



Sacred Heart / Emmaus Parish

St Albans / Sydenham Western Plains Deanery
Parish Priest: Fr. Maurie Cooney



4th Sunday of Advent, Year B - 24th December 2023

Parish Office 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 & Tuesday: 9:30am - 4:00pm

Wednesday-Friday: 9:30am—2:30pm

(The parish office is closed on weekends and public holidays)

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 Church 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 Church Mass Times:

Saturday 6:30pm

Sunday 9:00am

Website: <http://pol.org.au/stalbanssydenham/Home.aspx>

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 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

4th Sunday of Advent: First Reading: [2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16](#) Second Reading: [Romans 16:25-27](#) Gospel: [Luke 1:26-38](#)

The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas Masses: First Reading: [Isaiah 9:1-7](#) Second Reading: [Titus 2:11-14](#) Gospel: [Luke 2:1-14](#)

31st of December - The Holy Family: First Reading: [Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14](#) Second Reading: [Col 3:12-21](#) Gospel: [Luke 2:22-40](#)

1st January - Mary the Holy Mother: First reading: [Numbers 6:22-27](#) Second reading: [Galatians 4:4-7](#) Gospel: [Luke 2:16-21](#)

7th January 2024 - The Epiphany: First Reading: [Isaiah 60:1-6](#) Second Reading: [Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6](#) Gospel: [Matthew 2:1-12](#)

REFLECTION

ADVENT-MARY-HOSPITALITY-CHRISTMAS-US

The most important 'Advent personality' in the Gospels is, of course, Mary – with Joseph at her side. She embodies the promise and reality of Advent – that God is amongst the people in his Son, Jesus Christ.

Mary is the pre-eminent model of being open to the Spirit of God, of taking in the Word of God and its invitations and challenges, and of welcoming God into our lives. Throughout the Bible 'hospitality' is essentially important in the lives of God's people – to the stranger, the widow, the orphan, the needy, the family, the clan. We see so many examples in the gospels of Jesus' hospitality to others – welcoming all into the experience of his presence.

Mary gives home to God on earth in her own body, and gives Him to the world! What hospitality!! She 'makes room for' and 'provides a space for' God in her own life, and in that gives Him to us!

As Advent comes to its final days for this year, consider how you can 'make room for God' in your life: and in that we, too, will be giving life to Christ in our world!

To all who have given life to our Parish during this extremely demanding year:
well done! thank you!

May Christmas be a great blessing and reassurance for us,
seen and felt in those around us,
celebrated in our prayer and worship,
for

JESUS, SON OF GOD, IS WITH US !



"A saviour has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2:11

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Recent Deaths: Fiona Mockridge

Anniversaries: Angela Xuereb, Emmanuel & Frank Grech, Cecilia & Frank Cordina, Joseph & Maria Orsini, Tessie Farrugia, Joe Xuereb, Paul Aquilina, Joseph Xuereb, Salvina & John Borg, Michael & Josephine Piacentini, Pero Kilsanin, Antonia Demecoli, Vincent Cutajar, Joyce Bujega, Cassandra Alexander, Salvatore & Rosaria Ignaccolo, Lee MacMillan, Rachel Gow, Andrew Harnett, Ronnie Mac, Molly Brodak, Joanne Martin, Dagmara Przybysz, Joelle Meyepa, Josee Tanner, Daniella Zahra, Eusebio & Josephine Darmanin, Saviour & Nazarene Anastasi, Fr, Joshua, Peter & Grace Muscat, Phoebe, Cecil & Cyres Excompare, Muriel, Anthony & Ronald Guest, Suzanne Papic, John Calleja, Norman Gatt, Joseph Gatt, Emmanuel & Jessie Mifsud, Vincent & Giovanna Gatt, Anna Pribaz, Giuseppe Pribaz, Maria Grego, Pino Grego, Aaron D'souza, Joe Aruliah, Zita Aruliah, Sebastian Baracho, Estafania Baracho, Anton Dang Van Nguyen, Robert & Albin Pereira, Oswald Soares, Sophia & Thomas Soares, Seline Carvalho, Fo Heangy Li, Joseph Grech, Frank Siracusa, Bernadina Siracusa

OUR PASTORAL, SOCIAL & SCHOOL EVENTS



Christmas Masses at St Patrick's Cathedral

Sunday 24 December 2023

11.30pm–1.00am St Patrick's Cathedral will once again be live-streaming and televising the Midnight Mass (with carols from 11.30pm) and the 11am Christmas Day Mass to the [Archdiocesan YouTube channel](#) and Community Channel C31 (or channel 44 on TV).

This year, the schedule of Christmas Masses at St Patrick's is as follows:

Christmas Vigil (Sunday 24 December): 6.30pm & Midnight Mass (with Carols from 11.30pm)

Christmas Day (Monday 25 December): 8am, 9.30am & 11am (Solemn Mass)

While you're there, be sure to stop by the beautiful nativity scenes inside and outside the Cathedral. All are welcome!

Important Updates

- ◇ This is the Final Newsletter for 2023. The Weekly letter and Newsheet will return on the 28th of January.
- ◇ Over Christmas / New Year our Parish Office will be closed From Saturday 23rd of December with finance returning Monday 8th January and reception from Thursday 11th January.
- ◇ The usual 7:30am weekday morning Mass at Sacred Heart Church will be held at **9am** between Christmas until Tuesday 9th January when it returns to 7:30am.
- ◇ Friday 26th January 2024 - Public Holiday Parish office closed.

CONGRATULATIONS !

The Piety Stall at Sacred Heart church has generated \$3,000 during this year! That has been forwarded to Mercy Palliative Care to support the great work they do. Congratulations to Nan and Isobel for their commitment to this ministry! And to the 'customers', of course.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Saturday 23rd & Sunday morning 24th December:
The 4th Sunday of Advent: Usual weekend Mass times

CHRISTMAS EVE - Sunday 24th December

◇ SACRED HEART: 5pm, 7pm & 12am midnight (with Carols from 11:30pm)

◇ EMMAUS: 6pm, 8pm & 10pm

CHRISTMAS DAY - Monday 25th December

◇ SACRED HEART: 7.30am, 10.30am

◇ EMMAUS: 9.00am

POLISH MASSES

Monday 25th December Christmas Day: 9am

Tuesday 26th December boxing day: 10am

Monday 1st January 2024 New Years Day: 10am

NEW YEARS DAY - Feast of Mary, Holy Mother of God - 9am at Sacred Heart

Ministry Team Meetings:

Bereavement Thurs 25th January 2024, 7pm @ Parish Office

Baptism Wed 31st January 2024, 7pm at The Parish Office

Finance Committee Tue 20th February 2024, 7pm

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2024 ENROLLMENTS NOW OPEN!

Our Parish is joining with [Resurrection Parish Kings Park](#) who will welcome into their preparation programmes young Parishioners who are at government and other schools. Contact our Office for details.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop - Quotes

May our good God grant you all a truly happy Christmas. I wish you every grace and blessing of this holy time with fondest love. Mary MacKillop 19th. Dec. 1881