



St Bernadette's Parish

Under the Pastoral Care of The Paulist Missionaries
59B Westmoreland Road, North Sunshine

Presbytery 9311 2977 - School 9311 8872 - Augustinian Sisters 9312 3953
Parish Email: sunshinenorth@cam.org.au - Parish website: stbernadettesparish.com.au



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Year C

26th December 2021

Parish Staff

Fr John Taliana MSSP	Parish Priest
Miss Amanda Browne	Pastoral Worker
Mrs Joyce Cutajar	Parish Secretary (Mon, Thurs & Fri)
Mrs Bev Tessari	Office (Tuesday)
Miss Josie Desira	Office (Wednesday)
Mr Brendan Gill	School Principal



Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Friday - 9.15am

Tuesday 28th - The Holy Innocents Martyrs

Wednesday 29th - St Thomas Becket

Thursday 30th -

Friday 31st - St Sylvester

Weekend Masses

Saturday - 6.30 pm Vigil Mass,
Sunday- 8.30 am, 9.45am (Polish) 11.00 am and 7.00pm

12.30pm Vietnamese (1st & 3rd Sunday)

Reconciliation

Saturday
Call the Presbytery to make an Appointment

Baptisms

By Appointment Only
Held on 2nd Saturday of the Month
at 11.00am



LATEST COVID - 19 GUIDELINES

To attend mass we need to abide by the Government requirements.

We NO LONGER require to see your Vaccination Certificate but everyone over the age of one will still have to check-in using the QR Code and show the Welcomers.

Masks are required.

We understand this may be inconvenient but please remember that these rules are a way of keeping us all safe.

Please come early to Mass.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



Reflect, today, upon your own family life. Some families are strong in virtue, some struggle with basic communication. Some are faithful day in and day out,

some are broken and deeply wounded. No matter the case, know that God wants to enter more deeply into your family life just as it is right now. He desires to give you strength and virtue to live as the Holy Family. Surrender yourself and your family, this day, and invite the Triune God to make your family a holy family.

Lord, I do offer myself to You this day and in doing so I offer You my family. I offer every relationship, be it good or difficult, and I offer every challenge we face. Please come and sanctify my family, making it holy in imitation of your family in Nazareth.

Jesus, I trust in You.



CHRISTMAS NATIVITY

Thank you to all of the participants in the Nativity story at our Family Mass on Christmas Eve. You were all

a delight to watch and really made the Miracle of Jesus' birth come to life. Thank you also to all of the parents who made the children to our practices every week. Blessings to you all on this week's Feast of the Holy Family.



CHRISTMAS BEGINS WITH CHRIST

Fr John, Fr Denis & Br Can

Wish you a very Holy and Happy Christmas and a safe Holiday. They would also like to thank all the parishioners who left best wishes and gifts, they are greatly appreciated.

Please Pray For

All who have died recently, for all whose Anniversaries

**occur at this time and
for all those
who are sick
and dying.**



The Parish Office will be closed from Christmas Day and will re open on Monday 17th January.

First Reading:**1 Samuel 1:20-22. 24-28***A reading from the first book of Samuel*

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.'

When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.'

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.'

There she left him, for the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:**Ps 83:2-3. 5-6. 9-10**

Response: How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

Second Reading:**1 John 3:1-2. 21-24***A reading from the letter of St John*

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed, all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:**cf Acts 16:14**

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Open our heart, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

Gospel :**Luke 2:41-52***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke*

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.

He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

EDUCATION IN FAITH

This Sunday, we remember and celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Mary, Joseph and Jesus. It might be true to say that the focus of attention leading up and during the celebration of the Nativity is Jesus. This Sunday, we acknowledge the whole family!

There is often a sense of nostalgia and romance about the birth of Jesus. This can be heard in the best of our much loved Christmas Carols and even seen in the worst of our Christmas cards! These cards show us a crisp winter night, stars in the sky and snow on the manger. That is not to say that they are not helpful, but we need to look beyond them, particularly on this great and important feast.

Mary was called personally by her name and asked to take on what would seem to be an impossible task. However, she was not expected to do what she was asked by herself or to rely on her own efforts or strength. On hearing that she was to be the mother of Jesus, 'she was deeply disturbed and wondered what the greeting could mean.' Told not to be afraid, she was filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. She was strengthened and encouraged by God to do what was asked of her. Joseph too was called to take on a role he did not ask for. Like Mary, he too heard the message, 'do not be afraid.' God who called both of them would not ignore or abandon them as they became the parents of Jesus. Jesus too in his own life and ministry was guided and led by God. He said, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, I have been called to bring the good news to the poor.' Even Jesus does not rely on his own efforts!

On this feast of the Holy Family, it is good to pray in gratefulness and thanks for our own parents and family. No one's family is perfect. All our family members, including ourselves have made mistakes and gotten things wrong. We have all done and said things that we have later regretted. Regardless of this, we owe our family everything and for this we thank God.

St. Eugene, deMazened, the founder of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate came from what today could be called a 'broken family.' His parent's divorced in 1795. Eugene was just seventeen years of age. This happened at a time when divorce was rare. Eugene had a far from ideal family life. He is the Patron Saint of Broken Families. Prayers to St. Eugene can be very helpful and supportive for people who are experiencing problems in their family life. On this feast day, let us do just that; let us pray for all those we know who are experiencing the pain and difficulty of problems in their married and family life.

May the Holy Family of Nazareth bless, guide and protect all our families, now and always.

Michael Moore OMI

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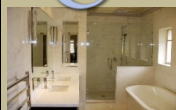


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