



ST JOSEPH'S PARISH FAMILY

Weekly News

Let Your Light Shine (Matthew 5:16)

Consecrated to Mary Help of Christians
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C
22 DECEMBER 2024

TODAY'S READINGS Micah 5:1-4; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

NEXT WEEK (Holy Family, Year C) 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28; Psalm 83; 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52

Christmas Mass and Reconciliation Times

Christmas Eve

6pm and 8pm

Midnight Mass with Fr Michael Alcock

Christmas Day

8am at St Joseph's

9am at St Camillus Bilambil

Reconciliation

Mon 23, Tues 24 following 9.10am Mass



PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE FOR CHRISTMAS

The parish office will close from midday Christmas Eve and will reopen from 8.30am Monday 6 January 2025. For matters of emergency, please phone the office number as usual and stay on the line and follow the prompts.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS



The recently deceased: Jimmy Brennan, Rhonda Hamilton, Esme Walsh, Sr Dawn Borger, Antionette Beirouty, Stephen Quinos, Bernard Hunter, **Anniversaries:** those occurring at this time **Also:** James Laarhoven, Joy Hunter, John Hunter, Ian Ham and for all those whom Masses and prayers have been requested. **For those who are sick:** Fr Anthony Lemon, Pat Trappell, Carmel Williams, Violeta O'Brien, Bruce Wall, Donovan Searle, Pat Wild, Keren Benjamin

PARISH NEWS

Welcoming

Children aged 0-5 years and their families to the Parish



DIOCESE OF LISMORE

1

Jesus Blesses Little Children



"People were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them; and when the disciples saw it, they sternly ordered them not to do it. But Jesus called for them and said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.'" (Luke 18:15-17)

3

We gather, we belong

Church is a place where we gather to seek God. God values and loves children and they should be included.



4



All are welcome

You are **welcome** here. You **belong** in this community. You can **worship** God with us.

2

We are a community on a journey

Children need Church as a **FIRST** step on their faith journey: we welcome every person, no matter their age, social status, ethnicity, or gender.

5

Join in!

- Sit close to the front, so your children can see what is happening
- Please join in with the hymns and prayers as you feel comfortable
- If your children need to move around, step outside, or take a break, that's ok! Please accompany them so they are safe.
- If your children make a noise, don't worry about it! It's wonderful that you have joined us.

6

Questions?



If you have any questions please feel free to ask your priest, a fellow parishioner, or usher. We are glad you could join us to share the Good News about Jesus.

DIOCESE CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Parish Mass times over the festive period are now available at lismorediocese.org.

If you're travelling within the Diocese over Christmas, this is a great resource to find out the Mass times at other parishes. Just click on the red button at the top of the website to view them.



CATHOLIC LIFE MAGAZINE The Catholic Life has returned after 5 years! December's issue is filled with stories and updates that capture the vibrant life of the Diocese of Lismore. The magazine includes articles on Bishop Greg's Christmas message, the true spirit of Christmas, and celebrates the end of the school year. Copies will be available at the parish, otherwise you can read it online now at lismorediocese.org or by scanning the QR code

PARISH NEWS

PASTORAL CORNER: Today we heard the story of Mary and Elizabeth as they were preparing for the birth of their babies. They were ordinary people who were chosen to play an extraordinary part in God's kingdom. We, too, are ordinary people who are called to live our lives in as good a way as we can, right where we are, in our homes, schools, parishes, workplaces, neighborhoods. In this final week before Christmas, perhaps we could try to spend time reflecting on the Christmas message and how we can live our lives in that spirit.



Just a reminder that practice for Nativity is Monday at 1.30pm.

Kathy Twohill - Pastoral Associate

Family Scripture Restart 2025: *Family Scripture* is an opportunity to discover the master story of the Bible and God's plan for us. For all parishioners from teenagers upwards (minors to be accompanied by a parent). Hear the Scriptures recited and take part in discussion. Family Scripture is postponed during Christmas and restarts on Thursday 16 January 2025 from 7pm-7.45pm in the Pollard Room at the parish centre. Bring a friend. For more information contact Fr Nicolas Maurice.

TAI CHI CLASSES *We have had another wonderful year of Tai Chi with many new faces and the return of the regular crew. Everyone is progressing nicely learning the 42 and lotus forms and to finish off a sequence of movements to 'The Lord's Prayer'. We welcome anyone who would like to join us in 2025 for this healthy and happy easy exercise class.*

Bishop Greg's CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2024

For a brief time, each year our thoughts turn from the business and worry of life to a newborn child in a manger. In the silence of Christmas night, we hear the secret hopes of our hearts and rekindle the trust and gaze of our childhood. The past is gone, if only we could fashion our future from the joy of Christmas. This is a season of hope in which we are called to believe in goodness, truth and beauty. Moreover, we are challenged to believe in ourselves and each other.

As we look at the crib we tend to identify with the baby. Curiously we do not associate with Mary or Joseph, and certainly not with the shepherds or the wise men. The baby Jesus carries our hopes, our fears and our future. He does not threaten us, we are not afraid of him. God comes into the world as a baby so that he can grow with us. We can also grow with God. Jesus shares each of our pains, difficulties and joys. In the baby, God and human-kind are one. Jesus comes into the world to show us how to believe in ourselves and each other with confidence.

Take some time to pray. In prayer we are moved by Christmas. Suddenly joy becomes part of us, and we begin to see life with greater optimism and hope. This is the miracle of Christmas. May you be gifted with the spirit of Christmas.

With my prayers and wishes this Christmas and New year.

Bishop Greg Homeming OCD

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Michael Brady - pp@stjosephs.org.au
ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr Nicolas Maurice & Fr MX Rego SM
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Kathy Twohill - ktwohill@stjosephs.org.au

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Phone: 07 5536 7522
tweedadmin@stjosephs.org.au PO Box 25, Tweed Heads 2485

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGIL

@6.00 pm

SUNDAY

@7am @9am

ST CAMILLUS BILAMBIL

9am

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday to Friday

9.10am

Saturday 9am

ROSARY

Before Mass Monday to Friday

Commencing at 8.40am

Saturday 8.30am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.00 - 5.45pm
and 1st Friday 9.40 – 10am

BAPTISM

Please contact the parish office
with any Baptism enquiries.

**SACRAMENTS AND
VISITS TO THE SICK**

Please contact the parish office

NEWSLETTERS

If you would like to receive the
weekly news or any upcoming
events and information via email
please contact the parish office
on 0755367522

Or email

tweedadmin@stjosephs.org.au

28/29 DECEMBER 2024

HOLY FAMILY YEAR C

6PM FR MICHAEL BRADY

Sacristan: Karen Watson

Adult Server: Karen Watson

Liturgy Coordinators: Maree Cargnoni

Commentator: Jenny Williams

Readers: Jeannette Leach & Una Murphy

Communion: Jenny Williams & Carmen Carra

7AM FR MX REGO SM

Sacristan: Diane Paynter

Adult Server: Sally Engle

Liturgy Coordinators: Maree Laarhoven

Commentator: Brian Turner

Readers: Chris Burton & Tina Lewis

Communion: Chris Clurey & Gavin Holmes

9AM FR MICHAEL BRADY

Sacristan: Len Searle

Adult Server: Len Searle

Liturgy Coordinators: Frances Garland

Commentator: Colleen Blake

Readers: Mary Mason & Marie Morrin

Communion: Frances Garland & Jan Rolph

9AM ST CAMILLUS, BILAMBIL: FR MX REGO SM

SAFEGUARDING IN THE DIOCESE

The Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding
Office can be contacted if you have
any Safeguarding concerns. We
will listen to you respectfully, offer
support, and discuss all options
available. Contact the Safeguarding Office
- Phone: (02) 6621 9444 or
Email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au

