

A reading from the Book of Isaiah (9:1-7)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. Thou hast multiplied the nation, thou hast increased its joy; they rejoice before thee as with joy at the harvest, as men rejoice when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, thou hast broken as on the day of Midian. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called "Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace". Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David, and over his kingdom, to establish it, and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and for ever more. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

This is the word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

Response: Today a Saviour has been born to us; who is Christ the Lord.

O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. O sing to the Lord, bless his name. **R/**

Proclaim his help day by day, tell among the nations his glory, and his wonders among all the peoples. **R/**

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/**

With justice he will rule the world, he will judge the peoples with his truth. **R/**

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to Titus (2:11-14)

The grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright and godly lives in this world, awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

This is the word of the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! I bring you good news of a great joy. Today a Saviour has been born to us, who is Christ the Lord. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke (2:11-14)

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrolment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of heavenly hosts praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased." *The Gospel of the Lord.*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory. (Jn 1:14)

Entrance

JOY TO THE WORLD

Joy to the world!
The Lord is come.
Let earth receive her King.
Let ev'ry heart
prepare Him room,
and heaven and nature sing.
And heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and heaven
and nature sing.

Joy to the world!
The Saviour reigns.
Let men their songs employ.
While fields and floods,
rocks, hills and plains,
repeat the sounding joy.
Repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat
the sounding joy.



Offertory

THE FIRST NOWELL

The first nowell
the angel did say
Was to certain
poor shepherds
in fields as they lay,
In fields where they lay,
keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night
that was so deep.

Refrain:

**Nowell, Nowell,
Nowell, Nowell
Born is the King
of Israel.**

When they looked up
they saw a star
Shining in the east,
beyond them far,
And to the earth
it gave great light
And so it continued
both day and night. (Ref)



Communion:

AWAY IN A MANGER

Away in a manger no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes;
I love Thee Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle til morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay.
Close by me forever and love me, I pray;
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.



DON BOSCO SUMMER CAMPS 2017 3-6 January, 9-12 January and 16-19 January 2017. 56-62 Dromana Parade, Safety Beach
Book www.donboscocamp.org.au

Final

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO**

Come to Bethlehem
and see Him
Him whose birth
the Angels sing
Come adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord,
the new-born King.

Refrain:

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO**



Weekly Parish Newsletter

Bollettino Parrocchiale Settimanale

Volume IX - Issue 47th The NATIVITY of the LORD "Year A" 25th December 2016

The Parish Community of St. Brigid and St. Mark
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We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently on this land.

God's love is the gift of Christmas, Jesus our Savior: a gift to celebrate and share

As you have entered into St. Brigid's church you must have noticed the Christmas greetings in several languages: "**Joyful and Blessed Christmas.**" Christmas is a time when all people wish and pray for joy and peace. This can be obtained not by the power of our own good will but by the power of God's love: "**God's Love is the gift of**

Christmas, Jesus our Savior: a gift to celebrate and share."

May this message convey the meaning of Christmas so as to open our heart to receive Jesus, to celebrate his coming as companion in our human journey and to share the joy of new hope in life. The baby of Bethlehem, Jesus, is the revelation of God's supreme love made in such a humble and approachable way. But as this love made such a great demand on God, so is the demand of our response. Our response to Christmas is to let Jesus grow in our heart beyond sweet songs, adorned cribs, flickering lights and the rare Mass attendance. If so, Jesus will remain dwarf and crippled in his growth. How many were the Christmases we have celebrated in life? Yet for many Christ has not grown in stature and spiritual wisdom all this time. Jesus is still a baby! A heart that celebrates Christmas is ready to let Jesus' power of love and holiness transform our life into his like a child responding to the love of the parents. The growth in our spiritual life and life of faith is what Jesus is expecting from us. At the manger in Bethlehem he revealed this secret by becoming a baby and letting Mary and Joseph attend to him for his health and growth. The angels spoke for him: "Peace on earth to people of good will". Good will is the spiritual attitude that opens our heart and mind to let Jesus lead us in life in obedience and conformity to his mission on earth. If not, we celebrate only a fable, an empty vision, an utopic wish. Christmas is no more than a "pop" of champagne. The Church's prayer is that, touched by this great sign of God's love, we may celebrate it in our life and share it in our community.



Il dono di Natale e' l'Amore di Dio in Gesu' Salvatore: un dono da celebrare e condividere.

Entrando in questa chiesa avrete notato gli auguri di Natale in tante lingue: "**Gioia e Benedizione.**" Natale e' il tempo in cui tutti si augurano e pregano per la gioia e la pace. Ma questo si puo' ottenere non per nostra buona volonta' ma per la grazia dell'amore di Dio: "**Il dono di Natale e' l'Amore di**

Dio in Gesu' Salvatore: un dono

da celebrare e condividere." Possa questo messaggio rivelare il significato del Natale e aprire il nostro cuore a ricevere Gesu', celebrare la sua venuta in mezzo a noi come compagno nel nostro viaggio della vita e donarci la gioia della vera speranza. Il bambino di Betlemme, Gesu', e' la rivelazione dell'amore supremo di Dio fatta in grande umilta' e vicinanza. Ma questo gesto d'amore gli e' costato tanto e domanda da noi una generosa risposta. La nostra risposta e' lasciare che Gesu' cresca la sua presenza nel nostro cuore e nella nostra vita al di la' di canti gioiosi, il presepio, le luci e una rara partecipazione alla S. Messa. Se cosi' e', allora Gesu' rimane un nano, paralizzato nel suo crescere. Quanti Natali celebrati nella nostra vita? Forse Gesu' non e' cresciuto in grazia e sapienza dentro di noi. Gesu' e' rimasto bambino! Chi celebra il Natale veramente lascia che la forza dell'amore di Gesu' ci trasformi la vita in una crescita di santita' e di buona volonta' come l'amore dei genitori causa la crescita e la maturita' del loro bambino. Questo si aspetta Gesu' da noi. Nella mangiatoia di Betlemme, il Bambino Gesu' ci rivela il segreto di questo amore lasciando che Maria e Giuseppe si curino di lui per nutrirlo, proteggerlo, farlo crescere. Gli angeli annunciano in suo nome: "Pace in terra agli uomini di buona volonta'" ! La buona volonta' e' l'atteggiamento spirituale che ci apre il cuore e la mente a lasciare che Gesu' guidi la nostra vita in obbedienza e conformita' alla sua missione in terra. Se questo non avviene, il Natale e' solo una favola, una visione allucinante, un'utopia. La celebrazione del Natale e' soltanto un "pop" di spumante. La Chiesa prega che, toccati da questo grande amore di Dio, noi possiamo sinceramente celebrare questo dono e condividerlo nella nostra comunita'.

Wishing you all a Blessed Christmas

Augurando a tutti voi un Buon Santo Natale



The Missionaries of St. Charles Borromeo - Scalabrinians www.Scalabrini.org
Ministering to the Parish and Migrants in St. Brigid since 1959

Liturgical Calendar and activities

Day of the Week	Liturgical Celebration	Intention St. Mark	Intention St. Brigid	Parish Activity
SATURDAY/SABATO 24th December 2016	Year A	Ogni Sabato 10.00am S.Messa per gli anziani al Rathdowne Place 497 Rathdowne Street Carlton. <i>Si cercano volontari.</i>	6.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass 8.00pm Spanish Mass 10.30 -11.30pm Carols 12.00am Midnight Mass	 <i>Wishing everyone a blessed and joyous Christmas</i>
CHRISTMAS VIGIL VIGILIA DEL S. NATALE				
CHRISTMAS DAY SANTO NATALE		8.30am Deceased Members of the REBESCHINI family 10.00am Portuguese Mass	9.45am Carmela FIORE 11.00am (Vedere elenco)	
Monday 26th December 2016 St. Stephen, the first martyr Acts 6:8 - 10, 7:54 - 59; Mt 10: 17 - 22	<i>Responsorial Psalm</i> <i>Into your hands, O Lord, I entrust my spirit.</i>	8.00am Feast of St. Stephen	9.15am Feast of St. Stephen Nicola RICCI 1st annv.	
Tuesday 27th December 2016 St. John, apostle, evangelist 1 Jn 1:1 - 4; Jn 20:2 - 8	<i>Responsorial Psalm</i> <i>Let the just rejoice in the Lord.</i>	8.00am Feast of St. John	9.15am Feast of St. John 11.00am Giuseppe PITISANO Morto in Italia 17/12/2016	
Wednesday/Mercoledì 28th December 2016 Santi Innocenti, martiri The Holy Innocents, martyrs 1 Jn 1:5 - 2:2; Mt 2:13 - 18	<i>Responsorial Psalm</i> <i>A te grida, Signore, il dolore innocente.</i> <i>Our soul has escaped like a bird from the hunter's net.</i>	8.00am Festa di Santi Innocenti	9.15am Festa di Santi Innocenti	
Thursday 29th December 2016 5th day in the Octave of the Nativity 1 Jn 2:3 - 11; Lk 2:22 - 35	<i>Responsorial Psalm</i> <i>Let heaven and earth exult in joy!</i>	8.00am	9.15am	
Friday 30th December 2016 THE HOLY FAMILY Sirach 3: 2 - 6, 12 - 14; Mt 2:13 - 15, 19 - 23	<i>Responsorial Psalm</i> <i>Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.</i>	8.00am Feast of the Holy Family	9.15am Feast of the Holy Family Carmelo CALANDRA	

VIATOUR 2017 - PELLEGRINAGGIO di 20 giorni con P. Savino Bernardi. Prezzo \$5949. Si visita il Santuario della Madonna di Fatima, per il centenario dell'apparizione, Lourdes, Assisi, San Giovanni Rotondo, Roma, Pompei, e tanti altri posti. Partenza 11 Maggio fino al 30 Maggio 2017. (Ritorno a volontà) Se siete interessati, parlate con Padre Savino.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES available on the seats and on the table at the entrance to the church. The Scalabrinian fathers thank you for your kindness and generosity. BUSTINE PER L'OFFERTA DI NATALE si trovano sui banchi e all'entrata della Chiesa. I padri vi ringraziano per la vostra generosità.

Parish Community	Parish Office	Comunidad Pastoral De Habla Hispana	Comunidade Pastoral De Expressão Portuguesa	Filipino Pastoral Community
Parish Priest: Fr. Savino Bernardi, CS	Monday to Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm	Tel: (03) 9482-5362 Fax: (03) 9489-9926	Chaplain P. José Gutierrez, CS	Chaplain Mons. Joselito Asis
Assistant Parish Priest & Migrant Chaplain to the Italian Community: Fr. Vito Pegolo, CS Tel: 0419 736 890	Parish Secretary Giovanna Bellissimo Tel: (03) 9489-6777 Fax: (03) 9489-9926	Chaplain P. José Gutierrez, CS Mob: 0481 127 374	Fax: (03) 9489-9926 Mob: 0410 001 462	Tel: (03) 9482-5349 Fax: (03) 9489-9926 Mob: 0404 261 228

Parish News... Notizie di casa nostra...

Liturgy of the Word 31st Dec.&1st Jan.2017	6.00pm Vigil St. Brigid	8.30am St. Mark	9.45am St. Brigid	11.00am St. Brigid	Offertory Procession	Special Ministers	Church Cleaning
I Reading	Volunteer	L. Murphy	Children	P. La Marca	A. Marchesan / M. Del Raso	M. Lauria	
Responsorial Psalm	Volunteer	L. Murphy	Children	T. Toscano	Children		
II Reading	Volunteer	A. De Santis	Children	P. La Marca	Colosimo Family		


11.00 am INTENZIONI
Antonio BUTERA
Defunti membri della famiglia CAPITÓ
Defunti membri delle famiglie BELLISSIMO e PETRUCCI
Giuseppe, Paola e Concetto MAZZARELLA
Giuseppe e Joseph GARRO
Maria MAZZARELLA - Ennio PAGNIELLO
Gino e Clelia DE MAIO
Emilia e Nancy RUSSO
Defunti membri della famiglia GARRO

BON VOYAGE FR. LUCIANO
Fr. Luciano is leaving on Tuesday for a holiday back home in Brazil to visit his family. We wish him all the very best for a safe journey and an enjoyable time.

St. Brigid & St. Mark Collections

1st Collection	\$550 - 00
2nd Collection	\$320 - 00
Envelopes	\$140 - 00

Reflection from Catholic Vocations 25 December Christmas Day
As we look upon the crib scene in our churches and our homes, we see simplicity yet peace. How can I bring some simplicity of life and peace into my Christmas celebrations with family and friends through my words and actions? *Please pray for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life- that many young people may respond to the challenge to bring peace through simplicity of life and service.*

Ingresso: VENITE FEDELI
Venite Fedeli, l'angelo ci invita, venite, venite a Betlemme.
Nasce per noi Cristo Salvatore.
Venite adoriamo, venite adoriamo, venite adoriamo il Signore Gesù.

La luce del mondo brilla in una grotta; la fede di guida a Betlemme. *Rit.*
Il Figlio di Dio, Re dell'universo, si è fatto Bambino a Betlemme. *Rit.*
"Sia gloria nei cieli, pace sulla terra", un angelo annunzia a Betlemme. *Rit.*

Offertorio: IL NATALE DEL SIGNORE
Il Natale del Signore torna ancora tra noi per ridarci la vita la gioia, l'amor. Gesù nasce ancor per rinascere in noi, per condurre più in alto chi crede in Lui.
Veniamo a Te, noi crediamo in Te: Tu sei salvezza, sei porta del ciel.
O fratelli, adoriamo Dio disceso tra noi, per redimere il mondo si è fatto bambin. Gesù dall'altar tutti invita a seguir la sua pace che è pegno di un nuovo avvenir. *R.*

Comunione: ASTRO DEL CIEL
Astro del ciel, pargol divin, mite agnello redentor!
Tu che i vati da lungi sognar, Tu che angeliche voci nunziar
luce dona alle menti, pace infondi nei cuor (2)
Astro del ciel, pargol divin, mite agnello redentor!
Tu di stirpe regale decor, Tu virgineo mistico fior,
luce dona alle menti, pace infondi nei cuor (2)
Astro del ciel, pargol divin, mite agnello redentor!
Tu disceso a scontare l'error, tu sol nato a parlare d'amor,
luce dona alle menti, pace infondi nei cuor (2)

Fine: TU SCENDI DALLE STELLE
Tu scendi dalle stelle, o re del cielo; e vieni in una grotta al freddo e al gelo; e vieni in una grotta al freddo e al gelo.
O bambino mio divino, io ti vedo qui a tremar, o Dio beato!
Ah! Quanto ti costò l'avermi amato (2v).
A Te che sei del mondo il creatore, mancano panni e fuoco, o mio Signore; mancano panni e fuoco, o mio Signore.
Caro eletto pargoletto, quanto questa povertà più m'innamora! giacché ti fece amor povero ancora (2 v)

APPRECIATION
Thank you to all who have generously supported in many ways the needs of our Church and the life of the Parish. Thank you also for your support, best wishes, gifts and Christmas Offering.
May You and Your families be rewarded a hundredfold by the Love of God. Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and a very happy New Year.
Your parish priest Fr. Savino and fathers: Vito, Luciano, Joselito and José .

Grazie a tutti coloro che durante quest'anno hanno contribuito all'aiuto alla nostra Chiesa e alla vita della nostra Parrocchia. Grazie di cuore anche per il vostro supporto, auguri, regali e Offerta Natalizia. Che l'Amore di Dio ricompensi Voi e le Vostre Famiglie cento volte tanto. Auguri per un Buon Santo Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo. Il vostro parroco P. Savino e con i padri: Vito, Luciano, Joselito e José.

