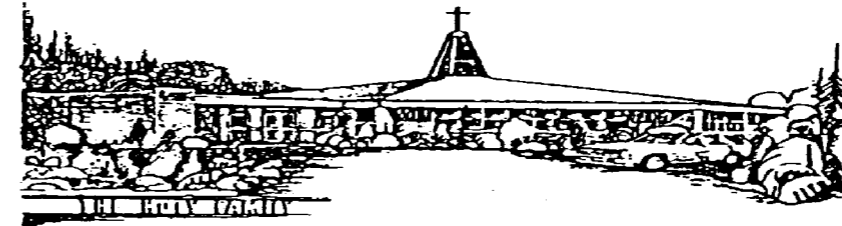


HOLY FAMILY PARISH, RUNAWAY BAY



<p align="center">Emergency Evacuation Procedure</p> <p>Parishioners are advised that the Holy Family Church has an EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE, a FIRE BELL and EXIT POINTS. In the case of an alert, the Mass coordinator will immediately move to the front of the church and assisted by the trained fire warden, will direct parishioners to leave the church through the nearest EXIT sign in GREEN. Everyone should move in an orderly fashion to the FIRE ASSEMBLY AREA located outside the Church carpark and along Simbai Street.</p> <p>All Mass coordinators have been provided with detailed Church response and evacuation procedures.</p> <p>Fire assembly areas are documented in the evacuation maps/diagrams displayed around the church and parish office.</p> <p>Cars are not to be moved from the carpark during an emergency as entry by emergency vehicles would be impeded. All parishioners should remain at the assembly point until further direction by the fire authorities / fire warden.</p>	<p>Holy Family Planned Giving</p> <p>Please consider setting up a weekly/ fortnightly/monthly bank transfer to the Parish account.</p> <p>Parish Bank Details : Runaway Bay Parish Commonwealth Bank BSB: 064 786 Acc# 100 006 388 REF : PG/LAST NAME</p>
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Weekly Diary : 22 nd December — 28 th December 2025		
Tuesday 23 rd	: 9.30am	Mass
Wednesday 24 th	: 4.00pm	The Nativity of the Lord—Vigil + Pantomime
	6.00pm	The Nativity of the Lord—Vigil at Our Lady of Hope, Banksia Park hall, 27 Crescent Avenue, Hope Island
Thursday 25 th	: 7.00am	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
	9.00am	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Saturday 27 th	: 3.30pm	Confessions
	4.00pm	Vigil Mass—Feast of The Holy Family Advent A/2
	5.30pm	Mass at Our Lady of Hope, Banksia Park Hall, 27 Crescent Avenue, Hope Island
Sunday 28 th	: 7.00am	Mass—Feast of The Holy Family A/2
	9.00am	Mass—Feast of The Holy Family A/2
	10.15am	Baptisms

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND DECEASED

PRAYER: O Lord Jesus Christ, rest your weary ones, bless your dying ones, soothe your suffering ones, pity your afflicted ones, shield your joyous ones, and all for your love's sake. Amen.
(St Augustine)

Prayers have been requested for the following :

RECENTLY DECEASED: Merium Rita Lawrence, Loretta Scarselletta, James Joseph Doyle, Julie P Bayra, Maria Colosimo, Alan Jane, Beverley Anne Steinhour

ANNIVERSARIES: Henry Blake, Jose Sanchez, Helen & Harold Regan, Gavin Van Kan, Ross Bycroft, Tony Lawson, Carolina Vallejo, Angelina Vizon, Jesus P. Balasabas

SICK LIST: Vu Hoai Nam, Rosemarie Hume, Kate O'Brien, Tomislav Zakic, Geoffrey Eaborn, Fr. Pat Flarity, Geoffrey Steinhour, Benjamin Boulton-Wright, Rene Boerlage, Emily Norton-Knight, Erica Neal Torralba, Jan Staunton, Monica Grant, Paul Ellis, Gabby Mehmet, Sheila O'Neill, Mac Gilbert, Alex Scott Jr, Ho Chun Leung, Elaine Massy, Robyn & Phillip Trevanna, Gerry Boerlage, Yvonne Collett, Lorna Avis Whitehouse, Robyn Phillips family, Mark Prain, Elaine Jeffrey, Beverley Robinson, Elsie Charles, Jacques Charles, Christopher Holley, Sophie Mitchell, Elizabeth Allanson, Ann Woodman, Carter Ford, Val Hutton, Bernard Molina, Mark Devlin, Margaret Cotton, Rico C.Cadayona, Evelyn Tan, Vicky Umythy, Tessa Woodward, Angela Byron, Renee Wood, Gerard Brennan, Jan Dodds, Gabriel Cabral, Keith Murphy, Victoria Scotchford, Michael Murphy, Kayden Chong, Peter O'Rourke, Fr. David Wilson S.M, Sasha Whelan, Madeline Hodgetts, Marie Turnbull, Christine Kyriakides, George Kyriakides, Morris Lynch, George Docherty, Christina Ang, Riany Chandler, Simon Stretton, Margaret Kwong, Bernie Pack

Prayer to the Virgin Mary (Never Known to fail)

Oh most beautiful flower of Mt Carmel, fruitful of the vine, splendorous of Heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, please help me and show me herein you are my Mother. Oh Holy Mary, oh Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart, to succour me in my necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh show me herein you are my Mother. Oh Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (say three times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (say three times). Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. AMEN. This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and prayer must be published.

Acknowledgement of Country - This is Kombumerri Country - The Traditional Custodians of this region.

We respectfully acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the First People of this country. We pay our respects to the Kombumerri people, who are the traditional custodians of these sacred lands that we live and work upon. We acknowledge Elders, past and present and emerging, as they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hopes of our Indigenous people.

4th Sunday of Advent Year A/2

Sunday 21st December 2025

<p>PARISH PRIEST Monsignor Peter Meneely PP</p> <p>PARISH STAFF Audrey Ho Parish Manager Email : rbay@bne.catholic.net.au</p> <p>Jan Levinge Marriage Coordinator</p> <p>Lorraine Wynne/ Josephine Vaise vaisejosephine@gmail.com Sacramental Coordinators</p> <p>Giovanni-Paolo Malietoa-Brown g.c.malietoz0909@gmail.com Youth Coordinator</p> <p>Parish Office: 16 Simbai St PO Box 125 Runaway Bay Q4216</p> <p>Website : www.holyfamilyrunawaybay.org.au</p> <p>FOR ALL ENQUIRIES: Tel: 07 5537 4320 Emergency : 0434 825 260 Facebook : Holyfamilycatholicchurchrunawaybay Our Lady of Hope Catholic Community</p> <p>Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 8.00am—3.00pm Friday 8.00am-12noon</p> <p>Reconciliation: Saturdays 3.30pm</p> <p>Baptisms Every 1st/3rd/4th Sundays after 9am Mass Please contact the Parish Office.</p> <p>St Francis Xavier School: Principal : Ronan O'Mahony Tel: 5537 2633</p> <p>St. Vincent De Paul Helpline 1800 846 643</p> <p>Nerida Smith Minister to the Sick Mobile : 0417 606 639 Email : nerida.smith@bigpond.com</p> <p>Parish Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR) Michael Nicholson lsr.rbay@bne.catholic.net.au</p>	<p align="center">Holy Family Catholic Parish Christmas 2025 and New Year Mass Times</p> <p>24th Dec Wednesday Christmas Eve at Holy Family Church 4:00pm Children's Christmas Family Mass Our Nativity Play for 2025 will be part of our 4pm Children's Christmas Family Mass celebrated in Holy Family Catholic Church. Children are invited to dress in their favourite biblical character associated with the Nativity of the Lord.</p> <p>25th Dec Thursday Christmas Eve at Our Lady of Hope, Banksia Park Hall, 27 Crescent Ave, Hope Island 6.00pm Mass</p> <p>27th Dec Saturday Christmas Day 7:00am & 9:00am</p> <p>28th Dec Sunday Feast of The Holy Family 4.00pm Vigil in Holy Family Church 5.30pm Mass at Our Lady of Hope, Banksia Park Hall, 27 Crescent Ave, Hope Island</p> <p>1st Jan 2026 Thursday Feast of The Holy Family 7:00am & 9:00am</p> <p>3rd Jan Saturday Feast of The Holy Family 4.00pm Vigil in Holy Family Church 5.30pm Mass at Our Lady of Hope, Banksia Park Hall, 27 Crescent Ave, Hope Island</p> <p>4th Jan Sunday New Year's Day Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God 9:30am Mass</p> <p>The Epiphany of the Lord 4.00pm Vigil in Holy Family Church 5.30pm Mass at Our Lady of Hope, Banksia Park Hall, 27 Crescent Ave, Hope Island</p> <p>The Epiphany of the Lord 7:00am & 9:00am</p> <p>The Parish Office will be closed from 24th December 2025—9th January 2026. The Office will open on Monday 12th January 2026. No mass on Tuesday 6th January 2026 and Thursday 8th January 2026. Normal mass times on Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th January 2026 Feast of The Baptism of the Lord. Regular weekday mass times will resume from Tuesday 13th January 2026.</p> <p>Thank you evening Last Tuesday evening I hosted a thank you evening for those who volunteer in this parish. At the gathering, I was very aware of the great support that I receive from parishioners taking up responsibilities either in the liturgical ministries of the parish or the works of charity that take place through the great work of the St Vincent de Paul Society and other groups; and the energy for renewal that is always brought about through young people as they become actively engaged in the life of the church. I thank all the volunteers again for their services in our community and I'm very grateful to God for the partnership that exists between myself and these volunteers in bringing Christ into the bright places and dark corners of everyday life. May the light of Christ continue to guide us all as we respond to God's invitation to be good news for everyone. With every blessing, Monsignor Peter PP</p>
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LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 7:10-14 **The virgin will conceive.**

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:

are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too?

The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign.

It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Emmanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

RESPONSORIAL Ps 23:1-6 **R.** Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm. **R.**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things. **R.**

He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

SECOND READING Romans 1:1-7 **Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.**

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Matthew 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;

his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 1:18-24 **Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.**

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, and said 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son

and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

Christmas Lights

I would like to thank Lann and Bianca Levinge who have put an enormous amount of time into lighting up the Holy Family Church in this past week, giving the Church and gardens a festive and welcoming facelift! The Christmas lights will remain in place together with the creative scenes on the front lawns until after Christmas masses. Please bring your family and friends to the church in the early evening just at dusk to see and enjoy the displays.



Giving Tree

A big thank you to everyone for their generous donation to the Giving Tree.

SVDP has sorted out the gifts and they will be handed out to families who are struggling especially during this time of the year.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isa 7:10-14,8:10; Rom 1:1-7; Matt 1:18-24

As Advent draws to its close, today's readings draw us into the quiet mystery of God's promise fulfilled in unexpected ways. Through the prophet Isaiah, God offers King Ahaz a sign not of military triumph, but of divine nearness: "The virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel." The promise is not about power or conquest, but about presence, about *God with us* in the fragility of human life.

St Paul reminds the Romans, and us, that this promise finds its fullness in Jesus Christ, the Son of David and the Son of God. The one long foretold is now revealed: the gospel of God's mercy taking flesh among his people. For Paul, this is not simply news to proclaim but a relationship to enter, an obedience of faith born of love and gratitude.

Matthew's Gospel draws us into the heart of the mystery through the story of Joseph, a man of quiet strength and righteousness. Faced with confusion and fear, Joseph listens for God's voice in a dream and chooses mercy over judgement, faith over convention. Through his obedience, the Word becomes flesh within his own household.

As we stand on the threshold of Christmas, the readings invite us to a posture of attentiveness and trust. God's saving work often unfolds not in grand gestures but in the quiet "yes" of faith, the courageous consent that allows divine life to take root in human hearts. In the stillness of these final Advent days, we prepare to welcome Emmanuel - God with us, God within us - who comes to bring light, peace, and hope to the world.

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