

WELCOME TO ST. ANNE'S STRATHFIELD SOUTH PARISH

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year B)

23 & 24 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:

2 Samuel: 7: 1 – 5, 8 – 12, 14 – 16
Romans: 16: 25 – 27
Luke: 1: 26 – 38

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:

Forever I will sing of the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will be done. Alleluia!



FOR OUR DEAD

Please remember those who have gone before us:

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

ANNIVERSARY

Colleen McCunnie

SICK:

Sharon Holliday

Our spirit of hope has been growing in intensity as the weeks of Advent have passed. In a rather paradoxical way we have been encouraged to look forward by progressively moving back in time. We began with the final day of the Lord, then turned our attention to the mission of John the Baptist, and now we focus on the birth of the Messiah.

All this looking both to the future and to the past serves but one purpose: that we live joyfully and faithfully in the present. Such a simple thing to state, but such a challenge to achieve. It is only by God's grace that we can live in the present, free from the burden of a dead past and untroubled by fear of an unknown future. For this grace we give thanks today.

Source: Liturgy Brisbane



CHRISTMAS WISHES



For those parishioners who may be going away at Christmas time, may you have a safe trip and a joyous time amongst family, relatives, and friends. May the birth of the Saviour bring you and your loved ones hope, peace, and joy.

Have a Happy and Holy Christmas.

Fr Jacek.

St. Anne's Strathfield South Parish

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FROM THE PASTOR'S

DESK

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 Cichy

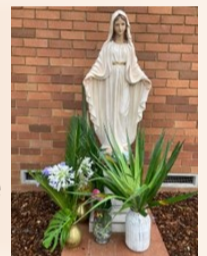


PARISH ADVENT GROUP

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

STATUE OF OUR LADY

The Statue of Our Lady has found its new home outside the church. There is plenty of room for flowers and plants around the statue. If you would like to bring plants and flowers to decorate the shrine you are more than welcome to do so.



CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL

Parishioners are invited to come together at St Mary's Cathedral during Advent to prepare for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Twelve Days of Christmas at the Cathedral begins on the 14th of December and concludes on the 25th of December. Festivities begin at 5.30 pm each evening with market stalls, food, fun activities for the kids, and live entertainment. Visit the Sydney Archdiocese website at christmasatthecathedral.org.au for more information.



GRACE FAMILY THANK YOU

On behalf of the Grace family I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation for all gestures of love and help in the preparation for the funeral of the late Tony Grace. Your thoughts and prayers as well as attendance at the funeral were greatly respected and appreciated.



I would also like to express my gratitude for the dedicated involvement of Tony in the pastoral life of St. Anne's parish. I hope that the good Lord welcomes him in eternity and writes his name in the Book of Blessed in heaven.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S - GLOBAL GIFTS CARDS

Caritas Australia's Global Gifts Christmas cards are a great way to spread joy and hope this Christmas season and to make a life-changing impact. Each gift represents a donation that will support vulnerable communities to create a brighter future. Order now to receive in time for Christmas: www.globalgifts.org.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL 2024 COLUMBAN CALENDARS

St Vincent de Paul 2024 Columban Calendars are now available for \$10 each. Put your money in the envelope provided

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B)

Priest:

The Priest, or an assistant, lights the fourth candle, which is often named the Angel Gabriel Candle for those messengers who bring God's Word into our world.

V. Lord Jesus, you established the house of David to be secure forever and from which the Saviour would be born (First Reading).

R. Come, Lord Jesus.

V. Lord Jesus, you alone are wisdom and as St Paul declares, you will give us the strength to live the Gospel (Second Reading).

R. Come, Lord Jesus.



V. Lord Jesus, you sent the angel Gabriel to give the good news to Mary so that she would bring Jesus into the world through the power of the Spirit (Gospel).

R. Come, Lord Jesus.

Priest:

[Collect: Fourth Sunday of Advent]

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his resurrection.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - LOVE (THE ANGEL'S CANDLE)

The Fourth Sunday of Advent symbolizes **Love**. All four candles will be lit on our Advent wreath and we will have a full circle of light. The Lord brings the light of love to his people by sending His only Son to earth for our salvation.

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 – Wesolych 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!)		