



Canberra Inner North Catholic Community

Under the Care of Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament (SSS)

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Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am - 3.30pm | Baptisms, Marriages & Funerals: by Appointment contact the Parish Office

Acknowledgement of Country

We Acknowledge the Ngunnawal people, as Traditional Owners of the land where

Issue 05 - 25th December 2023 - Year B



**ST BRIGID'S & ST PATRICK'S
CANBERRA CENTRAL PARISH**
2 Bancroft Street,
Dickson ACT 2602

Fr Sebastian Luistro SSS

Website:

<http://cg.org.au/canberracentral>



ST THOMAS MORE PARISH
30 White Crescent
Campbell ACT 2612

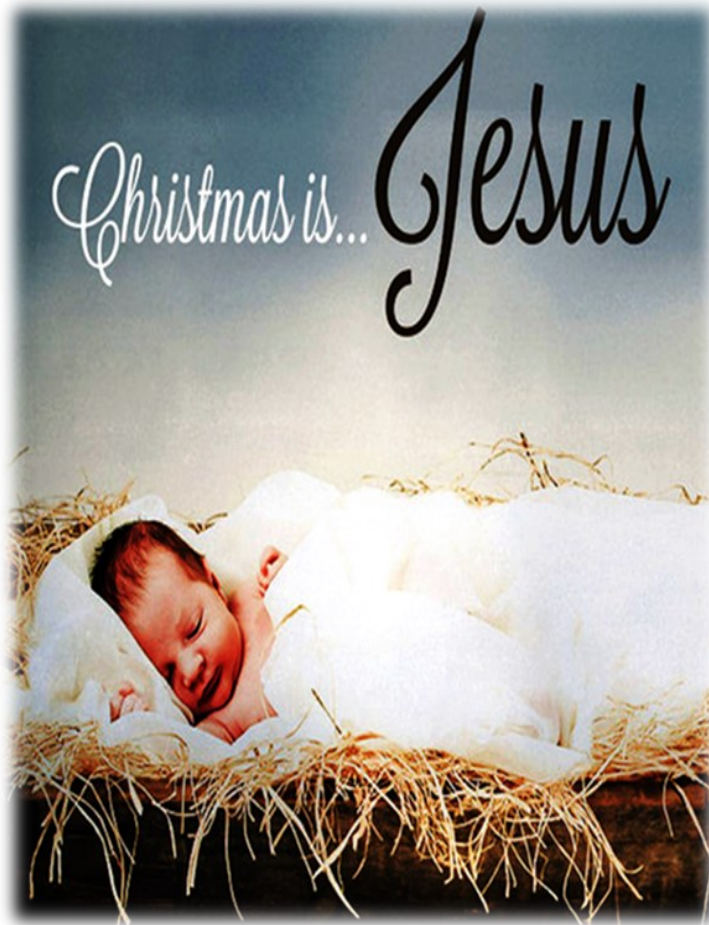
Fr Anthony Riosa SSS

Website:

www.stthomasmore.org.au

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st.thomasmore.campbell](https://facebook.com/st.thomasmore.campbell)



BLACKFRIARS PARISH
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[www.facebook.com/Holy-
Rosary-Parish-Watson](https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Rosary-Parish-Watson)



ST JOSEPH'S PARISH
61 Boronia Drive,
O'Connor ACT 2602

Fr Anthony Riosa SSS

Facebook :

[St Joseph's Parish, O'Connor,
ACT](https://facebook.com/StJosephsParishOConnorACT)

Parish Safeguarding Commitment

Our Parishes are committed to safeguarding and upholding the dignity and rights of our children and vulnerable people. We seek to empower children, their families and carers, and vulnerable people, to have a say, to be listened to, and to be protected. This approach is at the centre of all of our thinking and action. This approach is to follow Jesus' command in Matthew 18:1-3.

Inquiries or concerns please contact:

- Fr Anthony Riosa SSS

anthony.riosacg.org.au

- Maria Hicks (Manager)

Phone **02 6239 9806**

- Institute of Professional Standards &
Safeguarding (IPSS) ipss@cg.org.au





FOURTH SUNDAY ADVENT

Entrance Antiphon - Cf. Isaiah 45:8

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

Responsorial Psalm: 88:2-5. 27. 29

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth
will proclaim your truth.

Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **R.**

'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.**

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.

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation: Luke 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour.

Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow.

And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

Communion Antiphon is Not recited when hymns are sung.

Communion Antiphon - Isaiah 7:14

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The massive Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth, completed in 1969 in what has been described as Italian Brutalist style, may strike some pilgrims as the antithesis of the gospel story. Luke's account of the angel's visit to Mary evokes intimacy, privacy and prayerfulness, none of which are easily found in the basilica. The scale of the building, however, allows it to display artistic representations of the annunciation from around the world, including one by Australian artist Justin O'Brien. Whatever artistic merit these works may have, they do convey a vital truth. Mary's 'yes' in her out-of-the-way home town had repercussions for the entire world. It was, and remains, of universal significance. None of us can foresee what good may flow from our own consent to grace.



The Basilica of the Annunciation is a church located in the centre of the city of Nazareth. It was established over what Catholic tradition holds to be the site of the house of the Virgin Mary, and where the angel Gabriel appeared to her and announced that she would conceive and bear the Son of God, Jesus – an event known as the Annunciation. The Basilica is a Nazareth landmark labeled the largest house of Christian worship for Roman Catholics in the Middle East.

Christmas Eve



THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD DURING THE NIGHT

Entrance Antiphon - Psalm 2:7

The Lord said to me: You are my Son.
It is I who have begotten you this day.

First Reading: Isaiah 9:1-7

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase' they rejoice in your presence, as men rejoice in your presence, as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt and son consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders' and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace.

Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 95:1-3, 11-12

R. Today, is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

○ sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.

○ sing to the Lord, bless his name. **R.**

Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. **R.**

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,
let the land and all it bears rejoice,
all the trees of the wood shout for joy
at the presence of the lord for he comes,
he comes to rule the earth. **R.**

With justice he will rule the world,
He will judge the peoples with his truth. **R.**

Second Reading - Titus 2:11-14

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

Gospel Acclamation - Luke 2:10-11

Alleluia, Alleluia!
Good News and great joy to all the world:
Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 2:1-14

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing:

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
And peace to men who enjoy his favour'.

Communion Antiphon - John 1:14

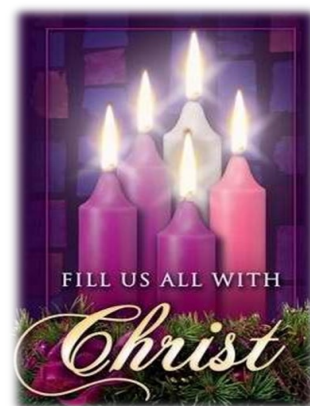
The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.

REFLECTION

Recognising changing pastoral practice, the Missal no longer calls this Midnight Mass but Mass During the Night. Fewer churches host a Mass at midnight as the trend to a mid-evening timeslot becomes the norm. This allows both young families and older folk to experience something of the wonder of the night.

And a wonderful night it is. The fall of darkness brings a hush with it. The hustle and bustle of the day recedes. The lights of the church (or of the alternative space chosen to accommodate the larger crowd) shine out in welcome. There's excitement in the air. Whatever strife still troubles the world, the birth of Christ promises peace and joy.

In an obscure outpost of the Roman Empire, at a time when there were no obvious grounds for hope, a child is born in mysterious, possibly scandalous, circumstances. A child born of heaven and earth, of flesh and spirit, of time and eternity. A child who would become the light of the world. A child whose life would end in apparent failure, only for that to be transformed into a glorious triumph. A child whose birth prompts us to sing, 'Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will.'



May the magic of this Christmas season bring light, warmth and joy to your family and home. We look forward to meeting again refreshed, inspired and ready for the New Year. Come and join us as we share the blessed Eucharist each week at Mass.



Entrance Antiphon - Cf. Isaiah 9:5

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us;
his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder,
and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!'

Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion. Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem.

The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Responsorial Psalm: 97:1-6

R. All the ends of the earth
have seen the saving power of God.

Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation. **R.**

The Lord has made known his salvation;
has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
for the house of Israel. **R.**

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord all the earth,
ring out your joy. **R.**

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,
with the sound of music.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
acclaim the King, the Lord. **R.**

Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name. God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father, or I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
A holy day has dawned upon us.
Come you nations and adore the Lord.
Today a great light has come upon the earth.
Alleluia!

Gospel - John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word:

The Word was with God and the Word
was God.

He was with God in the beginning.
Through him all things came to be,
not one thing had its being but
through him.

All that came to be had life in him
and that life was the light of men,
a light that shines in the dark,
a light that darkness could not
overpower.

A man came, sent by God. His name was John.
He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light,
so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.
The Word was the true light that enlightens all men;
and he was coming into the world.

He was in the world that had its being through him,
and the world did not know him.

He came to his own domain and his own people did not
accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power
to become children of God, to all who believe in the
name of him who was born not out of human stock or
urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself.
The Word was made flesh, he lived among us,
and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of
the Father, full of grace and truth.

John appears as his witness. He proclaims:

'This is the one of whom I said:
He who comes after me ranks
before me because he existed
before me.'

Indeed, from this fullness we have,
all of us, received -
yes, grace in return for grace, since,
though the Law was given through Moses,
grace and truth have come through
Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God;
it is the only Son,
who is nearest to the Father's heart,
who has made him known.

Communion Antiphon - Cf. Psalm 97:3

All the ends of the earth
have seen the salvation of our God.

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Every Christmas the Christ Child in the manger at Bethlehem invites us to stop and to pay attention to the things that are especially important in our lives: our loved ones, our family and friends - and our loving God who holds us in existence, 'in the palm of his hand'. When Christmas is over, an excellent way to grow in faith and to develop one's relationship with God is to be Part of our community as we celebrate



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

The worship of the Church during the Season of Advent brings numerous readings from the Prophets of the Old Testament that, in one way or another, echo the longing of Israel for the Messiah, the Saviour. "The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all will see the saving power of God." As Christians we sense the desire of God's People of old expressed in heartfelt poetry and verse. Christians enter into the time of waiting but the emphasis is different. Israel awaited the Messiah, but the Word Incarnate came and his coming was not universally accepted as we read in the Prologue to St. John's Gospel.

He was in the world That had come to be through him. He came to his own And his own people did not accept him.

Yes, the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, the time of waiting was over, it was the time of fulfilment. As Christians await the celebration of the Birthday of Christ, the Advent readings help us to open our hearts in love and appreciation of all the Word Incarnate has done for us. The Spirit has gifted us to believe in Christ and so become children of God. A great privilege that calls us ever forward to live the same kind of life as Jesus did. The more we ponder the Word of God, the more we endeavour with grace to walk in the footsteps of the Saviour, the more we become one with the Lord of all.

The greatest gift we can bring to our Christmas celebration is the gift of ourselves. It is what we are that the Lord values, not what we have. The Saviour came in the humblest of circumstances so all may approach him knowing that they will be accepted. To seek and find the Lord is to walk in truth and sense the freedom of the children of light.

Cont...In the greater number of nations in the world the period prior to Christmas becomes energised and all are busy with the buying of gifts, the coming together of families and friends, the expectation of vacations and rest. One hopes that Christians remain conscious of and participate in the goodwill of these seasons and do not lose sight of the deeper meaning of Advent and Christmas. The long-expected Saviour has come and God has visited his people. The angels sang, "Peace on earth to those of goodwill." Alas, peace is not everywhere present and the Good News of Christ remains for so many a dead letter. This is a precious time of reflection especially on the Scriptures for Advent and Christmas and our ponderings may lead us to pray for peace on earth and, as the song proclaims, let it begin with me!

Almighty God and Father of Light,
A child is born for us and a son is
given to us. Your eternal Word
leaped down from heaven in the
silent watches of the night,
And now your Church is filled with
wonder At the nearness of her God.
Open our hearts to receive his life,
And increase our vision at the rising
of the dawn, That our lives may be
filled with his glory and his peace.

Wishing all who welcome the Birthday of the Lord a very joyful and peaceful Christmas. - Fr Edward Wood SSS

The Eucharist is the supreme proof of the love of Jesus. After this, there is nothing more but heaven itself.
- Peter Julian Eymard



Christmas Mass Collection for 2023 Archbishops Christmas Appeal Support is Needed!

Help life saving assistance to refugees fleeing violence; including evacuation, food, shelter as well as student assistance in Europe, the Middle East and Asia. Communities in India, Africa and the Solomon Islands are also assisted. Donations can also be sent to: Archbishop's Christmas Appeal, GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601.

(Please include a copy of the coupon as there is no hard printed copy of the Catholic Voice this months which normally included the coupon)

THANK YOU

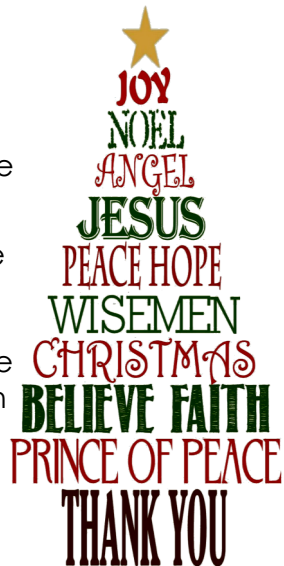
Fr Anthony, Fr Renoir, and Fr Sebastian with members of the Parish Team would like to thank all parishioners for your generosity and help during the year.

We have a huge list of people to acknowledge.

'Thank You' to members of the Parish Finance Councils, Parish Pastoral Councils, CINSC (Canberra Inner North Steering Committee).

'Thank You' to the Acolytes, Readers, Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Welcome Ministers, Musicians & Choir, Catechists, Counters & Collectors, Social Function, Pastoral Care, Flower Ladies, Maintenance, St Vincent de Paul, Altar Linen / Sacred Vessel Carers, Prayer, Reflection and Renewal Groups, Sausage Sizzlers, to the parishioners who work tirelessly away in the church attending to a myriad of chores and all the other quiet achievers who contribute to the life of our wonderful Parish!

We share with you the glory, the wonder, the miracle of this beautiful Holy Season.



OFFICE CLOSURE

Canberra Inner North Catholic Church Offices will close on **FRIDAY 23 December** and re open on **TUESDAY 2nd January at 9:00am.**

PLEASE BE AWARE THERE MAY BE MASS TIME CHANGES OR CANCELLATIONS OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS AS FR ANTHONY SSS WILL BE ON LEAVE.

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

A big thank you to all who prepared and attend my farewell last Sunday. The St Brigid's Parish center was full to the brim. The food and cake (locally made by Marjorie) with my fav prayer as a focus the rosary! The flower arrangements also locally sourced were fit for a wedding thanks to Fran, Dominica, Remy, Paul & Gabriella, Mary- Anne; also to Trish and team who cleaned up.



Bernadette gave a moving summation of my time (our Christ journey together the last five years) here and a few spontaneously chipped in. My last Mass as PP here will be New Year's Day 9am at St Brigid's. Note, I will be back at Campbell for my St Thomas More's farewell on Sunday 11 Feb. God's blessings Fr Em p.s. pls check weekday Mass times over next few weeks as things will adjust for Priests on leave etc.

Note I will be back for my Campbell farewell in Feb.

God's blessings Fr Em

p.s. pls check weekday Mass times over next few weeks and things will adjust for Priests on leave etc.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Christine who won the raffle prize a locally handmade nativity scene by the craft group. About \$600 was raised for Church flowers Braddon.



Regional Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Next meeting For those seeking to begin or complete the Sacraments and initiation into the Catholic faith, or those seeking to deepen their Faith. If you like to be on the team to walk with the enquirers you most welcome. For more info. Please Contact - Fr Anthony SSS



PARISH RENEWAL



This year has been one of considerable change in Blackfriars Parish: the withdrawal of the Dominican Order from the parish, the reduction of weekend Masses at Holy Rosary Church from four to three, the ongoing impacts of COVID on Mass attendance, and the retirements of Jacquie Cortese as parish secretary and Jim Smith as longstanding volunteer in the parish office.

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) was re-established mid-year, which was important as the parish also became part of the new parish arrangements for the Catholic community in Canberra's inner north that is now under the care of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament (SSS). We farewelled Fr Mannes Tellis OP, and we welcomed Fr Renoir Oliver SSS to our parish.

We celebrated 60 years of the parish with the blessing of St Dominic's garden and statue, and enjoyment of a delicious morning tea. It was also an opportunity to hear about aspects of the parish's history such as stories of the contribution of parishioners to the life of the parish and the surrounding community that has included Blackfriars Priory and Signadou (now part of the Australian Catholic University) and Rosary Primary School.

Amongst these changes, parish renewal continued through various initiatives and the active participation of Parish Renewal Team (PRT) members in organising various parish events. Early in the year, PRT members met with the Vicar General, Fr Richard Thompson, and the Chancellor, Patrick McArdle, to discuss the new parish arrangements, offering to work together on the changes. This was followed shortly after by the parish meeting on the new Mass schedule and on parish renewal.

PRT members have facilitated Lenten and Advent preparation programs, and organised a Called and Gifted seminar series that explained the gifts of the Holy Spirit (charisms) and helped participants discern their gifts. In a spirit of collaboration, an invitation was extended beyond the parish. The Women's Faith Circle also continued to meet regularly during the year.

In September, a partnership of Holy Cross Anglican, Holy Rosary and St Margaret's Uniting Churches ('Holy Roundabout') organised an ecumenical Celebration of Creation, where we prayed and responded to the cry of creation. Another ecumenical event was this month's Nativity Festival, where children and adults alike were able to witness nativity scenes from around the world.

The PRT, working closely with the PPC, hopes – with your input and support – to continue the renewal process in conjunction with the inner north Christian community next year and enlivened by the Archdiocesan Year of the Holy Spirit 2023-2024. Action is also underway to form two groups, respectively to take forward an enlivened hospitality Ministry and ensure parish grounds and plant are properly maintained – to partially compensate for the loss of Jim and Jacquie.

Cont... More on this and other matters affecting the parish to come.

We take this opportunity to welcome Kathie Guillester, the new parish secretary, and Julie Barnes, the new parish manager, as together we navigate the changes.

We wish you a very happy, safe and holy Christmas and a joyous and peaceful New Year.

Parish Renewal Team and Parish Pastoral Council

THANK YOU

Thank you to Siobhan and Richard Tanzer for organising the Parish Farewell for my retirement. Thank you to Kathie Turrise as always For Her delicious cake.

It has been a very difficult decision to retire as Parish Secretary. I started my journey on the 1st November 2005 as a non-Catholic who attended Church with my husband. In 2006 after following the footsteps of Fr Bernie Maxwell OP and his team, I completed the RCIA with my sponsor Elizabeth Smith by my side. My children attended my baptism a bit of a reversal.

I hope through the years I have bought a different perspective to my job as I call myself a follower of the 'Loving Jesus'.

I have made many friends along the way and I hope helped many people. I will miss my work and the contact with so many of the Parish.

Farewell to my job but not goodbye to the Parish.
Jacquie Cortese

*This Christmas,
I pray that happiness be at your door.
May it knock early, stay late, and leave
the gifts of peace, love, joy and good health behind.*



REFLECTION

Today of all days, we need to reflect on our mood. How are you feeling? Are you looking forward to seeing loved ones, sharing a meal and presents, or are you on your own, quietly remembering Christmases past. Whatever it is, you are not alone. A tiny baby has just been born in Bethlehem.

Read the text and try to visualise the scene. What was that first Christmas like? How did Mary and Joseph look? Imagine what will have been their thoughts as they listened to the shepherds. Maybe picture yourself being there too. How do you feel? Perhaps, like Mary, you will treasure these things and ponder them. Pray for all those who do not know Christ; for all those for whom it feels nothing like Christmas.

ENCOUNTERS

Some encounters leave us with a sense of having experienced the divine. It might not immediately be obvious but we go away from having met someone with the same sort of awe and reverence that Simeon has when he encounters the infant Jesus. So moved is he that he articulates that which only becomes obvious to so many others much later in Jesus' life: here is the Messiah, the Saviour promised to the Jewish people. Simeon was able to discern a lot about the baby carried in the arms of Mary and Joseph.



On a weekend when we celebrate the family, and the example set by Jesus, Mary and Joseph, let us not forget the faithfulness evidenced in the testimony of Simeon. Like Simeon, when the time comes, may we recognise Christ in others. [D. McGovern](mailto:D.McGovern@churchresources.com.au) editor@churchresources.com.au

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Our recently Deceased: May they find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord.

Peter-John Di Michiel (son of Tony & Margaret),
Petronella Wensing, Margaret Byrne, Marguerite Sergi

IN LOVING MEMORY

Label Jazrawi, Bill McManus, Romano Ippoliti
Deceased Family and Friends

CONTRIBUTIONS TO PRIEST & PARISH

Contribute to the First Collection.

Account Name: Central Presbytery Fund
BSB: 062-786 - Bank Account: 000029248
Reference: Use your Parish Location to assist in correct allocation & Your Name (e.g. Campbell Smith)

Planned Giving: Planned Giving is a weekly, fortnightly or monthly contribution to the first and/or second collection via cash, direct debit or credit card. By contributing set amounts regularly you help the parish to forecast and budget its ongoing expenses. If you are new to Planned Giving and would like more information, please contact the Parish Office. PLEASE NOTE: Existing Planned Giving arrangements have not changed. If you have established a regular deduction, that will continue. For information, the Planned Giving account details for each Parish follow. These can be used to set up new regular deductions.

Canberra Central Parish

Account Name: Canberra Central Parish
BSB: 062786 - A/C: 000013150
Reference: Name & Giving Number

Blackfriars Parish

Account Name: Blackfriars Parish Watson
BSB: 062786 - A/C: 000013341
Reference: Name & Giving Number

St Joseph's Parish

Account Name: St Joseph's Parish
BSB: 062 786 No: 000012798
Reference: Parish & Name

St Thomas More Parish

Account Name: St Thomas More Parish
BSB: 062786 - A/C: 000014869
Reference: Campbell/Surname

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:

In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:

Mary Pavey, Anne Corver, Sue King, Barbara Wilson, Una Bell, Philip Bailey, Peter Catlin, Veronica Cornelly, Rosa Maria Santos, Gloria Sibley, Beth Delos Santos, Fr Ellis Clifford, June Pollard, Philip Cruz, Maureen Blood, Awny El-Ghitany, Pamela Sandy, Una Ford, Robin Lees, Elizabeth Webster, Ann Moran, Colleen Brackett (& friend Jackie), Brenda Currer, Joan Goodwin, Dave Senior, Nadine Hartley, Gabriel Hengkiarto Indra, Mary O'Hanlon, Baby Remi Elliott, Tony Bandle, Clare Packer, Mahsa Raoofian, Christopher Douglas, Kahren, daughter of Joycelyn, Lyn Mowbray Lily Copeland, Neville Caulfield, Maggie McKeon, Alphonsa & Maria Bankovsky, Carmel Slamton, Carol - Jayne McManus

WEEKDAY MASSES

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
St Patrick's (Braddon)		12:30pm	12:30pm	12:30pm	12:30pm	
St Thomas More's (Campbell)					10:00am*	
St Brigid's (Dickson)			9:00am	9:00am		9:00am
St Joseph's (O'Connor)		9:15am	8:00am	9:15am	9:15am	8:30am
Holy Rosary (Watson)		5:30pm	5:30pm	5:30pm	5:30pm	
ACU-Signadou (Watson)			12:00noon**			

* During school term, as advised when Classes attend.

** First Wednesday of month during University Terms

SATURDAY VIGIL & SUNDAY MASSES

	Saturday	Sunday Morning & Evening Masses				
	Vigil Mass	8:00am	8:30am	9:30am	10:00am	5:00pm
St Patrick's (Braddon)		8:00am			10:00am *	
St Thomas More's (Campbell)					10:00am	
St Brigid's (Dickson)	6:00pm			9:30am		5:00pm**
St Joseph's (O'Connor)	6:00pm		8:30am			
Holy Rosary (Watson)	5:00pm				10:00am	5:00pm
ACU-Signadou (Watson)						

* German Mass

** Vietnamese Mass (1st & 3rd Sundays)

ADORATION & SACRAMENTS

	Reconciliation
St Patrick's (Braddon)	12:00 noon Friday
St Brigid's (Dickson)	9:30am - 10:00am Saturday 5:30pm - 5:50pm Saturday
St Joseph's (O'Connor)	5:30pm - Saturday (during Holy Hour)
Holy Rosary (Watson)	4:00pm - 4:30pm Saturday
	Adoration of the Eucharist
St Brigid's (Dickson)	9:30am - 8:00pm Wednesday
St Joseph's (O'Connor)	8:15am - 9:15am Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
Holy Rosary (Watson)	6:00pm - 7:00pm Friday
	Pray the Rosary
St Brigid's (Dickson)	8:30am Tuesday to Saturday
St Joseph's (O'Connor)	After morning Mass Tuesday, Wed (Cenacle), Thursday, Friday
Holy Rosary (Watson)	Before 10:00am Mass, 1 st & 3 rd Sundays
	Anointing of the Sick
St Joseph's (O'Connor)	8:30am First Saturday of the month
St Thomas More (Campbell)	11:15am First Sunday of the month

PARISH BULLETIN - DEADLINE for notices is **3.00pm TUESDAY**
Ph: 0416 823 447 email: innernorth@cg.org.au