



St Mark's Parish

33 Tranmere Street, Drummoyne NSW 2047 Tel (02) 9181 1795 Fax (02) 9819 6406
Email stmarks@bigpond.net.au Parish Website www.stmarksdrummoyne.org.au

Parish Priest: Monsignor Vince Redden EV

Pastoral Associate: Ms Mary Cook (Email: cookmary@bigpond.net.au)

Chairperson Parish Pastoral Council: Mr Danny Moiso **School Principal:** Mrs Margaret Sargisson

Parish Administration: Mrs Brenda Irwin (Mon/Tues/Fri) & Mrs Sue O'Neill (Wed/Thurs)

Parish Office Hours: Mon, Tues & Fri 9 am—5 pm Wed & Thurs 9 am—3 pm

Feast of the Holy Family

Year A

26 December

Feast of the Holy Family

The understanding of what constitutes family relationships in this day and age is complicated by the demands of the times in which we live. For most people the extended family does not live next door or in the same suburb, in fact they could be interstate or overseas. The sense of support through kinship is threatened by distance, by demands of work. To be specific, the concern of a family about aged parents and how they are coping with illness, frailty and the ever present threat of a slow decline in mental capacity, creates stress and worry. In Australia the freedom of young people often sees the family unit slowly disintegrating as children begin to live their own lives, to engage in social mobility, to do their own thing! It is disconcerting for parents in their desire to nurture and protect their children, to experience apparent disdain of teenage children for family gatherings and socialisation.

While we have enjoyed a Christmas of good cheer and family gatherings, spare a thought for those less fortunate than ourselves. Due to circumstances beyond their control, principally the power struggles of competing world powers, there are families on the run from wars and persecution of many kinds. We have the luxury of pontificating on how people seeking refuge in Australia from wars and persecution should be dealt with. Turn the boats back? In such discussions I place myself in the shoes of the asylum seekers. I look at Australia, prosperous, with a relatively small population, peaceful and politically stable, why wouldn't I try to get here? Wouldn't I take every opportunity, legal or otherwise, to bring my family to this country? Matthew's Gospel, today, speaks of Joseph, his wife Mary, and child Jesus, having to flee their homeland to avoid death for the child, then returning to their homeland but not to Bethlehem. Why are we so opposed to settling asylum seekers in Australia?

All members of families, parents or children, are called to great responsibilities within the family. Whether it be the nurture of children or the care of ageing parents, family life is a huge challenge.



Joseph exhibits in his own way an extraordinary belief in God's ongoing care and protection, a belief in God's faithfulness. Each of us whatever our family situation, is called to just that faithfulness.

Mons Vince

Today's Liturgy -

Entrance Antiphon

The shepherds hastened to Bethlehem, where they found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

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

Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 127:1-5

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

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21

Concerning the Christian life in the world.

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-15. 19-23

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

NEXT WEEK

Epiphany of the Lord
Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3,5-6
Mt 2:1-12



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Christmas—The Nativity of Our Lord

Year A

25 December 2010

Christmas Christmas

Christmas has so many facets celebration of Jesus birth, family gatherings, holidays! With so much going on it is easy to miss the whole point of Christmas. To keep ourselves focussed why not look to just two words, Emmanuel and Maranatha, which are rich in Christmas meaning. Two thousand seven hundred years before Jesus the Messiah was born in Bethlehem, the prophet Isaiah foretold Jesus birth, the Lord himself will give you a sign, look the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel (Is. 7:14). Emmanuel in Hebrew literally means God with us. In Matthew's account of Jesus birth he quotes the verse from Isaiah, showing that Jesus birth is the fulfilment of the prophecy. For us Emmanuel carries the strong message that God is with us, now and literally. Jesus was born once, now He continues to be with us through the God life given us at Baptism and further enhanced by reception of the other Sacraments. Jesus is present to us when we celebrate and receive the Eucharist, when we hear God's word in Scripture, when we gather together as community sharing Jesus presence.

In his signing off of his first Letter to the Corinthians, Paul's wish for his readers is Our Lord, come, literally in Aramaic, Maranatha. In the second Preface we use for Advent the theme is waiting for the two comings of Christ. In one sense Jesus has come, at Bethlehem. Yet in another sense he is continually coming to us through our deepening awareness of who he is, so it is most appropriate to speak of Jesus coming to us again.

The two words, Emmanuel and Maranatha, give us a real understanding of what Christmas is, of Jesus being born for us at Bethlehem, yet continually coming to us in other ways. A final point, if we have Jesus with us then we should be revealing that presence to others by how we relate to family, friends and others in this Christmas season.

Mons Vince



Today's Liturgy -

Entrance Antiphon

A child is born for us, a son given to us; dominion is laid on his shoulder, and he shall be called Wonderful-Counsellor.

First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

All the ends of the earth shall see the saving power of our God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 97:1-6

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

Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-6

In our time, God speaks to us through his Son.

Gospel: John 1:1-18

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory.

NEXT WEEK

Epiphany of the Lord
Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3,5-6
Mt 2:1-12

NOTICEBOARD

- + **COUNSELLING/LIFE SKILLS COURSE**—The St John of God Institute of Counselling/Life Skills Course commences on the **first Tuesday evening of February 2011** at Holy Cross College Ryde from **7.30 pm to 9.45 pm**. The course is held in the Library of the College during school terms. All participants are given the opportunity to develop skills in counselling, personal growth and communication techniques. Cost: \$400 per year. Enquiries: Ann McDowell 9150 4038 or tarrilli@westnet.com.au
- + **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF THE EUCHARIST VOLUNTEER**—St Vincent's Hospital Darlinghurst is looking for a person who will join the volunteer team as an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist. Required for 2 hours every 8 weeks on the weekend as part of the highly respected volunteer community that supports the patients and staff. Training will be provided and references essential. For a better understanding of what is involved please call Keren Bateman, Manager Volunteer Services, St Vincent's Hospital on 8382 2676 or email: kbateman@stvincents.com.au
- + **WYD 2011 - THE JOURNEY CONTINUES!** Are you aged between 16-35 and want to discover more about your faith? Want to travel to Europe!?!? Journey with us once again as we meet with the Holy Father, the universal church and discover what it means to be "Planted and built up in Jesus Christ; firm in the faith" (cf Col 2:7). If you want to experience this unforgettable opportunity, check out www.sydneycatholic.org/youth/wyd2011 for more information.
- + **CATHOLIC INSTITUTE OF SYDNEY For Theology & Ministry** Course units cover biblical Studies; Christian Ethics; Church History; Liturgy; Pastoral Theology & Practice; Philosophy; Spirituality; and Theology. Enrolments close 31 January 2011. For more information ph: 9752 9500 or visit our website at www.cis.catholic.edu.au
- + **GENESIAN THEATRE—420 Kent Street, Sydney, NSW** The Adventures of a Bear Called Paddington—Season 8—30 January 2011. All tickets \$15
- + **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND** for married couples 25-27 March 2011 at Mt Carmel Retreat, Varroville, NSW Bookings: 02 4283 3435 Information: www.wvme.org.au

Come Holy Spirit



HEALING MASS

Friday 7 January 2011

St Therese's Church, 15 Garrong Rd, Lakemba
Rosary: 7pm, Reconciliation: 7-8pm
Prayer and Praise, 7.30pm
Mass: 8pm.

The Celebrant will be Father Maroun El-Kazzi

Enquiries: Rose Ph: 9642 2359 or 0412 115 961
Email: rosetwyman@optusnet.com.au



RECEIVING A BLESSING AT COMMUNION TIME

We encourage children who have not yet received First Communion to come with their arms across their chest to indicate that they are not receiving Communion at this time, but wish to receive a blessing. Adults who do not wish to receive Communion may adopt the same procedure.



ST MARK'S MASS TIMETABLE

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm
SUNDAY: 9.00 am & 6.00 pm
WEEKDAYS:
Monday & Friday 8.00 am
Tuesday & Thursday 9.30 am
Wednesday 7.30 am
Saturday 12 noon
RECONCILIATION: Saturday 11.30 am
EXPOSITION: Saturday 11.00 am to 12 noon

BAPTISMS are on the first & third Sundays of the month at 10.30 am. During Lent no Baptisms are celebrated. Parents are asked to contact the Presbytery to make an appointment to discuss details for the Baptism of their child. *Contact Mary Cook at the Presbytery for baptism information and bookings.

MARRIAGES: Parishioners intending marriage are asked to notify the Presbytery at least six months prior to the wedding.

EUCHARIST FOR THE SICK: Anyone who is aware of a Catholic who is sick or housebound should notify the Parish Office so that they can receive the appropriate sacraments.

Calling All Volunteers

Scalabrini Village is currently seeking committed people as volunteers for their residential aged care facilities at Drummoyne. Would you like to give something to the community and at the same time learn some new skills? Are you a good listener? Do you like being with people? Do you have one hour a week to commit to this valuable work? Professional training, support and ongoing supervision is offered. No previous experience is necessary. Please call Carmela 0409 072 755 at Scalabrini Village.



C-Mail

C-Mail to You, Subscribe Now. C-Mail is a dynamic, online weekly Catholic newsletter highlighting top stories from the Archdiocese with national and overseas stories. Generated by Catholic Communications of the Archdiocese of Sydney, C-Mail will draw on our own resources for news and features as well as Vatican resources, the news agency Rome Reports for video news and H20News as well as other Catholic news sources. You will be connected directly to all full stories on the Archdiocese website. If you would like to subscribe to C-Mail visit www.sydneycatholic.org/news/ or call 02 9390 5312. NO COST.



THIS WEEK:		LITURGICAL MINISTERS 26 December 2010 Feast of the Holy Family Year A		
	WORD	COMMUNION	SERVER/ JEM (jnr each. min)	CHILDREN'S LITURGY
VIGIL (Saturday) 6 PM Vigil	C Griffith P Griffith	M Griffin	A Griffin	N/A
9.00 AM (Sunday)	D Reilly N Goodman C Drury	R Colantonio M Woods	F Oliver JEMS: C Kennedy	No Children's Liturgy—due to hall renovations
6.00 PM (Sunday)	R Harris B Johnston N Macaulay	J Price	T Boccalatte JEMS: R Fraumeni	N/A

NEXT WEEK:		LITURGICAL MINISTERS 2 January 2011 Year A		
	WORD	COMMUNION	SERVER/ JEM (jnr each. min)	CHILDREN'S LITURGY
VIGIL (Saturday) 6 PM Vigil	A Gill M Bullock	E Favorito	R Zoccali	N/A
9.00 AM (Sunday)	J Maniscalco K Facioni N Rice	M Rice K Drury	E Pidd K Cox JEMS: J Kennedy B Rice D Tilyard	No Children's Liturgy—due to hall renovations
6.00 PM (Sunday)	D Moiso T Ficarra K Ingui	C Iacono	S Gallace JEMS: N Moiso	N/A



ALTAR SOCIETY GP II:
R Piccolo & C Gooley
1/2 January 2011



Australian Catholic University

COURSE INFORMATION SESSION

North Sydney Campus,
40 Edward St,
North Sydney 2060

Strathfield Campus,
25a Barker Road,
Strathfield 2153



When: Wednesday 5 January 2011
Time: 9.00am—4.00pm

ACU offers courses in the fields of Arts & Sciences, Business, Education, Health Sciences, Social Sciences, Theology & Philosophy. For detailed program information or to register for the session please visit www.acu.edu.au



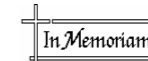
Welcome



If you are new to St Mark's please pick up an 'Information for New Parishioners' handout from the Leaflet Cabinet in the Church Foyer.



In your love and concern, please pray for the following ill members of our community— Margaret Biro; Robert Caffery; Pat Castagnone; Julie Cavanaugh; Jan Cooney; Robyn Douglas; Aileen Gardiner; James Giffen; Daisy Gill; Amelia Ann Godde; Judy Gorton; John Hanley; Lachlan Jarvis; Fr Con Keough; Marie Lewis; Peter McGill; Des McRae; Cesare Mignacca; Toddy O'Sullivan; Maria Paino; Sebastian Pomareda; Adam Rogers; Lynette Rowe; Neta Saunders; Pina Sindone; Steve Sparkes; Lynn Sullivan; Anne Whitfield; Christine Whitfield; Elaine Woods, Pat & Tom Gaha, Steve Briscoe, Greg Walsh, Mark Redden and all community members unwell at this time.

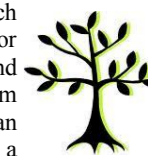


Recently Deceased: Fr Tom Fennell,
Una Hayward

Anniversaries: Mary Hatvany,
& Those we are remembering at this time:
Giuseppe Ziino, Rosae Domenico Ziino,
Giuseppe & Giuseppina Anello, Antonino Anello, Luigi Anello, Bartolo Di Losa, Antonino Grasso, Michele Grasso, Parisi, Ziino & Anello Families, Burbidge & McKenzie Families

The Tree of Hope

The Tree of Hope is a CatholicCare programme which provides pastoral counselling support services for people living with HIV/AIDS, their families and primary carers. This service is open to people from every denomination. Tree of Hope provides an opportunity for spiritual and emotional support in a confidential, safe environment by visitation, connecting in groups or by telephone support. Enquiries to Margaret on 8306 2320 or treeofhope@catholiccare.org



Interested in Joining The Catholic Faith?

Are you interested in joining the Catholic faith at St Mark's Drummoyne. If you would like to know more please contact the Parish Priest, Monsignor Vince Redden or the Pastoral Associate, Mary Cook email: stmarks@bigpond.net.au or ph: 9181 1795

BEING PREGNANT—A TIME OF REAL TRANSITIONS: Pregnancy Telephone Counselling

We are here to support you—1800 063 510, Monday to Friday 9 am to 5 pm. Professional, confidential, free. CatholicCare Pregnancy and Support Program.

