

# Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall



Parish Priest: Fr. Lawrence Cauchi

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Office hours: Wed: 9.30am-4.00pm

Facebook: fb.me/smgh2

Streaming: https://cutt.ly/StMarys

# **Sunday Masses:**

Saturday Vigil: 5pm Sunday: 8 & 10am

#### Weekday Masses:

Tuesday: 6pm Preceded by Rosary/Novena - 5.30pm

Wednesday - Friday: 9am Preceded by Rosary -8.45am

#### Vietnamese Masses:

Sat. Vigil: 6.30pm Sunday: 5.30pm



Reconciliation: Saturday 4-4.30 pm or by appointment

# The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas Day

25 December 2021



# Happy Birthday Jesus

Fr Laurie would like to wish you and all your loved ones a Happy and Peaceful Christmas

# **Christmas Prayer for Families**

Loving God, during this holy season of Christmas, we ask for your blessing on all families. Let Mary's openness to your wondrous ways be an inspiration to place all trust in you. Let Joseph's courage provide hope during times of anxiety and uncertainty. Let Jesus' life ignite all families with a spirit of light and love. Amen



## Covid-19 is still spreading.

Even though Government regulations have changed, please let us all make a special effort to minimise the risk of infection. You are strongly encouraged to continue to sanitize hands, use masks inside our church, keep safe distance and get vaccinated if you have not already done so.

QR or signing in are still mandatory.



In what has been a very challenging year you have, once again, helped us to bring a bit of Christmas Cheer to people in need. Through your generous donations Tony and I were able to distribute gift and food cards to families in our area, some who are ill, others who will be alone and others suffering hardship in different ways. All were so grateful and glad to accept your kindness. We would

like to thank all the staff and parents of St Mary's school who always give very generous assistance to Vinnies all through the year but especially at Christmas. To our wonderful parishioners who never fail to assist we wish you and your families all the many blessings of Christmas.

Mary Scott and Tony Corkeron

# Supporting our Parish -

Please consider joining the planned giving program
-email parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com or click on the Support Us link
on the website: www.smgh.org.au

#### +Please Remember in your prayers:

Sick: Irma Buoro, Daniel Clarke, Warren Clarke, Eileen Ellery, Bourke Gibbons, Kerry Gibbons, Marcel Götz, Rose-Tariaz Haddad, Daniel Matesic, Phillip Nehme, Vic Ryan, David Sanders, John Sanders, Mary Strambio, Tony Strambio, Cornelius Van Baardwyk, Margaret Ward and all infected with COVID-19.

Recently Deceased: Barry Hishion, Ken Durnford, Ian Urquhart, Rev Mother Sr Carmel Bambridge, John Ball and all who have died from Covid-19.

Anniversary: Les Best, Moyra McHugh, Mary Cauchi

**Sick List** - To include your loved one's name in the sick list, email: parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com

Anniversary List - To include your loved one's name in the anniversary list, please email name and date/year of passing to: <a href="mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com">parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com</a>



#### 'Go Make Disciples' The Archdiocesan Pastoral Plan

## Safeguarding our Parish

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at 93905810 or Email: <a href="mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org">safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org</a>.

The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. St Mary's Safeguarding Information: There is a folder of Safeguarding information available in the church – parishioners are welcome to view. Enquiries: Veronica - 0407 231 262.



#### Gospel Lk 2:1-14

Today a saviour has been born for you.

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census - the first - took place while Ouirinius 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.'

#### **Reflection** by Fr Michael Tate

The glory of God and profound peace reaching out to embrace the whole of humanity are dynamically related in the baby in the manger. This is the song of the angels, and it is our privilege to join in that song at this Christmas Mass.

Every baby is a promise of a new future which fills one with hope. But this baby is unique. This Jewish boy baby is the body language of God. This baby is the sonburst of God entering our dark world. This baby shows us that God is not impossibly remote but, rather, God is as intimately close as a vulnerable infant.

And this baby fulfils all the yearning of the human heart. We want to love to the utmost. We want to be loved to the utmost. This baby enables both because he is without any finite boundaries or restraints: He is in-finite love reaching out to us.

Can we grasp all this? Probably not. So, like the little lambs nuzzling up to the manger, we just follow some deep intuition which says: 'I must kneel in adoration, it is good to be here.' We could pause for a moment to pray for the resolve to do our bit to echo the angel's message: 'I bring you good news of great joy to be shared by all peoples.'

mtate@biggond.com

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# The Living Word

#### Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) Midnight

#### 25 December

#### First Reading Is 9:1-7

A son is given to us.

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 lov increase: they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time. as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the voke 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.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 95:1-3, 11-13 R. Lk 2:11

- (R.) Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.
- O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth.
   O sing to the Lord, bless his name. (R.)

- Proclaim his help day by day, tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples. (R.)
- 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.)
- With justice he will rule the world, he will judge the peoples with his truth (R.)

#### Second Reading TI 2:11-14

God's grace has been revealed to all people.

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.

# 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!