

**Christmas Day
and
The Holy Family Sunday
December 27, 2015**

Make room for God



“Joseph went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.” (Luke 2: 5-7)

Again and again the beauty of this passage from St Luke’s Gospel touches our hearts on Christmas Eve: a beauty that radiates God’s tender love and mercy. Again and again it

astonishes us that God makes himself a child so that he may be close to us and we may love him.

It is as if God were saying: I know that my glory frightens you, and that you are trying to assert yourself in the face of my greatness. So now I am coming to you as a child, so that you can accept me and be no longer frightened in my presence. It is amazing to see in this Gospel the casual remark that there was no room for them at the inn. Inevitably the question arises: What would happen if Mary and Joseph were to knock at my door? Would there be room for them?

And then a similar remark occurs to us on Christmas Day when St John takes up this comment about the lack of room at the inn and arrives at the heart of the matter when he writes: “He came to his own home, and his own people received him not” (John 1:11).

May the peace and blessings of Christmas be yours; and may the coming year 2016 be filled with happiness, good health and Mary’s eagerness to do God’s will in your lives. May there be always enough room for God in our lives and in our hearts so that he might be the beginning and the end of all our activities in the coming year 2016. As the Paschal candle says: *Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega. All time belongs to him and all the ages. To him be glory and power and through every age and for ever. Amen.*

Holy and Blessed Christmas to you and your families

Fr Jan

St. Joseph the Worker Church

44 Imperial Parade, Labrador

Sunday Masses

Sunday 7:00am

Sunday 8:30am

Weekday Masses

Monday 7:00am

Wednesday 7:00am

Gold Coast University Hospital

No Mass on New Year’s Day

Guardian Angels’ Church

99 Scarborough St., Southport

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm

Sunday 7:00am, 10:00am

Weekday Mass

Friday 12:30pm

Reconciliation

Saturday 4:30pm

The Church is open
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
10.30am to 1.30pm.

Mary Immaculate Church

31 Edmund Rice Drive, Ashmore

Sunday Masses

8:30am, 6:00pm

Korean Masses

Sunday 3:00pm

(Last Saturday of the month
at 6:00pm)

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 9:00am

Thursday 5:30pm

Holy Hour

No Holy Hour in January

**St Stephen’s
Feast Mass
(Boxing Day)**

December 26

**St Joseph the
Worker**

Labrador

9 am



December 31

**New Year’s Eve
Mass**

**Mary
Immaculate
Ashmore
5.30 pm**

January 1 2016

**New Year’s
Day**

**(Solemnity of
Mary,
Mother of God)**

**Mary
Immaculate
Ashmore
9 am**

**St Joseph
The Worker
Labrador
9 am**

**Guardian Angels
Southport
12.30 noon**



We Welcome into God's Family

Cullen Ford Whittaker, son of Brad & Jenny Whittaker
Gabriel Reynard Manlapid, son of Mark Manlapid & Anna Bautista

Your Prayers are Requested for Those Who have Journeyed to the Father

Anniversaries: **Cecil** Patrick O'Dea, **Alice** Webber, **Paolo** Di Leo, **Elizabeth** Di Leo, **Clement** Atkinson, **Mavis** Atkinson, **Margaret** Bauer

Recently Deceased: **Kathleen** Doo

Sick and in Need: **Linda** Allen, **Douglas** Bateman, **Zelda** Bickerstaff, **Matthew** Byrne, **Clare** Dobozy, **Bernadette** Douwes, **Patricia** Ferguson, **Shirley** Harris, **Michael** Jamrich, **Maureen** McCabe, **Irena** Molloy, **Gary** O'Connell, **Angela** Taylor, **Joe** Tuesley, **Denise** Vantest, **David** Walters, Josephine **Lenaghan**

Thank-you to all parishioners who have dedicated their time and talents in preparing our Christmas Liturgies. To make the Christmas celebrations special for our eyes, ears and our hearts many parishioners including children and their parents had to spend hours to practise carols and Christmas plays. Others would spend hours to prepare our churches; others with patience were setting up decorations and the Nativity scenes. The liturgical ministries; sacristans, altar servers, readers, cantors, musicians and collectors have completed the wonderful job that has been done behind the scenes. What you can see on the Sanctuary of St Joseph, Mary Immaculate and Guardian Angels is the work of so many wonderful and dedicated parishioners. What a fine job you have done, so take a bow with my sincere thanks.

Fr Jan

The Holy Water container at Mary Immaculate Church has been relocated. After installation of the new concertina doors on the office side of the church the container with the Holy Water has been moved to the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament. Those parishioners who would like to take Holy Water home, please go to the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament to fill container.



Christmas Greetings from the Office Staff

My prayer for all is that the grace of the Christmas message will brighten our lives, renew our faith and strengthen our bonds of friendship. May the Peace of Christ dwell in our hearts throughout 2016.. Love, **Leeanne**.



May the magic of Christmas, Bless you with heavenly gifts, and fill your hearts with divine light. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
Daloras
Parish Secretary

Gratitude...is the heart's memory!

Hoping every moment of your Christmas will be filled with peace and joy.
I have wonderful memories of my six Christmases in Southport parish and I am very grateful to all parishioners for shaping those memories.
With a very grateful heart I wish all parishioners special blessings for this Christmas Season and the New Year.
Sister Helen



Thank you to all parishioners for Christmas cards and gifts that have been flowing in to the presbytery.

On the table in the dining room one can find many bottles of wine, boxes of chocolate, biscuits, cakes, Christmas cards and so on. Thanks a lot for these gifts that express your appreciation of our ministry among you. It is a privilege for us to serve you and be your companions on the journey of faith.

Occupants of the Presbytery
Frs Huang, Nev and Jan

Between Christmas and the New Year

On Friday, **Christmas Day**, we celebrate the Nativity of the Lord. Whether we celebrate at midnight or early in the morning or later in the morning, we read the stories of the birth of Jesus.

The Sunday that follows Christmas is always the celebration of the **Holy Family**. There are wonderful readings from the Book of Sirach, the First Book of Samuel, and the First Letter of John. The gospel is the story of the teen aged Jesus teaching in the temple while his parents could not find him. Jesus goes back home with his family. "He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favour before God and man."

In our important feasts this week we honour on Saturday (Boxing Day) **Saint Stephen, the first martyr**. Stephen was the first public witness who gave his life for his faith. There is no need to mention that St Stephen is the Patron saint of the Mother Church of our Archdiocese St Stephen's Cathedral. Monday December 28 is the **Feast of the Holy Innocents**, which honours the infant martyrs of Herod's jealous rage. The readings for this feast renew this story for us. On that day Liturgy of the Word offers us a passage from the First Letter of St John. This is a powerful letter is about God's merciful love for us. Then comes St Mathew's Gospel with the scene of lamentation. Mothers of children who were killed on Herod's order weep for their sons. The prophesy of the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled. "A voice was heard in Ramah, sobbing and loudly lamenting: it was Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted because they were no more"

December 24/25 2015 Christmas Eve/Day Hymns

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O Come All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye,
O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him
Born the King of angels;

**O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord.**

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens
of heav'n above;
Glory to God, in the highest;
Chorus

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be
All glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing;
Chorus

*Copyright © 1711-1786 JF Wade
1802-1880 Frederick Oakeley*

GLORY TO GOD- Mass of St Francis

Glory to God in the highest,
... lyrics... Please turn over

Responsorial Psalm

Angels We Have Heard On High

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing over the plains
And the mountains in reply,
Echo back their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo Gloria in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this Jubilee?
Why your joyous strains pro-
long?
Say what may the tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly
song?

*Copyright©1914-1992 Percy Jones
Allans Music*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

OFFERTORY PROCESSION

The First Noel

The first Noel the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
In fields where they lay,
In fields where they lay
Keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night
That was so deep.

Noel Noel Noel Noel, Born is the King of Israel!

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the East beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.

Copyright©1871 English Carol 17th C

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (ICEL)

When we eat this bread and drink this
cup we proclaim your death O Lord until
you come again.

COMMUNION PROCESSION

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth,
The peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father,
We are family;
Let us walk with each other in perfect
harmony.

Let peace begin with me,
Let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take,
Let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment
And live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.
Let it begin with me.

*Copyright 1955 Sy Miller & Jill Jackson,
renewed 1983, Jan-Lee Music.*

Hark The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise;
Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see;

Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth,
Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King"

Copyright Charles Wesley 1707-1788 1809-1847 Felix Mendelssohn

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar;
Heavenly hosts sing Al-le-lu-ia!
Christ the Saviour is born!
Christ the Saviour is born!

Silent night, Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord at thy birth;
Jesus Lord at thy birth.
*1792-1849 Joseph Mohr 1820-1885 John f Young Music Franz
xGruber 1787-1863*

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Joy To The World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come.
Let earth receive her King
Let every heart
Prepare Him room
And Heav'n and Nature sing
And Heav'n and Nature sing
And Heav'n and Heav'n and Nature sing

Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods
Rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, Repeat, the sounding joy

*Isaac Watts 1674-1748 1685-1759 G Handel -1833 Hawkes
Collection*

Sunday December 27 2015 Holy Family Feast

Responsorial Psalm: Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Angels We Have Heard On High

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing over the plains
And the mountains in reply,
Echo back their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo Gloria in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this Jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

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GLORY TO GOD- Mass of St Francis

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King, O God,
almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the
Father,
You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us
You take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
You are seated at the right hand
of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the most High, Jesus
Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God
the Father. Amen Amen

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

OFFERTORY PROCESSION

Child in the Manger

Child in a manger, infant of Mary,
Outcast and stranger,
Lord of us all
Child who inherits
all our transgressions,
All our demerits upon him fall.

Once the most holy child of salvation,
Gently and lowly lived here below
Now as our glorious mighty redeemer,
See him victorious over each foe.

Prophets foretold him,
Infant of wonder, angels behold him
On his throne
Worthy our Saviour of all our praises
Happy forever are his own.

© 1789-1872 *Mary MacDonald*

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (ICEL)

Save us Saviour of the Lord for by your
cross and resurrection you have set us
free.

COMMUNION PROCESSION

Child of Mercy

Refrain:

**Child of mercy, child of peace,
Jesus, Bread of life,
food to fill our longing.
Child of justice, child of light,
Jesus, saving cup,
Emmanuel, God with us.**

All who walk in darkness
have seen a great light,
to those who dwell in fear,
a light has shone! **R**

A child is born to us,
a son is given us,
upon his shoulder glory rests! **R**

We name him: "Wonder, couns'lor, hero,
mighty God,"
The Holy One for ever:
Prince of peace! **R**

We proclaim good news to you, great
tidings of joy:
To you is born a saviour: Christ the Lord!
be **R**
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Once In Royal David's City

Once in royal David's city,
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby,
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little Child.

He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall:
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

For He is our childhood's pattern;
Day by day, like us, He grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless,
Tears and smiles, like us He knew;
And He feels for all our sadness
And he shares in all our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that Child so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heaven above:
And He leads His children on,
To the place where He is gone.

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RECESSIONAL HYMN

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth,
The peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father,
We are family;
Let us walk with each other in perfect
harmony.

Let peace begin with me,
Let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take,
Let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment
And live each moment in peace
eternally.
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.
Let it begin with me.

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**SING JOYFULLY
TO THE LORD**