



Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



PARISH BULLETIN: HOLY FAMILY, YEAR C, 29 DECEMBER 2024



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Response:(R) Lord, hear our prayer

LEADER: Dear friends, from an early age Jesus set himself to do God's work. Let us join him in spirit and pray for God's will to be done in our world.

READER: For families, that in all their diversity they will share in the same blessings of love, wisdom and life in abundance. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**
For parents, that they will take great delight in their children and enable them to thrive. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**
For children, that year by year they will grow, as Jesus did, in wisdom, maturity and grace. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

For the whole human family, that New Year's Day and the feast of the Mother of God will usher in a new era of peace, mercy and love. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

For all who bear grief or regret in their hearts, that the dawn of a new year will offer them healing and hope. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

For holidaymakers and travellers, that they will enjoy a refreshing break and return home safe and well. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

For the sick of the parish and for all who have asked for our prayers. For the recently deceased and for those whose anniversaries we recall at this time. May they rejoice in the fullness of life promised to them as faithful followers of Jesus. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

For Our Lady's intercession for all our needs and especially for the people in war torn places. We pray **Hail Mary...**

LEADER: God of all goodness, you sustain us on our pilgrim way towards the Day of Christ. Send us out as apostles of hope into our fractured world. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. **AMEN**



PRAYER INTENTIONS

POPE'S INTENTION DECEMBER

For Pilgrims of Hope



We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

We pray for parents, that they will be loving, wise and steadfast guides for their children as they make their way to maturity and independence.

We pray for national leaders, that they will promote social policies and fund support systems that allow families to flourish.

We pray for rural dioceses and parishes, their spirits bold, that they may discover inventive ways to build bridges of faith, keeping the Gospel's message alive with every step.



We pray for our sick family members, friends and fellow parishioners. May the soothing presence of God's light grant them healing and solace.

John Caldwell, Glad Hurley, Joanne Jamieson, Amy Talbot, Sr Margaret Maloney, Marilyn Holdsworth, Noah Ingram, Joyce Reed, Terry Perkins, Kath Farrell, Val Perkins, Chris Cuttle, Barbara Brownlie, Jim Parkes, Patricia Guthrie, Jen Farrell, Harry & Mary Anne Dillon, Heather Whitby, John Elliott, Marlene Kennedy, Kim Peisley, Tom Kennedy, Peter Hopkins, Larry Bedingfield, Danielle Hurley.



PARISH CALENDAR

- MON**
- TUE** Saint Sylvester
- WED** Mary, Mother of God
New Years Day
Mass Bombala 9.30am
- THU** Saints Basil & Gregory
- FRI** Holy Name of Jesus
- SAT** Mass Bombala 5pm
LW&HC Delegate 6pm
- SUN** Epiphany of the Lord



SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
1 January 2025



REMEMBERING THEIR FAITH AND LOVE

December Anniversaries

- Carol Badewitz, Vincent Crotty
- Del Duffell, Tori Finnane
- Emily Giblett, Kitty Guthrie
- Nola Hehir, Jareth Hillyer
- Brian Murphy, Toby Mustard
- Brian Nash, Kevin O'Mara
- Dot Ogilvy, Helen Parkes
- Mort Smith, Jimmy Thompson
- Jim Twigg

**"We have loved them in Life:
Let us not forget them in death."**



Happy Feast of the Holy Family!

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Added in 1921, the Feast of the Holy Family is a latecomer to the church's calendar of worship. By contrast, Wednesday's solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, has an impressive pedigree. Mary was honoured with this title even before the Council of Ephesus decreed its validity in 431. Old and new, these festivals take us deeper into the mystery of Jesus, uniquely divine and human. They remind us too of our own true identity. "We are already the children of God," John writes today.

That's a saying to keep musing on. It invites us to wonder at the best of ourselves – our capacity for selfless love, for delighting in beauty, for relishing the truth. All spirit-inspired, all enfleshed, all to be gratefully cherished.



Let us love one another.
God loves courageous souls.

READINGS

FIRST READING: BOOK OF ECCLESIASTICUS

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons. Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune. Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord. My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life. Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: HAPPY ARE THOSE WHO FEAR THE LORD AND WALK IN HIS WAYS.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper.(R)

2. Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. (R)

3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life. (R)

SECOND READING: ST PAUL TO THE COLOSSIANS

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful. Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you. Alleluia!

GOSPEL OF LUKE:

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere. Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant. He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

HYMNS - ONE LICENSE 3642645A

1. Hark the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! The herald angels sing "Glory to the new-born king, Peace on earth and mercy mild God and sinners reconciled", Joyful all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies, With angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem", Hark! The herald angels sing "Glory to the new-born king"

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb: veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity, pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel! The herald angels sing "Glory to the new-born king"

2. Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her king
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and Heaven and nature sing

2. Joy to the world the savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy the fullness of God.

REFLECTION BY FR MICHAEL TATE



Forget the tinselly sentimentality of most depictions of the Holy Family. This Gospel is real life. Anyone who has temporarily lost their child in a crowd knows the stabbing pain of uncertainty and fear. Even more real, and occurring more often, is the adolescent impatience of Jesus: 'Did you not know I must be about my Father's business?' Every parent, bewildered and saddened by the growing up and the growing distance of a son or daughter, knows what Mary and Joseph must have felt. By the time Mary and Joseph found Jesus, he had found the words to express his unique identity. In this little scene so full of pathos and heartbreak, we hear the first words of Jesus in the Gospels: 'Did you not know I must be about my Father's business?'

'What was his 'Father's business' which was so engaging for Jesus? To draw every human being into the same family relationship as He enjoys. But did you note that it is our privilege to celebrate this realisation as a community? Only Jesus can say 'My Father'. We say, 'Our Father'. We enter into the grace of intimate relationship with God, not as an atomised individual, but as a person within a society of baptised Christians – the Church. We could take a moment to pray for the integrity which will enable us to express this sense of identity in the unfolding of our lives. We can pray also for those saddened or bewildered by our following of the One who taught us to pray 'Our Father'.