



Please pray for: Frank & Alice May Purcell (deceased)

Mass Times in St Benedict's Church:

Friday 25th December 2020 – Nativity of the Lord (B)

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Thursday, 24 Dec | 6.00 pm | Christmas Eve Vigil |
| Friday, 25 Dec | 12.00 am | Midnight Mass of Christmas Eve |
| Friday, 25 Dec | 10.30 am | Christmas Day Mass |
| Saturday, 26 Dec | No Mass | St Stephen, first martyr (Feast) |

Regular Confession Times in St Benedict's Church:

Monday to Friday: 11.45 am – 12.30 pm (before 12.35 pm Mass)
Sunday: 5.30 pm (before 6.00 pm Mass)



*Mass at St James' Church,
Forest Lodge:*

Saturday Vigil: 5.00 pm
Sunday: 8 am, 9.30 am & 11 am
Wednesday & Friday: 9.00am
Saturday (morning): 8.30am

Confession at St James' Church

Saturday: 4.15pm - 4.50pm,
ahead of Vigil Mass
(No Confession on Sundays)

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office



If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. *Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on ph 02 9390 5812.*



A VOCATION VIEW: 'Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world.' *C.S. Lewis*

***Holy Cards of the Holy Family are at the back of the church – with compliments of CatholicCare!**

Christmas / New Year Weekday (12.35pm) Mass break – from Thurs 24th December – Fri 15th January

The last 12.35pm Weekday Mass for 2020 will be celebrated on **Wednesday 23rd December**. Weekday Mass will resume on **Monday 18th January 2021**.

Parish Office Christmas / New Year Closure – Thursday 24th December – Tuesday 5th January

The parish office will be closed after Wednesday 23rd December for a Christmas and New Year break until Wednesday 6th January. We wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year! ☺

[Streaming of Midnight Mass – from St Benedict's Church – 12am](#) – here's the Midnight Mass of Christmas Eve link – Friday 25th December 2020 – https://youtu.be/2A_m20YYft0

Christmas Offerings and the various donations and donation points:

- **Christmas Offering envelopes** will be at the back of the church – for donations to the **Dominican community**
- Donations to the **Tap & Go** Cashless Giving machine – are **shared** between the Dominican community and St Benedict's Church
- Donations to the **First Collection** (Red bucket at Mass) are for the **Dominican community**
- Donations to the **Second Collection** (Black bucket at Mass) are for **St Benedict's Church**

Entrance Antiphon: (The Mass during the Day)

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

Communion Antiphon: (The Mass during the Day)

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Christmas Masses at St Benedict's 2020

- Thursday 24th December – Christmas Vigil – 6pm – **Fully booked!**
- Friday 25th December – Midnight Mass of Christmas Eve
- Friday 25th December – Christmas Day Mass – 10.30am

Please note that there will not be an evening Mass on Christmas night

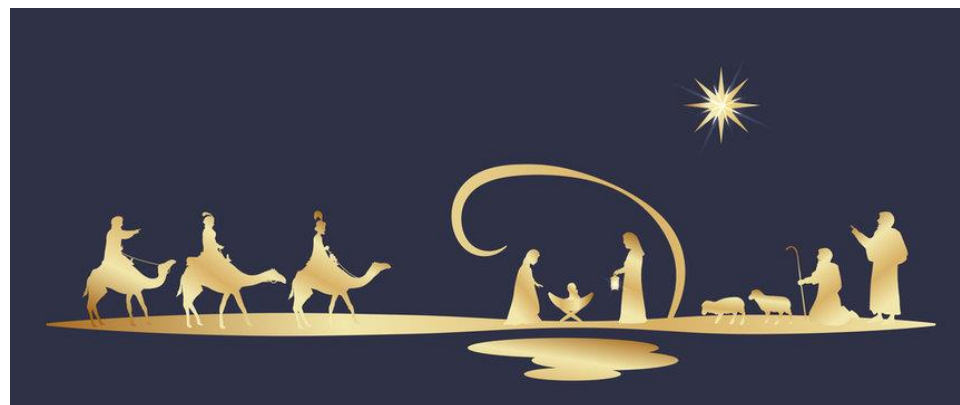
Christmas Masses at St James', Forest Lodge 2020

- Thursday 24th December – Christmas Vigil – 5pm – **Fully booked!**
- Friday 25th December – Christmas Day Mass – 8am, 9.30am & 11am

Lights of Christmas at St Mary's Cathedral

St Mary's Cathedral is again hosting the magnificent **Lights of Christmas**. The lights will be displayed each night until 11pm, from Thursday 10th December until Christmas Day.

***Eedookh Breekha* – Merry Christmas, translated from Aramaic! ☺**



Merry Christmas!

MASS DURING THE DAY

FIRST READING Isa 52:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!' Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion. Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem. The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM Ps 97:1-6. R. v. 3

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

1. Sing a new song to the Lord / for he has worked wonders. / His right hand and his holy arm / have brought salvation. **R.**

2. The Lord has made known his salvation; / has shown his justice to the nations. / He has remembered his truth and love / for the house of Israel. **R.**

3. All the ends of the earth have seen / the salvation of our God. / Shout to the Lord all the earth, / ring out your joy. **R.**

4. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, / with the sound of

music. / With trumpets and the sound of the horn / acclaim the King, the Lord. **R.**

SECOND READING Heb 1:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name.

God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father, or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! / A holy day has dawned upon us. / Come you nations and adore the Lord. / Today a great light has come upon the earth. / Alleluia.

GOSPEL Jn 1:1-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one

thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.

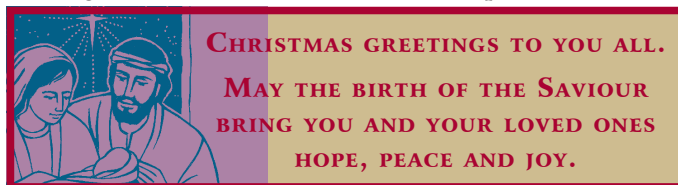
A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John appears as his witness. He proclaims: 'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.'

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received — yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**



THE SAVING WORD

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD / B

25 DECEMBER 2020

MASS DURING THE NIGHT

FIRST READING Isa 9:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PS 95:1-3, 11-13 R. v. Lk 2:11

R. Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord, / sing to the Lord all the earth. / O sing to the Lord, bless his name. **R.**

2. Proclaim his help day by day, / tell among the nations his glory / and his wonders among all the peoples. **R.**

3. Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad, / let the sea and all within it thunder praise, / let the



land and all it bears rejoice, / all the trees of the wood shout for joy / at the presence of the Lord for he comes, / he comes to rule the earth. **R.**

4. With justice he will rule the world, / he will judge the peoples with his truth. **R.**

SECOND READING Tit 2:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lk 2:10-11
Alleluia, alleluia! / Good News and great joy to all the world:/

today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. / Alleluia.

GOSPEL Lk 2:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census — the first — took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour'.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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