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NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

New Year's Prayer
 As the dawn breaks on a new year, let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our health, our family and our friends.
 Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains. Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way. Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of race, colour or creed.
 Let us keep God of our own understanding in our hearts and to chant Gods name each day. Let us lead the world from darkness to light, from falsehood to truth and from wrong to right.
 Let us remember that we are all one, embracing all, discriminating against none.
 May your year be filled with peace, prosperity and love.
 May Gods blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy and peaceful new year.

By Rev. Marcy Sheremetta at <https://www.xavier.edu.au>

LOL PARISH MINISTRIES & COORDINATORS

Liturgy: Y. Fenech & S. Sta. Maria	Home Visits & Holy Com.: A. Tilley	Altar Servers: S. Rajan
Baptism Prep: R. Vail & M. Mardy	Liturgy Rosters: D. Lim	Piety Stall: M. Lisle
Sacramental Prep: M. Alphonso, M. Mardy, A. Tilley	Our Lady of Fatima Visit: V. Measki	Library: A. Tilley
Children Liturgy: M. Alphonso	Narthex Coord. & Altar Linen: B. Pascoe	Cuppa: B. Pascoe & M. McKiterick
Eucharistic Ministers: E. Kinnear	Counting & Banking: B. Dempsey	Art, Garden & Environment: V. Measki
Proclaimers: Y. Fenech	Parish Choirs: M. Dennis /Fons; S. Fernandes; Praveen; Galangs	Event Management: W. Singh
Prayer & Friendship Group: Y. Fenech (Wed)	Craft Grp: B. Pascoe & M. McKiterick (Thurs)	Parish Website & PowerPoint: D. Lim & A. Sujeev
Safeguarding: M. Anderson	SVDP Society: For Help Call 1300 305 330	Maintenance: P. Lynch
Care & Support Group: A. Tilley		Mowing Roster: P. Lynch



HOLY MASS

Weekend

- Saturday: 9am Morning Mass; 6pm Vigil Mass
- Sunday: 8am, 10am & 5pm

Weekday

- Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 9am (Benediction & Adoration on First Friday at 8:30am)
- Tuesday: 7:30pm (Adoration, Divine Mercy Novena & Benediction at 6:30pm)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary: 30 minutes before weekday Masses

SACRAMENTS

- Baptism** 2nd Sunday of every month, 11:15am (2 months advance notice)
- Baptism Preparation** 2nd Thursday of every month, 7:30pm.
- Reconciliation** Tuesday: 6:30pm & Saturday: 9:30am and 5:30pm
- Marriage** Minimum 6 months advance notice is required
- Sacramental Preparation:** Call the Parish Office

PRESBYTERY

- Parish Priest: **Fr. Sabu Thomas Adimakiyil VC**
- Secretary: **Millicent Cabisidan (Peachy)**
- Bookkeeper: **Emalyn Rivera**

OFFICE HOURS

- Wednesday & Thursday 9am - 3pm
- Friday 9am - 12pm

LOL PRIMARY SCHOOL

- Principal: Ross Williams Tel: (03) 9729 3411

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

- Chair: Michael Di Paola

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

- Chair: Michael Dennis

25 Orange Grove, Bayswater, Victoria 3153
 Tel: (03) 9729 2622
 Email: bayswater@cam.org.au
 Website: www.ololbayswater.org.au

VISION

Our parish be a faith-filled, caring and sharing community that will actively embrace multiculturalism and team building reaching out to joyfully demonstrate God's love to the wider society.

MISSION

That our parish hold spiritual and social programmes to cater to all levels and interests of parishioners, drawing in toddlers, youth, elderly, and new families into the orbit of the parish.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.'



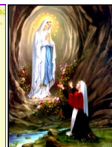


The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

31 DECEMBER 2023

'We are a Safe and Inclusive Parish'

YEAR B / 2



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6
2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6
Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

RESPONSE

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

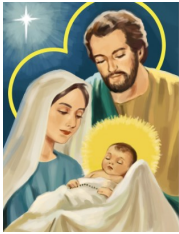
ACCLAMATION

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!
May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
and the fullness of his message live within you.
ALLELUIA!

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

The Gospel for today presents the head of the Holy Family, Joseph, faithfully obeying God's law given through Moses concerning the purification of the mother and the redeeming of the child by presenting Mary and the Baby Jesus in the Temple.

Let us look to the Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph for inspiration, example and encouragement. They were a model family in which both parents worked hard, helped each other, understood and accepted each other, and took good care of their Child so that Jesus might grow up not only in human knowledge but also as a Child of God. Source: Excerpted from Fr Tony Kadavil's Homily at <https://frtonyshomilies.com/>. Image from <https://www.reddit.com/>



LITURGY OF THE WORD

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

FIRST READING: SIRACH 3:2-6, 12-14

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus.

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons. Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune. Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord. My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life.

Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins. The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

1. Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. O sing to him, sing his praise; tell all his wonderful works! (R.)
2. Be proud of his holy name, let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice. Consider the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face. (R.)
3. Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, the judgements he spoke. O children of Abraham, his servant, O sons of the Jacob he chose. (R.)
4. He remembers his covenant for ever, his promise for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. (R.)

SECOND READING: COLOSSIANS 3:12-21

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians. You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving

thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated. The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL: LUKE 2:22-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke. When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him. The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.



POPE: SAY 'YES' TO THE PRINCE OF PEACE, 'NO' TO WAR

Celebrating the birth of Jesus, the prince of peace, should mean making a commitment to opposing all war, to cherishing human life, feeding the hungry and speaking up for those who have no voice, Pope Francis said.

'To say "yes" to the Prince of Peace, then, means saying "no" to war—and doing so with courage—saying no to every war, to the very mindset of war, an aimless voyage, a defeat without victors, an inexcusable folly,' the Pope said on 25 December as he read his Christmas message and offered his blessing 'urbi et orbi' ('to the city and the world'). Full report at www.vaticannews.va



IN WORLD PEACE DAY MESSAGE, POPE WARNS OF RISKS OF AI FOR PEACE

In his annual Message for the World Day of Peace which will be celebrated on 1 January 2024, Pope Francis reflects on the impact of Artificial Intelligence on world peace and urges the international community to adopt a binding international treaty that regulates its development and use.

He urges world leaders to ensure that progress in developing forms of artificial intelligence "will ultimately serve the cause of human fraternity and peace."

"It is my prayer at the start of the New Year that the rapid development of forms of artificial intelligence will not increase cases of inequality and injustice all too present in today's world, but will help put an end to wars and conflicts, and alleviate many forms of suffering that afflict our human family." Full text at www.vaticannews.va

7 UPS FOR THE NEW YEAR

1. **WAKE UP:** Begin the day thanking the Lord. It is His day. Rejoice in it.
2. **LOOK-UP:** Open your eyes to the Lord Jesus. Ask for His strength and blessings for the day through the anointing of His Holy Spirit. After all, He is your only Savior.
3. **DRESS-UP:** Put on a smile. It improves your looks. It says something about your attitude. It enables Jesus living within you smile at others.
4. **SHUT-UP:** Watch your tongue. Don't gossip. Don't be judgmental. Say nice things. Learn to listen to others with love. Be sympathetic.
5. **STAND-UP:** Take a stand for what you believe. Resist evil. Do good. Have the courage of your Christian convictions by practicing what you believe.
6. **REACH-UP:** Spend time in prayer by talking to God with your adorations, confessions, thanksgivings, and supplications, and by listening to Him through the attentive reading the Bible and the application of its message to your life.
7. **LIFT-UP:** Be available to help those in need—serving, supporting, and sharing. Try to find Jesus in others and serve Him there by serving them.

(Adapted from Rev. Walter Schoedel)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING AND THEIR FAMILIES:

- **ANNIVERSARY:** Hendrika Herwynen, Vera King, Maria Camera, Peter Sarteschi, Carolyn McLelland Dempsey, Vin Travaglia, Francis John Scudds, May Frost, Marvan Bjelogravic, Manderson de Leon, Margaret Gibb, Herbert Fitch, Giacomo Gobeo, Audrey Guillerme, John Gabriel, Michael Joseph Bryne.
- **SICK:** Peter Lisle, Wendy Markby, Fiona Scudds, Mary McKiterick.



POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY: For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church

In his prayer intention for January 2024 Pope Francis draws our attention to the different ways in

which we experience our faith. He prays that we might see our differences as a blessing and not something to regret. He describes the different paths along which our faith takes us as charisms. This Greek word refers to our activity within the Church both as a gift and a calling within the whole community. The charisms refer to the responsibilities we have within the Church as ministers, readers, and other activities within the church, and also as preachers and spreaders of the Gospel. Some of these gifts are public, others are hidden, such as being a good listener. But for all of us, to speak of our faith and to commend it to others by our lives and our words is a gift and a calling. Pope Francis calls us to be welcome the diversity of our gifts and callings. We should not see our differences as a sign of sin but as something to be celebrated. Nor should we see our simple contributions to the life of the church as less important than those with other gifts. Together they form the Body of Christ.

Pope Francis also speaks of the differences between the rites of celebrating the Eucharist and other Sacraments as a blessing to be celebrated. He has in mind the ancient rites that have descended from worship in Rome, Alexandria, Antioch and Constantinople, and through them to other parts of the world. They are not rivals but complementary. In our own time we have seen more adaptation to the culture of different nations. In nations where dance is a traditional and powerful way for people to express themselves in prayer to God, they form part of the prayer life of the church. When it comes to shoes and to our life as Catholics one size does not fit all.

Full text at www.pray.com.au

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

- 1 January - Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
- 2 January - Saint Basil and Gregory
- 3 January - Most Holy Name of Jesus

NEW YEAR 2024 MASS TIME

31 DECEMBER - SUNDAY

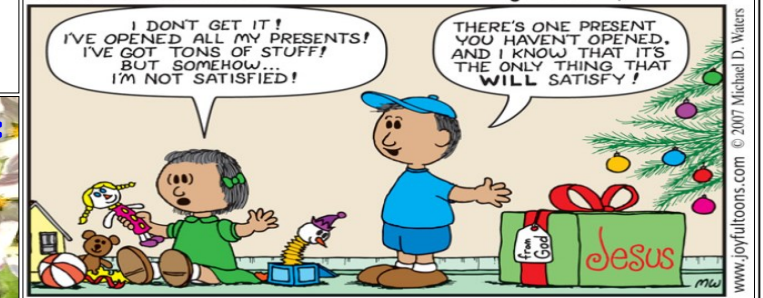
- Regular Sunday Mass: 8am, 10am, 5pm
- Year end/New Year Prayers at 11:00pm
- New year's Night Mass at 12:00am

1 JANUARY 2024 - MONDAY

- New Year's Day Mass at 9am
- (no other Masses)

GIFT OF JESUS

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men, for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.