



# Holy Family Parish

The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

27<sup>th</sup> December 2020

## FIRST READING : Genesis 15:1-6,21:1-3

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great.' 'My Lord,' Abram replied 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless...'. Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir.' And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood.' Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM : Psalm 104:1-6, 8-9.

*R. He, the Lord, is our God. He remembers his covenant for ever.*

*Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. O sing to him, sing his praise; tell all his wonderful works! R.*

*Be proud of his holy name, let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice. Consider the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face. R.*

*Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, the judgements he spoke. O children of Abraham, his servant, O sons of the Jacob he chose. R.*

*He remembers his covenant for ever, his promise for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. R.*

## SECOND READING : Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19;

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: *It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on.* He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

## GOSPEL : Luke 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.

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN:**

O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye O come ye to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold Him,  
born the King of angels,  
O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of Light,  
Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb.  
Very God Begotten not created,  
O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing all ye citizens of heav'n above:  
Glory to God in the highest.  
O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

Yea Lord we greet Thee,  
born this happy morning,  
Jesu to Thee be glory giv'n.  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing.  
O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

**OFFERTORY HYMN:**

While shepherds watched  
their flocks by night  
all seated on the ground,  
the angel of the Lord came down  
and glory shone around.

Fear not said he for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind  
Glad tidings of great joy  
I bring to you and all man-kind.

To you in David's town  
this day is born of David's line  
a Saviour who is Christ the Lord  
and this shall be the sign:

The heav'nly babe you there  
shall find to human view displayed,  
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands  
and in a manger laid.

Thus spake the Seraph and  
forthwith appeared a shining  
throng of angels praising  
God who thus addressed  
their joyful song:

All glory be to God on high  
and on the earth be peace,  
Goodwill henceforth from  
heav'n to men  
begin and never cease.

**COMMUNION HYMN:**

Away in a manger no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus lay down  
His sweet head,  
the stars in the bright sky  
looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus,  
look down from the sky,  
and stay by my side  
until morning is nigh.

Be near me Lord Jesus,  
I ask Thee to stay close by me forever  
and love me I pray,  
Bless all the dear children  
in Thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven  
to live with Thee there.

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Once in royal David's city  
stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby  
in a manger for His bed.  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven,  
who is God and Lord of all.  
And His shelter was a stable  
and His cradle was a stall.  
With the poor, oppressed and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,  
through His own redeeming love.  
For that child so dear and gentle  
is our Lord in heav'n above.  
And He leads His children on  
to the place where He has gone.

**RECESSIONAL HYMN:**

Joy to the world,  
the Lord has come,  
let earth receive her King!  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
and heav'n and nature sing!  
and heav'n and nature sing!  
and heav'n,  
and heav'n and nature sing!

Joy to the earth the Saviour reigns,  
let men their songs employ.  
While fields and floods  
rocks hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy!  
repeat the sounding joy!  
repeat repeat the sounding joy!

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove the glories  
of His righteousness and wonders of His  
love!  
and wonders of His love!  
and wonders, wonders of His love!

Incarnate God, Emmanuel!  
in flesh is manifest,  
He comes to die that we might live  
forever in His rest!  
forever in His rest!  
For e'er and ever in His rest!



**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
- Monthly Adoration** - starts 5 February
- Sunday Cup of Tea** - starts 7 February
- Catechism Classes** - starts 7 February
- Rosary for Life** - starts 7 February
- Parish Newsletter** - starts 7 February
- Hall Bookings** - starts 7 February
- Church Cleaners** - start 13 February
- Thursday Night Formation** - starts February

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

**Please note:** From  
**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020**  
to  
**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

There will be **NO Weekday Masses.**

Fr Jeremy will be away  
at Hearts Aflame.

*Masses will resume as normal from  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7pm*

on **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021**  
**there will be a 9:30am Mass only.**

If there is an **emergency** and you  
should need a **Priest:** Please contact:  
**Holy Cross, Henderson** on 835 3355  
or  
**St Paul's, Massey** on 833 7420