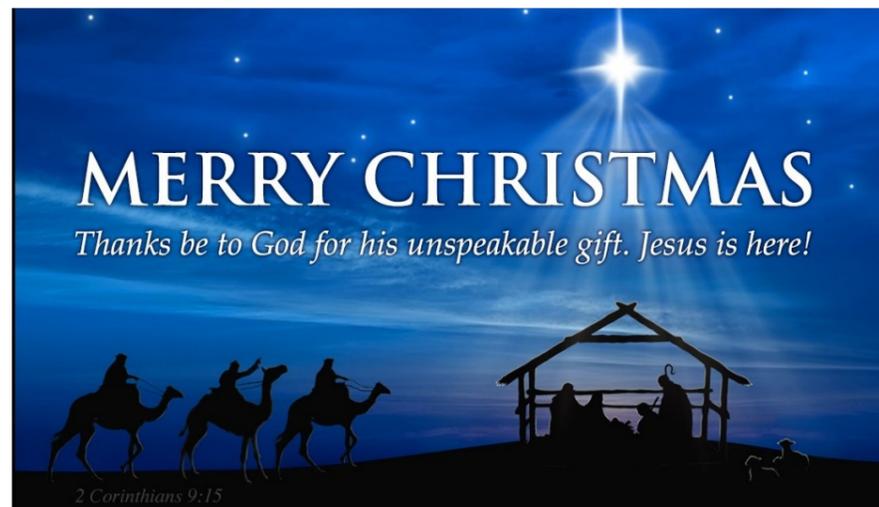


MINISTRY ROSTER - DECEMBER & JANUARY

Please see rosters for the month of December & January. If you cannot attend your rostered day, please see Fr Bernie or call 9369 9328.

23 - 24 December (Week 4)				
Ministry	6pm Vigil	8.30am	10.00am	6.00pm
Altar Serving	Barry Blake	Anthony Spratt	Celina Seeto	-
Proclaimer of Word	Margaret Blake	Sally Crane	Des Durkin	Sally Crane
Euch Minister	Cameron Ward	Gaye Zammit Michelle Byrne	Genevieve Roberts Gisella Musumeci	Joy Pertile
Hospitality	Warren	Margaret Duncan Michelle Byrne	Laura Neeson Eddie Seeto	Kathy Reilly
30 - 31 December (Week 5)				
Ministry	6pm Vigil	8.30am	10.00am	6.00pm
Altar Serving	Barry Blake	Anthony Spratt	Celina Seeto	-
Proclaimer of Word	Margaret Blake	Bernadette O'Connor	Genevieve Roberts	Peter Foley
Euch Minister	Vincent Conroy	Kevin Brookes Margaret Kelly	Laura Neeson Jackie Durkin	Miriam Wairau
Hospitality	Clare Cinhvu	Phyllis Spratt Grainne Tierney-Reed	Jackie Durkin Eddie Seeto	Katy Smith
6 - 7 January (Week 1)				
Ministry	6pm Vigil	8.30am	10.00am	6.00pm
Altar Serving	Barry Blake	Anthony Spratt	Celina Seeto Christian Abruzzese	-
Proclaimer of Word	Margaret Blake	Trisha Brookes	Bianca Abruzzese	Mary McCafferty
Eucharist Minister	Barry Anderson	Fran Laura Neeson	Dominic Abruzzese Eddie Seeto	Marta Ramriez
Hospitality	Warren	Laura Neeson Margaret Duncan	Laura Neeson Eddie Seeto	Kathy Reilly
13 - 14 January (Week 2)				
Ministry	6pm Vigil	8.30am	10.00am	6.00pm
Altar Serving	Barry Blake	Anthony Spratt	Celina Seeto Christian Abruzzese	-
Proclaimer of Word	Margaret Blake	Rory Reed	Annabella Abruzzese	Sally Crane
Eucharist Minister	Cameron Ward	Gaye Zammit Michelle Byrne	Tony Abruzzese Alison Abruzzese	Joy Pertile
Hospitality	Clare Cinhvu	Phyllis Spratt Michelle Byrne	Jackie Durkin Eddie Seeto	Kathy Reilly



Mary Immaculate Church, Waverley

PARISH OF ST CHARLES BORROMEO

Waverley Parish will be a sign of God's love for all people by being a welcoming and caring community which embraces the Gospel of Jesus in the spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi.

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. We walk on a land once occupied by the Gadigal people of the Eora nation. May we continue to love and respect the land as they have.

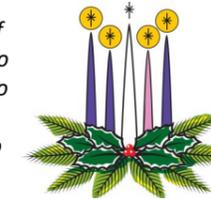
PLEASE TAKE THIS BULLETIN HOME

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year B

23 - 24 December 2017

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Today we light our 4th candle – the candle of Peace. We are reminded that we are called to promote the Peace of Christ that our world so desperately needs. Peace is the message of Christmas – the coming of the one who is to bring peace to our world. **The response you are invited to pray is in bold italics...**



The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined.

The lights that we have kindled each week light the way to the coming Christ.

The candles of Hope, Preparation, and Joy glow brilliantly. Today, we light the candle of Peace.

The coming Lord is forever faithful. The never-ending affection and tenderness the Christ has for us is a gift that unequalled.

Praising the God who cares so deeply for all creation, we light this candle of peace. to symbolise our yearning to share the peace of Christ.

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.

FIRST READING: 2 SAMUEL 7:1-5; 8-12; 14-16

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.

I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. When he commits iniquity, I will punish him with a rod such as mortals use, with blows inflicted by human beings. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever
The Word of the Lord

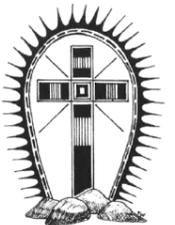
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I will sing forever of your love O Lord through all ages your mouth will proclaim your truth Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.

I have made a covenant with my chosen one I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your dynasty for ever and set up your throne through all ages.

He will say to me "You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me." I will keep my love for him always; for him my covenant shall endure.



FOR 8:30AM & 10AM SUNDAY MASS

I will sing forever of the goodness of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done to me according to your word. Alleluia

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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

Continued >>>

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS TIMES

Sunday, 24 December

8:30am Morning Mass

10:00am Family Mass

6:00pm Children's Mass

11:15pm Carols Service followed by

12:00am Midnight Mass



CHRISTMAS DAY MASS TIMES

Monday, 25 December

9:00am Mass & no evening Mass

SECOND READING: ROMANS 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.
The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL: LUKE 1:26-38

John's testimony to Jesus

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel as sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

REFLECTION

The angel explains to Mary who the child she is being asked to bear will be – he will be great, Son of the Most High, he will rule over the House of Jacob. This is an astounding description but Mary does not refer to it. Her question "But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?" seems to indicate that she barely heard the description of the child she would bear, because she was still absorbing the impact of the angel's first words "You are to conceive and bear a son..."

In response to Mary's question the angel offers news which seems just as difficult to grasp, that her cousin Elizabeth is already six months pregnant.

Mary would have been quite justified in asking further questions about how this miraculous event had come about, but the angel offers her the simplest and most convincing of explanations: "Nothing is impossible to God". For the woman of faith that Mary was, the angel's explanation was sufficient and she gave her assent to what God was asking. Mary focused first on the practicality – the conception of a child – which is a very natural and human first response. Later she would have meditated on what the angel had said about the child, and the bigger picture of salvation history as it was known to the Jews.

This movement from immediate practicalities to the context or bigger picture in which they are situated is at the heart of living our lives with Christ. Our lives are made up of practicalities – things to be done, acquired, given away, written, spoken, accomplished. If we understand them in the context of "walking his way, telling his truth, and living his life" (Ecclesia in Oceania), then the practicalities of our lives have a significance beyond their practical value. When we think of the practical aspects of our lives in this bigger context we make different decisions about what to do or say. Over time we become oriented to Christ and formed in his way, so that we are truly "living his life". As we deal with the busy-ness of Christmas we might like to ask ourselves "What is the bigger picture here?" It is a 21st century version of what Mary must have asked when she recovered from the first shock of what the angel said. God waits for us to ask questions like this, and he has an infinitely surprising range of ways in which he answers our questions.

Mary had questions, when the angel was present and certainly later on. When we direct questions to God we indicate our willingness to engage with him, and our openness to his response. It is the invitation he waits for. As we approach the end of the year perhaps the question we need to ask is: "Lord, what has been the bigger picture this year?" The answer may be surprising.



WEEKDAY READINGS

Mon 25 Dec Isaiah 62:1-5 Matthew 1:1-25
 Tues 26 Dec Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Matthew 10:17-22
 Wed 27 Dec 1 John 1:1-4 John 20:2-8
 Thu 28 Dec 1 John 1:5-2:2 Matthew 2:13-18
 Fri 29 Dec 1 John 2:3-11 Luke 2:22-35
 Sat 30 Dec 1 John 2:12-17 Luke 2:36-40

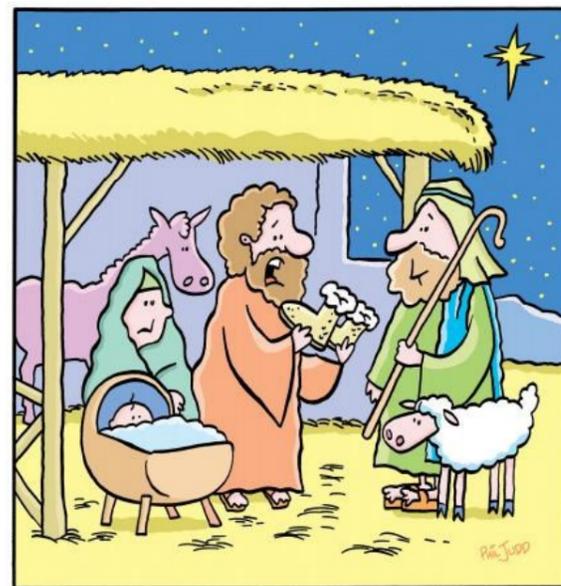
NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Wisdom 2:23 - 3:9
 Ps 33:2-3. 16-19
 Gospel: Luke 17:7-10

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell.
 On the third day he rose again from the dead, he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty, From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.



"Ugg boots?"

Mass Times

Monday - Friday: 9:15am
Saturday: 9:15am, 9:45 - 10:15am
 Reconciliation & 6pm Vigil
Sunday: 8:30am, 10am & 6pm

Parish Centre

45A Victoria Street,
 Waverley NSW 2024
 www.waverleycatholic.org.au

P (02) 9369 9399 **F** (02) 9389 2073
E office@waverleycatholic.org.au
Office Hours: 9am - 3pm
 Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri

Parish Priest

Fr Bernie Thomas OFM
P (02) 9369 9328
E parishpriest@waverleycatholic.org.au

Pastoral Coordinator

Mr Barry Blake

Music Director

Kurt Ison

Parish Secretary

Carla Korkor
P (02) 9369 9399
E office@waverleycatholic.org.au

Local Schools

St Charles' Parish Primary School
 53-63 Carrington Road, Waverley
P (02) 9387 3845
W https://stcwaverley.catholic.edu.au
School Principal
 Ms Hilary Cameron

St Clare's College, Waverley
 41-51 Carrington Road, Waverley
P (02) 8305 7100 **F** (02) 9389 3503
W https://stclares.nsw.edu.au/
School Principal
 Ms Antoinette McGahan

Waverley College, Senior Campus
 131 Birrell Street, Waverley &
P (02) 9369 0600
W https://waverley.nsw.edu.au/
Head of College
 Mr Graham Leddie

Waverley Junior School
 44 Henrietta Street, Waverley
P (02) 9387 5022
W https://waverley.nsw.edu.au/
Director of Junior School
 Mr Anthony Banboukjian

LET US PRAY FOR...

Those who are sick: Nicola Jarman, Margaret Jones, Teresa Wong, Terry Dodds, Damian Johnson, Lorraine Ladd-Hudson, Maria Alves, Joanne Macrae, Audrey Moran, Catherine Davis, Sr Francis Murphy osc, William Beaudoin, Denis Lindsay, Albert Miu, Jett Jarvis, Grazia Mafodda, Ana Letec, Helene Beazley, Wayne Townson, Dick See, Jessica Amelia, Behan Kahler, Kathleen Schlink, Bob Lloyd, Archbishop Anthony Fisher, Stan Vesper, Rosa Maria Santos, Maria Kiely, Ann Thomas (Fr Bernie's Mum), Gary Shipton, Kim Roper, Br Stan Cusack, Joan Roberts, Hernan Enrique Caceres, Veronica Chavez, Maria Sol Montel, Veronica Rodriguez, Luz Alejandra Bringas, Carolina Silvia Brizuela Perez, Rodolfo Martin Arruabarrena, Joan Dunsmore, Patricia Byrne, James Town, Alex Georgeandis, James Elliott, Alice Chapman; Barry Blake

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Dwayne Quintana, Allan Smith, Rosina Creazzo, Anna Sidoti, Concetta & Angelo De Luca,

Those recently deceased: John Gannon, Tom Davison

NEWS AND NOTICES

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Carla, the Parish Secretary will be away from Monday, 25 December 2017 to Monday, 15 January 2018, returning Tuesday 16 January 2018. The Parish Office will be closed during this time, as Fr Bernie will also be away from 2 January to 11 January. If the matter is urgent, please contact Fr Bernie on (02) 9369 9328 or parishpriest@waverleycatholic.org.au before he leaves on 2 January otherwise Carla will attend to your email when she is back in the office on Tuesday, 16 January.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS IN 2018

Please note that starting from Monday 15 January 2018, Carla, our Parish Secretary will be working Tuesday to Friday 9:30am—2:30pm and will not be in the office on Mondays. This will be the new Parish Office Hours as of Monday 15 January 2018. Any questions, please speak with Carla on (02) 9369 9399 or office@waverleycatholic.org.au.

**CAMPION SUMMER PROGRAMME
 8-12 JANUARY 2018**

Campion Summer program is forming young minds in faith and reason. Looking for 16 – 24 year olds to come join the Campion summer program in Jan 8-12 2018. Experience College life and a taste of the Campion College course: I Literature I History I Hiking I Coastal Walks & Swims I Theology I Philosophy I Sports I Other Activities. Registration: \$390 per person - Financial assistance available. For more information: visit www.campion.edu.au/summer or contact us at study@campion.edu.au, Tel: 0413489738



CatholicCare wishes everyone a safe, peaceful and joyous Christmas.

Our CCareline service helps Sydney families find the resources they need in a crisis. We are open 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday excluding Public Holidays and can be reached on **13 18 19**. Our Parent Line service for parents of children aged 0-18 years is open 9am to 9pm Monday to Friday and 4pm to 9pm on weekends excluding Public Holidays. Call **1300 1300 52** to speak directly to a counsellor.

FRANCISCAN PARISHES PILGRIMAGE

The date for our pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi is for departure on 21st May 2018 and returning to Sydney on 3rd June. The trip will include 6 full days in Rome with guided tours around all the major pilgrimage sites and then 3 nights/2 full days in Assisi. Start saving now - approximate cost should be around \$3,500 including airfares.

GRIEF TO GRACE – HEALING THE WOUNDS OF ABUSE

A spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held April 8th – 13th 2018. To request an application contact Anne by emailing info@griegtograceaus.org.au or phone 0407 704 539. For more information visit www.griegtograce.org