

MASS TIMES

SUNDAY: 9.00am

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: 4th Sunday during School term

WEDNESDAY: NO Mass at 10.00am during School Holidays

Note: A Funeral Mass takes priority over Wednesday mass

RECONCILIATION: 8.30am till 8.45am every Sunday

BAPTISMS: Telephone or email office in Young

WEDDINGS: At least 6 months' notice - Telephone or email office in Young

WEEKEND MASS TIMES AT ST. MARY'S, YOUNG

SAT/SUN: 6.00pm (SAT) 9.00am (SUN)

ROSTERS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE: TUE. 24 DEC. 2019

ACOLYTE: Nev Stokes

MUSIC: Di Franks

READERS: Children

SPECIAL MINISTERS: Val Forsyth and Glenys O'Connor

COUNTERS: Terry Carroll and Mary Moffitt

ROSTERS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY: WED. 25 DEC. 2019

ACOLYTE: John King

MUSIC: Jeanne Montgomery

READERS: Phillipa Baker/Jeanne Montgomery

SPECIAL MINISTERS: Volunteers needed

COUNTERS: Phillipa Baker and Peter Butcher

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK: SUN. 29 DEC. 2019

ACOLYTE: Nev Stokes or John King

MUSIC: Liz Carroll

READERS: Terry Carroll and Jenny Bell

SPECIAL MINISTERS: Val Forsyth and Marie Keir

COUNTERS: Mary Moffitt and Terry Carroll

PLEASE EMAIL ANY MESSAGES FOR THE BULLETIN TO ST MARY'S PARISH OFFICE **NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY**, AS THIS IS THE **CLOSE OFF** TIME FOR ALL ENTRIES. THANKS

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14; Col 3: 12-21; Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23



St. Joseph's Parish, Grenfell

The Nativity of the Lord Christmas - 25 December 2019

Parish Pastor: Fr James Onoja / Associate Pastor: Fr Praveen Paul
Office Hours: Friday 9.30 am - 1.30 pm
Phone: (02) 6382 2222 Fax: (02) 6382 2667
Office Address: Campbell St., (P.O. BOX 6) YOUNG NSW 2594

Email: young@cg.org.au **Web site:** www.cg.org.au/grenfell



A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM FR. JAMES

Dear Fellow Pilgrims,

Advent comes to a close and we begin the Christmas Triduum proper as we enter this new week on Monday.

Indeed we have prepared physically, mentally and spiritually through the various processes availed us by the church reaching its culmination in the 2nd Rite of Reconciliation. What else remains?

As pilgrims, we just trod on, rest and *wait* on the birth of the Child Jesus.

Waiting here carries the import of service. When pilgrims rest after a long walk what do they do? They share their meals, bandage the wounded and encourage the weary. These last days carries similar import for us as we remember the many who are fatigued from the long journey of deep longing and expectation of a new born infant Jesus into their brokenness, and for others joy.

It is on this note that I, your servant and fellow pilgrim, Fr James with my brother priest, Fr Praveen, wish to thank individually and collectively, all our parishioners (both visiting and local) for being part of this great journey of faith. Together we stand at the threshold of the manger to say Happy Christmas to you.

May God bless our celebrations and keep, in his stead, those travelling in and out of our parish this season.

Don't forget! Pilgrims always share. The more we share the love of Christ, the Younger at heart we become. Let us continue to feel YOUNG always!



CHRISTMAS APPEAL- THANK YOU TO OUR SCHOOLS

Again this year, despite the effects of the drought on our families, the School communities of St Mary's Primary and Hennessy Catholic College have again donated hampers of beautiful food for those in greatest need. Hennessy also collected \$700-00.

This year the students of St Joseph's Primary School in Grenfell also conducted "food drives" resulting in very generous donations to the Grenfell Food Hall as well as Young Vinnies!

Words cannot express our gratitude to everyone who contributed in any way to our Appeal this year.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Beverley Corkery, Betty Kelleher

GRENFELL FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS (16th December 2019 - 29th December 2019)

Please contact Tania Biddle on (0422) 855-090 or Margaret Baker on (0427) 438-267 if you or your family require assistance with funeral preparation arrangements.

MEMORIAL BOOK

To have names placed in the book, please fill in the names of the deceased members of our parish and our relatives in the folder at the church rear. Please fill in the sheet by PRINTING their name and date of death. These will be placed in a memorial book which can be added to each year.

MPHS MONDAY SERVICE

Every 3rd Monday of the month at 11-00am, representatives of our church conduct an Ecumenical service at Grenfell Multi-Purpose Health Service (MPHS) for the residents there. Any parishioners who would like to attend would be very welcome. A service is held each Monday with other churches being rostered on for the other Mondays of the month.

VISIT FROM SPECIAL MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Anyone who would like to receive holy communion at home or in the MPHS should contact Mary Moffitt (6343-1575 or 0419 440-692) so that she can notify the Special Ministers of the Eucharist to visit them on Sunday.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

All volunteers working with our children (i.e. Acolyte/Senior Server/ Children's Liturgy or Catechists) must have a valid Working with Children Check (WWCC). If your WWCC has expired, or you haven't had one, please address this as a priority. If you do have a current WWCC, please ensure Cath at the Parish office has your WWCC numbers asap. Your date of birth will also be required.

(Just google Working with Children Check NSW).

IN ADDITION - All Parish volunteers, regardless of whether they work with children, are to read the Archdiocesan Child Protection Code of Conduct, then sign and return the acknowledgment form.

This should be done **as soon as possible**.

More information is available from the following link:

<http://cgcatholic.org.au/professional-standards/child-protection-code-of-conduct/>

(Alternatively, if you don't have access to a computer, you can read the Code of Conduct form located on the table at the back of the church and then sign the Acknowledgement form & return it in the Grenfell box when it comes back to Young.)

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will be closed for holidays over the Christmas period. Wishing everyone a very Happy and Holy Christmas with love and peace for the New Year.

COUNTING ROSTER

Please note that the counting of the collections at St Joseph's Parish takes place after mass each week. Please see name shown each week for the roster.

WEBSITE

Please feel free to check out our information and Bulletins on the website. Just go to: cg.org.au/grenfell, and download view for the latest Bulletins.

NATIONAL PRAYER CAMPAIGN

(For the gift of rain, for people affected by drought, for support services)

Eternal God, in wisdom and love you created our earth to sustain us and give us life. We turn to you now in faith, hope and love, asking you to look with favour on our drought-stricken land, on our starving animals, on our failing crops.

Strengthen, sustain and give new heart to our farmers and to all who are affected by drought; be with those who support them.

In your loving providence, send abundant rain and restore our parched earth.

Father of all compassion, hear our prayer through Jesus Christ your Son, in whom the promise of new life has dawned, and through the power of the

Holy Spirit, the Lord the giver of life: Renew your faithful people; Renew the face of the earth.

Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Mary, help of Christians - Pray for us. St Mary of the Cross MacKillop - Pray for us.



PLENARY COUNCIL

What do you think God is asking us in Australia today? (From the Plenary Council Snapshot Report). Our local group thought it was worth sharing some of the views that we have discussed over the last few weeks. This was one quote we all thought was worth sharing.

"To serve Him (Jesus) and others. Love always and grow in love with others. Pray more. Live our Gospel values, increase discussion on bigger issues, eg. poverty, abortion. The ability to discuss our beliefs with everyone. Practice what we preach. Celebrate the greater things in life. Be appreciative of the gifts God gave each of us. Include and accept all cultures within our community. Remember that God loves us unconditionally. Take care of our environment". Have an attitude of gratitude.

ROSTERS FOR 2020

The Church Cleaning Roster for 2020 and the Sunday Ministry Roster for January and February 2020 are available on the shelf under the notice board at the back of the church. Please take your copy for future reference. If you have provided your email address then your copy has been emailed to you. Anyone who would like to serve the parish but is not already included on the rosters can contact Mary Moffitt on (6343-1575 or 0419 440-692). We need to have some additional people step up so that the responsibility for keeping our parish going is shared.