



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**

