



# Holy Family Parish

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent – Year B –  
Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2020



## FIRST READING : 2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.' But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me; if he does evil, I will punish him with the rod such as men use, with strokes such as mankind gives. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM : Psalm 88:2-5,27,29 (Advent)

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

I will sing forever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth shall proclaim your truth. Of this I am sure, that your love lasts forever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. *R.*

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your dynasty forever and set up your throne for all ages. *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 : Romans 16:25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

## GOSPEL : Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

## FINAL NEWSLETTER FOR 2020

Thank you to all our helpers who have kept Holy Family ticking along this year. May all parishioners have a very safe and Holy Christmas and a very Joyful New Year.

## CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM FR JEREMY

Dear Friends in Christ, as we all know, 2020 has been a year of difficulties and historical firsts due to the Covid-19 event. At this time of Christmas, let us take time to truly thank God for all His blessings; and in the trials that He allows, let us also make sure that we keep God first in our priorities. Let us also keep in prayer those who have lost loved ones, jobs, livelihood, and who are still suffering around the world due to the virus. May God deliver us from these trials. Fr Jeremy

*« The best way to look at Christmas, is to stand on one's head. Contemplating the crib, everything looks upside down: the angels looking down on the God who made them, God looking up at His own creation. There in the manger, where He is homeless, we all find our home ... Christmas is built upon a beautiful and intentional paradox; that the birth of the homeless should be celebrated in every home. »*  
~ GK Chesterton

## CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

### CHRISTMAS EVE

Thursday 24th December

9:00am Mass

Midnight Mass

12:00am

Carols from 11:00pm

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Friday 25th December

8:00am - (Latin - Low Mass)

10:00am - (English - Sung Mass)

### BOXING DAY

Saturday 26th December

9:00am

## FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY - SUNDAY DEC 27

8:00am - (Latin - Low Mass)

9:30am - (English - Sung Mass)



*« If we want to find the God who appeared as a child, then we must dismount from the high horse of our "enlightened" reason. We must set aside our false certainties, our intellectual pride, which prevents us from recognizing God's closeness. »*  
~ Pope Benedict XVI, 2011



**“When pride retreats from a man, humility begins to dwell in him, and the more pride is diminished, so much more does humility grow. The one gives way to the other as its opposite. Darkness departs and light appears. Pride is darkness, but humility is light”**

*– St. Tikhon of Zadonsk –*

**“When the Spirit of God descends upon a man and overshadows him with the fullness of His outpouring, then his soul overflows with a joy not to be described, for the Holy Spirit turns to joy whatever He touches. The Kingdom of Heaven is peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.”**

*- St Seraphim of Sarov -*

**"Let no one mourn that he has fallen again and again; for forgiveness has risen from the grave"**

*- St John Chrysostom -*

**Do not fear God because of the greatness of His majesty, but fear Him because of the greatness of His love.**

**–Isaac the Syrian**

**“The greatest obstacles to holiness are discouragement and anxiety.”**

Said Jesus to St. Faustina,  
The Diary of St. Faustina

## PRAYER *before* MASS

Almighty and ever-living God, I approach the sacrament of Your only-begotten Son Our Lord Jesus Christ, I come sick to the doctor of life, unclean to the fountain of mercy, blind to the radiance of eternal light, and poor and needy to the Lord of heaven and earth.

Lord, in your great generosity, heal my sickness, wash away my defilement, enlighten my blindness, enrich my poverty, and clothe my nakedness. May I receive the bread of angels, the King of kings and Lord of lords, with humble reverence, with the purity and faith, the repentance and love, and the determined purpose that will help to bring me to salvation.

May I receive the sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood, and its reality and power.

Kind God, may I receive the Body of Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, born from the womb of the Virgin Mary, and so be received into His mystical body and numbered among His members.

Loving Father, as on my earthly pilgrimage I now receive Your beloved Son under the veil of a sacrament, may I one day see him face to face in glory, who lives and reigns with You for ever. **Amen.**

*- Saint Thomas Aquinas*

“Suppose one reads a story of filthy atrocities in the paper. Then suppose that something turns up suggesting that the story might not be quite true, or not quite so bad as it was made out. Is one's first feeling, 'Thank God, even they aren't quite so bad as that,' or is it a feeling of disappointment, and even a determination to cling to the first story for the sheer pleasure of thinking your enemies are as bad as possible? If it is the second then it is, I am afraid, the first step in a process which, if followed to the end, will make us into devils. You see, one is beginning to wish that black was a little blacker. If we give that wish its head, later on we shall wish to see grey as black, and then to see white itself as black. Finally we shall insist on seeing everything -- God and our friends and ourselves included -- as bad, and not be able to stop doing it: we shall be fixed for ever in a universe of pure hatred.” - C.S. Lewis

**"Do not allow the sad spectacle of human injustice to disturb your soul."**

*-St. Padre Pio*

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN:**

O Come, O come, Emmanuel  
Redeem thy captive Israel,  
That doth in exile homeless mourn  
Until her Saviour Christ be born.

*Rejoice, rejoice!*

*Emmanuel is born to save thee Israel.*

O come thou day star seen on high  
with healing for our hearts draw nigh:  
Do thou the mists of night dispel and  
death's forboding darkness quell.

*Rejoice, rejoice!*

*Emmanuel is born to save thee Israel.*

O come of Gentile hearts, the King.  
A world that needs thee ransoming  
And save thy Servants who confess  
with humbled hearts their faithlessness.

*Rejoice, rejoice!*

*Emmanuel is born to save thee Israel.*

**OFFERTORY HYMN:**

*Alma Redemptoris Mater  
quae pervia caeli porta manes  
et stella maris, succure cadenti,  
surgere qui curat populo:  
tu quae genuisti, natura mirante,  
tuum sanctum genitorem:  
Virgo prius ac posterious,  
Gabrielis ab ore sumens illud ave,  
peccatorum miserere.*

**COMMUNION HYMN:**

Come, thou long expected Jesus,  
Born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art:  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,  
joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,  
Born a child, and yet a king,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all sufficient merit  
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

**RECESSIONAL HYMN:**

O come, divine Messiah;  
The world in silence waits the day  
When hope shall sing its triumph  
And sadness flee away.

*Dear Saviour, haste!*

*Come, come to earth.*

*dispel the night and show your face,  
and bid us hail the dawn of grace.*

*O come, divine Messiah; the world in silence  
waits the day when hope shall sing its  
triumph and sadness flee away.*

O Christ, whom nations sign for,  
Whom priest and prophet long foretold,  
Come break the captive's fetters,  
Redeem the long lost fold.

*Dear Saviour, haste!*

*Come, come to earth.*

*dispel the night and show your face,  
and bid us hail the dawn of grace.*

*O come, divine Messiah; the world in  
silence waits the day when hope shall  
sing its triumph and sadness flee away.*

You come in peace and meekness  
And lowly will your cradle be;  
All clothed in human weakness  
Shall we your Godhead see.

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**FAMILY PRAYERS FOR ADVENT  
(Advent Wreath)**
**What to do?**

1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross
2. Light Candle
3. Say Antiphon of the Day
4. Say the Advent Prayer of that week
5. say Gospel of the Week
6. Finish with Grace before Meals.

**4th Week Prayer:** Stir up your might,  
we pray You O Lord, and come; rescue  
us through Your great strength so that  
salvation, which has been hindered by  
our sins, may be hastened by the grace  
of Your gentle mercy. Who lives and  
reigns forever and ever. Amen.

**4th Week Gospel: Luke 1:39-45**

"Blessed are you who believed that what  
was spoken to you by the Lord  
would be fulfilled."

**Fourth Candle and Week 4 of Advent**

**Monday:** "O Wisdom, you come forth  
from the mouth of the Most High. You  
fill the universe and hold all things  
together in a strong yet gentle manner.  
O come to teach us the way of truth."

**Tuesday:** "O Adonai and leader of Israel,  
you appeared to Moses in a burning  
bush and you gave him the Law on Sinai.  
O come and save us with your mighty  
power."

**Wednesday:** "O stock of Jesse, you  
stand as a signal for the nations; kings  
fall silent before you whom the peoples  
acclaim. O come to deliver us, and do not  
delay."

**Thursday:** "O key of David and sceptre  
of Israel, what you open no one else can  
close again; what you close no one can  
open. O come to lead the captive from  
prison; free those who sit in darkness  
and in the shadow of death."

**Friday:** O Rising Sun, you are the  
splendour of eternal light and the sun of  
justice. O come and enlighten those who  
sit in darkness and in the shadow of  
death."

**Saturday:** "O King whom all the peoples  
desire, you are the cornerstone which  
makes all one. O come and save man  
whom you made from clay."

**Sunday:** "O Emmanuel, you are our king  
and judge, the One whom the peoples  
await and their Saviour. O come and  
save us, Lord, our God."

**NEXT SUNDAY:**

**27 December 2020**

**Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph  
(Yr B)**

*Gen 15:1-6,21:1-3 or Sirach 3:2-6,12-14;  
Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 or Col 3:12-21;  
Lk 2:22-40*

**LITURGY ROSTER****Midnight Mass:**

**Readers:** E. Shaw, C. Tagiilima

**Prayers of the Faithful:** M. Tagiilima

**Offertory:** Tagiilima Family

**Special Ministers:** F. Ulugia

**Christmas Day:**

**Readers:** M. D'Souza, R. Cardoza

**Prayers of the Faithful:** R. Lopez

**Offertory:** Cardoza Family

**Special Ministers:** S. Molloy

**Holy Family:**

**Readers:** R. Hall, K. Cheong

**Prayers of the Faithful:** F. Xavier

**Offertory:** La'akulu Family

**Special Ministers:** P. Vernon

**CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER**

on break till 13<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
Please keep the Church tidy.

**SUNDAY CUP OF TEA ROSTER**

Senior Legion of Mary  
then on break till 7<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

**20 Dec:** Peter Somerville

**21 Dec:** Ronald Gander

**22 Dec:** Ante Katavich

**23 Dec:** Michelle Bryan, Michael Atkinson,  
Margaret Finn

**24 Dec:** Freeth Herbert, Margaret Bartocci

**25 Dec:** Gloria Petica

**26 Dec:** Derek Nicholson

**PARISH FINANCES**

<b>Parish</b>	\$1,847.13
<b>Priests</b>	<u>\$923.57</u>
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>\$2,770.70</b>

**REMINDER:**

Parish activities  
that take a break during January,  
Please make a note on your calendar  
the starting dates for 2021

**Hall Cleaners** - starts 1 February 2021

**Monthly Adoration** - starts 5 February 2021

**Sunday Cup of Tea** - starts 7 February 2021

**Catechism Classes** - starts 7 February 2021

**Rosary for Life** - starts 7 February 2021

**Parish Newsletter** - starts 7 February 2021

**Hall Bookings** - starts 7 February 2021

**Church Cleaners** - start 13 February 2021

**Thursday Night Formation** - starts February

The Parish Office will be **CLOSED** from  
the 24th December till 26th January.