

BRUNSWICK AND MORELAND CATHOLIC MISSION

Weekly Newsletter



St Joseph



St Fidelis



Our Lady help of
Christians



St Ambrose

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

25 Dec 2022

MASS TIME

Our Lady's

Friday 10:00 am

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am

Communion Service

Wednesday 10:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

First Saturday:

10:30am – 11:00am

St Ambrose's

Thursday 10:00 am

Sunday 10:30 am

Communion Service

Tuesday 10:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Second Saturday:

10:30am – 11:00am

St Joseph's

Wednesday 10:00 am

Saturday 6:30 pm

(First Saturday only)

Sunday 9:00 am & 5:00 pm

Communion Service

Tuesday 10:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Third Saturday:

10:30am – 11:00am

St Fidelis'

Tuesday 9:15 am

Friday 9:15 am

Saturday 6:00 pm

Sunday 11:00 am

Italian Mass:

1st & 3rd Sunday at 9:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Fourth Saturday:

10:30am – 11:00am

THE ROAD TO BETHLEHAM AND BEYOND

Joachim and Ann, the parents of Mary, didn't like to interfere but finally Joachim broke the silence. Look Joseph, we know you are Mary's husband, but it is just sheer madness, taking a woman who is full term, on a donkey, all the way to Bethlehem, so you can be counted to the House of David. Get your brother to go. No one will know the difference.

Joseph looked at Mary and thought to himself, Joachim, I don't understand either, but we are going.

No one knew that donkey would trot all the way to Bethlehem with Mary bouncing on its back, then trot to Egypt and back to Nazareth to a carpenter shop with nothing but bills and no income!

Who would believe that God is in the middle of this change and upheaval? How can it be, thought Joseph, that God needs me to change his nappy?

Thinking about the Christmas story and thinking about our Brunswick Moreland Mission, we see that our change, our planning, and our expecting things to always be normal, is something God in our midst, interacts with and even plays with.

God is extraordinary the way God leads us and forms us and is born into our life experience, even though sometimes it feels like the donkey is out of control.

The threat of increased war, the damage by floods, the risky economy, climate change and so many other issues is what we experience. But God is with us, leading, molding, shaping us into a changing but ever anew community, with new awareness and identity.

As Mary and Joseph anticipated the birth of Jesus, so too we anticipate our Review will be a pathway, using our old steppingstones in a new design that God continues to shape and lay.

Thank you to all our parishioners and friends, for sharing faith and life as a community, in Christ Jesus Our Lord who is born for us.

Best blessing for the Christmas and the New Year,

Fr Linh Pham and Fr Greg Bourke.

(Parish Priest in Solidum)

First Reading

Isaiah 9:1-7

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
O sing to the Lord, bless his name. **R.**
2. Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. **R.**
3. Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,
let the land and all it bears rejoice,
all the trees of the wood shout for joy
at the presence of the Lord for he comes,
he comes to rule the earth. **R.**
4. With justice he will rule the world,
he will judge the peoples with his truth. **R.**

Second Reading

Titus 2:11-14

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Good News and great joy to all the world:
today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 2:1-14

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census - the first - took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing:

*'Glory to God in the highest heaven
and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'*



Prayers of Intention:

For the Sick:

Maureen O'Brien, Leanne Paolini, Baby Alba, Phil Russell, Bernadette Steward, Teresa Fiore, Lewis Calleja, Cynthia D'Souza, Patricia Belli and Gina Denk.

Recently Deceased:

Doug Bracken, Josip Stanko, Giuseppe Mazza, Giovanni Torre, Palmira Taglieri, Santo Vasile, Giuseppe Masini, Antonio D'Agrosa, Domenico Salzone & Antonio Ragnanese.

Anniversaries:

Nunziata Martino, Antonio Luciani, Sebastiano Rizza, Mario DiSarno, Charlie Borelli, Domenico, e Assunta Testa, Emilio & Rosa Borelli, Jack Murtagh, Anna and Pasquale De Sensi, Michelke Vadala, Nino Vadala, Nuziato Vadala, Angela Vadala Carmela Vadala, and Maria Palamara.

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

The Gospel situates the birth of Jesus within Roman rule of the first century. Through the Incarnation, the ordinary becomes transparent and reveals the extraordinary; the divine is known in the child. Only those of humble heart experience this wonder. They behold it and they come to embrace it. In fact, it is the nature of this child, born in history, to reverse the orders of power.

God is portrayed as a valiant liberator who champions the cause of justice and who brings a liberation that reverses history and the ways of war, power and oppression. This reversal is made more shocking by the fact that the one who is the mighty warrior and conqueror of the nations is a child. This child is the weak and voiceless one, the one who has neither power nor legal rights. God's reversal of the long-standing realities of this world is accomplished through the apparently insignificant, through the gift of this child who is given to us in the middle of the night.

Something new has happened: the age of God's fulfilment has arrived. The age of grace and fresh hope, made available to all people of good will, is an era of redemptive presence. Now all people can walk in the newness of life and grace. Yet, while this new age has begun, it is not yet fully realised. We live believing in its presence and awaiting its fulfilment. Although we are celebrating Christmas, we still await the final coming of the Lord.

ST FIDELIS PARISH THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES



Your Thanksgiving envelopes 2022-2023 are ready for collection in the foyer area of the church. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

This year 2022, the parish of St Fidelis had necessary Church roof repairs and maintenance completed. The damage was caused by water seepage. The cost including the insurance excess and repair to the stain glass window behind the pipe organ was \$50,010.25.

In addition a new heating plant was installed to replace the existing boiler, which was completely broken, due to age (40 years). The estimated cost, to complete installation, of the new heating hot water plant is \$29,000.00.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OFFICE OPENING HOURS

The parish offices will be closed from Friday 23rd December 2022 and will reopen on Tuesday 10th January 2023.

During this time, if you have any enquiries or any urgent matters, please email or call the parish mobile 0452 180 037.

A priest will be monitoring the emails and the phone and will attend to your enquires as soon as practicable.

MASS TIMES AFTER CHRISTMAS AND JANUARY

All Mass times, weekday and weekend, will be as normal.

No Communion Services at Our Lady's and St Ambrose between 27 December 2022 to 6 January 2023.

FARWELL Ian Vergel

Christmas Day will be Ian's last day of his pastoral placement with Brunswick Moreland Mission. Thank you Ian for your friendly and positive approach and for all you have done for our community, in seen and unseen ways.

Your warm, youthful and generous personality has been an inspiration to us all. Our prayers and support go with you as you continue your journey toward ordained Priesthood.

LA STRADA PER BETHLEHAM E OLTRE

Anna e Gioacchino, i genitori di Maria, non amavano interferire, ma alla fine Joachim ruppe il silenzio. "Guarda Giuseppe, sappiamo che sei il marito di Maria, ma è pura follia, portare una donna a termine, su un asino, fino a Betlemme, in modo da poter contare sulla Casa di Davide. Fai andare tuo fratello. Nessuno conoscerà la differenza.

Giuseppe guardò Maria e pensò tra sé: Gioacchino, non capisco neanche, ma stiamo andando.

Nessuno sapeva che l'asino avrebbe trotolato fino a Betlemme con Maria che rimbalzava sulla sua schiena, poi avrebbe trotolato in Egitto e di nuovo a Nazaret in una falegnameria con nient'altro che bollette e senza reddito!

Chi crederebbe che Dio sia nel mezzo di questo cambiamento e sconvolgimento? Come può essere, pensò Giuseppe, che Dio abbia bisogno che io gli cambi il pannolino?

Pensando alla storia di Natale e pensando alla nostra missione di Moreland Brunswick, vediamo che il nostro cambiamento, la nostra pianificazione e il nostro aspettarci che le cose siano sempre normali, è qualcosa con cui Dio in mezzo a noi, interagisce e persino gioca.

Il nostro Dio è straordinario nel modo in cui Dio ci guida e ci forma e nasce nella nostra esperienza di vita anche se, a volte, sembra che l'asino sia fuori controllo.

La minaccia di un aumento della guerra, i danni delle inondazioni, l'economia rischiosa, il cambiamento climatico e tanti altri problemi è ciò che sperimentiamo, ma Dio è con noi, guidando, plasmandoci, plasmandoci in una comunità mutevole ma sempre nuova, con nuova consapevolezza e identità.

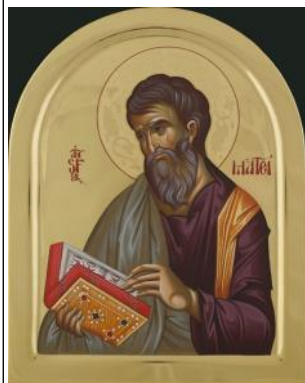
Come Maria e Giuseppe hanno anticipato la nascita di Gesù, così anche noi prevediamo che la nostra Revisione sarà un percorso, usando le nostre vecchie pietre miliari in un nuovo disegno che Dio continua a plasmare e posare.

Grazie a tutti i nostri parrocchiani e amici, per aver condiviso la fede e la vita come comunità, in Cristo Gesù Nostro Signore che è nato per noi.

Migliore benedizione per il Natale e il Nuovo Anno,

P. Linh Pham e P. Greg Bourk.

(Parroco in Solidum)



SCRIPTURE REFLECTION AND COMMUNION SERVICE

FEAST of SAINT JOHN APOSTLE

*"Then the other disciple who had reached the
tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed"*

John 20:2-8

Tuesday at 10.00am at ST JOSEPH'S

ALL WELCOME!

SEEING BEAUTY: THE CALLING OF LEOPOLDINE MIMOVICH

Local Context: Leopoldine Mimovich lived in the West Brunswick Parish, one of her first commission was given Fr O'Donnell, Parish Priest at St Joseph's. This famous artist's work is displayed as Stations of the Cross on the walls of St Joseph's Church. In addition, a carved statue of the Madonna also takes pride and place holding the infant Jesus, Emmanuel, the God who is with us in every circumstance.

Contact

Parish Priests

Fr Linh Pham

Fr Greg Bourke

**After Hours or Emergency please call
Mob: 0452 180 037**

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(Tue – Fri 9.00am – 5.00pm)

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St Ambrose's Brunswick

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Our Lady's East Brunswick

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(Tue, Thur & Fri 9.00am – 4.30pm)

Safety of Children and All Vulnerable People

We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people, as a central and fundamental responsibility, of our parishes. The Parish Statement of Commitment and the Reporting Process, are on display in all churches, and all Parish Policies are available, on the website:
bmcatholicmission.org.au