

CATHOLIC PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

NORTH ROCKS

Monday 25 December 2017, YEAR B

The Nativity of the LORD



Today the Christmas celebration gains a new depth of theological meaning. At night, the birth in history was proclaimed. At dawn, the initiative of God's gift was declared and the community's joyful gratitude was announced. In this third celebration, the identity of Christ and the new way of life that he brings is announced.

If our eyes are open and alert, we can see that God has won a victory for us, one that is tangible and realised in our midst. It is an overwhelming victory, one that permanently conquers the enemy. This victory has a profound impact on every place, every time and every people. The birth of the infant, the king in David's line, promises salvation to all who long for it. This salvation is a new vision of wisdom, one that has been realised in Christ, God's agent of grace in the world. It is a new world, one of inclusivity and of righteous honour. It is a new age, one that is ushered in by the child who is leading a victory procession.

Ultimately, only eyes of faith allow us to see the fullness of God's revelation. The glory of the infant king is the very presence of God made flesh. Jesus is the eternal incarnate Word who has pitched his tent among us. Ours is not a distant God; the incarnate wisdom of God is among us, and we are called to a change of heart that will allow us to see this wonder.

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Today's Reading 25 Dec: Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1: 1-6; John 1:1-18

Have a Blessed Christmas

Rejoice in the coming of our Lord!

And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us (and we saw his glory, the glory as it were of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

Christmas offerings are placed in a common fund which pays:

Priests Salaries

Domestic needs of the Presbytery

Housekeeper's Salary

Retirement Plan for Priests

Please make a worthwhile and meaningful gift this Christmas

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

A special collection will be taken up at this festive time on the 24th & 25th December. Please give as generously as you can. Christmas can be a challenging time for many people who struggles with basic food and clothing and utility bills. Through your generous support St. Vincent de Paul Society will be able to offer people the opportunity to share the joy of Christmas and give the gift of hope found in God's mercy and love.

Thank You

Another year has passed by quickly and what a wonderful year it has been as we made progress towards achieving our Parish goals. The hall renovation is completed. We look now to assess the future work of building a new presbytery and converting the current building into a new parish centre as finances become available. Spiritually we have grown with our Youth ministry; another Alpha program; a focus on Social justice and assisting refugees; All as well as a Liturgy of lament for abuse within our Church, as highlighted by the Royal Commission.

As we approach the holiday season, we are faced with yet another opportunity to pause in the midst of all the excitement, decorations, and commercialisation, to consider again the origin of Christmas—the One whose birth we celebrate. Christmas is a time of joy and consolation to know that all that we hoped for has been fulfilled in the person of the Christ Child. It is also an opportune time to thank you all for your generous contributions of your time, talents and support in helping us in the administration and pastoral care of this community.

Fr Ian (it has been 4 years this weekend since I was appointed to North Rocks) would like to extend a warm thank you to parishioners for all their cards, gifts and good wishes received. Thank you all for your commitment and enthusiasm. A particular thank you to the Parish Council, Finance Committee, Liturgy Group, Building Project group, Senior Servers, Junior Servers, Special Ministers of the Eucharist, St Vincent de Paul Society, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Readers, Acolytes, Baptismal Group, Youth Group, Catechists, Sacramental team, Choirs, Musicians, Ushers, Flower Arrangers, Church Cleaners, Altar decorators, Care group, and the Sacristan who takes care of the liturgical linens and garments. A special thank you and farewell to Deacon Tony Hoban and his wife Annette for their valuable ministry among us. We wish them well in their new appointment in Marsden Park.. An enormous thank you to Tony Hughes (School Principal) and to the teachers and ancillary staff for their support to help build a school strongly connected to our parish; and for all who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of our Church.

Together, may we continue to grow in strength and grace as we celebrate God's presence in our lives and world.

Have a Grace –filled Christmas and a peaceful New Year in 2018.

Fr Ian, Deacon Tony, Brad Vergano (Youth Minister) & Nadine (Parish Secretary)

Parish Priest:	Rev. Fr. Ian McGinnity
Deacon :	Rev. Tony Hoban
Parish Secretary:	Nadine Lucas Ph: 9871 8710
Youth Coordinator:	Bradley Vergano Mob: 0434 938 312
School Principal:	Tony Hughes Ph: 9871 7438
Baptisms	Monthly 2nd & 4th Sun
Weddings:	By Appointment
Reconciliation:	Sat 9.30 am & 4.30pm
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:	Sat 9.30am
Rosary:	Sat 8.30am, Tue 7pm
Children's Liturgy:	10am Mass-During Term
Parish Services	
Sunday Masses:	Weekday Masses:
6.00pm Saturday	Tuesday 7.30 pm
8.00 am Sunday	Wednesday 9.00 am
10.00 am Sunday	Thursday 9.00 am
	Friday 9.15 am
	Saturday 9.00 am

