

Christmas 2017



FOR UNTO US A *Child is Born*

Dear Parishioners,

Our parish is dedicated to Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Infant with his Virgin Mother Mary. We celebrate, therefore, our patronal feast at Christmas. The Icon of the Infant Jesus to the left of the sanctuary shows him being held by Mary, his mother, who offers him to us. The icon is in the style of the "Throne of Wisdom". Mary becomes, as it were, the throne for Christ. She is the Seat of Wisdom.

The wonder of Christmas is that the all-powerful God becomes all-vulnerable as one of us - a poor baby born in a stable. Therefore nothing human is alien to God.

The Byzantine origin of this image is called "The Container of the Uncontainable". This is such an attractive metaphor. God is the Uncontainable One - certainly not containable in words, by metaphors, or images. And yet, Christmas celebrates that the Uncontainable One is contained in Mary!

The point of our Eucharistic celebration at Christmas is that each one of us, through the Holy Spirit and the Body and Blood of the Lord, becomes a Container of the Uncontainable, the Body of Christ; as we pray in the Second Eucharistic Prayer:

Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his (Birth) Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one (as the Body of Christ) by the Holy Spirit.

As we come to the end of the year we are grateful for all the blessings we have received and we bless God and ask his blessing on us.—**Fr Greg**

May you enjoy peace and every blessing as we celebrate the birth of the Infant Jesus.

May the Lord be with you and your family this Christmas and always.

May the Lord's peace reach all people throughout the New Year.

From the Carmelite Community:

Greg Burke, Tadgh Tierney, John Pallipadan, and John Follent,
the Infant Jesus Parish Pastoral Council and the Parish Office staff and volunteers.

YEAR OF YOUTH 2018

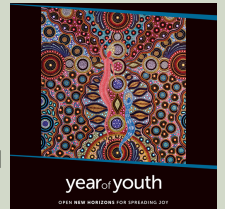
The Australian Bishops have identified the liturgical year of 2018, beginning on the first Sunday of Advent (3rd December 2017), as a national Year of Youth.

The Year of Youth invites the church into dialogue about the importance and life-giving presence of young people in the Church and society. It calls for dialogue and active engagement focused on the reconnection and renewal of a new generation of young people in the life of the Church.

The Year of Youth aims:

- prayerfully discern the Australian Bishops vision for ministry with young people, Anointed and Sent; authentic and personal engagement by Church leaders in the challenges and success in young people's lives;
- acknowledging the Holy Spirit at work in the lives of young people, and young people acting upon the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church; and
- upholding the dignity of young people, ensuring a safe environment from physical, emotional and spiritual harm.

"Jesus is the Lord of risk, he is the Lord of the eternal "more". Jesus is not the Lord of Comfort, security and ease" - Pope Francis, WYD 2016 Vigil



THE CHRISTMAS SEASON MASSES

The Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday 30th December: Vigil Mass at 6.30pm

Sunday 31st December: Masses at 7.30am, 9.30am and 11.30am (Italian) and 6.00pm

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Monday 1st January: Mass at 8.30am (no Vigil Mass)

The Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday 6th January: Vigil Mass at 6.30pm

Sunday 7th January: Masses at 7.30am, 9.30am, 11.30am (Italian) and 6.00pm

Masses after Christmas

Boxing Day (Public Holiday) - Tuesday 26 December - Mass at 8.30am



FURTHER CHANGES:

VIGIL MASS AND CONFESSION TIMES

Following the recent survey of Mass attendees at the **Saturday Vigil Mass**, I have decided to change the start time of this Mass to **6pm**. Due to the change of Mass time, Saturday evening **confessions** will be held from **5pm until 5.30pm**.

This change will start from **Saturday 13th January**.

Also, effective immediately when there is a **public holiday**, there will not be two morning Masses. We will have only **one morning Mass at 8.30am**. -Fr. Greg



Parish Prayer Concerns

Deceased: Tan Duy Nguyen, Hung Quoc Nguyen-Le, Lawrence Ferguson;

Anniversaries: Tung Van Le, Desire Bru, Lilianne Conier, Josian Bouquet and Chacko Chinnamma;

The Sick of the Parish: Darryl Miranda and all the sick who are in need of our prayers.

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

PARISH OFFICE AND PARISH CENTRE CLOSED

The parish office and parish centre will be closed from **Friday 22nd December, 2017** and reopen on **Monday 22nd January, 2018**.

The phone answering machine will be attended regularly, but in an emergency, please call the priority directly on 9276 8497.



In Our Church

Public Holidays: Morning Prayer 8am, Mass 8.30am

Morning Prayer of the Church: Mon-Fri 6.40am; Sat 8am

Morning Mass: Mon-Fri: 7am & 9am, Sat: 8.30am

Saturday Vigil Mass: 6.30pm (Note: from 13th Jan 2018 Mass at 6pm)

Sunday Masses: 7.30am, 9.30am (Children's Liturgy during school terms), 11.30am (Italian), 6pm (Youth Mass 2nd Sunday)

Reconciliation: Saturday 10-11am and 5.00 - 5.30pm.

Perpetual Novena in honour of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel:

Wednesday 7pm


Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Friday 9.30am - 10.30am and 7.00pm - 8.00pm

Baptisms, Weddings and Sacraments: Please contact the Parish Office.

ALPHA IN A CATHOLIC CONTEXT

If you would be interested in learning more about Alpha, you can find some interesting reading at <http://australia.alpha.org/catholic-context/home>

or go to our facebook page to follow the link.—
 infantjesusmorley

What's Happening at Morley Parish?

For more information, **contact the Parish office after 22nd January on 9276 8500**

FOR THE YOUNGER ONES:

Baptisms are held every first and third Sunday of the month at 12.45pm.

Children's Liturgy is held each Sunday at the 9.30am Mass during school terms. Children from 3 - 8 years share in the Liturgy of the Word and simple activities in the parish centre under the guidance of adult leaders.

Altar Servers Group: Children who have made their First Communion may choose to be trained as Altar Servers and serve at the weekend Masses.

Parish Religious Education Program (PREP): Every Wednesday from 4.15 - 5.20pm during school term and see notice on back page of this newsletter

TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS:

Youth Group: For Years 6 to 12—please contact the Youth Co-ordinator, Roger on 0434 988 711.

Watch our for special Year of Youth announcements and activities. Do you have ideas about getting young people more involved or activities for young people? Please share your thoughts with Fr. Greg anytime.

PRAYER:

Exposition: each Friday 9.30 - 10.30am and 7 - 8pm in the Church.

Perpetual Novena to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel: Wednesdays 7pm in the Church.

Holy Hour for Vocations: every 4th Sunday 2 - 3pm in the Church.

Rosary: Monday - Friday after 9am Mass, Saturday after 8.30am Mass in the Church.

Meditation: Wednesday 9.30 - 10.30am in the parish library.

Teresian Prayer Group: 1st and 3rd Mondays 6 - 7pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel in the Church.

Infant Jesus of Prague Prayer Group: Thursdays 2 - 3pm in the Parish Centre (1st Thursday of the month in the Church).

Sacred Heart Sodality: 1st Sunday of the month at the 7.30am Mass with prayers after the Mass.

OTHER:

St. Vincent de Paul: meet Tuesdays weekly at 7.30pm in the parish library.

Catenian Association Morley/Dianella Circle: contact Parish office.

Bereavement Group: hold their Mass and morning tea on the first Wednesday of each month at the 9am Mass.

Catholic Women's League: meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 9.45am - 12noon in the parish library.

Knights of the Southern Cross: meet 4th Wednesday monthly at 7.45pm in the parish library.

Friendship Group: for men and women each Thursday 9.30 - 11am in the parish library.

Tai Chi: Wednesdays 9.30 - 11am in the parish hall

Line Dancing: in the parish hall Mondays and Thursdays 9.30 - 11.30am and Tuesdays 1.00 - 2.30pm

Choir: all our choirs welcome new members.

Keeping in Touch Group (visiting the elderly and lonely): contact the parish office on 9276 8500.

Communion to the Sick and Homebound: contact the parish office.

Weddings: contact the parish office.

Friends of the Columbarium (help keep our Columbarium beautiful): contact the parish office.

Church Cleaning Groups: once a month, either on Thursday Morning, Friday morning or Saturday morning. Please contact Parish office.

Bible Study: meet Thursdays weekly at 7pm in the parish library.

Grow Mental Wellness Group: meet Mondays weekly 10am-12 noon.

Lectio Divina: meets Mondays weekly 9.30-11.00am.

Columbarium enquiries: every Tuesday 9.30am-12noon.