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|  Collection amounts for January 2016 ~PARISH NEWS~ ~ PARISH NEWS ~ **~ GOSPEL REFLECTION ~** |

The time between Christmas and New Year is often family time, a good time to think about what family means. The first two readings for today narrate and reflect on the family story of Sarah and Abraham, of God's promise to give them a child, and of the fulfilment of that promise in the most unlikely of circumstances. The wonder of God's ways and the need to trust in God are at the heart of their story. At the same time, there is humour reflected in Abraham's choice of name for their son: “Isaac” means “he laughed”. Does Abraham detect God's humour in providing a son for an elderly couple? Does he laugh for sheer joy at the birth of the child who will hold the traditions of the past and the hopes of the future? Whatever about this, the family story of Sarah, Abraham and Isaac foreshadows the even more extraordinary family story to be found in today’s gospel.

Luke depicts Mary and Joseph as observant Jews bringing their child to the Jerusalem Temple in accordance with the ritual requirements of the Law, even if the Law actually applied only to the woman who had given birth and not to the man. Two prophetic figures, Anna and Simeon, recognise God’s saving and redemptive purpose at work in the presence of this child who is presented in the Temple. Luke insists that Mary and Joseph have fulfilled the demands of the Law before they return to their home in Nazareth.

Growing up in Nazareth in the care of Mary and Joseph, the child Jesus grows to maturity, is filled with wisdom and God's favour is with him. Luke’s summary statement introduces us to the wonderful world of a grace-filled family home. It invites us to ponder the wisdom that both Mary and Joseph had to share with their child. They taught him to pray and told him the stories of his people. They filled him with wonder at the goodness of God and of God’s creation. They mediated the grace and favour of God and watched him grow and gain the strength he needed for life. They allowed him the freedom he needed to develop his own personality and to find his own Spirit-filled way on the earth. Finally, they had to let him go so that he might follow a path that was beyond their imagining when they brought him to the Temple in fulfilment of the Law. In other words, they did what so many parents would want to do for their children. ***An excerpt by Sr. Veronica Lawson***



***Immaculate Conception Parish***

P O BOX 600 Tumut

Catholic Community

**‘CLERGY’**

* **Fr. Sijo Jose (Parish Priest)**
* **Fr. George Ogah (Assistant Priest)**

**‘PARISH SECRETARY’**

 **Anna Quinn**

**Phone: 02 69474599**

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 Email: tumut@cg.org.au

 Web: www.cg.org.au/tumut

Office hours: Wednesday & Friday 9am -12noon

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**‘WEEKEND MASS TIMES’**

 **Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm**

 **Sunday: 10am**

 **Talbingo Sunday: 8.00am**

 **‘THIS WEEKS MASS TIMES’**

**Tuesday: 6pm**

**Wednesday: 10am**

**Thursday & Friday: 8am**

**Saturday: 9am (every fortnight - Thursday: 11am BUPA Liturgy**

**Saturday: 9.40am BLAKENEY LODGE Liturgy)**

 **‘ROSARY’**

**Saturday at 8.45am**

**Exposition at 8.30am (1st Sat of month)**

 **‘RECONCILIATION’**

 **Saturday at 5.15pm**

 **‘LITURGY MEETING’**

 **Tuesday: 2.00pm in Chapel**

 **‘PRAYER GROUP’**

 **(Rosary & Divine Mercy)**

 **In remission until 31st January 2018**

  **‘CONTACTS’**

 **Care Group: Anne Huebner 69473406**

 ***Responsorial Psalm***

**The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.**

 ***Entrance Antiphon***

**The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Year B**

 **December 31st 2017**

***Gospel Acclamation***

**Alleluia, alleluia! In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son. Alleluia!**

 ***Gospel Acclamation***

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Alleluia, alleluia! Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed; the Saviour of the world will be our king. Alleluia!

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| T THIS WEEK Saturday & Sunday 30th & 31st December   |
| Ministry | Saturday Vigil 6pm |  Sunday 10am |
| Acolyte |  Christine Kelly |  Cathy Purcell |
| Reader |  Kirsty Beavan |  Mary Kelly |
| Commentator |  Maureen Cook  |  Anne Huebner |
| Children’s Liturgy |  ---------- |  ----------- |
| Musicians |  Maureen Norman  |  Patricia & Monica |
| Altar Servers |  New Servers |  Jessica & Emily Kelly |
| Church Care\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_LINEN Maria Cobden |  ------------------------------------- |
| NEXT WEEK Saturday & Sunday 6th & 7th January  |
| Ministry | Vigil 6pm | 10am |
| Acolyte |  John Hickson  |  Mark Hogan |
| Reader |  Dobbie Family |  Howard Young |
| Commentator |  Dobbie Family |  John Power |
| Children’s Liturgy |  ---------- |  ----------- |
| Musicians |  Patricia & Monica |  Maureen Norman  |
| Altar Servers | Abby Crampton & Olivia Dean | Annabelle Sturgess & Genevieve Mason-Elliott |
| Church Care | Group 4: The Dobbie Family |

 Feast Day**Wishing all our wonderful dads a Happy \**

 R O S T E R S

 **FEAST DAYS**

**1st January: Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God 2nd January: Saints Basil and Gregory**

COLLECTION AMOUNTS FOR DECEMBER 2017

 **1st: $2204.85 2nd: $2968.45 D/D: $1610. 00 Talbingo Christmas: $258.85 ~ Tumut Christmas: $1826.60**

 **~PARISH NEWS~**

**WELCOME** to Fr. George Ogah who will commence duties within our parish on Monday 1st January 2018.  **ARCHBISHOP’S CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2017** this year these funds will be used to continue the support for the Ecumenical Christmas Bowl**,** Diocesan projects locally and globally, Diocesan Seminaries and assistance for those in need at Bethlehem University in the Holy Land. We thank our generous parishioners and visitors for their support, our parish will forward $600.00 to this appea**l. ENTRANCE CHURCH WORKS** have now been complete. **BAPTISMS:** we welcome into our community this weekend Sophia Ellen Berenguel daughter of Marcus and Cassandra and Freya Emily Masters daughter of Jed and Lauren. We pray for all baptism families. **SPECIAL THANKS** to all who helped organise our Christmas Masses, your time and effort has been very much appreciated. GOOD WISHES FOR A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR

**We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith:**

 **MASS HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR:**

Tim & Amy Twomey, Barbara Fuller, Tom & Merle Arentz, Harriet & Ruben Arentz, Kevin & Nola Arentz, Dulcie & Arthur Piper, Marie & Ray Cowan, Kevin Cowan, Kevin Hawthorne, Marie Quinn, Brian Muir, Jack Sunners, Joseph & Maureen Hetherington, Natalie Baker, Ian Barbour, Yvonne Harrison, Fr. Peter Quirk, Con & Ennis Twomey, Mons. John Twomey, Sr. M. Brenda Twomey, Sr. M. Canice O’Sullivan, Sr. M. Celine McCormack, Bert & Teresa Butler, Anne Lawrance, Joan & Bob Liddell, Mary & William Claffey, Margaret Peel, Ruby Harmer,Alan & Angela Guthrie, Hassel & Joy McGrath, Noel Cook, Hargreaves family, Family members & relatives of Tran family, Frederick & Mabel McInerney, Ken Elliott, Jock Roberts, Ralph Klaus, James Kelly, Harry & Muriel Nancarrow, Harry & Pat Nancarrow, Christine Welsh, Allison Brady, Scott Payne, Ben Roddy, Paul & Nick Young, Robert Longford, Julie, Jack & Thelma Cobden, Jamie Nixon, Stan Kenny, Marzol family members, members of Young, Egan, Breward & Van de Brug families, Russell & Peter Ritchie, Hector, Annie & Kevin Turner, Jean Kelly, Margaret McMahon, Veronica Tiernan, Mollie Fuller, Joan Malone, Ken & Brian Gee & family members, Rudi & Filomena Comai, Marallo & Comai families, Celia Mullaly, Jim McInerney, Kath Stuckey, Gus & Kath Clout, Ab & Mildred Shanahan, Ina Clout, Timothy Blakeney, Madelin Fenn, Jan Salan, Chris Ballard, Maude Kelly, Norma Leyden, Reg Millgate, Lois Shallow, Helen Corbett, Frank, Eileen & Marie Malone, Edward, Marcy & Clem Malone, Frank Stanfield, John Callister, Joan Stockwell, Pauline Shedden, John Hourigan, Tom & Dorothy French.

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