 **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 **again** required to be worn in Church (**and** social distancing **must 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 to Friday at 9am, excluding Saturday morning) together with Masses on Saturday at 6pm and Sunday at 9am and 10:30am. **At the entrance of the Narthex somebody will write your name, in order to keep the tracking record.** In this Christmastide Masses will be as follows:

**Saturday 2 January 6:00pm Mass Epiphany**

**Sunday 3 January 9:00am Mass Epiphany**

**Sunday 3 January 10:30am Mass Epiphany**

**Monday 4 January 9:00am Mass Weekday of Christmas Time**

**Tuesday 5 January 9:00am Mass Weekday of Christmas Time**

**Thursday 7 January 9.00am Mass Weekday of Christmas Time**

**Friday 8 January 9:00am Mass Weekday of Christmas Time**

**Saturday 9 January 6:00pm Mass Baptism of the Lord**

**Sunday 10 January 9:00am Mass Baptism of the Lord**

**Sunday 10 January 10:30am Mass Baptism of the Lord**

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.

**SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family’s flight into Egypt. Matthew’s Gospel tells a version of Jesus’ birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, “When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . .” The story of the census is found only in Luke’s Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew’s Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three

gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew’s Gospel, they represent the Gentiles’ search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus’ role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus’ kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus’ death.

The word Epiphany means “manifestation” or “showing forth.” Historically several moments in Christ’s early life and ministry have been celebrated as “epiphanies,” including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

**Mon: 4th Jan, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**

**Tue: 5th Jan, St. John Neumann, Bishop**

**Wed: 6th Jan, St. Andre Bessette**

**Thu: 7th Jan, St. Raymond of penyafort**

**Fri: 8th Jan, St. Atticus of Constantinople**

**Sat: 9th Jan, St. Julian and companions**

**Thanksgiving Collection Weekend: 27/12/2020 – $447.00**

**Loose Money: 27/12/2020 – $984.70**

**Once again thank you for your generosity. My dear Parishioner**

**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.