

WELCOME TO ST. ANNE'S STRATHFIELD SOUTH PARISH

Solemnity of Christmas/Feast of the Holy Family (Year B)

25 December 2023

Weekday/Weekend Mass Timetable:

Please kindly refer to the Mass Times during Christmas Season at the back of the bulletin

Reconciliation - Saturdays from 9:45 am
Baptisms, marriages and funerals, by appointment only.

SUNDAY READINGS:

Isaiah: 9 1- 7
Titus: 2: 11 – 14
Luke: 2: 1 - 14

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge and celebrate that this land is of the Wangal people of the Darug nation on which we are gathered. We commit ourselves to work together for reconciliation, justice and peace.



Responsorial Psalm: Today is born a Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

CHRISTMAS

The Parishioners of St Anne's South Strathfield and I welcome any visitors who have chosen to celebrate Christmas with us. We hope you find our Parish a friendly and welcoming community and that you enjoy your holidays.

Some Parishioners have taken this holiday period to travel away from home. For them, we ask that God be with them on their journey so that they arrive at their destination safely and return home without harm.

With the Holy Family, may your family always be united in respect and love! May Christ bless you with his Joy and Peace.

Fr Jacek.

The Nativity of the Lord



FOR OUR DEAD

Please remember those who have gone before us:

Anthony (Tony)
Grace
John Boram Kim
Tony Bou-Chahine
Patricia
Marion Kelly

ANNIVERSARY

Anthony Herbert

SICK:

Sharon Holliday

St. Anne's Strathfield South Parish

Administrator: Father Jacek Cichy
Deacon: Rev Mr Constantine Rodrigues
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Strathfield South NSW 2136
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St. Anne's Catholic Primary School

Principal: Mr Philip Townsend
St Anne's Square
Strathfield South NSW 2136
Phone: (02) 9642 6149
Website: <https://www.stastrathfield.catholic.edu.au/>



Christmas Message 2023

“On this day of joy, we are all called to contemplate the Child Jesus, who gives hope once again to every person on the face of the earth. By His grace, let us with our voices and our actions give witness to solidarity and peace. Merry Christmas to all!”

Pope Francis

Dear Parishioners, Visitors, and Guests

*I am very happy to wish you all my **Prayerful Greetings** as we enter the Christmas Season. The story of the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ is a reminder to us all that God came to live among us, to be close to us, and to save us from our sins. Jesus gave us Himself as a gift to us. It is a story that still rings true today. Jesus is with us. He is close to us because he lives in our hearts where he continues to be a gift to us. Jesus does not keep us at a distance from Him. Because of His presence in each one of us, we are also present and connected to one another.*

As we celebrate the Nativity of Jesus, we remain eternally grateful to God for all the blessings, especially for the gifts of life, family, faith community, friends, and neighbours. I take this opportunity to thank you most sincerely as you have been such a blessing to our parish by being active and supporting us with your gifts of time and talents. My special gratitude goes to our staff and all the volunteers in our different ministries who do such a wonderful job in serving the various needs of our parish with much enthusiasm and commitment. I hope and pray that you will have a wonderful and blessed time during this Christmas Season. I wish you all a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. May God bless you abundantly during this Christmas Season as well as during the New Year.

Fr Jacek Cichy.

FROM THE PASTOR'S

DESK

Thank You



THANK YOU
I would like to thank all those among you who have sent Christmas cards, gifts, and well wishes for the Christmas season. Your thoughts and actions are very generous and overwhelming. Thank you and God bless. Fr Jacek.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

For those wishing to make a Christmas offering to the Parish, envelopes are now available in the church. These can be returned with your offering inside on the second collection. We thank you for your generosity.

PARISH ADVENT GROUP

Thank you to everyone who joined our Parish Advent group. A special thank you to Jason for leading our program.



ST JOHN THE APOSTLE WEDNESDAY 27TH DECEMBER BLESSING OF WINE

On Wednesday 27th December we celebrate the Feast of St. John The Apostle. It is a tradition on this day to bless wine. You are welcome to bring wine to the church for this blessing.



MASS TO MARK THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF SERVANT OF GOD, EILEEN O'CONNOR

Following the Mass, you are invited to morning tea in the parish hall. There will then be an opportunity for private prayer at Eileen's tomb in Dudley Street, Coogee. All are welcome.

DATE: Wednesday 10 January, 2024

TIME: 10 am

VENUE: St Brigid's Church, Cnr Brook and Waltham Streets, Coogee

PRINCIPAL CELEBRANT: Bishop Emeritus Terry Brady

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY:



Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you, or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Website: [Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding and Child Protection](https://www.archdioceseofsydney.org.au/safeguarding)

Mass Times Christmas Season

Sunday 24 th December	5.00 pm	Christmas Vigil Mass <i>(Children can come along dressed as either an angel or a shepherd)</i>
Monday 25 th December	Midnight 8.00 am 10.00 am	Christmas Midnight Mass Christmas Mass Christmas Mass <i>(There will be no evening Mass)</i>
Tuesday 26 th December	9.15 am	Feast of St Stephen (Boxing Day)
Saturday 30 th December	9.15 am 5.00 pm	Morning Mass Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Vigil Mass
Sunday 31 st December	8.00 am 10.00 am	Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Monday 1 st January	9.15 am	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God



Merry Christmas Around the World

Spanish – Feliz Navidad!	French – Joyeux Noël!	German – Frohe Weihnachten!
Italian – Buon Natale!	Portuguese – Feliz Natal!	Romanian – Crăciun Fericit!
Swedish – God Jul!	Norwegian – God Jul!	Danish – Glædelig Jul!
Finnish – Hyvää Joulua!	Icelandic – Gleðileg Jól!	Polish – Wesółych Świąt!
Dutch – Vrolijk Kerstfeest!	Croatian – Sretan Božić!	Czech – Veselé Vánoce!
Latin – Felicem Natalem Christi!		Irish – <i>Nollaig Shona!</i>
Japanese – メリークリスマス！ (Merīkurisumasu!)		
Chinese – 聖誕节快乐！ (Shèngdàn jié kuàilè!)		
Korean – 메리 크리스마스! (Meli Keuliseumaseu!)		