



# Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



## Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) Vigil

25 December 2020

### First Reading Is 62:1-5

*The Lord takes delight in you.*

About Zion I will not be silent,  
about Jerusalem I will not grow weary,  
until her integrity shines out like the dawn  
and her salvation flames like a torch.  
The nations then will see your integrity,  
all the kings your glory,  
and you will be called by a new name,  
one which the mouth of the Lord will confer.  
You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand  
of the Lord,  
a princely diadem in the hand of your God;  
no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken',  
nor your land 'Abandoned',  
but you shall be called 'My Delight'  
and your land 'The Wedded';  
for the Lord takes delight in you  
and your land will have its wedding.  
Like a young man marrying a virgin,  
so will the one who built you wed you,  
and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride,  
so will your God rejoice in you.

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 88:4-5. 16-17. 27. 29 R. see v.2**

**(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness  
of the Lord.**

1. '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.)
2. Happy the people who acclaim  
such a king,  
who walk, O Lord, in the light of  
your face,  
who find their joy every day in your name,  
who make your justice the source of their  
bliss. (R.)
3. '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 Acts 13:16-17. 22-25

*Paul spoke of Christ, the son of David.*

When Paul reached Antioch in Pisidia, he stood  
up in the synagogue, held up a hand for silence  
and began to speak:

'Men of Israel, and fearers of God, listen! The  
God of our nation Israel chose our ancestors,  
and made our people great when they were living  
as foreigners in Egypt; then by divine power he  
led them out.

'Then he made David their king, of whom he  
approved in these words, "I have selected  
David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart,  
who will carry out my whole purpose". To keep  
his promise, God has raised up for Israel one  
of David's descendants, Jesus, as Saviour,  
whose coming was heralded by John when he  
proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the  
whole people of Israel. Before John ended his  
career he said, "I am not the one you imagine  
me to be; that one is coming after me and I am  
not fit to undo his sandal".'

### Gospel Acclamation Mt 1:1-25

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Tomorrow the wickedness of the  
earth will be destroyed:  
the Saviour of the world will be  
our king.**

**Alleluia!**

### Gospel Mt 1:18-25

**(or Longer Form Mt 1:1-25)**

*Mary will give birth to a son and you will name him Jesus.*

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His  
mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but  
before they came to live together she was found  
to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her  
husband Joseph, being a man of honour and  
wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce  
her informally. He had made up his mind to do  
this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him  
in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do  
not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife,  
because she has conceived what is in her by the  
Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you  
must name him Jesus, because he is the one  
who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all  
this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the  
Lord through the prophet:

The Virgin will conceive and give birth to a son  
and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When  
Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the  
Lord told him to do: he took his wife to his home  
and, though he had not had intercourse with  
her, she gave birth to a son; and he named him  
Jesus.



### Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

The glory of God and profound  
peace reaching out to embrace the  
whole of humanity are dynamically  
related in the baby in the manger.  
This is the song of the angels, and  
it is our privilege to join in that  
song at this Christmas Mass.

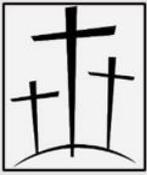
Every baby is a promise of a new  
future which fills one with hope.  
But *this* baby is unique. *This* Jewish  
boy baby is the body language of  
God. *This* baby is the sonburst of  
God entering our dark world. *This*  
baby shows us that God is not  
impossibly remote but, rather, God  
is as intimately close as a  
vulnerable infant.

And *this* baby fulfils all the yearning  
of the human heart. We want to  
love to the utmost. We want to be  
loved to the utmost. *This* baby  
enables both because he is without  
any finite boundaries or restraints:  
He is in-finite love reaching out to  
us.

Can we grasp all this? Probably  
not. So, like the little lambs  
nuzzling up to the manger, we just  
follow some deep intuition which  
says: 'I must kneel in adoration, it  
is good to be here.' We could  
pause for a moment to pray for the  
resolve to do our bit to echo the  
angel's message: 'I bring you good  
news of great joy to be shared by  
all peoples.'

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# Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



**WE WELCOME YOU TO ST MARY'S BOMBALA CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASS  
A SPECIAL WELCOME TO ALL OUR VISITORS**

## CHRISTMAS HYMNS

- 1: O Come, All Ye Faithful
- 6: Born in the Night
- 7: Silent Night
- 3: Away in a Manger
- 12: Joy to the World

## **Prayer of the Faithful**

Celebrant: Rejoicing in the coming of our Saviour among us, let us pray for our needs and the needs of the world.

That the light of Christ may shine through the Church and the world:

We pray to the Lord:

That the leaders of every country work together for lasting peace:

We pray to the Lord:

That the message of Christmas move those in authority to find safe housing for the homeless especially for families:

We pray to the Lord:

That families, friends, neighbours and all present here may share the love of Jesus with one another:

We pray to the Lord:

For all frontline workers who put their lives on the line for the protection and safety of others especially in this Covid time: may they be blessed and protected in their work.

We pray to the Lord:

For our loved ones who have gone to their eternal reward: may they live in the love that has no end.

We pray to the Lord:

For Our Lady's intercession for our unspoken needs:

We pray: Hail Mary....

Celebrant: Loving God, fill our hearts with joy and confidence as we make our prayers to you this Christmas evening, for you are Lord forever and ever.

Amen



### **MASS TIMES THIS WEEKEND: 26 & 27 December 2020**

Delegate Saturday 6pm - Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion  
Bombala Sunday 9am - Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

### **MASS NEW YEARS DAY: 1 January 2021**

Bombala 12 Middyay

*Thank You*

**WE THANK FR MICK, FR ADRIAN,  
SR TERESA AND OUR PARISHIONERS  
FOR ALL THEY DO FOR OUR BEAUTIFUL  
ST MARY'S BOMBALA**

