
Granville

Catholic Church Record

Vol. 8. No. 49

December 10, 2023

2nd Sunday of Advent, Year B

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish

The Month of *the* IMMACULATE CONCEPTION *of the* BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



The Church dedicates the month of December to the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In teaching that Mary was conceived immaculate, the Catholic Church teaches that from the very moment of her conception, the

Blessed Virgin Mary was free from all stain of original sin. This simply means that from the beginning, she was in a state of grace, sharing in God's own life, and that she was free from the sinful inclinations which have beset human nature after the fall of mankind.

Scripture points to this truth. In the book of Genesis, in which the parallel between Mary and Eve: "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed: he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel" (3:15). The early Church saw this passage as referring to the struggle between Christ and Satan, and so the Church sees in "the woman" a prophetic foreshadowing of Mary.

If there is to be enmity between the woman and the serpent, then she was never in any way subject to him at all. This implies an immaculate conception.

The dignity of being Mother of God is of infinite dignity. Yet Christ taught that the holiness coming from hearing the word of God and keeping it is something greater still. Mary's holiness is great: "none greater under God can be thought of, and no one but God can comprehend it."

Even though Mary was full of grace at the start of her life, yet she could still grow, for, as it were, her capacity for grace could increase.

A soul will grow in proportion to these things: firstly, the greater the dignity of the person, the greater the merit. In Mary's case, the dignity of Mother of God is the highest possible. Secondly, the greater the work, the greater the merit: Mary's cooperation in the redemption was the greatest work possible to a creature. Thirdly, the greater the love, the greater the merit. Love of God means the attachment of our will to His. Mary's will adhered supremely, with no obstacle at all, so that even ordinary household duties, which she saw as the will of the Father for her, were supremely valuable.

THE PARISH OFFICE

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Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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John Portelli

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Online and Social Media Co-ordinators

Rosette Chidiac and John Portelli

Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

Holy Family Primary School

T (02) 8633-8200

Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday, 5:45 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,
11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning Group 1: C. Takchi
and M. Wehbe

Readers

4:30 p.m. Rosemary Wehbe

8:30 a.m. Rose Succar

5:00 p.m. Claudette Takchi

SOCIAL MEDIA



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Holy Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Mass in Latin

First Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

Second and last Sunday of the month,
11:30 a.m.

Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning Group 3: Hanh and
Hanh and the Vietnamese community

Readers

Vigil Ingrid Bifulco, Racquel La Rosa,
Rosette Chidiac

10:00 a.m. Jasmine Miranda,
Raphaella Chidiac, Mary Georges

Children's Liturgy Wanda Krasinski and
Chloe Zaiter

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton,
John Augustus, Frank Azzopardi, Antonio Bifulco, Ann
Blesson, John Borg, Vincenzo Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia,
Carmel Galea, Carmello Giovenco, Evangeline Grabato,
Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins, Therese
Khalil, Kay King, Ruth La Rosa, Jacob Lee, Josephine
Magro, Ester Matos, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Tony
Moussa, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Flory Pinto,
Don Provest, Therese Smeal, Ricardo Tognini, Lorraine
Vella, Sam Wardan.



*Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
by the grace of your Holy Spirit
cure the weaknesses of your servants,
and mercifully restore them to full health.*

IN MEMORIAM

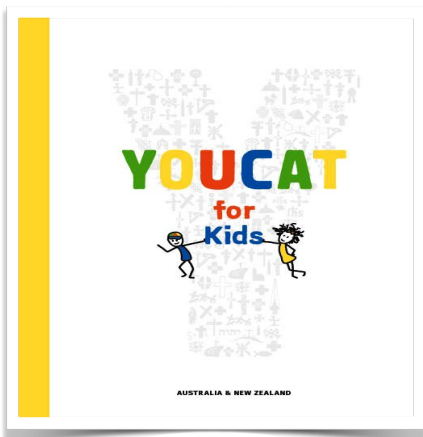
Therese Akkary, Victor Azzopardi, Betty Borg, Kathleen
Bradbery, Paul Bradbery, Eniketi Brown, Jim Brown, Lazarus
Camilleri, Sydney Thomas Denham, Nazirah El-Hallal, Salim
El-Hallal, Marcus El-Khoury, Alan Frost, Sita Futu'u, Carmen
Galea, Maria Gambin, Raymond Gee, Joe Grech, Mary Grech,
Sam Grech, Chahid Habib, Fay Irons, Lex Irons, Salim Karaki,
Paul Kassis, Nouhad Khoury, Rustica La Rosa, Jim Mackie,
Frouzine Malkoun, Jacob Malkoun, Mouna Malkoun, Ofimia
Malkoun, Paul Mathews, Giovanna Mondello, Sam Munro,
Joseph Nammour, Jack Newell, Jean Newell, Tony Newell,
Haydee Nursoo, Mary Elizabeth Olsen, Herbert Pidgeon, Laura
Pestano, Rogelio Pestano, Rolando Pestano, Edward (Tom)
Pidgeon, Noel So, Alex Taktak, Joseph Vella, Phyllis Webb,
Mershed Wehbe, Yesmine Wehbe, Dib Zaiter.



*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

**The Holy Cross Parish
Catechism Project
YouCat for Kids
Now Available**

Last year we launched the first Holy Cross Parish Catechism Project which made copies of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* freely available to all those who sought to participate and support this pastoral work of the parish.



This year we have expanded the reach of this project and are offering copies of *YouCat*, the catechism for adolescents and young people which summarises the most important elements of the faith in a question-and-answer format so making the truths of the faith accessible to a younger generation, as well as *YouCat for Kids*, which is intended for primary school aged children.

These books have been donated by Fr. Andrew and are made available to all those who seek to know and to love the Catholic faith ever more deeply. In a world which abhors truth and seeks to destroy Christianity, at a time when the teachings of the Church are questioned and formation in the faith is sorely lacking, the Catechism of the Catholic Church and education in the faith is needed more than ever.

The Church needs men and women ready to make a stand in defence of the Faith, of the Church, and of Our Lord.

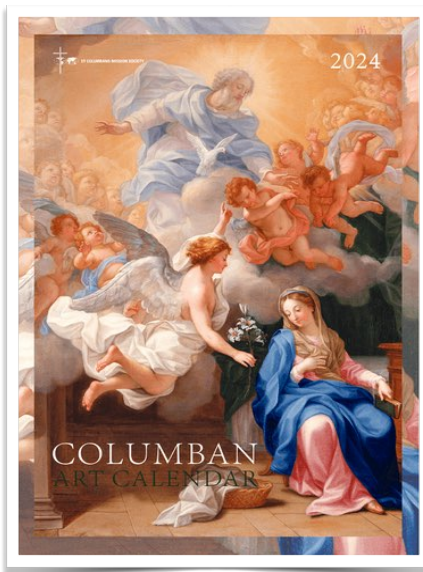
**Carols by Candlelight
Tuesday, 19 December**

The annual Holy Cross Parish “Carols by Candlelight” will be celebrated on Tuesday, 19 December at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church. This is based on the traditional service of nine readings and carols which tell of the history of the salvation of the world.

This is a beautiful evening of Scripture and carols, both traditional and contemporary, and a wonderful way to prepare to celebrate the birth of Our Lord.

**2024 Columban
Art Calendars for Sale
in our Piety Shops**

The 2024 Columban Art Calendar is on sale for \$10 from our piety shops. The Columban Art Calendar is a major fundraiser for the Missionary Society of St. Columban—an order of Priests who work with the poor and the exploited around the world.

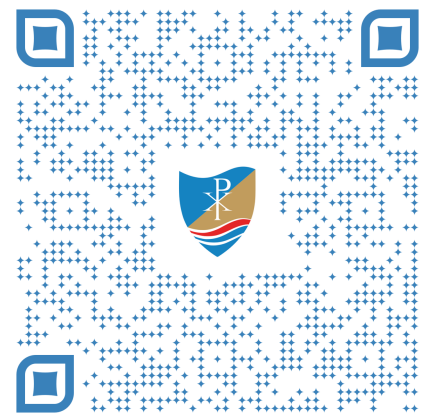


The calendars are available for sale in our piety shops and the sale of these supports the work of the Columban Missionaries and of the parish. While you are there, be sure to have a look at the beautiful items available as gifts and decorations for Christmas.

**The Catholic Foundation
Christmas Appeal**

The Catholic Foundation of the Diocese of Parramatta are undertaking their annual Christmas appeal. This year’s appeal is in support of Catholic Care to provide care to those in hospitals and in prisons.

If you would like to support this appeal, you can use the envelopes provided on the pews and place this in either of the collections or in the boxes by the doors of the churches. If you prefer to make a donation online, visit yourcatholicfoundation.org.au or scan the QR code below.



**Holy Family Primary School
Year 6 Farewell Mass
Wednesday Evening**

Holy Mass for the year 6 farewell will be said on Wednesday, at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Family Church.

Please note the change of time for this Mass from the usual 6:00 p.m. time to 6:30 p.m. This Mass will be followed by presentations to the year 6 students.

Because of this Mass and the presentations to follow, the Sacrament of Penance (confessions) will not be available that evening but will resume as usual the following Wednesday evening.

The next scheduled time for confessions is Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Holy Trinity Church.

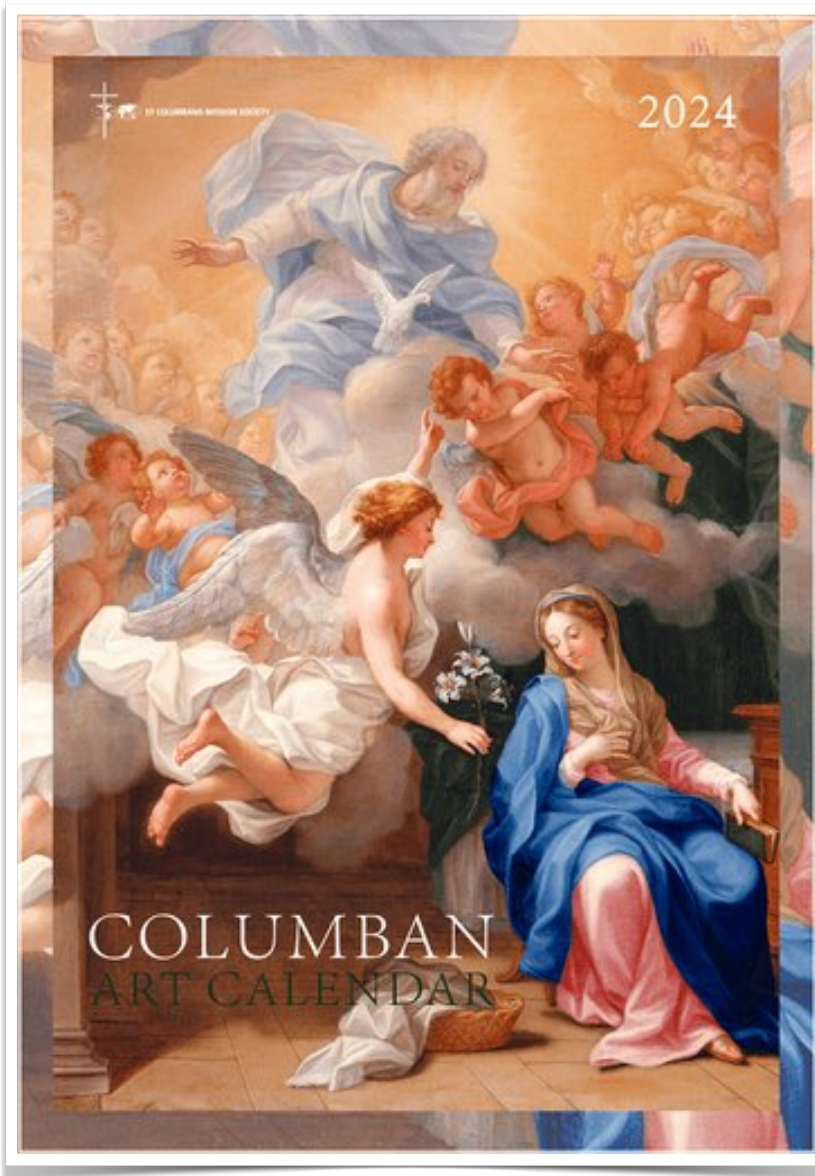
Prepare a Way!

2023



A HOLY CROSS PARISH RESOURCE
for a SPIRITUALLY NOURISHING ADVENT SEASON

—•—
Available free online or in the piety shop for \$10



The 2024 Columban Art Calendar is on sale now at the piety shop for \$10.

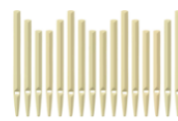
The Columban Art Calendar is an iconic Catholic Calendar, well-known for its traditional religious paintings and liturgical information.

2024 marks over 100 years of the calendar.

The money from the sale of these calendars supports the work of the Missionary Society of St. Columban, an order of Priests who work with the poor and the exploited around the world.

MT
V C A L S

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CAROLS

BY CANDLELIGHT

*A solemn evening of Carols and the
blessing of the Christmas Crib.*

7:30PM | TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH GRANVILLE
Corner of Randle St & Bennalong St Granville



A detailed illustration of the Nativity scene. The Virgin Mary is seated on the left, holding the infant Jesus. The Holy Spirit is depicted as a dove above the child. Joseph is kneeling on the right, holding a lamb. Two angels are positioned above the scene, one on each side. The background features a circular archway with Latin text: "ET VERBUM CARO FACTUM EST" on the left and "ALLELUIA!" on the right. The entire scene is set against a golden, ornate background.

Christmas

AT HOLY CROSS GRANVILLE

CHRISTMAS EVE

5 p.m. Holy Family Church
7 p.m. Holy Trinity Church

CHRISTMAS DAY

Midnight Holy Trinity Church
8:30 a.m. Holy Family Church
10 a.m. Holy Trinity Church
4:30 p.m. Holy Family Church



2nd Sunday of Advent, Year B

The Readings

Introit (Cf. Is. 30:19, 30)

O people of Zion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

First Reading

The Prophet Isaiah (40:1-5; 9-11)

'Console my people, console them' says your God.
'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her
time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that
she has received from the hand of the Lord double
punishment for all her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the
Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the
desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and
hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the
ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be
revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the
Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion.
Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem.
Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is
your God.'

Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing
all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his
trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding
his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them
against his breast and leading to their rest the mother
ewes.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps. 84:9-14. R. v. 8)

R. Lord, let us see your kindness,
and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.

His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. R.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. R.

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. R.

Second Reading

The Second Letter of St. Peter (3:8-14)

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never
forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand
years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not
being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else
might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all,
wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought
to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a
thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the
elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all
that it contains will be burnt up. Since everything is
coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and
saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God
to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the
elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is
what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the
place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my
friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives
without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

Gospel Acclamation (Lk. 3:4, 6)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel

The Gospel of St. Mark (13:33-37)

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ,
the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet
Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before
you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the
wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths
straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in
the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for
the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of
Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were
baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their
sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on
locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he
said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more
powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and
undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with
water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

Communio (Baruch 5:5; 4:36)

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.