 **Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**

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Parish Priest: Fr. Vittorio Ricciardi

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**ON BEHALF OF OUR PARISH**

**IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY**

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

In this Christmastide, the sacrament of Reconciliation will continue every Saturday at 10.30am in preparation for all the other feast of Christmas.

This year, Fr Vittorio will be available for the individual confessions also by appointment, but every Saturday, at 10.30am, will be dedicated to the confessions. There will be **no Mass** **anymore** **on Saturday morning, except for important solemnities.**

**GOVERNMENT COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS AFFECTING OUR MASSES**

The restrictions relating to Church gatherings as they currently affect us are:

1. The numbers who can attend Mass in our Church are now 100. This is based on the Government’s formula of one person for every four-square metres of floor space.
2. Masks are **NOT** required to be worn in Church (if social distancing can be observed).
3. Social distancing (1.5 m separation) must be observed during movement into and seating in the Church and our pews have been marked accordingly to assist.
4. Attendance/contact rolls must be maintained as is presently the case.
5. We have, as many parishioners now attending Mass know, continued to have a "Duty Officer" in the Narthex to take bookings and record attendees details as required. This has been done to avoid bottlenecks on entry to the Church (which would occur if we were to leave parishioners to complete the roll themselves or we would have to have multiple rolls).
6. Our attendances are increasing and at Christmas we anticipate a surge in numbers which will mean it is important that Parishioners book for Mass (ring 95983979) to guarantee that they have a seat at the Mass of their choice. Just turning up means you could be turned away if the nominated Church capacity of 100 has been reached.

Collection bowls are located in the main aisle for the Thanksgiving collection and the Presbytery collection. Thank you to all who have helped financially over this difficult year.

**MASS TIMES**

We have now resumed all our weekday Masses (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 9am, excluding Saturday morning) together with Masses on Saturday at 6pm and Sunday at 9am and 10:30am. In this Christmastide Masses will be as follows:

**Saturday 26 December 6:00pm Mass Holy Family (to book call 95983979)**

**Sunday 27 December 9:00am Mass Holy Family (to book call 95983979)**

**Sunday 27 December 10:30am Mass Holy Family (to book call 95983979)**

**Monday 28 December 9:00am Mass Holy Innocents (to book call 95983979)**

**Tuesday 29 December 9:00am Mass 5th day of Octave Nativ. (to book call 95983979)**

**Wednesday 30 December 9:00am Mass 6th day of Octave Nativ. (to book call 95983979)**

**Thursday 31 December 9.00am Mass 7th day of Octave Nativ. (to book call 95983979)**

**Friday 1 January 9:00am Mass of New Year, Mary Holy Mother of God**

 **(to book call 95983979)**

**Saturday 2 January 6:00pm Mass Epiphany (to book call 95983979)**

**Sunday 3 January 9:00am Mass Epiphany (to book call 95983979)**

**Sunday 3 January 10:30am Mass Epiphany (to book call 95983979)**

All Sunday Masses will still continue to be broadcast on Zoom (login via the Parish website on [www.cam.org.au/hamptoneast](http://www.cam.org.au/hamptoneast)), until further notice. Weekday Masses will continue as normal **without Zoom.**

Follow the link on our Parish website for the liturgy and songs, including a copy of this bulletin.

All information about our Parish is on our website [www.cam.org.au/hamptoneast](http://www.cam.org.au/hamptoneast)

 **CONTACT TRACING**

In order to help reduce the clerical workload on the Parish the Archdiocese has helped in facilitating the introduction of a system for people who have so called “smart phones”. The system has been referred to as a “QR code for contact tracing” system. The “new system” would allow Parishioners with “smart phones to scan a code on entering the Church allowing this parishioner to enter their details (Christian Name, Surname, email address and Phone Number). While this system could perhaps reduce some of the clerical workload of the Parish, the current manual system would still have to be run in parallel for those without smart phones and bookings would still be recorded manually. The Parish will investigate this system after Christmas.

 **THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY: MOTHER OF GOD**

Just a reminder that on the **1st of January 2021**, **the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at 9am for Adoration and solemn Blessing followed by Holy Mass.**

**The catechism of the Catholic Church can help us to discover Mary’s divine motherhood.** Called in the Gospels “the mother of Jesus,” Mary is acclaimed by Elizabeth, at the prompting of the Spirit and even before the birth of her son, as “the mother of my Lord.” In fact, the One whom she conceived as man by the Holy Spirit, who truly became her Son according to the flesh, was none other than the Father’s eternal Son, the second person of the Holy Trinity. Hence the Church confesses that Mary is truly “Mother of God” (*Theotokos*). (CCC 495)

In the past, the Nestorian heresy regarded Christ as a human person joined to the divine person of God’s Son. Opposing this heresy, St. Cyril of Alexandria and the third ecumenical council at Ephesus in 431 confessed “that the Word, uniting to himself in his person the flesh animated by a rational soul, became man.” Christ’s humanity has no other subject than the divine person of the Son of God, who assumed it and made it his own, from his conception. For this reason the Council of Ephesus proclaimed in 431 that Mary truly became the Mother of God by the human conception of the Son of God in her womb: “Mother of God, not that the nature of the Word or his divinity received the beginning of its existence from the holy Virgin, but that, since the holy body, animated by a rational soul, which the Word of God united to himself according to the hypostasis, was born from her, the Word is said to be born according to the flesh.” (CCC 466)

**For this reason, we can pray,** *Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death*. Amen

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH (CCC)**

During the greater part of his life Jesus shared the condition of the vast majority of human beings: a daily life spent without evident greatness, a life of manual labor. His religious life was that of a Jew obedient to the law of God, a life in the community. From this whole period, it is revealed to us that Jesus was “obedient” to his parents and that he “increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man.”

Jesus’ obedience to his mother and legal father fulfills the fourth commandment perfectly and was the temporal image of his filial obedience to his Father in heaven. The everyday obedience of Jesus to Joseph and Mary both announced and anticipated the obedience of Holy Thursday: “Not my will.…” The obedience of Christ in the daily routine of his hidden life was already inaugurating his work of restoring what the disobedience of Adam had destroyed.

The hidden life at Nazareth allows everyone to enter fellowship with Jesus by the most ordinary events of daily life. As Paul VI wrote in 1964, “the home of Nazareth is the school where we begin to understand the life of Jesus—the school of the Gospel. First, then, a lesson of silence. May esteem for *silence*, that admirable and indispensable condition of mind, revive in us … A lesson on *family life*. May Nazareth teach us what family life is, its communion of love, its austere and simple beauty, and its sacred and inviolable character … A lesson of *work*. Nazareth, home of the “Carpenter’s Son,” in you I would choose to understand and proclaim the severe and redeeming law of human work.…”

**Thanksgiving Collection Weekend: 20/12/2020 – $527.00**

**Loose Money: 20/12/2020 – $160.75**

**Once again thank you for your generosity. My dear Parishioner, You are fantastic!!**

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Christian James; Filippo and Sara, Joe Harb, Sophia, Daniel Rivalland, Georgette Kheir, Christine Banerjee, Ettore Poletta, Francesco Paolo Ricciardi, Gemma Foster, Victoria Foster; Millie D’Alton, Claire Posten, James Morrison, Catalina Morrison,; Rosa Maria Santos,Ben, Mary Muscat, Patrick Lakagreagrow, Brian Tierney, , Carmel Kanci, Jo Arena, Pam Montgomery, Helen Mille; Jason Denis; Mary Westhead; Rosa Nistico, Margaret Denis; Arthur Astarlis, , Lourenca Fernandes, Prithie Pereira, Madison Kelly, Pat Flarve.

**SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED**

Mickey Mascarenhas**;** Vincent & Tina Giglio; Louisette Harris; Connie Kilpatrick, Nelson Trapani; Jim Walsh; Miriam Proctor; Elva Ebdon, Vince Giglio, John Rivalland,Douglas Gonsalves, Charlotte Godfrey, Linda D’Souza; Felix Lobo, Margaret Herbstreit; Trevor Anthony Fernandez,Pauline Burke, Sandra Highland, Rudolph D’Souza, Michelle Fowler, Sam Molino, Margherita M. La Macchia, Joan Elliot, Archimede Camba, Denzel D’Souza, Melissa D’Souza John Noal, Lorraine Thompson, Peg Smith, Gladys DeRosario, Molly Wintle, Florencio David Sr, Kathy Taranto, Maureen Collins, John Palamara, May Ray, Milan Lozo, Albert & Hillary D’Souza; Shannon Baker; Margaret Dowsey, Janine Capiron; George Tickner; Jack Foley; Marie Rivalland; Sheila McKenna; Peter Dunne; Tony Molloy; Dulcie Jopling; Gerard Bourke, Alfred Foster, Joan Mealing; Judith Buckley; Genevieve Rodrigues Jean Allday; Gloria James; Earnie Breznik; Margaret Daveron; Patrick & Maurice Kelly; Edward Majda; Elizabeth Mary McKay; John H. Moloney; +Fr. Frank Maher; +Fr. Victor Crennan.