



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH, CRANEBROOK, NSW

# The Net

Visit our website: [www.corpuschristi.org.au](http://www.corpuschristi.org.au)

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

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B**

**16TH & 17TH DECEMBER,  
2023**

## Christmas Week Blessings

May the gift of hope

The gift of love

The gift of joy

The gift of peace

The gift of togetherness

The gift of happiness

Be yours at Christmas and always



*Have a wonderful start to Christmas week  
and all the very best for the festive season.*



### REFLECTION *by* Fr Michael Tate

#### Witness to the Light

St John's Gospel never calls John, 'the Baptist'. No, he is John the Witness: 'a witness to speak for the Light'.

We discover in this Gospel that this light is embodied

in Jesus Christ, most graphically portrayed in the Transfiguration when Christ's body is radiant, translucent, with Divine Light.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world, the One who came to liberate human beings from the many dark captivities which imprison them, the One who vanquished the inky blackness of the tomb.

We can become partakers in the life of this Divine Light. At baptism, this is symbolised by the lighting of a small candle from the great Easter candle which is sung into the church on the Easter Vigil as 'Christ our Light', the Conqueror of Death.

As a baptised people our allegiance to 'The Light' is not to be a private matter between 'me and God'. No, like John, we must bear witness to 'The Light' by being instruments of His power to dispel the darkness which can enshroud people's lives.

We could pause for a moment to commit ourselves to fulfil the promise of our baptismal candle so that we might more authentically celebrate the birth of the Divine Light come into human history.

#### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGIL 6PM

SUNDAY 7.30AM & 9.30AM

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday & Wednesday at 6pm

Thursday & Friday at 9.10am

#### RECONCILIATION

Please speak to Fr Shinto on  
Saturday evening before Mass.

Website:

[www.corpuschristi.org.au](http://www.corpuschristi.org.au)

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/)

#### CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

Address: 86-92 Andromeda Drive  
Cranebrook, NSW, 2749

Postal: PO Box 21  
Cranebrook, NSW, 2749

Phone: 4730 1249

Email:  
[parishteam@corpuschristi.org.au](mailto:parishteam@corpuschristi.org.au)

Presbytery: 4730 6258

Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm  
(Tuesday, Thursday & Friday)

#### PARISH TEAM:

Administrator - Fr Shinto Francis  
- [sf@corpuschristi.org.au](mailto:sf@corpuschristi.org.au)

Mrs Marie Cottee - Parish Secretary  
- [mc@corpuschristi.org.au](mailto:mc@corpuschristi.org.au)

Mrs Sue Weekes - Office Support  
- [sw@corpuschristi.org.au](mailto: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)

# Parish News

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Mass Times for regular weekend Masses on 23rd & 24th December will take place as usual:

**SATURDAY 23RD DECEMBER AT 6PM.**

**SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER AT 7.30AM & 9.30AM.**

## Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve (24th December)

**6pm, 8.30pm & Midnight**

Christmas Day (25th December)

**7.30am & 9.30am**

*(Please note that Christmas Day Mass at 6pm that was previously advertised will not take place and 7.30am has been added)*

Christmas Mass & Reconciliation times across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains can be found by visiting: [www.parracatholic.org](http://www.parracatholic.org)



## Ministry Roster for Christmas

Please place your name on the sheet in the foyer if you are able to help with the following ministries for the Christmas Masses. Thank you!

**We still need volunteers for the following:**

- |                       |                              |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>**6.00pm Mass:</b> | <b>Acolyte</b>               |
|                       | <b>Eucharistic Minister</b>  |
| <b>**8.30pm Mass:</b> | <b>Data Operator</b>         |
|                       | <b>Eucharistic Minister</b>  |
| <b>**7.30am Mass:</b> | <b>Commentator</b>           |
|                       | <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b> |
|                       | <b>Data Operator</b>         |
| <b>**9.30am Mass:</b> | <b>Data Operator</b>         |

## Ministry Roster for January

The voluntary roster commences on **Saturday 30th December and Sunday 31st 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 foyer.

## Data Operators Needed

If anyone is able to do Data for the month of **April 2024 at the 7.30am Mass**, please contact the Parish Office.

## The Net takes a break...

There will be no newsletter in January, but please let the acolyte know of anything important that needs mentioning at the Masses or projected messages to be included on the weekend data.

## Happy Anniversary Fr Shinto...

**Congratulations as you celebrate your six year anniversary of ordination.**

**Thank you for your faithful service to the people of God and especially the Corpus Christi community.**

## To the Parishioners of Corpus Christi...

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

Thank you for your help throughout the year in ensuring the continuing life of the parish. We wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year. We look forward to a healthy and bright 2024.

**AFTER CHRISTMAS, WEEKDAY MASSES WILL RECOMMENCE ON THURSDAY 28TH DECEMBER AT 9.10AM (FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS) AND WILL CONTINUE THROUGH JANUARY AS USUAL.**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT MASS WILL TAKE PLACE ON MONDAY 1ST JANUARY AT 9.10AM.**

## Children's Nativity Play...

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

**Rehearsals will take place in the Church on Friday 22nd December from 9.30am -11.30am and Sunday 24th December at 4.30pm.**

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

## Christmas Eve Children's Choir

All school aged children are invited to join the Children's Choir, which will be singing at the 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve.

**Rehearsal for this choir will take place on Saturday 23rd December from 9.30am - 11.30am.**

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



## Let us Offer Gifts of Prayer:

### Recently Deceased:

Veronica Bright (Terry Panitz's aunt), Desdemona Albertyn, Geraldine Carvalho, Monsignor Bill Mullins

### Anniversary:

Tony Magri, Rosie Cavallo, Maureen Fisher

### For those who are sick:

Carmencita Sampaga, June Sultana, Rose Zahra, Max Ducasse, Eleanor Albertyn, Rosa Pronesti

**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.**



# Parish News

**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL CLOSE ON  
FRIDAY 22ND DECEMBER  
AND WILL RE-OPEN  
ON TUESDAY 23RD JANUARY, 2024**

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. After 23rd January, it would also be advisable to phone the Parish Office to ensure that someone is there.

During January, in the case of an emergency, please phone the Presbytery on 4730 6258.

## A Note of Thanks from St Vincent de Paul

*The Cranebrook Vinnies conference  
would like to acknowledge and thank the  
parishioners of Corpus Christi and the students of both  
Corpus Christi Primary School and Xavier College  
for their generous donations of food items for this year's  
Christmas Hampers.*

The amount of food collected and distributed to the local community was well received by people who are doing it tough and was really appreciated. The generosity shown to those in need was overwhelming.

Thank you for your ongoing support and encouragement that we receive throughout the year. We are blessed to have such a generous local Catholic community that always supports our conference.

## Confirmation Photos

Please note that photos for children who received the Sacrament of Confirmation recently, are available to be collected from the parish office during office hours.

## SACRAMENT OF PENANCE FOR CHILDREN - 2024

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 28TH FEBRUARY, 2024  
AT 7.00PM IN THE CHURCH.**

## Liturgical Ministry Course returns in 2024

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in February 2024. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as **Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar**. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or [mary.gale@parracatholic.org](mailto:mary.gale@parracatholic.org) or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

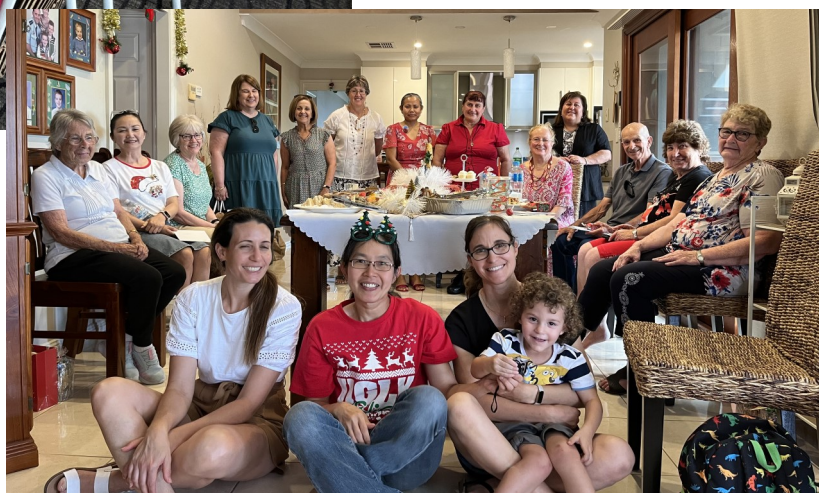
## Corpus Christi Christmas Parties



**The Seniors Group  
continue to party...**



**Our hardworking catechists  
celebrating together.**



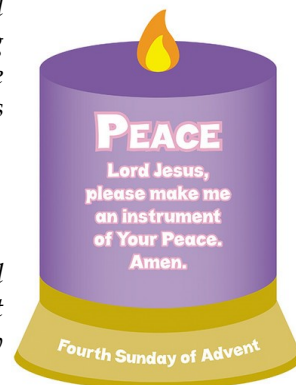


## Third Sunday of Advent

The third candle of Advent symbolises Joy. As we continue to approach Christmas Day, our joy grows more and more. It takes us back to the joyful anticipation of the shepherds who journeyed to see Jesus in Bethlehem, even before the wise men. On this third Sunday of Advent, which the Church calls 'Gaudete Sunday,' meaning rejoice or praise, we light the third candle and rejoice like the shepherds. For this reason, it is called the 'Shepherd's Candle,' and its colour is pink, the liturgical colour for joy.

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

The fourth candle of Advent represents Love, the ultimate love of God that He might send His only Son for us. Called the 'Angel's Candle,' the fourth candle of Advent is lit the Sunday before Christmas, and it is the colour purple, leading us to eagerly await the new Kingdom of God on earth.



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



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**FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE ON 4730 1249.**