



Cnr Perfection Ave and Bentwood Tce, Stanhope Gardens

<http://john23rd.com/>

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**Nativity of the Lord
24/25 December 2021**

Dear Parishioners, friends, members of different committees and parish and school staff,

Howard Thurman wrote:

When the song of the angels is stilled

When the star in the sky is gone,

When the kings are back home

When the shepherds are once more with their flocks

Then the work of Christmas commences:

To find the lost, To heal the broken, To feed the hungry,

To release the prisoners, To rebuild the nations,

To bring peace to all people, To make music in the heart.

In short one could say,

The spirit of Christmas which is peace

The gladness of Christmas which is hope

The heart of Christmas which is love.

God is a gift to humanity and we are to be gifts to God and to one another.

As we celebrate God's gift to each of us. Let us be God's wonderful gift to each other. We thank each of you for being that precious gift God to the parish community. May you and your families have a Merry and Blessed Christmas. May the coming year be a great year of joy and togetherness, free from every epidemic.

Love and prayers.

Frs Zvonimir and Jolly

NEW YEARS MASS TIMES

31st December - New Years Eve

9.15am and 10pm

1st January - New Years Day

9.00am, 10.30am and 6pm Vigil

OFFICE CLOSED

24th December - 11th January

In case of emergency please contact 0447 445281

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

At the words that follow, up to and including 'the Virgin Mary', all bow.

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

Amen.

Sunday Mass Times

Sat Vigil 6pm

Sun 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 6pm

Weekday Mass Times

Mon 8.30am

Tues-Fri 9:15am

Sat 9.00am

Masses for Special Occasions

1st Tues 7.30pm Novena Mass

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

1st Fri 7pm Novena Mass

Sacred Heart of Jesus

Exposition + Benediction

1st Fri after 9.15am Mass

1st Sat after 9am Mass
after the Novena Masses

Reconciliation

After any of the weekday masses

Sat: after the 9am mass until 10am

5:15 - 5:45pm before the Vigil

Sacraments

1st Sat 9am Mass for the Sick

Sun 12pm Baptism by appointment

Devotions & Prayers

Mon 7.30pm Christian

Meditation via Zoom Frances Pegram
0417 406715

Tues 7pm Rosary and Novena

Prayer in the church

except for 1st Tues

Fri 6.30pm Christ Catholic

Community Prayer Group

Pauline Camilleri 0407 417039

Our Parish Mission

The parish of St John XXIII is a faith community with the Eucharist as its heart.

Inspired by John

XXIII's prophetic

opening of the windows

of the Church, we

welcome the fresh air of

the Holy Spirit, inviting

every person to share in

the responsibility of

enriching the life and

faith of our community by sharing their gifts

and talents."



*Wishing everyone a
Merry and Blessed Christmas to all!*

VIGIL MASS

First Reading

Isaiah 62:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

About Zion I will not be silent, about Jerusalem I will not grow weary, until her integrity shines out like the dawn and her salvation flames like a torch. The nations then will see your integrity, all the kings your glory, and you will be called by a new name, one which the mouth of the Lord will confer. You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord, a princely diadem in the hand of your God; no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken', nor your land 'Abandoned', but you shall be called 'My Delight' and your land 'The Wedded'; for the Lord takes delight in you and your land will have its wedding. Like a young man marrying a virgin, so will the one who built you wed you, and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 88:4-5 16-17 27-29

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your dynasty for ever and set up your throne through all ages.' **R**

Happy the people who acclaim such a king, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face, who find their joy every day in your name, who make your justice the source of their bliss. **R**

'He will say to me: "You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me." I will keep my love for him always; for him my covenant shall endure.' **R**

Second Reading

Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Paul reached Antioch in Pisidia, he stood up in the synagogue, held up a hand for silence and began to speak:

'Men of Israel, and fearers of God, listen! The God of our nation Israel chose our ancestors, and made our people great when they were living as foreigners in Egypt; then by divine power he led them out. "Then he made David their king, of whom he approved in these words, "I have selected David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart, who will carry out my whole purpose". To keep his promise, God has raised up for Israel one of David's descendants, Jesus, as Saviour, whose coming was heralded by John when he proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the whole people of Israel. Before John ended his career he said, "I am not the one you imagine me to be; that one is coming after me and I am not fit to undo his sandal".'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia! Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed: the Saviour of the world will be our king. Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: The Virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord told him to do: he took his wife to his home and, though he had not had intercourse with her, she gave birth to a son; and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

CHRISTMAS MASS

First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!' Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion. Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem. The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 97:1-6

R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **R**

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **R**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. **R**

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music. With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. **R**

Second Reading

Hebrew 1:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name.

God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father, or I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth. Alleluia!

Gospel

John 1:1-5, 9-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.

The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**