



# ABERFOYLE PARK CATHOLIC PARISH CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY



**CHRISTMAS EVE 5:30pm & 7:30pm 24th December, 2020 ISSUE: 38a/20**

**PARISH OFFICE:**

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*Emergency Call Number-*

*0480 100 517*

**Parish Administrator:**

Fr Santiago Fernandes SFX.

**Parish Pastoral Associate:**

Mrs. Bianca Cotton

*(Tuesday & Thursday)*

**Chair PPC:** Mr. John Giles

**Parish Office Hours:**

Tuesday 10:00 am.-3:00 pm.

Thursday 10:00 pm.-3:00 pm.

**Parish School:**

**School of the Nativity**

**Phone:** 8270 3177

**Principal:** Mr. Greg Haynes

**A.P.R.I.M:** Mrs. Sharyn Black

**Mass Time:**

*Saturday -Vigil 6 pm*

*Sunday 9 am*

*Weekday Masses:*

*Tuesdays 12 pm*

*Wednesday 9:15 pm*

*Thursday 9:15 am*

*Fridays 12 pm*



## A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ Jesus,  
Wishing you a Merry Christmas!

Christmas brings great joy to the whole world and double of that to our community as our parish bears the name of the Nativity.

We look ahead to 2021 longing to leave behind these unprecedented times. We wait in hope longing for a renewed sense of safety and stability. How fitting, then, that we should end this year with the season that brings joy. This joy flows from our faith and the opportunities it offers for social bonding and this was hit the hardest in 2020. Now that vaccines are announced and so is hope renewed, we salute all those who stood bravely from all spheres of life displaying their love and offering hope to a pained humanity.

What better time to look ahead in eager anticipation of a new-found sense of freedom and peace? What better way to take stock of things and again find our centre in our God?

We pray that the joy and hope of Christmas and God's love, revealed in Jesus Christ, will fill your heart and shape your life in the year to come. May we find that quiet time with God to become the centre of our lives and draw strength from God this Christmas to share JOY in fellowship with our community and loved ones.

We invoke God's blessings on each one connected to this parish, Children, young, old, sick, families, those living alone and many volunteers that keep powering this community. Merry Christmas! And have a safe, happy and blessed New Year!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Santiago Fernandes

## Notices

### Christmas Day 25/12

The word was made flesh and dwelt among us. In Jesus, the Son of God did not simply become like a human being or take only the visible form of a human being. God became a human being and pitched his tent among us. Christ, true God and true man, continues to dwell among us in his word and sacrament, and in all who make up his body.

### **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION RESCHEDULED**

Eucharistic adoration of this month on Friday this week being Christmas day is rescheduled on New Years Day at 11 am before midday mass.

### **CHRISTMAS MASS ON CHANNEL 44 ON 25<sup>TH</sup> FRIDAY AT 11AM.**

A short carols service and the midnight Mass will be aired from St Francis Xavier's Cathedral on Channel 44 on Friday, 25th December at 11am. We hope this will bring joy to those who will not be able to attend services in person. Please share the news with family and friends or anyone you know who would regularly tune into Mass on Channel 44.

### **APPEAL FOR ABORIGINAL CATHOLIC MINISTRY – 24TH/25TH DECEMBER**

The annual Christmas Appeal for the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry will take place with a special collection at all Christmas Masses.

### **THIS YEAR IS DEDICATED TO ST. JOSEPH**

Pope Francis has declared that this year is dedicated to St Joseph. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the saint's proclamation as patron of the Universal Church by Pope Pius IX on Dec. 8, 1870. The year begins Dec 8, 2020 and concludes on Dec 8, 2021.

## **IMPORTANT**

**PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND ANY SERVICE IF YOU ARE UNWELL.**

**PLEASE LISTEN TO COVID MARSHALS THEY ARE ON DUTY  
TO KEEP US SAFE**

- ◇ **TICK MARK YOUR NAME ON BOOKING SHEET, SCAN QR CODE OR SIGN IN**
- ◇ **SANITIZE YOUR HANDS, KEEP SOCIAL DISTANCE AT ALL TIMES**
- ◇ **PLEASE COME EARLY TO FIND A PLACE FOR YOU TO SIT AND SIT ON THE INNER SIDE OF THE BENCH IF YOU TURN UP FIRST.**
- ◇ **DO NOT SING (ONLY CHOIR CAN SING).**
- ◇ **FAMILY MEMBERS CAN SIT TOGETHER, LARGER FAMILIES CAN USE RESERVED SIDE PEWS.**
- ◇ **PLEASE DISPOSE OF THIS BULLETIN AFTER USE.**

### Mass Bookings

After Christmas all Mass times will resume and you will no longer be required to book, as we do not expect to exceed our capacity. However, late comers may be expected to sit in the foyer. It is still compulsory to register on arrival and sanitise your hands on entry. There is to be no socialising before or after mass, either inside or outside the church. We must maintain a 1.5m social distancing at all times.

Last Mass of the year,  
New Years Eve Thursday 31st December

9:15am

New Years Day Friday 1st January

Eucharistic Adoration 11am

Mass 12pm

All weekday Mass and weekend Mass times will follow as usual from Tuesday 29th December.

## Wishing you a blessed Christmas: A message from Archbishop

### Patrick O'Regan

When we think of the first Christmas, we sometimes think of the *Silent Night Holy Night* type, where all is calm all is bright. Yet the first Christmas was entirely chaotic and dangerous. It was winter; two travellers, one heavily pregnant, make an inconvenient trip of about 150 km. Getting there was only part of it, when they arrived, as we know, it was Mary's time and there was no room for them. You might think that God might have got things better organised. It is as if God actually doesn't mind a little chaos! This year we all have experienced the unwelcome and sudden chaos and uncertainty that COVID has brought into our lives. It has all taken its toll on us. And now we find ourselves celebrating Christmas. It's a reminder that the kind of God we have is a God who first comes to us; a God who is not only God for us, but God with us; a God who reminds us that we are not alone, especially it seems in chaos and uncertainty. Our joy at Christmas is not simply the celebration of another birthday. It celebrates that we have someone who is our light; One who can show us the path of life; One whose light accompanies us, especially in the darkness. If Christ is that for us then Christmas also challenges us to become that light in our world. This is my first Christmas in Adelaide, and I thank you for your welcome. I know strongly that despite all the challenges that this year has presented, we are not alone. May Christmas 2020 be a time of great peace, trust and forgiveness, for you and your families and friends. May we rediscover Jesus Christ, our true light. God is good, good indeed.

### It's Christmas.....

*'It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you... yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand.'* - Mother Teresa

### Office Hours

Please note that the office will be closed and re open Tuesday 19th, January. Emails and phone will be checked.

### Please pray for:

#### **Special Intentions:**

COVID-19 Pandemic



**Sick:** Margaret Pfeiffer, Pauline Walker, Phil Matalone, John Piekarz, Robbie Wright, Peter Watts, Jenny Telford

#### **Recently Deceased:**

*Gilbert Read (brother of Frances Piekarz)*

#### **Anniversaries:**

Death: *Erica Hughes -1 year*

### CALENDAR 2020/21

**Booking is compulsory for all Christmas masses.**

Dec 24 — 5.30pm and 7.30pm  
Family Mass and 10pm Vigil

Dec 25 — 9am Christmas Day Mass

Dec 27 — The Holy Family

Dec 31 — 9.15am Mass

Jan 1 — 12pm Mass N. Y Day

Adoration from 11am.

Jan 3— The Epiphany of the Lord

Jan 10— The Baptism of the Lord

Jan 17— Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

Jan 26— Australia Day



### **Our Parish is a Child Safe Organisation**

We are a Child Safe Organisation which is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children and young people. Contact the Child Protection Unit on 8210 8159.

#### **Child Protection Contact Person in our parish:**

Sharyn Black—8270 3177

Bianca Cotton — 82702158

### **ST VINCENT DE PAUL-ADVENT GIVING TREE**



**A BIG THANK YOU  
TO ALL THOSE WHO  
SUPPORTED THIS GOOD WORK,  
THE DONORS AND THE VINNIES  
VOLUNTEERS.**

## The Word of God

### **First Reading Is 62:1-5**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

About Zion I will not be silent, about Jerusalem I will not grow weary, until her integrity shines out like the dawn and her salvation flames like a torch. The nations then will see your integrity, all the kings your glory, and you will be called by a new name, one which the mouth of the Lord will confer. You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord, a princely diadem in the hand of your God; no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken', nor your land 'Abandoned', but you shall be called 'My Delight' and your land 'The Wedded'; for the Lord takes delight in you and your land will have its wedding. Like a young man marrying a virgin, so will the one who built you wed you, and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

### **Responsorial Psalm Ps 88:4-5. 16-17. 27. 29**

***(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.***

1. '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.)***

2. Happy the people who acclaim such a king, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face, who find their joy every day in your name, who make your justice the source of their bliss. ***(R.)***

3. '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.' ***(R.)***

### **Second Reading Acts 13:16-17. 22-25**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Paul reached Antioch in Pisidia, he stood up in the synagogue, held up a hand for silence and began to speak: 'Men of Israel, and fearers of God, listen! The God of our nation Israel chose our ancestors, and made our people great when they were living as foreigners in Egypt; then by divine power he led them out. 'Then he made David their king, of whom he approved in these

words, "I have selected David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart, who will carry out my whole purpose". To keep his promise, God has raised up for Israel one of David's descendants, Jesus, as Saviour, whose coming was heralded by John when he proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the whole people of Israel. Before John ended his career he said, "I am not the one you imagine me to be; that one is coming after me and I am not fit to undo his sandal".'

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed: the Saviour of the world will be our king.

### **Gospel Mt 1:18-25**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: The Virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord told him to do: he took his wife to his home and, though he had not had intercourse with her, she gave birth to a son; and he named him Jesus.