

Parish News

On behalf of the Parish, I would like to thank everyone of you who has helped the Parish and School Communities in many ways during the year 2018. May the Lord reward you for your wonderful generosity. I pray that you will keep on giving the Parish the best you have. May God's blessings visit your life and home and overshadow you with abundance this Christmas and New Year. Fr. John Khoái.

Christmas Time Masses:

24th Dec Monday:

9 pm. Solemnity of Nativity of the Lord.

25th Dec Tuesday Christmas Day Solemnity

9.30 am. Solemnity of Nativity of the Lord
5.30 pm. Solemnity of Nativity of the Lord

26th Dec Wednesday

9.30 am Feast of St Stephen, the first martyr

EPTPOS facility is now available for all transactions with the Parish, such as donations, church collections, contributions towards sacraments' reception, purchase from Piety Store. This facility will be available at Parish Office working hours and at all Weekend Masses via Piety Store/Sacristy.

Weekly Diary : 27th —29th December 2018

From Thursday 27 to Saturday 29 : No Mass

Saturday 29th : 5.30 pm. : Feast Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph C
Sunday 30th : 07.00 am. + 09.00 am. : Feast Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph C

The 1st Evening Sunday Mass of January will be on the 06th at 5.30 pm. : Epiphany Sunday Year C

Mass Duty Roster : December 29th/30th 2018

<u>Mass Co-ordinator</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers of Communion</u>	<u>Servers</u>
5.30pm Pierrette & Rino Serra	Pierrette Serra Clive Broughton	Helen Topham, Rino Serra, Julie Dakin Jean Di Bendetto, Clive Broughton, Joe Dorego	Mia
7.00am Michael Nicholson	Michael Nicholson Bernadette Swindley	Bernadette Swindley, Rose Hessen Christine McDougall, Michael Nicholson	Brianna & Ashley
9.00am Ronnie Wilson	Rose Lopez Lynne Adamson	Pam Nelson, John Lynch, Rose Lopez Ronnie Wilson, Joe Dorego, Averil Dorego	John & Matthew

Last Weekend's Thanksgiving Program

Next Week's Counting Team: No. 5 (31/12/2018)

<u>1st Collection</u>	<u>2nd Collection</u>	<u>Piety Shop</u>	<u>St Anthony's</u>
\$	\$	\$	\$

**God is more moved by the offering of our heart, than by the gifts we bring to the altar.
Let's give with happiness and we will receive more in joy.**



Christmas Day Year C 25th December 2018—Issue No. 309

Making Room for Christ

Christ came to unite us all. In the Child of Bethlehem, what do you discover? We discover we are freely loved by God. In Jesus, the Heavenly Father inaugurated a new relationship with us: he made us "*children in the Son himself.*" We are not only creatures, but we are children. In this way God is close to us; in this way he draws us to himself at the moment of his Incarnation, in his becoming one of us. Therefore, we truly belong to the family whose Father is God, because Jesus, the Only-Begotten Son, came to pitch his tent among us, the tent of his flesh, to gather all the nations together into a single family, the family of God, belonging to the divine Being united in one people, one family.

At Christmas, the simple and overwhelming announcement resounds throughout the world: "*the Word was made flesh and lived among us.*" The phrase "*lived among us*" is literally translated as "*tabernacled among us*" or "*pitched his tent among us.*" The evangelist is telling us that, in the flesh of Jesus, God has established his definitive tabernacle among us. God is no longer a reality known only from afar. We know the Face of God: it is that of the Son, who came to bring the heavenly realities closer to us and to the earth.

This mystery is henceforth entrusted to our hands so that through our experience of divine love we may live aspiring to the realities of Heaven. And this is also our practice in these days: to live truly reaching for God, seeking first of all the Kingdom and its righteousness, certain that the rest, all the rest, will be given to us as well (Mt 6:33). The spiritual atmosphere of the Christmas Season helps us to grow in our knowledge of this.

Actually, it is only the Child lying in the manger who possesses the true secret of life. For this reason he asks us to welcome him, to make room for him within us, in our hearts, in our homes, in our cities and in our societies. The words of John's Prologue echo in our minds and hearts: "*To all who received him... he gave power to become children of God*" (1:12). Let us endeavour to be among those who welcome him. Before him one cannot remain indifferent. We too must continuously take sides.

The more than 2,000 years of Christian history are filled with examples of men and women, youth and adults, children and elderly people who believed in the mystery of Christmas, who opened their arms to the Emmanuel and with their lives became beacons of light and hope.

Dear brothers and sisters, on Christmas Day, and on the eve of the new year let us revive within us the commitment to open our minds and hearts to Christ, sincerely showing him our desire to live as his true friends. Thus, we will become collaborators of his plan of salvation and witnesses of that joy which he gives to us so that we may spread it around us in abundance.

May Mary help us open our hearts to the Emmanuel who took on our poor, weak flesh in order to share with us the arduous journey of earthly life. In the company of Jesus, however, this tiring journey becomes a joyful journey. Let us proceed together with Jesus, let us walk with him and thus the new year will be a happy and good year.

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Parish Website :
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Parish Office Hours Tues,
Wed, Thurs, Fri (Closed on
Monday): 8.45am-3pm

Ronnie Wilson
President of PPC
Tel 041 7004 942

Rachelle Broughton
Vice President of PPC
Tel 041 2463 720

Averil Dorego
Secretary of PPC
Tel 0439 992 154

Peter Fox
Chair of PFC
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Jan Levinge
Marriage Coordinator

Kathy Fuller: Principal
St Francis Xavier School
Tel : 07 5537 2633
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Reconciliation at 4.00pm
1st Saturday of the month.
Baptism Preparation at
7pm 1st Thurs of the month



Holy Family Catholic Parish
Runaway Bay



LITURGY OF THE LIVING WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 52:7-10 *All the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.*

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 98:1. 2-3. 3-4. 5-6 *R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.*

O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things. His right hand and his holy arm have brought him victory. **R.**

The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. **R.**

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. **R.**

Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord. **R.**

SECOND READING Hebrews 1:1-6 *In these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.*

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word.

When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels 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 *The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory.*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'" From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.



COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Ps 97:3) *All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.*

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND DECEASED

RECENTLY DECEASED: Barry Thomas Ralph, Lindsay Keith Lewis

ANNIVERSARIES: Nelson Rosales Dimatulac, Helen Mary Regan, Ross Bycroft, Tony Lawson

SICK LIST: Joy Gronow, Jevon Gronow, Val Mai McErlean, Theresa Pinto, Marie Jeanette Martin, Bill Walker, Aaron Murphy, Courtney Blount, Claire Mallon, Eileen O'Connor, Reginald Cox, Simon Stretton, Philomena McAloon, Margaret Kwong, Letty O'Sullivan, Tony Collett, Val Wolfenden, Ben Cebuliak, Marilyn Rodgers, Frank Hewitt, Anthony Donellan, Dolores Kilian, Robert Duff, Mary Ann Boeheme, John Nekvapal, Maureen Currie, Harry Hunter, Margaret Wiersma, Madeline Hodgetts, Erin Mehmet, Nancy Kelly, Tamara Toms, Baby Charlie Shirran, Bernie Pack, Elizabeth Norris, Stephen Deshaies, Patricia Ryder, Ken Hannam, Kelly Blount, Gail Callaghan, Pistang Retute, Vanessa Pritchard, Carol Johnston

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)

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