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Parish Office Hours: Tue to Thu: 9am to 4pm

Parish Priest: Fr Gerry McKernan

Pastoral Worker: Mrs Rebecca Sandwell



ST KEVIN'S PARISH

Mgr Greg Bennet said:

"You have renewed the church building, now is the time to renew yourselves and your faith."

Christmas Day

25th December, 2017



AT

CHRISTMAS

**Mend a quarrel,
seek out a
forgotten friend.**

Dismiss suspicion

and replace it with trust.

**Write a love letter. Share
some treasure. Give a soft**

answer. Encourage youth. Show

your loyalty in word and deed. Keep

a promise. Forget a grudge. Forgive an

enemy. Listen. Apologise if you were wrong.

**Try to understand. Don't envy. Examine your
demands on others. Think first of someone else.**

Appreciate. Be kind. Be gentle. Laugh a little. Laugh

a little more. Deserve confidence. Do not be complacent.

Scorn malice. Express your gratitude. Go to Church. Welcome

a stranger. Gladden the heart of a child. Take pleasure in the

beauty and wonder of the earth. Speak your love. Speak it again.

Speak it still once again. Christmas is a celebration, and there is no

**celebration that compares with the realisation of its true meaning – with the
sudden stirring of the heart that has extended itself towards the core of life.**

Then, only then, is it possible for grasp the significance of that first Christmas.





Liza, Nadia, Rebecca and Fr Gerry
wish you peace and joy this
Christmas season.

May you bask in the wonder of
God's care for each one of us.

Christ Is Born

Christmas Hampers

Many thanks – once again – very well done.



*Thank
You*

to everyone who contributed
towards our Second Collection
during December. So far, we have
managed to raise over \$1,500 for
our sister community at Patupat
and for the orphanage work
carried out at "Gentle Hands".
Well done everyone!

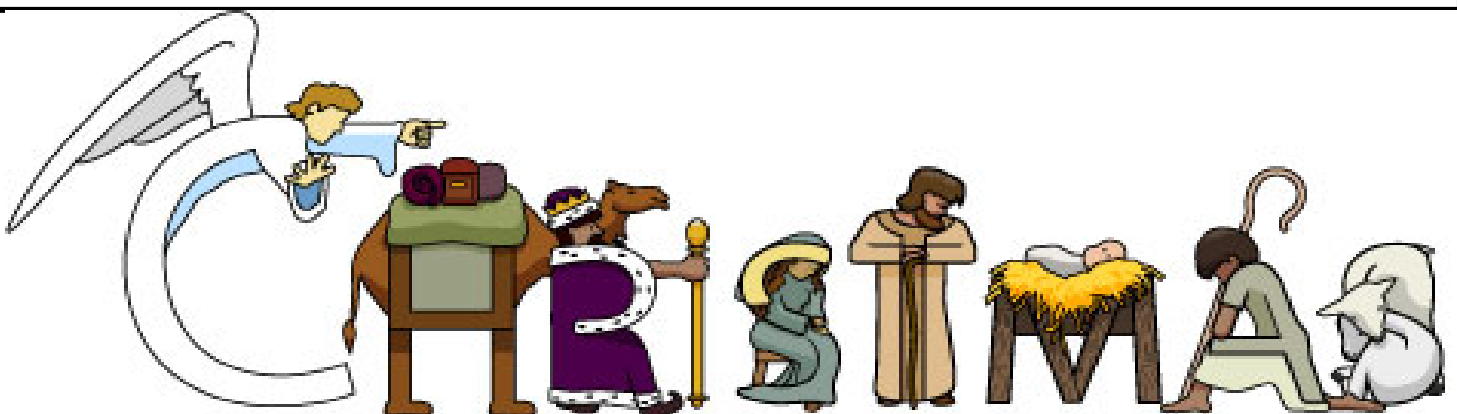
A Christmas Message from our Pastoral Worker...

*I was asked to join a flock,
Taken in, oh what a shock,
I was helped by many,
Especially by Fr Gerry,
St Kevin's Parish, my home, my rock!*

What a year it has been! As a first time Pastoral Worker, the role was new, exciting and quite frankly a little scary!

Entering St Kevin's Parish has been a warm, welcoming "coming home" environment. A place to be comfortable, myself and 'a part of a family'. Thank you to all who have shared your stories and lives with me, taught me, and welcomed me with open arms and smiles. I've had so much fun & laughter this year, that it has never been 'going to work', but simply 'a great place to be'! I hope you all realise how wonderful a community St Kevin's Parish is and I feel truly blessed to be a part of you all. With God's blessing I will do my best to serve you all in 2018 with continued love & laughter, Merry Christmas.

Rebecca Sandwell



CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND

LITURGY ROSTERS

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph – 30th/31st December 2017

1st Reading: Genesis 15: 1-6, 21: 1-3

2nd Reading: Hebrews 11: 8, 11-12, 17-19

Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40



Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30 pm	Carmen Childs	Fiona Watson	Veronica Jeremiah Ian Jeremiah Ann Maguire
8.30am	Paul Polidano	Frank Ozzimo	Betty Natoli Mary Waddick Pewter Waddick
10.00am	Tasha Vercauteren	Miriam Ayoub	Rita Faralla Jo Ridgeway Tony Whelan

The Epiphany of the Lord – 6/7th January 2018

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30 pm	Peter Howes	Carmen Childs	Veronica Jeremiah Ian Jeremiah Maryann McNamara
8.30am	Paul Polidano	Rebecca Sandwell	Betty Natoli Mary Waddick Peter Waddick
10.00am	Tony Byrne	Miriam Ayoub	Kaye Byrne Mary Calleja Murray Cullinan

9.00am Masses at Holy Cross Monastery will be celebrated by the only Passionist Priest in residence – Fr Kevin Hennessy. Fr Gerry will recommence celebrating Mass at Holy Cross on Sunday, 4th February.



We pray for Better Health: Michele (Michael) De Luca, Marianne Condon, Brian O'Connell, Matt Seymour, Peter McCluskey, Rosemary Kiecke, John & Maeve Reardon and Fr Tim O'Toole CP.

Christmas Questions to Ponder...

- Q. What words or phrases from the passage appear to be particularly significant? Why?
- Q. How might Mary and Joseph have felt about their situation for having their baby?
- Q. What message about Jesus is portrayed by his mother laying him in a manger – an animal feed trough?
- Q. Does a close reading of this passage change your picture of the birth of Jesus in any way?
- Q. Why do you think the different infancy stories have been commonly combined into one?
- Q. Why might the Luke gospel go into detail about the Roman officials at the time of the census?
- Q. What is significant about Joseph being 'of David's House and line'?

New Year's Day Mass will be celebrated here at St Kevin's Church on Monday, 1st January at 10.00am.

No newsletters for a couple of weeks. I hope you miss me, but it's quite hard work I do – so..... May you also enjoy rest and relaxation. **Fr Gerry**



PEACE

Christmas is a time to
Reflect on the ways we
Embody God's love.
May those who meet us
Encounter God in us:
Through our smile,
Our attentive listening,
Our wholehearted Acceptance,
Our laughter and our tears,
Our generosity of spirit,
Our time and energy spent
In the service of others,
And our willingness to
Speak up for those without
A voice.
We pray that when people
Spend time with us, they
Will see the face of God.

