



# Parish of St Justin

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*St Justin's Parish is committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.*

**The Holy Family of JESUS. MARY & JOSEPH Year B,**

**31 December 2023**

## First Reading

*A reading from the book of  
Ecclesiasticus*

*Sir 3:2-6, 12-14*

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons.

Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune. Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord.

My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life.

Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

**The Word of the Lord,  
Response - Thanks be to God**

## Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 127:1-5. R. see v.1*

*(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.*

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. (R.)
2. Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. (R.)
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life. (R.)

## Second Reading

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the  
Colossians*

*Col 3:12-21*

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

**The Word of the Lord,  
Response - Thanks be to God**

## Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,  
and the fullness of his message live within you.  
Alleluia!*



## Gospel

*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to*

*Luke*

*Lk 2:22-40*

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

## The Gospel of the Lord

**Response - Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

ROSTERS	DATE	ALTAR SERVERS	DATA PROJECTIONIST	READERS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER
Sat 6.00pm	30 Dec	Volunteer	Volunteer	Diana Tan	Raymond Coyle
Sun 8.30am	31 Dec	Volunteer	Ida Tontodonati	Mai-Ling Sholl	Volunteer
Sun 10.30 am	31 Dec	Volunteer	Volunteer	Rudy Fernandes	Volunteer
Sun 5.00pm	31 Dec	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
NEXT WEEK					
Sat 6.00pm	06 Jan	Volunteer	Melissa Fernandes	Paul Dunne	Volunteer
Sun 8.30am	07 Jan	Volunteer	Antao Oswin	Diana Tan	Mai- Ling Sholl
Sun 10.30am	07 Jan	Volunteer	Volunteer	John Italiano	John Italiano
Sun 5.00pm	07 Jan	Volunteer	Anthony Devadass	Natalie Uranie	Natalie Uranie
ROSTERS		COUNTERS	CLEANING	ALTAR	COLLECTORS
THIS WEEK	31 Dec	Robin Dragwidge, Adeline Sie		Yvette Esteves	
NEXT WEEK	07 Jan	Lolita Briones, Theresa Bell		Diana Tan	

### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—Feast Sunday within the Octave of Christmas

#### Reflection:

It is amazing that God chose to enter our fallen human condition by becoming Incarnate in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He was born of her, raised by her and Saint Joseph, acquired human knowledge through their teaching, worked with His hands, experienced the fullness of human society, and did so within the context of an earthly family. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph made up a sacred family, the Holy Family. Today's feast continues our Christmas Day celebration. This feast falls within the octave of Christmas that culminates January 1 with the Solemnity of the Mother of God.



Though the earthly life shared by Jesus, Mary, and Joseph has always been a source of prayer and inspiration, the feast we celebrate today is relatively new. In 1890, Pope Leo XIII issued his encyclical *Sapientiae Christianae* (On Christians as Citizens) in which he emphasized the duties of Christians as citizens in a changing world. At that time, the holy father was concerned about the negative impact that the Industrial Revolution, secularism, and new political ideologies—such as communism—were having upon Christian citizens and the family in particular. He feared that the desire for economic advancement and the communistic separation of God from the political structures would result in the breakdown of the family, the fundamental building block of society. In that encyclical, the Holy Father stated:

#### Prayer:

*Most Holy Family of Nazareth, you were a true school of love in which the perfection of family love grew strong. Please bestow upon me, my family, and families everywhere the grace needed to more fully imitate the love you shared, so that families everywhere will continue to be the fundamental building block of the world. Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, pray for us and have mercy on all. Jesus, I trust in You.*

### Sacraments Preparation Classes 2024

St Justin's Parish provides preparation for the Sacraments for children who attend schools other than our parish school.

If you wish for your child to attend these lessons, please notify the Parish Office

Email: [wheelershill@cam.org.au](mailto:wheelershill@cam.org.au) or

Parish Office 9401 6335

The grade levels for each Sacraments are:

First Holy Communion/Reconciliation Grade 4 and Confirmation classes.

## LIFT Youth Camp

DATE : SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2024

TIME : 8:30 AM TO 8:00 PM

VENUE : GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH HALL ,30 ACADEMY AVE, WHEELERS HILL

Fee: \$10.00

Registration  
Email [sheena.devadass@gmail.com](mailto:sheena.devadass@gmail.com)  
by Sun 21 Jan 24

## HERE I AM LORD

