

Third Sunday in Advent

16th December 2018

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed the Lord is near.

First reading : from the prophet Zephaniah 3: 14 – 18.

Responsorial Psalm : Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Second Reading : Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians 4: 4 - 7.

Gospel Acclamation : Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; He sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel : according to Luke 3: 10 - 18

Communion Antiphon: Say to the faint of heart: BE strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and He will save us.

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

Drawing and Giving Life – NSW Pastoral Ministry Conference 2019

How do we renew our pastoral structures to draw and give life in the post Royal Commission Church? In what ways are we called to move forward and strengthen our ministries to serve the mission of Jesus Christ? The day includes networking with ministry leaders around NSW & two opportunities to engage with a variety of workshops with on the ground practitioners who offer strategies for renewing and strengthening our pastoral mission. Conference Rates: Early Bird \$65 (booking prior to 17 Dec). Normal rate \$75 (bookings after 17 Dec). Dooleys Catholic Club Lidcombe.

Tuesday 26th February 2019 / 9.30am To 4.30pm

Volunteering with CatholicCare

Interested in volunteering to help seniors?

Based at our Liverpool office, we need callers to phone people waiting for government funded home care to check on their wellbeing.

Interested in volunteering to help children?

Based at our Lewisham office, we need people to help at playgroups for young, vulnerable mothers and their babies.

Call CCareline on 13 18 19 to find out more.

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

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St Christopher's Catholic School — *Through faith and love we serve*

Principal: Mr. Tony Boyd

School Tel: (02) 9825 3251



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Some people have an image of God who must be obeyed out of fear. Rules of behaviour are kept as part of a deal to avoid punishment. But St Paul was imitating God when he told the Philippians that all he wanted was their 'happiness'. God's deepest desire is that we share divine bliss. St Thomas Aquinas tells us that the goal of human life is this beatific happiness. Of course, there is a way of life which responds to the Divine Lover. John the Baptist insists on rules of social justice, particularly those which forbid taking advantage of the vulnerable. But these are the minimum. He envisages a response of extravagant generosity. It will take Baptism in the Holy Spirit and Fire to make this possible. This was effected by the One foretold by John. He doesn't name him, but we know it was Jesus of Nazareth who had the power to unleash such over-the-top generosity. Jesus sent his Holy Spirit at Pentecost as if in wind and fire. This created a new community which, the Acts of Apostles tells us, responded with acts of unrestrained generosity to the vulnerable and needy. We might pause for a moment to pray for a generous spirit responding in gratitude to the Divine Lover who, as Risen Lord, has the power and will to enable us to be filled with Divine Bliss.

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Parish News

Collections : 2/12/2018 - 1) \$822.90 2) \$1,274.55

New Appointments

As of January 3rd, Fr Andrew James will take up the appointment of Administrator at St. Paul of the Cross in Dulwich Hill and Fr. Nicholas Rynne will take up the appointment of Administrator at Meander Valley in the Archdiocese of Hobart.

St Vincent De Paul

The St. Vincent de Paul Society wishes to thank our parishioners for their generosity towards our Christmas Appeal. To date, donations amounting to \$805 have been received. Thank you also to those who give each week to our Church's Poor Box. These go to adding comfort, dignity and hope to many.

Parish 50th Anniversary - 27th Jan 19 - 9:30am Mass

We are currently looking for any memorabilia available from the early years until now. All photos/documents will need to be copies to avoid any losses. There will be a BBQ after Mass and parishioners are invited to bring a plate, and soft drinks/water. For catering purposes could you please indicate your attendance on the forms available in the new noticeboard in the foyer of the church.

For any further information please contact Helen Carter on 0418 403 842

Trash & Treasure

A new shipping container compliments of St Joseph's Parish, Moorebank is being delivered to the Church grounds this weekend. The collection of quality saleable goods including books, CD's, children toys and homewares for the Trash and Treasure stall for our next Fete on the 14th Sep 2019 will commence on the 5th Jan 2019. All goods to be left in the crate in the foyer of the Church. At this stage we are unable to accept electrical goods or heavy furniture. For info please contact Helen Carter on 0418 403 842.

Christmas Message from our Missionary in Ireland

An update from Marie Teriana on her Missionary journey in Ireland can be found on the notice board and on the website.

A call for Catechists.

Thank you to all the hard working Catechists from our Parish who have just completed another year of bringing the Word of God to our State School Students. Currently about 300 children from Hammondville, Holsworthy and Wattle Grove Public Schools benefit from the work of about 18 Catechists who conduct Scripture classes every week from Kindergarten to Year Six. If you would like to become a part of this Ministry as a Catechist/Helper there is a lot of support and training available to assist you with the lessons and for enquiries about this next year please contact the Parish Office on 9825 1679.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Monday 24th Dec - Christmas Eve Vigil - 6.00pm Children's Mass

Monday 24th Dec - Carols 11:30 followed by Midnight Mass 12.00am

Tuesday 25th Dec - Christmas Day - 9.30am only

There is no evening Mass on Christmas Day

Mass Times / Intentions

Saturday	15th Dec	5 : 30 pm	.....Special Intentions
Sunday	16th Dec	8 : 00 am	.....The Sick
Sunday	16th Dec	9 : 30 am	.....Mass Intentions
Monday	17th Dec	9 : 15 am	.....Souls in purgatory
Tuesday	18th Dec	9 : 15 am	.....Arsenio Coiro & family
Wednesday	19th Dec	9 : 15 am	.....Mass Intention
Wednesday	19th Dec	7 : 00 pm (TLM)	.....Vocations
Thursday	20th Dec	9 : 15 am	.....World Peace
Friday	21st Dec	9 : 15 am	.....Australian troupes serving overseas
Saturday	22nd Dec	11: 00 am (TLM)	.....Mass intention

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

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

N/A

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

Arsenio Coiro & family



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

*To all of our parishioners, your families and friends,
we would like to wish everyone a very happy and
Holy Christmas and New Year.
Father Andrew, Father Nicholas, Deacon Al, David*