



St Francis of Assisi Parish

290 Childs Road, Mill Park 3082 phone: 9407 6700

web: www.cam.org.au/millpark email: millpark@cam.org.au

PARISH BULLETIN THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 25TH DECEMBER 2021

PARISH PRIEST	Fr Anthony Girolami	ASSISTANT PRIEST	Fr Jose Mathew
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE	Sr Ignacia Coching - 9407 6720	YOUTH MINISTER	Carmel Walsh - 9407 6704
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR	Bernice Quinn - 9407 6700	PARISH BOOKKEEPER	Paul - 9407 6722
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL	Mark Basile - 9407 3100		

WEEKEND MASS TIMES	Saturday vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 5:00 pm, Unvaccinated - Sunday 7:30 am
WEEKDAY MASS TIMES	Monday – Saturday 9:15 am, Unvaccinated - Friday 7:30 am Wednesday 7:30 pm - Our Lady of Perpetual Help
RECONCILIATION	Wednesday evening after Mass and Novena Saturday 9:45 am
ADORATION	Saturday 9:45 am – 10:30 am concluding with Benediction

VIGIL MASS:	1st Friday of the month 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm	Next Mass:	7th January
FILIPINO MASS:	2nd Sunday of the month at 12 noon.	Next Mass:	13th February
MALTESE MASS:	3rd Saturday of the month at 4 pm. Confession 3:30. Rosary 3:40.	Next Mass:	19th February
ST ANTHONY'S PRAYER GROUP MASS:	1st, 2nd & 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 7 pm.	Next Mass:	4th January
INDONESIAN FAMILY GROUP MASS:	3rd Saturday of the month at 7 pm.	Next Mass:	19th February
MASS WITH HEALING PRAYERS:	2nd Sat of the month 6:30 pm. Rosary, Mass, Adoration.	Next Mass:	TBD
NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH:	1st Wednesday of the month after 9:15 am Mass.		
ANNOINTING OF THE SICK:	2nd Wednesday of the month after 9:15am Mass.		
NOVENA TO ST ANTHONY (MALAYALAM):	Every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. (Resuming 7th December.)		
LEGION OF MARY:	Every Thursday at 10:15 am in the church fellowship area. Contact Jackie - 0422 443 324.		
WORD OF LIFE PRAYER GROUP:	Every Friday at 7:00 pm in the chapel.		
PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP:	Contact Alfons and Helen Glatzel - 9404 2050.		
DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET:	Every Friday at 3:00 pm in the chapel and after Friday morning 9:15am mass.		
LIFE TEEN:	Every Sunday during school terms after 5pm Mass. Contact Carmel - millpark.youthministry@cam.org.au for further details.		

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- Mass Bookings are no longer required for those attending any Mass from now on.
- Proof of vaccination is no longer required when entering the church.
- You are still required to check in via QR code when you enter the church.
- Masks are not mandatory but are highly recommended.
- Please do not attend Mass if you are unwell.
- The doors to the church must be closed once the Covid Marshall leaves their post so late entry will not be permitted.
- Please arrive 15 minutes early for check in requirements. Please bring your smartphone for easier check in.

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS - Contributions can be dropped off between 9am and 5pm each day at the parish office.
PARISH OFFICE HOURS - Please note the Parish Office will have minimal staff until February. If you need to contact the parish please leave a phone message or email millpark@cam.org.au and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

RECENTLY DECEASED: Valerie Kerr.

IN MEMORIAM: Michael Dango, Susana Castelo, Garry Marpuri, Ireneo Marpuri, Joseph Perera, Meraga Perera, Jude Quinn.

THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Fr Tao Pham, David Wallace, Sharon Barber, Herve Incoul, Rosy See, Pria Jacob, Koshy Philip, Varghese Paul, Zahra McMahon, Nora Gacillos, Shinta Manuel, Brian Fernadez, Jean-Marie.

The newsletter will be available each week in the Presbytery foyer and on our website www.cam.org.au/millpark

Dear Parishioners,

When we reflect upon the birth of Our Lord we naturally are drawn to feelings of light, happiness and peace. Yet at the same time there is a tension that also runs through the Christmas Story. We hear Zechariah in the temple is unable to believe he and his wife will have a child and is struck dumb for his unbelief. Our Lady wonders how can this come about since I am a virgin, in response to the Angel Gabriel's announcement. St Joseph is so overwhelmed by the daunting task of being the spouse to the Mother of God that he decided to divorce Mary, until an angel directs him otherwise. At the time of Christ Jesus birth his parents have to travel an arduous journey only to find a safe place for the child's birth cannot be found. Only a stable will do. And as for a crib—a manger—an animal's feeding bowl. And then to add another level of danger, Herod in a murderous rage wants to kill the new born King as he slaughters innocent children. At the presentation of Christ in the temple Simeon tells Mary 'a sword will pierce your soul too'. Although we have this background of risk, danger and tension, God Our Heavenly Father providentially guides Zechariah, Elizabeth, Mary and Joseph through all of the uncertainties and imminent perils to safety.

To some extent we have been living with a new tension over the better part of the last two years. We are well aware of fear, anxiety, illness and sadly deaths that people and families have experienced. Yet by the same taken God our Heavenly Father is well aware of our situation and by trusting him, and keeping faith in him as the parents of Christ did, as they welcomed Jesus into their lives, we too can take recourse in the firm foundation of our faith that God is with us. He is part of our lives. He is born into our hearts. He shares in every aspect of our lives. And most importantly he will bring a resolution to all things. So we must keep faith in Him and trust he is in command of all things.




Finally may I thank all of our parishioners for their ongoing support of our parish in so many different ways. It is because of your faithful and constant support we are able to look forward to our future with a true sense of hope.

On behalf of Fr Jose, Sr Ignacia, Ruth Lees, Carmel Walsh (the parish team) I wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas and a Joy filled New Year.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Anthony Girolami

CHOIRS AT MASS:
 During January our choirs will have a well-earned break. We thank them for the talents they share with us faithfully every week.



Goodbye

Sr Ignacia

This is Sr Ignacia's last weekend with us. Thank you to all who helped in giving Sister a farewell morning tea last Sunday. We thank Sr Ignacia for her years of faithful service to our parish and pray for her as she embarks on the next stage of her religious life.

THANKSGIVING RECEIPTS & NEW ENVELOPES
 Thanksgiving receipts for those that contribute via all methods, including credit card, and new sets of envelopes are available for collection in the foyer of the church. They are in alphabetical order of street name. Thank you.

HOLIDAY ROSTERS
 The rosters for Readers and Special Ministers of the Eucharist will continue during January. If you will be absent or on holiday, please contact another person to take your turn.



The Piety Stall is now selling the 2022 Divine Mercy and Columban Art Church calendars. Buy your copy so as not to be disappointed. Thank you.

