

First Sunday in Advent

2nd December 2018

Entrance Ant: To You, I lift up my soul, O my God. In You, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in You be put to shame.

First reading : from the prophet Jeremiah 33: 14 – 16.

Responsorial Psalm : To You, our Lord, I lift up my soul.

Second Reading : 1st letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 3: 12 - 4: 2.

Gospel Acclamation : Alleluia, alleluia! Lord show us Your mercy and love, and grant us Your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel : according to Luke 21: 25 - 28, 34 - 36.

Communion Antiphon: The Lord will bestow His bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Sydney Archdiocese News

An Advent App for Christmas! – Meet Me in the Silence.

Walk the journey to Advent on your mobile device. Each day delivers a new video, podcast or written feature to assist you prepare for Christmas and meet Jesus in the silence, despite the busyness of the Christmas season. The Advent Calendar App is free and available on your iPhone, iPad and Android devices. Search for "Xt3 Advent" in the Google Play store or the App store, or visit www.sydneycatholic.org/xt3advent

Catholic Cemeteries and Crematoria

Catholic Cemeteries and Crematoria warmly invites you and your family to join them at the annual Christmas Remembrance Service, Presided by Bishop Terence Brady at St Mary's Cathedral on Sun 16th Dec 2018 at 7:30pm.

Family Spirit (by CatholicCare Sydney and Marist180)

Could you provide short-term help for long-term memories?

As a new agency combining the strengths of Marist180 and CatholicCare Sydney, Family Spirit urgently need compassionate people to provide short-term foster care. To learn more, come to our information night:

Tuesday 11th December 2018, 5.30-8pm. Marist180, 36 First Ave, Blacktown NSW 2148. Call CCareline on 13 18 19 to secure your place

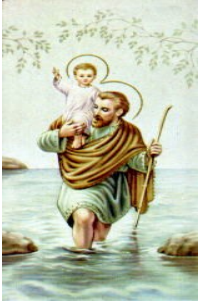
Healing After Abortion

Rachel's Vineyard offers a confidential voicemail # 0400 092 555. Retreats are held regularly in the Syd area offering women and men a spiritual way through grief and loss. The retreat offers a sanctuary in which to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion in a safe, supportive, confidential and non judgmental environment. A brochure can be downloaded at the website: www.rachelsvineyard.org.au. The next retreat will be held 16-18 Nov.

St Christopher's Parish Holsworthy

*We are a community striving for growth, unity, equality,
love and commitment*

Administrator : Rev. Fr. Andrew James
Assistant Priest : Rev. Fr. Nicholas Rynne
Permanent Deacon : Rev. Mr. Al Salu
Parish Secretary : Mr. David Moore
Parish Office Hours : Mon 9.30 am - 4.00 pm
Wed 9.45 am - 3.30 pm
Fri 9.30 am - 3.30 pm
Address : 195 Heathcote Rd, Holsworthy 2173
Mail : PO Box 389, Moorebank 1875
Website : www.stchristophers.org.au
Email : stchris@tpg.com.au
Tel : (02) 9825 1679
Fax : (02) 9825 1488
St Christopher's Catholic School — *Through faith and love we serve*
Principal: Mr. Tony Boyd
School Tel: (02) 9825 3251



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Sometimes our own lives, the life of the Church, the life of societies and nations cry out for Our Lord Jesus Christ to come again right now and rescue us right now. In some instances we can become conscious of Jesus' saving, transforming power in a particular situation. But, for the whole of humanity across the millennia, we do not know the day or the hour when death and all its warriors such as disease and violence, will be absolutely vanquished by Christ in glory. This can lead to a type of pain which finds solace in all those things which dull the spirit. Our Lord gives examples: debauchery, drunkenness. Today he might have added 'living in the virtual world'. Rather, Our Lord wants us to live in the real world on high alert. In the meantime each one of us can be a signal of what is to come. Each time we exhaust ourselves heroically loving someone whom others might abandon, each time we take a risk because we cry out against injustice, and in a myriad other ways, we signal that the Kingdom is already being established on earth. We could pause for a moment to pray for the strength to be on high alert for the opportunities to translate the legacy of Jesus into our own time and place, thus giving reasons to each other for our faith and hope that Christ has come, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. © Fr Michael Tate

Parish Collections : 23/11/2018 - First: \$1,071.40 **Second:** \$1,000.10

Parish News

Liturgy Changes

There will be no Morning Mass this Tuesday
There will be no Adoration this Thursday

St Nicholas's feast Day

This Thursday 6th Dec is the feast day of St Nicholas. Our own Fr. Nicholas will be offering a Mass in remembrance of the event. The evening will begin at 7:00pm procession with a First Class relic of the Saint followed by a Mass and distribution of the Mana of St. Nicholas. All are welcome.

Parish Ministry Vacancies

Our Parish community would not be viable without the valuable support of its members. We are very grateful for all who have and continue to respond the various needs of Parish life. In recent months, a number of positions have become vacant and we are in urgent need of volunteers.

At present we are looking for: counters for Mass offerings on a Sunday after Mass and Eucharistic Ministers to deliver the Blessed Sacrament to Catholics at Hammondcare. If you can spare some time to assist with the Pastoral needs of our community, please make contact with the Parish Office.

St Vincent De Paul

The St Vincent de Paul Society will be holding its Christmas Appeal next weekend: 8th & 9th Dec. Donations can be made in the envelopes available on the church pews on that weekend.



Parish Council next event

Plans to celebrate our Church turning 50 next year are well under way. We are currently looking for any memorabilia available from the early years until now. All photos/documents will need to be copies to avoid losses. The celebration will be on Sunday, 27th Jan, 2019 at the 9.30am Mass. As the Church was built by the Defence Forces Engineers there will be Army involvement on the day. There will also be invited guests as well and we look forward to as many parishioners as possible taking part on the day. There will be a BBQ after the Mass in the grounds of the church and parishioners are invited to bring a plate, e.g., sandwiches, cakes, nibbles, soft drinks/water. For catering purposes could you please indicate your attendance on the forms on the table at the rear of the Church. For info please contact Helen Carter on 0418 403 842

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

St Joseph's Moorebank will be celebrating the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on Saturday 8th Dec. The evening will begin with Reconciliation at 7pm followed by a Rosary at 7:30pm and a healing Mass with Fr. John Iacono at 8.00pm. All are welcome. This is a special celebration in honour of Our Lady. Parishioners are advised that attending this event does not fulfil our weekly obligation to attend weekend Mass, so parishioners are still required to attend one of the scheduled weekend Masses



Mass Times / Intentions

Saturday	1st Dec	5 : 30 pmGabriel do Pao (RIP)
Sunday	2nd Dec	8 : 00 amValentine Varmadevan (RIP)
Sunday	2nd Dec	9 : 30 amMass Intentions
Monday	3rd Dec	9 : 15 am.....Thanksgiving Mass
Tuesday	4th Dec	9 : 15 am.....No Service
Wednesday	5th Dec	9 : 15 amThanksgiving Mass
Wednesday	5th Dec	7 : 00 pm (TLM).....Vocations
Thursday	6th Dec	9 : 15 am.....Thanksgiving Mass
Thursday	6th Dec	7 : pm.....Thanksgiving Mass
Friday	7th Dec	9 : 15 am.....Thanksgiving Mass
Saturday	8th Dec	11: 00 am (TLM).....Thanksgiving Mass

Reconciliation : Saturdays : 4:15 pm.

Baptisms : Second & Third Sunday of the month after 9:30am Mass.

Baptism & Preparation meetings by appointment only. stchris@tpg.com.au

Syro - Malabar Liturgies:

Sunday Mass 11.30 am (Every third Sunday in the School Hall)

The Samoan Community celebrates Mass in the Church on the 3rd Sunday of the Month at 11.30am.

Adoration / Benediction - 7: 00 pm first Friday of the month (Samoan)

Adoration / Holy Hour - Thursday evening 7:30pm (in English) except Thursday before first Friday of Month.

Novena - Our Lady of Perpetual Help -1st Wed of month 7:00pm. No Mass.

No Morning Mass on 1st Tuesday of Month

Traditional Latin Mass - Sat 11:00am and each 2nd, 3rd, 4th (&5th) Wednesday of the Month 7pm.

Saints of the Week / Feasts

Monday 3rd - St. Francis Xavier

Thursday 6th - St. Nicholas

Friday 7th - St Ambrose

**Saturday 8th - The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

We Pray For The Sick : Peter Wanchalerm Srirattana, Brian Cooney, Cyril Ferriere, Lise Ferriere, Anne Enriquez, Barbara Becroft, Frank Ilankovan, Steven Aboud, Sofia Abener



Recently Deceased : Varghese Alukka

Anniversaries ; T.M. Scaria, James Mascunne, Clem Noiette, Gabriel do Pao, Valentine Varmadevan

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them
May they rest in peace. Amen.*