

#### Visit our website: www.corpuschristi.org.au

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

#### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YR B**

#### **19TH & 20TH DECEMBER, 2020**

#### **COVID-19 AND CHRISTMAS MASSES**

Christmas time is approaching and this is the time of year that attendance numbers for Christmas Masses are higher than normal. It is a time of coming together to celebrate the spirit of Christmas.

However, we need to advise that we are still limited by the government Covid restrictions that are still in place. Therefore with regret, we need to limit the numbers that are able to attend these Masses. If you wish to attend a Christmas Mass, you need to register by calling Fr Chris on 0415 505 594.

Mass times for Christmas Eve are 6pm, 8.30pm and midnight and on Christmas day 9.30 am. If you wish to attend the 6pm mass, please note that this Mass will be held outside on the grounds of Corpus Christi Primary School to accommodate higher attendance. If you are attending this Mass, we kindly request that you bring your own chair.

In the interest of everyone attending, masks are required for all over the age of 12. We thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Again to confirm, registration is compulsory before attending any Christmas Mass.

We encourage you to arrive at least 10 minutes before Mass starts as the gates will be closed at the start of Mass.

We look forward to celebrating this special season together.

Corpus Christi Parish Pastoral Council

#### **WEEKEND MASSES**

You are invited to attend Mass **every week** at the time you were allocated by Fr Chris.

Online Masses are still available so if you are feeling unwell you are advised not to attend Mass.

#### **WEEKDAY MASSES**

TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS AT 6PM (NO ADORATION)
THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS AT 9.10AM

You are welcome to attend any weekday Mass without a phone call or email invitation. Fr Chris will record attendance at these Masses as per government guidelines.

#### RECONCILIATION BY APPOINTMENT

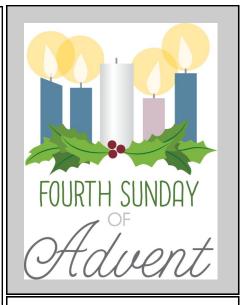
Please contact Fr Chris on his mobile 0415 505 594 to make an appointment.

\*\*\*PLEASE PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING
BEFORE, DURING & AFTER LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS.\*\*\*

IN SPITE OF THE EASING OF RESTRICTIONS, THE NUMBER OF PARISHIONERS PER
MASS IN OUR PARISH HAS ONLY INCREASED TO



As per government regulations, please observe the 2 square metre rule.



#### **CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH**

Address: 86-92 Andromeda Drive

Cranebrook, NSW, 2749

Postal: PO Box 21

Cranebrook, NSW, 2749

Phone: 4730 1249 Fax: 4729 2989

Email: parishteam@corpuschristi.org.au

Presbytery: 4730 6258

Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm (Tues-Fri)

PARISH TEAM:

Fr Christopher Antwi-Boasiako -

Parish Priest

Christopher.Antwi-Boasiako@parracatholic.org

Mobile: 0415 505 594 Deacon Owen Rogers

- owen.rogers7@bigpond.com

Mrs Marie Cottee - Parish Secretary

- mc@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Sue Weekes - Office Support

- sw@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Joanne Hocking - Sacrament Support

SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH:

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

Xavier College – ph 4777 0900

(Principal - Mr Michael Pate)

#### To the Parishioners of Corpus Christi...

May joy be your gift this Christmas and may peace and hope follow you into the New Year.

We would like to give a huge thank you to all those who helped throughout this challenging year in ensuring the continuing life of the parish.

We look forward to a healthy and bright 2021.

#### **COMMUNAL SACRAMENT OF** RECONCILIATION

(Second Rite with visiting priests) **TUESDAY 22ND DECEMBER AT 7PM** 

\*\*As there will not be a barrier when speaking to the priest everyone must wear a mask.

(There will be no Adoration or Mass on that evening)

PLEASE NOTE THAT PARISH MASS WILL NOT TAKE PLACE ON TUESDAY 22ND DECEMBER.

#### A Note of Thanks from St Vincent de Paul

The Cranebrook conference of Vinnies would like to thank the following groups who supported our Christmas hampers this year with food items and financial contributions.

- \* Corpus Christi Primary School
- Xavier College
- \* The parishioners of Corpus Christi

The amount of food that was collected and distributed to the local community was so well received by persons who are doing it tough was really appreciated.

The generosity that was shown to those in need was overwhelming

we receive throughout the year.

The members of the Cranebrook conference would like to the weekend data. wish you all a holy and peaceful Christmas.

#### **Ministry Rosters for January**

The voluntary roster commences on

#### SATURDAY 26TH AND SUNDAY 27TH DECEMBER.

If you are able to assist with the Ministry Roster from that date until the end of January, please place your name on the roster sheet in the fover.

#### **New Ministry Roster**



A huge thank you to all who have supported our parish during 2020 by way of the various Liturgical Ministries. Your care and commitment to our parish community is truly appreciated!

We are about to get our information together to prepare a new Roster to cover the period 30th/31st January to And for those who are sick: 26th/27th June, 2021.

Would all those who are involved in rostered Ministries If any parishioner would like Fr Chris to offer Mass for someone please check your diaries and let Marie know by either phone or email prior to Friday 8th January of any nonavailability during that period.

#### **WEARING OF MASKS FOR MASS**

For your health and safety and for the health and safety of others we strongly encourage you to please wear a mask to Mass. We sincerely thank you for understanding, We wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year. and for playing your part in keeping our community safe.

#### **Christmas Eve Children's Choir**

All school aged children are invited to join the Children's Choir, which will be singing at the 6.00pm Mass on Christmas Eve.

If your child is interested in joining the choir, please write your details on the sheet in foyer.

#### Children's Nativity Play...

All children are invited to participate in the Nativity Play at the 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve.

If you would like your child to take part, please write your details on the sheet in the foyer.

**NEW YEARS DAY MASS** WILL BE CELEBRATED AT 9.10AM. THERE WILL BE NO OTHER WEEKDAY MASSES DURING JANUARY.

#### **Notice re Parish Office Hours**

The parish office will be closed from 24th December and will open on Thursdays 21st & 28th January.

The office will be back to normal hours in February.

If you need to make contact with the parish team, please phone the office and leave a message and someone will be in touch with you asap. During January, in the case of an emergency, please phone Fr Chris on 0415 505 594.

#### The Net takes a break...

There will be no newsletter in January, but please let the Thanks you for your ongoing support and encouragement acolyte know of anything important that needs mentioning at the Masses or projected messages to be included on

#### Sacrament of Penance - 2021

Children in Year 4 at school are invited to register for the Parish Sacramental Program, commencing with the Sacrament of Penance.

Parents wanting their child to participate in the program are required to pick up Penance Information Packs and register their child on

WEDNESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY, 2021 BETWEEN 6.30PM & 7.30PM IN THE CHURCH.

#### Let us Offer Gifts of Prayer:

#### **Anniversaries:**

Margaret & James Vella

Leonard Ash, Pauline Rugg, Mary Pilley, Joan Schneider

who is recently deceased, a loved one's anniversary or if someone is sick, please email the Parish Office. We can also include the person in The Net so everyone can pray for them.

# Living Word

Fourth Sunday of Advent

20th December, 2020

#### **First Reading**

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

A reading from the second book of Samuel

The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent'. Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the es.' (R.) Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."



#### **Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 88:2-5, 27, 29, R, see v.2

(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.

Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (R.)

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;

I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your dynasty for ever and set up your throne through all ag-

He will say to me: 'You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me.' I will keep my love for him always; for him my covenant shall endure. (R.)

#### **Second Reading**

Rom 16:25-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

Lk 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!



#### Gospel

Lk 1:26-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

#### You will conceive and bear a son.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

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#### REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate 'Spirit Hovering'

St Luke's account of the Annunciation draws on the Jewish tradition describing creation: 'There was darkness over the deep and *God's Spirit hovered over the water*. God said: "Let there be light", and there was light.' (Genesis 1:2-3) St Luke depicts Mary hearing in the depths of her soul: 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow.'

The Holy Spirit hovers over this young Jewish woman so that the most stupendously creative act in human history can take place. With her consent, God assumes human nature to be gradually enfleshed, embodied, in Mary's womb.

A naturally bewildered young woman was able to respond \* to God's will because she understood the imagery and the symbolism of the Genesis Story. We, in turn, need to read \* the Gospels in all their Jewishness so that we can understand when God's Holy Spirit hovers over our lives, asking us to fulfil some particular role in the Divine Plan.

We could pause for a moment to ask whether *now* is the \* time for a Marian response: 'Be it done unto me according to your word.'



#### **REFLECTION** by Dianne Bergant CSA

The world in which we live and the events of which we are a part are the stage upon which the drama of salvation is enacted. God works through real flesh and blood people, those like David, who occupy the seats of power and influence as well as those like Mary and us, who are unseen and unknown. All can be agents of salvation. God's future is in our hands. Human history is really the history of salvation. Each turn of God's revealing causes us to wonder at what might come next. In this tension, mystery is revealed. What was hidden is now made known. Jesus establishes a people of covenant promise. Still, the mystery is unknown, for it continues to come to us from the future, revealing more and more of itself in the junctures of history.

The waiting of Advent is over. In the face of the impossible, God works the possible. During Advent, we have been waiting for the realisation of the promise made to David. We have been waiting for Mary's yes. With this yes, hope is enlivened, and history is changed. There is an unimaginable future for all people, a future that comes from God. Salvation is created among us, and the fate of history is altered by a godly presence. This salvation resides in the hearts of those who believe in the gift, and who stay awake eagerly to know its coming. With David we await it, with the nations we long for it, with Mary we behold it.

#### Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December



#### For a Life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.



#### REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

#### **Questions for Adolescents**

- \* What was Mary's initial reaction to the appearance of the angel?
- \* Why do you think Mary accepted God's will so readily?
- \* Who do you know who has tried to live their life in response to God?
- \* In what ways does God communicate a call or challenge to people today?

#### **Questions for Adults**

- \* What message is conveyed by Mary's 'Yes' to God in today's gospel?
- \* How do you think Mary's family and friends may have reacted to her news?
- \* To what aspects of your life do you need to say 'Yes'?
- \* In what way, or in what direction, are you called by God?

This is an opportunity for parents to discuss today's Gospel with your children.
The following questions and worksheet are a beginning point to assist with the discussion.

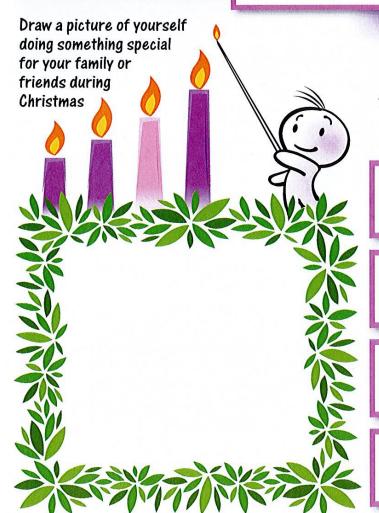
- \* Mary was a young woman when she was asked to be the mother of Jesus; do you think it was easy for her to say yes?
- \* What do think the angel looked like? Do angels look like Christmas decorations, people or something else?
- \* The angel Gabriel came to Mary with a message from God. How do we know what God wants us to do?
- \* Mary said yes to God when she was asked to be the mother of Jesus. What are some of the things we can do when we say yes to God?

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## His name will be Jesus

4th Sunday of Advent, Year B







In the story of the Annunciation, the angel Gabriel tells Mary that God has chosen her to bring his Son into the world. What are some ways that we can bring Christ into the world for others?

Use the words below to find out what the angel Gabriel and the Blessed Virgin Mary are saying to each other.

favoured one!
The \_ \_ \_ is with you.
Don't be \_ \_ \_!
God is \_ \_ \_ with you. You shall
have a \_ \_ and his
name will be \_ \_ \_ .





I am the

----of the Lord!
Let this
---as you
have said.

Jesus afraid

fraid happen

servant

Lord

**Greetings** 

pleased

son

#### Parramatta Diocesan News

#### Christmas Mass and Reconciliation Times

Christmas Mass and Reconciliation Times from parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are available now on the Diocese of Parramatta website (www.parracatholic.org), on Catholic Outlook (www.catholicoutlook.org) and on our Diocesan social media channels.

Merry Christmas from the Diocese of Parramatta!

#### Catholic Outlook Magazine Summer 2020/21 Edition

Catholic Outlook Summer edition is out now and free to all parishioners. Read about our amazing HSC students, the new bells of St Patrick's Cathedral and how the new Vatican Ambassador who originates from Castle Hill is settling in. Plus what the symbols of Advent really mean. Pick up your free copy from your local Catholic Church, Catholic ings every week on topical issues that inform, entertain School or Catholic office today.

#### Office For Worship 2021 Liturgical Ministry **Formation Course**

The Office for Worship's Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will be held again in 2021 in early February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving in the Liturgical Ministries of Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar at your parish. If you are interested or would like more information please contact the Office for Worship on (02) 8838 3456 or anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org.

#### The Epiphany Pilgrimage 2021

The Epiphany Pilgrimage is a not-for-profit event of the Diocese of Parramatta and outreach of the Blue Mountains Deanery. From 2 - 9 January, pilgrims walk through the beautiful Blue Mountains bushland and spend time in prayer and fellowship. Limited overnight registrations are available, and day walkers are welcome. For more information and to register, visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org. To follow the journey see https://www.facebook.com/ epiphanypilgrimage/

#### 2021 Vacation Care places still available

There are still places available for January Vacation Care in 15 Catholic Out of Hours School Care centres throughout the Diocese. You may be entitled to up to 85% rebate. Lots of fun activities planned! Bookings close 7th December. Details <a href="https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/vacationcare">https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/vacationcare</a>.

#### Life, Marriage and Family Office Marriage **Preparation Courses**

Dates for the Diocesan Life, Marriage and Family Office's in-person marriage preparation weekend courses in 2021 are now available, with the SmartLoving Engaged Online course another option to prepare for your marriage. For more information, or to book your course, it www.parracatholic.org/pmp or call (02) 8838 3460.

#### **RCIA: Exploring the Scrutinies Workshop:** 10 February

The Office For Worship will be running an RCIA workshop on the Scrutinies for RCIA coordinators and teams early next year on the evening of Wednesday 10 February at the Institute For Mission, Blacktown (IFM). If you are interested or would like more information please contact the Worship on (02)8838 anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org

#### Welcome to The Well

The Diocese of Parramatta proudly announces its latest initiative - The Well. In what can be described as 'Netflix for Catholics', The Well is a new online platform that provides free, 'on-demand' inspiration for families, children, young people and faith communities. Explore fresh offerand challenge. Check it out at www.thewell.org.au

#### **Position Vacant:**

Sacramental Coordinator (part-time) - Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown - Applications close Monday 21 December. More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

#### Seeking New Enrolments for English and Citizenship Classes

Commencing on Tuesday 9th February 2021, located at Mamre House, CatholicCare Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, 181 Mamre Road, Orchard Hills. This is a program which supports Refugee Families. English classes run Tuesday and Wednesday 10am to 2pm. Citizenship classes run Thursday 10am to 12pm. Free childcare is available for children aged 0 to 5 years of age. If you are interested in enrolling in English or Citizenship Classes and require childcare for your child/children at Mamre Crèche, please contact the Crèche Co-ordinator, Iolanda Martino on 8843-2506 or 0430 736 646 or Email Iolanda.martino@ccss.org.au

#### Mt Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre is taking bookings for 2020/2021

As a COVID-safe registered business, the Mt Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre, Mulgoa, is once again available for personal or small group bookings to discern and plan for what the future might look like. They have also begun taking bookings for 2021, with numbers set to increase as restrictions return to normal. For more information, please call (02) 4773 8338, email info@schoenstatt.org.au or visit www.schoenstatt.org.au

#### **Diocese of Parramatta Tribunal**

The Tribunal of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta remains open and committed to assisting anyone who has questions regarding marriage annulments. Please direct all enquires to the Tribunal office on 8838 3480 or email tribunal@parracatholic.org. The office is open Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm.

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

Please consider supporting them when in need of these services...



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### Bateman Battersby

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## **Solutions**

4th Sunday of Advent, Year B

Use the words below to find out what the angel Gabriel and the Blessed Virgin Mary are saying to each other.

Greetings favoured one!
The Lord is with you.
Don't be afraid!
God is pleased
with you. You shall
have a son and his
name will be Jesus.





I am the servant of the Lord! Let this happen as you have said.

Jesus

afraid

happen

servant

Lord

**Greetings** 

pleased

son