



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH, CRANEBROOK, NSW

The Net

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH - YEAR C

28th and 29th DECEMBER, 2024



Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

Held every 25 years, a Jubilee Year is a sacred time of prayer, pilgrimage, and conversion. It is a call to experience God's mercy through sacramental repentance and spiritual renewal.

The Jubilee of 2025 commenced on 24 December 2024 with the Opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica and runs to 6 January 2026, the Feast of the Epiphany, with the closing of the Door.

Pope Francis has declared 2025 a Jubilee Year for our Church, themed "Pilgrims of Hope", a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the climate crisis.

The Jubilee Prayer

*Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.*

*May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the
whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.*

*May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer through-
out the earth.*

*To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen*

*"Christian hope does not deceive or disappoint because it is grounded in the
certainty that nothing and no one may ever separate us from God's love."*

- Pope Francis

SPES NON CONFUNDIT: BULL OF INDICATION OF THE JUBILEE 2025

**We, the people of Corpus Christi,
seek to grow in living
a Christ-centred mission,
sharing our gifts to foster welcome,
justice and community in today's world.**



A very warm welcome to anyone who is new to the parish.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

**SATURDAY VIGIL 6PM
SUNDAY 7.30AM & 9.30AM**

WEEKDAY MASSES

**Tuesday & Wednesday at 6pm
Thursday & Friday at 9.10am**

RECONCILIATION

**Saturday evening from 5.15pm -
5.45pm in the Meeting Room**

ADORATION AND DEVOTION

**First Friday of each month - Anointing
Mass**

**Third Friday of each month - Healing
Mass**

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

**Address: 86-92 Andromeda Drive
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Phone: 4730 1249

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parishteam@corpuschristi.org.au**

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www.facebook.com/
CorpusChristiParishCranebrook**

**Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm
(Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri)**

PARISH TEAM:

Administrator - Fr Jessie Balorio
- jessie.balorio@parracatholic.org
- 0451 851 610 (*emergencies only*)
- Presbytery: 4729 1675

Mrs Sue Weekes - Secretarial Support
- sw@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Vanessa Sultana - Office Support
- cranebrook@parracatholic.com.au

SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH:

**Corpus Christi Primary - ph 4726 2200
(Principal - Mrs Sarah O'Rourke)**

**Xavier College - ph 4777 0900
(Principal - Mr Michael Pate)**

Visit our website: www.corpuschristi.org.au

Parish News

A WORD OF THANKS...

A very big thank you to Fr Jessie and all our parishioners and friends who helped in the planning, preparation and running of our nine-day Misa De Aguinaldo Novena Masses. The atmosphere at each of these Masses was so uplifting and humbling. The nightly Masses allowed everyone present to spiritually prepare their hearts and minds for the coming of our Lord Jesus at Christmas time.

Special thanks also to all the families who generously shared their hospitality and contributed to the delicious supper that was served after Mass each evening. It was a privilege to spend time together as people of faith enjoying great food and fellowship.

Thank you also to all our volunteers who participated in liturgical ministries during our Christmas Masses. Our acolytes and altar servers, readers and commentators, Eucharistic ministers, musicians, nativity play and children's choir leaders, data operators and creator, collectors and cleaners... Thank you also to Louise Xiberras who donated the fresh flowers that have decorated our sanctuary. The Parish greatly appreciates everyone's dedication and support.



NEW MINISTRY ROSTER FOR 2025

Thank you to all who have supported our parish during 2024 by way of the various Liturgical Ministries.

We are about to get our information together to prepare a new roster to cover the period 1st/2nd February to 26th/27th April 2025.

To ensure our liturgical roster will best suit the needs of our volunteers, the parish office will be updating all our volunteers information. We kindly ask all who volunteer as acolytes, readers and commentators, data operators, Eucharistic ministers, children's liturgy facilitators or musicians to email the parish office at cranebrook@parracatholic.com.au and let us know what ministries you'd like to be a part of and your preferred Mass.

Thank you for your ongoing support

Missing Baby Jesus Statue

Unfortunately our parish baby Jesus statue that completes our nativity scene has gone missing. If you have seen it, or might know where it is, please contact the parish office.

Moving forward, we kindly ask any parishioner with keys to the parish to notify the parish office if you plan to do any work in the church when it is locked.

SACRAMENTS IN 2025

Children in Year 4 and above at school are invited to participate in the Parish Sacramental Program, commencing with the Sacrament of **Penance**. Parents wanting their child to participate in the program are required to attend a Penance Information Meeting and register their child on

**WEDNESDAY 26TH FEBRUARY, 2025
AT 7.00PM IN THE CHURCH.**

Dates to note in you diary...

The Sacraments of Penance will take place on

Thursday 27th of March at 7pm

for our state school children and during school hours for our Corpus Christi Students



The sacrament of First Eucharist will take place on the following dates:

**Saturday 6TH September at 11am
Saturday 6TH September at 6pm
Saturday 13TH September at 11am
Sunday 14TH September at 9.30am**

Please note that the registration date for first Eucharist is

Wednesday 20th August, 2025 at 6.30pm

The sacrament of Confirmation (for children who received Penance and First Eucharist last year) will take place on the following date:

Saturday 14th June, 2025 at 9:30 am & 11:30 am



Please note that the registration date for Confirmation is

Wednesday 7th of May, 2025 at 6.30pm

Mass will be held on

Wednesday 1st of January, 2025 at 9.10am

in celebration of the Solemnity of Mary the Holy mother of God

We will not be having our usual 6pm Mass on this day



LET US OFFER GIFTS OF PRAYER

Recently Deceased:

Priscilla Mphanza,

Anniversaries:

Tone Magri, Frank Micallef

For those who are sick:

Ruta Pelenatino, Lorrene Gorman, Ana Damas.



Parish News

WHAT'S ON AT CORPUS CHRISTI...



Parish Morning Tea

Our parish hosts a morning tea after our 9.30am Mass on the second Sunday of every month. Our next parish morning tea will take place on

SUNDAY 12TH JANUARY, 2025

Everyone is welcome. We warmly encourage you to invite your friends and family to join us both for Mass and morning tea

To support our parish with catering, you are most welcome to bring a plate to share alternatively an optional gold coin donation can be made. *We kindly ask that a list of ingredients is provided for any home prepared food to support anyone with food allergies*

Corpus Christi Youth Mass

Our next youth Mass will take place on

SUNDAY 16TH OF FEBRUARY AT 5.00PM

Mass followed by refreshments.

Please note that parents are welcome to attend the Mass and registration is not necessary.

For more information about our parish Youth Masses please contact Fr Jessie or Kieran Faccin.



'Young in Spirit' Seniors Group

Our seniors group meets on the last Friday morning of each month after 9.10am Mass in the Parish Office. Our next senior's morning tea will take place on

FRIDAY 31ST OF JANUARY, 2025

Please bring a small plate of food to share for morning tea. New members are always welcome.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers to Join the Parish Sacrament Team

We are in need of new members on the parish sacramental team and are asking anyone who is interested to contact Fr Jessie at the Parish Office. The main role is to assist in preparing children for the Sacraments of Reconciliation (Term 1), First Eucharist (Term 2) and Confirmation (Term 3). Preparation for Reconciliation and First Eucharist is two sessions each and three sessions for Confirmation.

Liturgical Ministers

Our parish warmly invites and encourages parishioners to take on liturgical ministries. We have availabilities in the ministries of:

Acolytes

Ministers of the word

senior, junior or aspiring Altar servers

If you are interested, please contact the parish office.

PARISH GIVING

Planned Giving/Parish Donations

Your gift to Planned Giving helps cover the running of the parish and also contributes towards outreach in our parish community and beyond.

If you would like to contribute directly, the parish bank details are:

BSB: 067 950

Acct No: 100000698

Acct Name: Cranebrook Parish

Please ensure you put your details in the reference section (ENVELOPE N# OR SURNAME)

Please contact the Parish Office if you

- ◇ are contributing to the Planned Giving Program via the envelope system and would like to change to credit card or direct debit;
- ◇ would like to join the Planned Giving Program.

SAFEGUARDING

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The modules are available to complete online at

<https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding/training/>

Cycle 1 (New staff/volunteers who have not completed any training within the Diocese)

Cycle 2 (Renewal Training for staff/volunteers who completed Cycle 1 two years ago)

For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Diocesan News

Liturgical Ministry Course returns in 2025

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in 2025 in Blacktown and Penrith. This free formation is open to anyone in the diocese interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dy To enrol and for more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org. Registrations close 28th January, 2025.

Epiphany Pilgrimage and Fiesta: 2-9 January 2025

Commit the first fruits of your new year to Christ with the 2025 Epiphany Pilgrimage. Enjoy 7 days of bushwalking, fellowship and prayer as we journey from Emu Plains to the top of the Blue Mountains, experiencing the wonderful hospitality of parish communities along the way. Day 1 is a family-friendly day, with the option for a children's pilgrimage finishing with the Finnies Fiesta at St Finbars, Glenbrook. For more information and to register for all or part of the journey, visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org



The Living Word

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph—Year C

Sunday 29th December

First Reading

Sirach 3:2-6. 12-14

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons. Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune. Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays.

Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord. My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life. Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 127:1-5. R. see v.1

(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper.

(R.)

2. Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. (R.)

3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.

May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life. (R.)

Second Reading

Colossians 3:12-21

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you;

now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

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.

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

Questions for Adolescents

Q. What does this incident tell us about the relationship between Jesus, Mary and Joseph?

Q. In what way was Jesus beginning the work of God in this incident?

Q. What can we learn from Mary's reaction of storing up such incidents 'in her heart'?

Q. Are there times you take your family for granted?

Q. How could you better demonstrate your love for your family?

Questions for Adults

Q. What might Mary and Joseph have felt when Jesus was missing and when they found him again?

Q. Why does Jesus appear to place little importance on his family in this and other gospel incidents?

Q. Why is it that families can be both the most frustrating and fulfilling parts of our life?

Q. How could you improve relationships within your family?

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REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE –

by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

Picture yourself in Jesus' situation. You have been sightseeing with your parents at the festival in the big city, and your parents are on their way home. They have been travelling for a day and cannot find you. They turn around, walk back to the city and search for you for three days before they find you talking to the priests in a church!

What would your parents say to you? What would you say to them? How much trouble would you be in? Where would you have stayed for those days you hadn't seen them? What would you have been thinking?

Is it fun to think that Jesus 'got in trouble' with his parents too? Sometimes we get so hung up on Jesus as Almighty God that we forget about Jesus as a human being. What other things do you think Jesus must have done as he grew up – things we don't usually think about, things not recorded in the Bible?

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate Adolescent impatience

Forget the tinselly sentimentality of most depictions of the Holy Family. This Gospel is real life. Anyone who has temporarily lost their child in a crowd knows the stabbing pain of uncertainty and fear. Even more real, and occurring more often, is the adolescent impatience of Jesus: 'Did you not know I must be about my Father's business?'

Every parent, bewildered and saddened by the growing up and the growing distance of a son or daughter, knows what Mary and Joseph must have felt.

By the time Mary and Joseph found Jesus, he had found the words to express his unique identity. In this little scene so full of pathos and heartbreak, we hear the first words of Jesus in the Gospels: 'Did you not know I must be about my Father's business?'

What was his 'Father's business' which was so engaging for Jesus? To draw every human being into the same family relationship as He enjoys.

But did you note that it is our privilege to celebrate this realisation as a community? Only Jesus can say 'My Father'. We say 'Our Father'. We enter into the grace of intimate relationship with God, not as an atomised individual, but as a person within a society of baptised Christians – the Church.

We could take a moment to pray for the integrity which will enable us to express this sense of identity in the unfolding of our lives. We can pray also for those saddened or bewildered by our following of the One who taught us to pray 'Our Father'.

REFLECTIONS by Greg Sunter

Gospel Reflection

We live in an era when we are constantly hearing about the demise of the family and the demise of family values. It seems that the family is under constant attack. Divorce rates are at an all-time high and a huge number of young

people are raised in single-parent families, divided families or blended families. To talk about a 'typical' family is increasingly irrelevant. What we are learning to appreciate more and more is the diversity of family experience. Despite all this, there is no disputing the value of the family unit. Family is at the heart of our society; at the heart of our development; and at the heart of our Church. When we stop and think about it, the Holy Family that we honour today wasn't exactly what we might describe as a 'typical' family and yet they provide a model for all families.

In today's gospel, we get a snapshot of family life for Jesus, Mary and Joseph at a time when Jesus was 12 years old. We're reminded that the family was a faithful Jewish family, attending the Passover celebrations in Jerusalem every year. We're also reminded that it is at the Passover celebrations some 20 or so years later that Jesus will be tried and crucified. When Mary chastises the boy Jesus, he reminds her that he needs to be busy with his Father's affairs. Mary and Joseph are confused by this, perhaps forgetting momentarily that Jesus is referring to his heavenly Father. This incident, so often dismissed as background 'colour' to the gospel narrative, conveys the significant truth that Jesus shared a family relationship with Mary and Joseph, but also shared a family relationship with God, his Father. It reminds us that Jesus called all of us to enter into the relationship he shared with his Father.

Have you thought? Mary

We're told in today's gospel that Mary 'stored up all these things in her heart'. Mary is a model of the reflective life. When extraordinary, life-altering events occur to her, she is portrayed as pondering these events in her heart. She responds to these events by allowing them to speak to her and speak to her heart rather than simply 'reacting' as so many of us do. The ability to reflect on events, rather than react to them, can lead to a much better considered response and less chance of making the same mistakes over and over again.

Living the Gospel – Importance of family

It is sometimes easy to glibly declare that our families are important to us, but it is in the everyday living of family life that we have the opportunity to demonstrate how serious we are. It is inevitable, as we establish our individual identity, that we will at times clash with our family's expectations and challenge the authority of parents. However, we can never forget the love, care and security our family has provided throughout our lives. Parents try to protect their children from disappointment and harm and reflect the love of God when they're repeatedly prepared to try again with damaged family relationships.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December

For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen

Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.



Children's Worksheet



An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him to take Mary and Jesus to Egypt. Draw the angel speaking to Joseph in his dream.



Joseph listened to the angel's warning because he trusted in God. Write down some of the names of those who you trust.

DECODE THE PROPHECY

Use the code below to decipher the prophet's message

A		G		L		Q		V	
B		H		M		R		W	
C		I		N		S		X	
D		J		O		T		Y	
E		K		F		U		Z	

*With many thanks to all these local businesses
who support our parish throughout the year.*

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