

Emergency Evacuation Procedure

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, parishioners should remain calm and look for the nearest EXIT sign in GREEN. Everyone should move in an orderly fashion to the FIRE ASSEMBLY AREA outside the Church carpark and along Simbai Street.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLANS are located on the walls throughout the Church. They have been modified due to changes on the school grounds.

Weekly Diary : 25th December 2023—1st January 2024

Monday 25th	: 7.00am. + 9.00am	Mass—The Nativity of the Lord
Friday 29th	: 10.00am.	Requiem Mass—Lesley Catherine Goltman
Saturday 30th	: 4.30pm.	Confession
	5.00pm.	Vigil Mass—Feast of The Holy Family Year B/2
Sunday 31st	: 7.00am. + 9.00am	Mass—Feast of The Holy Family Year B/2
Monday 1st	: 9.30am	Mass Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

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: Lesley Catherine Goltman, K M Lim, Eugene Harold Morand, Mack Halverson

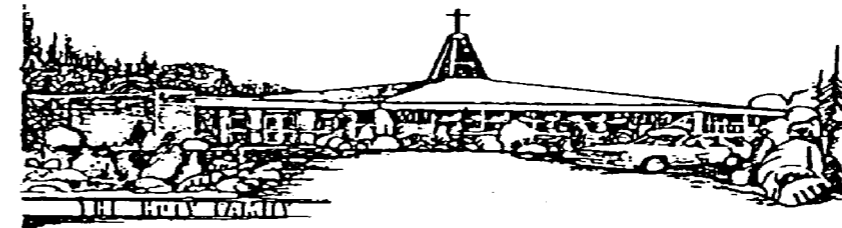
ANNIVERSARIES: Margaret Conwell, Graham Paterson, Ross Michael Bycroft, Keith McDougall, Brian Dwyer, Margaret O'Farrell, Olga & Gilbert Smith, Violeta C. Quiambao

SICK LIST: Ann Woodman, Vince Johnson, Carter Ford, Val Hutton, Bernard Molina, Mari Purcell, Sharon Harris, Mark Devlin, Margaret Cotton, Rico C. Cadayona, Evelyn Tan, Vicky Umythy, Tessa Woodward, Gerry Boerlage, Gay Frazer, Angela Byron, Renee Wood, Gerard Brennan, Jan Dodds, Gabriel Cabral, Keith Murphy, Victoria Scotchford, Michael Murphy, Ryder Forbes, Geoffrey Eaborn, Margaret Cotton, Frank Balinas, Lavinia Azucena, Marta Szyz, Riley Dodds, Kayden Chong, Ruth Stretton, Peter O'Rourke, Fr. David Wilson S.M., Sasha Whelan, Marie Roberts, Orazio Smeralda, Darren Pascoe, Peter Smith (Ashmore), Madeline Hodgetts, Marie Turnbull, Christine Kyriakides, George Kyriakides, Morris Lynch, George Docherty, Christina Ang, Sofia Bean, Sonia D'Angiolo, Riany Chandler, Marie Dupois, Abigail O'Donell, Terry Owsnett, Courtney Blount, Simon Stretton, Philomena McAloon, Margaret Kwong, Marilyn Rodgers, Frank Hewitt, Anthony Donellan, Dolores Kilian, Mary Ann Boeheme, Maureen Currie, Nancy Kelly, Tamara Toms, Bernie Pack, Elizabeth Norris, Ken Hannam, Gail Callaghan

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.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH, RUNAWAY BAY



4th Sunday of Advent Year B/2

Sunday 24th December 2023

PARISH PRIEST
Monsignor Peter Meneely pp

PARISH STAFF
Audrey Ho
Parish Secretary

Jan Levinge
Marriage Coordinator

Email :
rbay@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Office: 16 Simbai St
PO Box 125 Runaway Bay
Q4216

Website :
www.holyfamilyrunawaybay.org.au

FOR ALL ENQUIRIES:
Tel: 07 5537 4320
Emergency : 0434 825 260
Facebook :
holyfamilycatholicchurchrunawaybay

Hours:
8.30am—3.00pm

Monday—Tuesday

8.30am-1.00pm

Wednesday-Thursday
(closed FRIDAY)

Reconciliation:
Saturdays 4.30pm

Baptisms
Every 2nd/3rd/4th Sundays
after 9am Mass

Please contact the Parish Office.

St Francis Xavier School:
Principal : Ronan O'Mahony
Tel: 5537 2633

St. Vincent De Paul Helpline
1800 846 643

Stopleveline Service
1300 304 550
AOB@stopleveline.com.au
www.bneatholic.stoplevelinereport.com

Parish Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR)
Michael Nicholson

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
24 December 2023
Year B

On this last Sunday before Christmas, the gospel (Luke 1:26-38) clearly announces the coming birth of the one who would be called “Son of the Most High” and “Son of God”, who is the offspring of David, who is to rule the House of Jacob. In a sense we have travelled backwards through Advent, having begun with the end of the public ministry of Jesus and the warning of the end-time judgment when he comes again, thence to John the Baptist as Jesus arrives on the public scene, and now to his coming at birth. The selection of readings weaves a context in which to understand who he is when he comes: he is the descendant of King David, who was not right to build a dwelling for the ark of the covenant but whose offspring would build a house for God’s name (mentioned in 2 Sam 7:13, but omitted from today’s reading). Of course, in its own context this was a reference to Solomon who would build the temple in Jerusalem, but we cannot help but recall the disputes in the temple and the statement of Christ that after they destroy this temple he would raise a new one in three days. But the other connection is that while David could not build a house for God’s honour, God would raise the House of David—the focus changes from a building to a family. The new temple Christ was to build is not in a place, for nowhere can contain the presence of God, but it is an eternal body composed of the people of faith incorporated into him. This, then, reminds us that the mystery of the Incarnation refers not only to the birth on earth of one called the Son of God, born to one nation, but to the rebirth of people of all nations into a new divine body. This is the mystery in the second reading (Rom 16:25-27) that is being made manifest to all nations (rendered in our Lectionary as “broadcast to pagans everywhere”).

Returning to today’s gospel, the connection to the first reading is clear: Mary is betrothed to one of the House of David, and her son is to be called “God Saves” (Jesus), who will be called “Son of the Most High” and “Son of God”, and who will receive the throne of David. Here we see the ancient Christian approach to the Scriptures by which they are read and understood as referring more to Christ than to any historical event. The four Gospels especially do this as they weave such passages and allusions together in their telling of the story of Christ. Thus today’s gospel has other links to the first reading. The first is quite direct: on entering Gabriel uses the phrase “The Lord is with you”, identical to that of Nathan to David in the Septuagint. Then in something of a reversal, while Nathan tells David to “do all that is in your mind” but later overturns this, in the gospel Mary consents “let what you have said be done”, and it is done. The reference to Gabriel is interesting in another way, for it reflects Judges 6:12 where the angel says to Gideon, “The Lord be/is with you [identical in the Septuagint to the gospel’s greeting], warrior of might”. It was Gideon who was called “warrior of might”, in Hebrew *gibbōwr hehayil* which became contracted to Gabriel (*Gabriy’el*), but his story foretells trouble: for after God saved the people of Israel by the hand of Gideon, after his death they did not remember his kindness but returned to their old ways. Luke’s account of the annunciation indicates the completing intervention by God on behalf of his people, the one that fulfils the promise to David; Jesus is the one who does what David could not do, the mighty one who dispels not the Midianites (who took Joseph captive to slavery in Egypt) but the great enemies of sin and death; yet not withstanding this mighty work, the House of Israel would forsake him after his death.

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LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING 2 Sam 7:1-5,8-12,14,16 **The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.**

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

RESPONSORIAL R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my 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. **R.**

'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.' **R.**

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. **R.**

SECOND READING Rom 16:25-27 **The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.**

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord : may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Lk 1:26-38 **You will conceive and bear a son.**

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

Mass Times—Christmas and New Year

24th Dec Sunday	Christmas Eve 5.00pm Children's Family Mass (children are invited to dress in their favourite biblical character associated with the Nativity of the Lord)
25th Dec Monday	Christmas Day 7.00am & 9.00am Mass
30th Dec Saturday	Feast of The Holy Family 5.00pm Vigil Mass
31st Dec Sunday	Feast of The Holy Family 7.00am & 9.00am
2024	
1st Jan Monday	New Year's Day & Solemnity of Mary The Holy Mother of God 9.30am Mass
6th Jan Saturday	Solemnity of The Epiphany of the Lord 5.00pm Vigil Mass
7th Jan Sunday	Solemnity of The Epiphany of the Lord 7.00am & 9.00am



Regular weekday mass will resume on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 9.30am

Parish News

Black Umbrella A black umbrella was mistakenly taken at the Volunteer parish evening. The owner would appreciate greatly if it was returned. Kindly hand it to the Sacristan at one of the masses who will place it in the Sacristy. Thank you.

CWL Christmas Hamper On behalf of the CWL Members, I would like to acknowledge the enthusiastic support of each and every parishioner, visitor and friend for our Christmas Raffle.

Dott Baker won the hamper, Kay Smith the \$50 gift voucher and John Schaefer the \$25 gift voucher.

With thanks, appreciation and Christmas blessings from President Jan.

Parish Office Hours the Parish Office will be closed from Friday 22nd December 2023. The Office will open on Monday 8th January 2024. During this period, if you need to contact the Office regarding last rites and funerals, **please ring 0434 825 260.**