



## PARISH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION, NORTH WODEN

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**28-29 December 2024, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Year C**

### HOLY TRINITY CHURCH WEEKDAY AND WEEKEND MASSES, LITURGY and RECONCILIATION TIMES:

Monday	9.30am
Tuesday	9.30am
Wednesday	9.30am (Mass on 1 Jan instead of Lit of Word and H Comm)
Thursday	5.30pm
Friday	9.30am (including Anointing on First Friday)
Saturday	Reconciliation 5.00-5.30pm; Mass 6.00pm
Sunday	9.30am and 5.30pm

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. Alleluia!

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

### **MAY THE DECEASED REST IN PEACE AND RISE IN EASTER GLORY**

**Recently Deceased:** Michael Leunig, Elizabeth Smyth, Kevin Andrews, Vanuatu earthquake victims, Louisa Strasser, Ivan Benkovic, Sr Paulinus Croker RSJ, John Vincent, Doreen Johns, Letitia Baz, Spanish flood victims, Carmel Bourke, Yvonne Barlow, Susie Menadue, Marcelino Gulane, Melissa McAuliffe, Mary-Ann Gormly, Michael Hermosilla, Paz Espina-Ruiz, Hugh Zockling, Maureen Grellis, Dr Frank Long, Ron Thornton, Bill Jordan, Margaret Burt, Fr John Usher, Vanessa O'Brien, Anna Vincent, Tess Caruana, Fr Brian Ebert, victims of war in Ukraine and Gaza.

**Anniversaries of Death:** Noel Lane, Lyn Granlund, Brian Brown, Malcolm Blain, Joanne Binutti, Brian Brown, Chris Perkins, Peter Clarke, Margaret Frawley, Sharon Woods, Peter Marlow, Vincent and Mary Huang, Peter Mayer, Michael Morrisroe, Oreste Trinca, Pushpa Dwaly, Fr Leandro Infante, Pacifico Infante, Joe Caruana, Josh McKinnon, Anne Taylor, Benjamin and Bill Rowe, Melanie Swan, Denis Rowe.

### **MAY THE SICK BE COMFORTED BY OUR PRAYERS**

Fr Andrew Yang, Richard Foote, Chris Feeny, Moira O'Brien, Olga Johnson, Margaret Williams, Pieter van Gent, Mark Lodder, Ted Lindsay, George Toth, Greg Nash, Romeo Cicolini, Francis Boyd, Jeannette Clarke, Jarrod Clarkson, Karen Rankin, David Garratt, Marjorie O'Connor, Matthew Dwyer, Genevieve Crane, Maureen Sewell, John Warren, Lily Lim, Donald Stott, Genoveffa Ceccarelli, Bruno Sinuelli, John Woodward, Jack Kennelly, Iole and Romeo Cicolini.

### **DIVINE AND HUMAN FAMILY**

**This is a time when families gather.** My brother Mel travelled to Glasgow, Scotland for Christmas and the birth of his grandchild. This can also be a time of heightened family tensions. **While 'blood might be thicker than water', the Readings today compare and contrast two different attitudes to families.** Our Second Reading commends a traditional understanding of family. However, the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke present a different picture. Jesus would have it that family ties can be a hindrance to following Jesus! After all, Jesus did say that one cannot be a disciple without 'hating' one's family members. While the Semitic idiom uses 'love' and 'hate' to show a preference, the ambiguity remains. **This ambiguity is played out in today's Gospel.** We hear Mary express her displeasure after finding Jesus in the Temple – *"See how worried your father and I have been looking for you."* Jesus response being about his Father's business highlights the ambiguity. *"On Mary's lips, 'father' refers to her husband, Joseph. But Jesus is speaking of his Father in heaven. Into their tranquil family life bursts a sharp reminder of his true status as unique Son of God and of the destiny – the 'Father's 'business' – to which they are going to have to surrender him"* (Brendan Byrne). This surrender which will culminate at the cross is the 'sword' that will pierce the heart of Mary, as Simeon had prophesied (2:35). **The mission of Jesus places him above any familial relationship for the sake of bringing the entire human 'family' back into relationship with his Father.** Yet Jesus uses familial images when instructing us to pray, 'Our Father . . .' (Matt 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-40) and Paul says the Spirit is poured into our hearts that we might cry

'Abba, Father' (Rmns 8:15; Gal 4:6). Jesus said that his family are those who hear the word of God and keep it (Luke 8:21). **And being drawn in to the dignity of his divine family is foundational to the dignity of all families. And therein lies the rub for "growing into Christian adulthood is perhaps no easier than growing into human adulthood and no less immune to the trials all growth entails. Each of us is called to discover and 'be about' our Father's business in our unique way" (ibid).**

Fr John

**THANK YOU** to all who assisted with setting-up and celebrating our Christmas Masses. Lest we forget:



**PERSONAL THANKS** to all associated with the memorable parish farewell and for the Christmas cards and gifts. All of you have enriched, supported and challenged me. May the Lord continue to bless our shared journeys. Fr John

**SUMMER TRANSFIGURATION NEWSLETTER** is available at the exits.

**ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL:** Thank you for your support of the same. A portion of the Christmas collections will go towards the ecumenical Christmas Bowl appeal assisting displaced persons whether from war or climate change; needy students at Bethlehem University; the La Salette Matha Province India in their work for the poor and the works of the Blessed Sacrament Fathers in the Philippines; projects in the Dioceses of Otukpo, Nigeria, Eldoret, Kenya, Thamarassery, India and orphan care in Mount Hagen, PNG; locally 'The Farm' in Galong and 'HOME' in Queanbeyan will also benefit.

**JANUARY ARRANGEMENTS:** As Fr James Antony will be on leave to celebrate his 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination in January, weekend Masses will be celebrated by Fathers Bernie Hennessy, Mick Burke and Leonse Kurien, with Fr Mick also celebrating the Monday 9:30am Mass. Tuesday to Friday of January there will be parishioner-led Liturgies of the Word and Holy Communion. **Thank you for your understanding and support.**

**2025 COLUMBAN CALENDARS** available from the Parish Office, \$10 ea.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE, 31 DECEMBER PRAYER VIGIL SACRED HEART CHURCH, PEARCE** commencing at 8pm with Exposition and Rosary, and Rosary thereafter on the hour, and concluding with Benediction close to midnight.

**SYNTHESIS REPORT OF ARCHDIOCESAN ASSEMBLY, 19 OCTOBER:** Copies of the same are available at the exits.

**MEDITATION GROUP:** 6pm, Wednesdays. All welcome. Contact Vikki, 0437 876 487, [mulvaney@netspeed.com.au](mailto:mulvaney@netspeed.com.au).

**PRAYER CIRCLE SUPPORT:** Cathy Harris, 6281 2574.

**Readings for next Sunday:** The Epiphany Year C; Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12.

<b>LITURGICAL ROSTERS NEXT WEEK: 4-5 January 2025</b>			
<i>1<sup>st</sup> Sun. of the month</i>	<b>Curtin Sat. 6 pm</b>	<b>Curtin Sun. 9.30 am</b>	<b>Curtin Sun. 5.30 pm -</b>
<b>Acolyte</b>	Melissa Bray	Stafferd Fernandez	Darryl Kite
<b>Reader</b>	Desmond Strusz	Tania Fernandez	Greg Nash
<b>Commentator</b>	Alex Evers	Therese Keily-Wynter	NA
<b>Welcomer</b>	Jacqui Mullen	Maureen Jeffrey	Kim Hofmeier
<b>Ministers of Comm.</b>	Nanette Bonato	Peter Wynter	Gael Nicholls
<b>Communion to Sick</b>	Warr: John Evers	FWG: Betsy Joseph	Moya Kennelly
<b>Counters</b>	<i>6 Jan</i>	Bernadette Carmody, Joanne Mitchell	
<b>Wednesday Liturgy</b>	<i>8 Jan.</i>	Prayer Leader: Sr Angela Jordan	Eucharistic Minister: Gael Nicholls