

Third Sunday of Advent—Year A

11th Dec 2016

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

First Reading from the prophet Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, come and save us.

Second Reading from the letter of St James 5:7-10

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 Matthew 11: 2-11

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

Saints of the Week

Our Lady of Guadalupe (Mon 12//12)

St Lucy (Tues 13//12)

St John of the Cross (Wed 14/12)



Christmas Mass Times

**Christmas Eve Saturday 24th Dec
6.00pm Children's Mass**

**Christmas Eve 24th Dec
Syro-Malabar Mass 8.30pm**

**Christmas Eve Saturday 24th Dec – 11.30pm Christmas Hymns
followed by Midnight Mass**

**Christmas Day Sunday 25th Dec
9.00am Mass only**

There is No evening Mass on Christmas Day

St Christopher's Parish Holsworthy

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

Administrator:	Rev. Andrew James
Assistant Priest:	Rev Thomas Alukka Vargahese
Permanent Deacon:	Rev. Mr. Al Salu
Pastoral Support	Sr. Helen Madden <i>rsj</i>
Secretary:	Mrs. Anne Bennell
Parish Office Hours	Mon 10.00am—3.00pm Tues & Thurs 9.00am—3.00pm 205 Heathcote Rd Holsworthy 2173 <u>PO Box 389, Moorebank 1875</u>
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St Christopher's Catholic School—*Through faith and love we serve*

Principal:	Mr. Tony Boyd
School Tel:	(02) 9825 3251
School Mail:	195 Heathcote Rd Holsworthy 2173

Third Sunday of Advent 11th Dec 2016

Rites of the Catholic Church

It may surprise you to learn that the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church is not in fact the only legitimate rite. Some people may be confused at the existence of a number of different rites within the Catholic Church others will have experienced Maronite Catholic and Melkite Catholics or Ukrainian Catholics. The word rite can be used to refer to the liturgical practice of an individual Church. Within the Latin Church the *Roman* rite of the Mass predominates, this means we use the Roman Missal but there are other rites of the Mass used by members of the Latin Church. There is an Ambrosian rite used in Milan. There are various adaptations of the *Roman* rite used in religious orders, such as the Carthusians, Cistercians and Dominicans. The Church has a rich tradition of different rites and these are to be preserved. The Second Vatican Council states “in faithful obedience to tradition, the sacred Council declares that holy Mother Church holds all lawfully acknowledged rites to be of equal right and dignity; that she wishes to preserve them in the future and to foster them in every way.” [1] In total there are twenty-three Eastern Catholic Churches, all of which are in communion with the Holy See and recognize the primacy of the Pope. Each of these Churches has their own identity liturgical, theological and spiritual heritage. The Second Vatican Council also has a decree on the Eastern Churches and it states :

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“ All members of the Eastern Rite should know and be convinced that they can and should always preserve their legitimate liturgical rite and their established way of life, and that these may not be altered except to obtain for themselves an organic improvement. All these, then, must be observed by the members of the Eastern rites themselves.” [2]

This means that the differences in rites are preserved and respected throughout the Church.

The Rites come from the following traditions.

The *Alexandrian Rite* is officially called the Liturgy of St. Mark.

The *Antiochene Rite* is the Liturgy of St. James of Jerusalem.

The *Armenian Rite*, derived from the Antiochene Rite Although it uses a different language, this rite is technically called the Greek Liturgy of St. Basil.

The *Chaldean Rite*, this includes the Syro-Malabar Rite, located in India, which originated with St. Thomas the Apostle, and uses the Syriac and Malayalam languages in the liturgy.

The *Byzantine Rite*, the largest Eastern Rite, is based on the Rite of St. James of Jerusalem with the later reforms of St. Basil and St. John Chrysostom. These rites employ the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom.

[1] Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy: Sacrosanctum Concilium, Paragraph 4 in Vatican II Documents (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2011).

[2] Decree on the Catholic Churches of the Eastern Rite: Orientalium Ecclesiarum, Paragraph 6 , in Vatican II Documents (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2011)

Fr. Andrew James (Administrator)

Parish Collections 4/11/2016

First: \$618.30 **Second:** \$1,044.80

The St Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank parishioners for their generous support of our Christmas Appeal \$1,423.00 was raised.

As in previous years, we will be needing assistance in the packing of the Christmas hampers at St Joseph's church hall on Friday evening, 6PM, 16th December and their delivery on Saturday morning, 17th December.

If you can help please call: Wal 9772 3318 or Mob 0431 535 721.

Mass intentions

Saturday 10th Dec 5.30pm.....Eileen Michael (RIP)
Sunday 11th Dec 8.00amBailey Maher (RIP)
Sunday 11th Dec 9.30amParish Intentions
Monday 12th Dec 9.15am.....For the Sick
Tuesday 13th Dec 9.15am.....Souls in Purgatory
Wednesday 14th Dec 9.15amMary Gilchrist (RIP)
Thursday 15th Dec 9.15amVocations
Friday 16th Dec 9.15am.....Kevin Wade (RIP)
Saturday 17th Dec**Reconciliation : 4:30 PM // Vigil Mass :5:30PM**

Syro-Malabar Liturgies:

Wednesday to Friday 7.00pm Mass & Adoration **except on First Fridays.**

Every Saturday Mass at 9.30am

Sunday Mass at 11.30am **on the Third Sunday of the Month** this will be conducted in the School Hall.

Thursday's Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be at 7.30pm and is in English. This follows the 7.00pm Syro-Malabar Mass.

The Samoan Community celebrates a **Sunday Mass** in the Church on the **Third Sunday of the Month at 11.30am**

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS 24th Dec at 6.00pm children are invited to come to this Mass dressed as Angels or Shepherds. A group will dramatise the Gospel story. All the other Shepherds & Angels will be invited to come at an appropriate time during the Mass. There is a clipboard in the church foyer to leave your details.

LIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS 8 DEC-25 DEC. Once again, St Mary's Cathedral will light up this Christmas with inspiring and reflective projections of the Christmas season. **FREE EVENT!** St Mary's Cathedral Forecourt 8-25 Dec each night from 7.30pm-12.00am www.lightsofchristmas.com.au.



Sr. Helen Madden on behalf of Mary MacKillop International wishes to thank everyone for your generous support in supplying and assisting with used stamps during 2016. It is through your efforts that the legacy of Saint Mary MacKillop continues in Peru today. Please will you continue to save your used stamps. They can be left in an envelope and placed on the table in the church foyer for collection.

We Pray For The Sick : Cyril Ferriere, Joseph Francis, Sue Morris, Kerry Stark & Peter Sidgreaves.

Recently deceased: Isaac Thomas

Anniversaries: Bailey Maher, Kevin Wade

