



Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH



PARISH BULLETIN: HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH, YEAR A, 28 DECEMBER 2025

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Response:(R) Lord, hear our prayer
LEADER: Dear friends, united as sisters and brothers in faith, we pray with Jesus, Mary and Joseph for the whole human family.
READER: For the people of God. May they form communities of compassion, kindness, mercy and praise. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**
For the multitude who have fled their homeland. May they find their way to a place of safety and peace. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**
For children who have never known family life. May foster parents and caring communities will take them to heart. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**
For holiday-makers. May they travel safely and enjoy a peaceful time of rest & regeneration. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**
For families. May the joys, hopes, griefs and anxieties they experience strengthen the ties that bind them together. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**
For the sick within our families, friends and parish community and all who have asked for our prayers, may they be granted strength, comfort and healing. For those who have recently departed this life, and for those whose anniversaries we remember at this time, may they be welcomed into the glory of the Risen Lord and rest in eternal peace. 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: Life-giving God, you entrusted your Son Jesus into the loving hands of Mary and Joseph. Help all families grow strong in faith, hope and love. We ask this through Christ, our newborn Lord. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **AMEN**



A journey with **SAINT MARY of the Cross MACKILLOP**

Have patience and go on quietly with your work. (30.12.1897)
Death of Lexie MacKillop, Mary's sister, at the Convent of the Good Shepherd, Abbotsford, Melbourne, 30.12.1882

POPES INTENTION DECEMBER

For Christians in areas of conflict
Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for all who suffer daily oppression or persecution under hostile rulers.

We pray for rural dioceses and country parishes, including our own, that they may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit, finding creative ways to build a vibrant community and proclaim the Gospel with renewed faith and hope.

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

- Christine Cowell, Lorna Thornton
- Clive Cottrell, Joyce Crotty
- John Liston, Roma Brownlie
- Jenny Chaplin, John Elliott
- Peter & Joyce Reed
- Glad Hurley, Jim Parkes
- Marilyn Holdsworth, Jen Farrell
- Patricia Guthrie, Mary Anne Dillon
- Terry Perkins, Kath Farrell
- Val Perkins, Kim Peisley
- Heather Whitby, Peter Hopkins
- Marlene Kennedy

REMEMBERING THEIR FAITH AND LOVE

Recently Deceased

- Marykuty Joseph (Mother of Fr Kose)
- ##### 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

Joseph's traditional title, 'foster-father of our Lord', brings to mind the vocation of fostering. Here are some timely words from MacKillop Family Services. Foster carers have diverse backgrounds. Some have extensive experience caring for children with families of their own who may have grown up and left home. Others still have their children and home, but have a spare room and capacity to care for more. Others are singles or childless couples who have the desire and capacity to care for a child in their community. Whatever their background, what all foster carers have in common is an ability and a desire to provide a safe, nurturing, home that can make a huge difference to a vulnerable child's life.' Could you be one?

PARISH CALENDAR

- MON** Saint Thomas Becket
- TUE**
- WED** Mass Bombala 9.30am
Saint Sylvester
- THU** Mary, Mother of God
- FRI** Saints Basil & Gregory
- SAT** Holy Name of Jesus
LW&HC Delegate 5pm
Mass Bombala 5pm

HYMNS - ONE LICENSE 3642645A

1. HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

1. Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King:
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!" [Refrain]

*Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn 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. [Refrain]

2. JOY TO THE WORLD

1. Joy to the world; the Lord is come; Let Earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,
And heav'n and nature sing.

2. Joy to the Earth, the Savior reigns;
Our mortal songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy.



Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Year A

28 December 2025

First Reading Sir 3:2-6. 12-14

Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.

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

Ps 127:1-5. R. see v.1

(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

- 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.)*
- Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. *(R.)*
- 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 Col 3:12-21

Concerning the Christian life in the world.

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 Col 3:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 2:13-15.19-23

Take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt.

After the wise men had left, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, because Herod intends to search for the child and do away with him.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, left that night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod was dead. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken through the prophet:

I called my son out of Egypt.

After Herod's death, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you and go back to the land of Israel, for those who wanted to kill the child are dead.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, went back to the land of Israel. But when he learnt that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as ruler of Judaea he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he left for the region of Galilee. Here he settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way the words spoken through the prophets were to be fulfilled:

He will be called a Nazarene.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Herod is seeking to annihilate all the male children in Bethlehem. The child Jesus is in mortal danger. 'Arise, take the child and his mother, and flee into Egypt.' And Joseph did so. *That* night and by night, such was the urgency.

Have you ever thought: What if Egyptian border guards had turned back this refugee family? What if, instead of finding safe haven and sanctuary, this desperate family had been denied entry? The Divine plan to rescue Jesus from a murderous tyrant depended not only on Joseph but, also, on the Egyptian people.

And so we discover two Holy Families in this Gospel episode. One is the little Holy Family with Joseph, Mary and Jesus. The other is the larger Holy Family of humanity embodied in those Egyptians who provided sanctuary, who opened their land to allow Joseph, Mary and Jesus to settle out of danger.

We might pause for a moment to ask: Can we be as hospitable and open as the Egyptians of today's Gospel? Another baby in another family of refugees may depend on our answer!

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