



## Fourth Sunday of Advent - 18th December 2022

**Parish Details:**

**Address:** 4 Winifred Street, St Albans 3021  
**Phone:** 9366 2146

**Finance:** Lorraine Stafford: StAlbans.Finance@cam.org.au

**Parish Office:** Lauren Maslaris: StAlbans@cam.org.au

**Office Hours:**

**Monday— Wednesday:** 9:30am—4:00pm

**Thursday & Friday:** 9:30am—2:30pm

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Sacred Heart English Saturday 10.30am  
 Maltese every 4th Saturday 4.00pm

**Baptism:** Eight weeks notice is required

**Marriage:** Six months noticed required

**Sacred Heart Mass Times:**

**Weekdays**

Tuesday - Friday 7.30am

Saturday 9.00am

**Weekend**

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 7:30am, 10:30am

Polish 9.00am

Slovene 2nd Sunday of month at 5:00pm

**Emmaus Mass Times:**

Saturday 6:30pm

Sunday 9:00am

If you would like to receive the weekly 'Parish Update' emailed to you, please send your email address to the Parish: [stalbans@cam.org.au](mailto:stalbans@cam.org.au)

**SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

Sacred Heart/Emmaus Parish is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. The Parish takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse and upholds that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. To report issues and concerns, contact: [stalbans.csc@cam.org.au](mailto:stalbans.csc@cam.org.au) or 0413 841 936

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

Sacred Heart-Emmaus Parish acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation, the traditional owners of the land where we gather. We pay our respect to their elders past, present and emerging.

## READINGS

This week: First Reading: Is 7:10-14

Second Reading: Rom 1:1-7

Gospel: Mt 1:18-24

Next week: First Reading: Is 9:1-7

Second Reading: Ti 2:11-14

Gospel: Lk 2:1-20

## REFLECTION

### JOSEPH

The birth of Jesus in Matthew's gospel [which we will be reading throughout the coming year] has Joseph in its focus. It is through Joseph that Jesus comes into the House of David. It is Joseph who receives an annunciation that the child has been conceived through the power of the Holy Spirit.

In the Old Testament there was a Joseph who had dreams, who looked after his family, and went down into Egypt, which is where this Joseph will later take Mary and Jesus. There is such a strong connection between the story of Jesus and the story of the Old Testament people. Both our First Reading (from the Old Testament) and Gospel Reading this weekend proclaim 'Emmanuel' – that God-is-with-us, and now in Jesus.

Jesus begins his life as many children do – in the midst of hopes and anxiety, and much that is unknown. The future lies hidden from Joseph, as the future of any child lies hidden from parents. Joseph trusts this future into God's hands.

Perhaps this is an attitude we can take up at Christmas. When we look at the crib scenes of the child resting peacefully in a manger, or in the arms of Mary with Joseph watching over, dare we believe that we can rest as peacefully in the arms of God? As Mary MacKillop wrote: "Do all you can with the means at your disposal and calmly leave the rest to God."



## MINISTERS AT CHRISTMAS MASSES:

Please sign up in the foyer for Reader, Prayers of the Faithful,  
 Communion Ministers

## WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

**RECENT DEATHS:** Lucy Maguzza

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Lewis, Paul & Joe Psaila, Sam & Luke Cassar, Margaret Borg, Leli, Carmelo, Mary, Joseph & Grace Pulis, Tony & Jane Dalli, George Muscat & Family, Emanuel & Adriana Caruana, John & Carmen Camilleri, Emmanuel Sammut, Cerry Dobson, Mary Agius Benac, Angela Xuereb, Percy Rosario, Anton Dang Van Nguyen, Enis Failla, Fr Joshua, Peter Muscat & Muscat Family, Charles Camilleri, Dominic Hursey, Barbara Cvtak, Ivan Vincas, Michael Vella & Emanuel Coleiro, Robert Stahlmann, Antonia demicoli & Vincent Cutajar, ancilleri family & cicino family Cecilia & Frank Cordina, Joseph & Maria Orsini, Carmen Catania, Michael & Josephine Piacentini, Pero Kilsanin, Aaron D'Souza, Paul Aquilina

## OUR PASTORAL, SOCIAL & SCHOOL EVENTS



### PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

Over Christmas and the New Year our Presbytery office at 4 Winifred street, St Albans will be closed from 2:30pm on Friday 23rd December re-opening 9:30am on Tuesday 3rd of January 2023.

**To all who have given life to our Parish during the year: well done! thank you!**  
**To those who will be spending Christmas away from us - best of Christmas blessings to you!**  
**We look forward to a quieter time in January before we re-gather all our projects and activities again!!**

### FAIR COMMITTEE ACHIEVEMENT

Following those years of lockdowns, our Parish Fair Committee became very active during this year with the regular 'sausage sizzles' at Bunnings (Watergardens). Through their marvelous efforts, they have presented a cheque for \$15,000 to the Parish Education Account!! Our three Parish Primary Schools (Sacred Heart, Emmaus, Cana) are now invited to name a 'special project' in their School to which their (equal) share of these proceeds will be applied. What a wonderful outcome for our Schools! What great Ministry from our Fair Committee! Early next year the Fair Committee will consider possibilities and plans for 2023.



At the foot of the Christmas trees in our churches are boxes for donations which you may wish to contribute to the local VINNIES Conference for their support for needy families in the lead-up to Christmas. With all the regulations of these times, the VINNIES' preferred way of receiving support is in financial donations: this also enables them to support families in specific ways according to their circumstances. It is best to donate over the next two



weeks so that the VINNIES can do their great work before Christmas!



## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

### SACRED HEART:

Christmas Eve: 5.00pm  
7.00pm  
12am midnight (11.30pm Christmas carols)

Christmas Day: 7.30am  
9.00am (Polish)  
10.30am

### EMMAUS:

Christmas Eve: 6.00pm  
8.00pm  
10.00pm  
Christmas Day: 9.00am



### St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

"Quiet, calm courage and humble confidence in God will be much required by you." Mary MacKillop July 1868