



PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JOSEPH

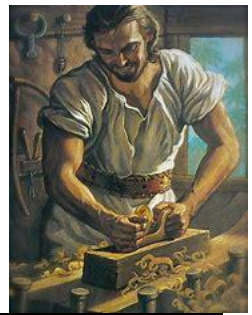
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Facebook at St. Joseph's Parish North Sydney

Nativity of the Lord



† DEC.25TH, 2020, ORDINARY TIME YEAR A †


REV. DOUGLAS MACDONALD – PASTOR
 Fatherdouglass@gmail.com
 GLEBE HOUSE: 902-794-4599
Rev. Mr. Roy Smith, Deacon

Leadership Ministry Team
 Pam Hall-Faith Formation, Cavell Young – Bookkeeping, Janis
 Rose & Cathy MacDonald- Liturgy, Monica Shebib-
 Baptism/Bereavement /Funeral Team , Richard Rose-Finance

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ST. JOSEPH PARISH NEXT WEEK

Date	Location	Time	Details	Mass Intentions 
Mon. Dec.28th	Private Mass			FOR THE WEEK
Tues. Dec.29th	Private Mass			For All Truck Drivers
Wed. Dec. 30th	Private Mass			For All The Unemployed
Thurs. Dec.31st	Private Mass			For All Fire Fighters
Fri. Jan.1st	Private Mass			For All Health Care Workers
Sat. Jan.2nd	St. Joseph Church St.Joseph Church	3:15 pm 4:00 pm	Confessions Mass	For All The Sick
Sun Jan.3rd	St. Joseph Church	10:00 am	Mass	For All Parishoners

Ministries	4 pm Mass Saturday, Jan.2 nd	10 am Mass Sunday, Jan.3rd
SACRISTAIN & LINENS	Deacon Roy Smith, Team	Deacon Roy Smith, Team
CHOIR		
GREETERS	Susan Spurrell, Debbie Reashore	Pam Hall, Viola Smith
USHERS	Elaine Igoe, George Mullins, Joe Howell	Cavell Young, Joe Tobin, Taralee MacInnis
READERS	Frank McNamara	John Ratchford
PRESENTATION OF GIFTS		
EXTRAORDINARY MIN. OF HOLY COMMUNION	Deacon Roy	Deacon Roy
Cleaning of Church	Team	Team
PORTER - OPENS CHURCH	George Quirk	Calvin Gracie

PARISH NEWS.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE - Dear Brothers and Sisters,
 I pray this letter finds you and your home in peace and prayer. The past year has brought much change. Change in our Parish, change in Church and Change in our world. But in this time of fluctuation, there are also parts of our spiritual life that have remained concrete. Our faith, our hope and our trust still remain in patient prayer as we wait for the light of the world, Christ. He will guide our steps through this challenging time and we recall God's symbol of hope in darkness, the light of The Star.

The light of a star, lead men to the light of the world. Light from light lead to true God from true God. Creation acknowledged it's Creator. The stars, the Earth, the animals and Man, all acknowledged Him. As creation held its breath waiting for Mary's yes, during the Annunciation, the same Creation released it sigh to sing Glory to God in the highest and peace to people on Earth at his birth. In this past year we have traveled just like the Magi through darkness and danger to see the Babe. The Magi are also known as the Wise Men.

Why do we call these men wise? We call these men wise because they recognized what is right and just, which is to acknowledge and follow Christ. By following the star, these men followed the first commandment from the Old Testament, which is to worship God. In the Mass we say "it is right and just", It is right and just to worship the one who says, "I am the Lord thy God." One could say these three Kings were the first converts in History and one of the first to recognize the Incarnation of Jesus as the Christ. What is the Incarnation? It is the belief that Jesus Christ entered this world. The

Creator has entered creation. The incarnation of His life, is the incarnation of our life. We were born when He was born. The incarnation is eternal and it is a perpetual act in our lives. Each time we love, serve, forgive, hope and pray, Christ is reborn in the manger and we are the town of Bethlehem, where the glorious event takes place. Yet so many times because of pride, ego, self-justification, pre conceived ideas, old lingering hurts and passing judgement or fear, I choose instead of being Bethlehem, to be "The Inn". I can choose to be The Inn where there is no room for Jesus.

When finally the scrolls of the history of the Bible, which are the scrolls of the history of our life, are completed down to the last word, the saddest line in history will be, "there was no room for them in the Inn." Like Herod, I can desire not to have any other king rule over me, so I become a self-imposed King, a King who will kill anyone so I don't have to bow to another. Bowing is a mark of humility and only in humility can we see Christ because Christ dwells in the humble. It is not a humility of worthlessness, but a humility of knowing the truth of who they, the Wise men were, of who we are, and of who Christ is. Those who wish to see Him must bow. The pride of an Ego cannot bow, therefore the prideful will miss seeing Christ. The same way the pride of Herod misses seeing Christ. But yet, the Magi were different a kind of Kings from Herod.

After their pilgrimage of following the starlight through the darkness of the desert, they bend the knee. They bend the knee because it is written that, "all creation will bend the knee". And so, those who wish to see Him must be humble and bow. In my life, what can this bowing mean? It can mean, forgiving someone who has hurt me, it can be excepting someone's help in time of need or it can be admitting to one's weaknesses and failures. Or it can be the trust that this difficult time the world is in, "this too will

pass." The light of Christ in me longs to shine in unison with the light of Christ, in the person in front of me. So like the Wise Men, I must follow this light. Just as the light of a star lead the wise men to the word made flesh, only my brother or sister can lead me to the babe.

During this Christmas time we look back on our year of how far we have come, allowing this to be our Spiritual mediation to honour the rest of our journey (Letter attributed to Fr. Paul MacIntosh, Franciscan priest from Sydney Mines.

The St Joseph Parish, North Sydney Christmas Mass at 6 pm will be broadcast live on facebook - "Follow us on Facebook we will be Live Steaming the Mass on Facebook". The stream will start around 5 pm to give people a chance to connect, then Mary Dunn will sing their traditional carols at 5:30 pm, followed by Christmas Mass broadcast at 6 pm.

"Andrew Doyle will live stream the 9 pm mass live on his Facebook page and the link will be shared on the parish Facebook page".

Like and Follow our facebook page and you will be notified when the Christmas Mass live stream begins.

Merry Christmas to everyone and may the Christmas Spirit reign in your hearts all year long. Fr. Douglas MacDonald – Pastor

Ministries Christmas Eve-3 pm

Greeters -Pam Hall,Taralee MacInnis
Ushers -Cavell Young ,Irene Cogan, Rebecca Gracie
Reader -Charlotte Monroe

Christmas Eve -6 pm

Greeters -Sally Ryan, Elaine MacNeil
Ushers -Viola Smith ,Cathy MacDonald, Taralee MacInnis
Reader -Norm Connors

Christmas Eve -9 pm

Greeters -Susan Spurrell, Taralee MacInnis
Ushers -Kim Dooley, George Mullins, Joe Howell
Reader -Fred MacLeod

Christmas Day 11 am

Greeters – Cathy MacDonald, Joe Tobin
Ushers -Yvonne MacDonald, Janis Rose, Richard Rose
Reader -John Ratchford

Ministries New Years Day -11 a.m.

Greeters -Pam Hall, Susan Spurrell
Ushers -Janis& Richard Rose, Cavell Young
Reader -Kay Batherson

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
 HALL NEWS

Who acts in the liturgy?

In the liturgy it is the *whole Christ (Christus Totus)* who acts, Head and Body. As our High Priest he celebrates with his body, which is the Church in heaven and on earth.

Further reading: CCC 1135-1137, 1187

234. Who celebrates the heavenly liturgy?

The heavenly liturgy is celebrated by the angels, by the saints of the Old and New Testament, particularly the Mother of God, by the Apostles, by the martyrs, and by the "great multitude which no one could number from every nation, race, people, and tongue." (*Revelation 7:9*). When we celebrate the mystery of our salvation in the sacraments we participate in this eternal liturgy.

Hall Envelopes - Donations to the hall are 100% levy free. The finance committee created *new hall envelopes* that are available in the pews. For tax receipts write: *St. Joseph Hall* on your cheque.

	Dec.19th & Dec.20th
Envelopes	2623.00
Faith Formation	
Fuel	60.00
Church Improvement	20.00
Special Collection	295.00
Candles	27.00
Expectant Mothers	100.00
Totals	3125.00
Hall Fund	3075.00

DIOCESAN NEWS	
KOC	
CWL	
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL	

Christmas Memorials

In Loving Memory of the Batherson, MacMillian and Doyle Families

A tender cord of memory
 Is softly touched this Christmas
 Loving thoughts of you, will never fade away.
 Time will never dim our memory
 Of the ones we dearly love
 Your voices ,your smiles are missing
 Since God called you home.
Lovingly remembered by Matt & Kay Batherson and Families

In Loving Memory of The Taylor Family



In Loving Memory of Mr. & Mrs. William Hayes

We asked an angel in heaven
 In a special Christmas Prayer
 To protect you as your sleeping
 And to tend you with great care
Loving Remembered by His son Patrick and Daughter- in - law and son Kevin

In Loving Memory of our parents, Austin and Eileen Fyfe

As Christmas time draws near, we fondly remember year's gone by
 When we prepared spiritually and temporally for the Christ Child's birth.
 We know you are always with us and continue to guide us with love on this life journey to join you.
Missed and loved always, Ann Eileen, Maureen, Kevin and Family.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Let us run to Mary, and, as her little children, cast ourselves into her arms with a perfect confidence." St. Frances de Sales

Knights of Columbus Thank you - For your \$2000 donation to St. Joseph's.

PEACE BE WITH YOU AND HAVE A GREAT WEEK!