
Granville Catholic Church Record

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December 29, 2024

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



THE ❖ HOLY ❖ FAMILY *of JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH*

The life of the Holy Family hardly seems to fulfill the words of the Archangel Gabriel at the annunciation: “Mary, you have found favour with God,” or of the Blessed Virgin’s cousin, St. Elizabeth: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.” In fact, for all God’s promises of thrones and kingdoms, it seems that it was the old man Simeon, whose words in the Temple to the Blessed Virgin, were the only true thing said: because of this child, “a sword shall pierce your soul.”

The Holy Family is a model and example for all Christian families. Their life passed quietly in a little town in Palestine. They underwent trials of poverty, persecution and exile. But we must be careful not to romanticise the Holy Family, lest they become out of reach of reality.

Throughout the the trials of poverty and suffering, this family, found the grace to glorify God in an incomparably exalted and pure way. They embodied the life of which St. Paul would later write: “Be thankful.

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.” This same grace, the grace given to the Holy Family, is given still today and it cannot but help Christian families in their daily work, to bear patiently, faithfully, and hopefully the anxieties and worries that never seem to go away, to be open and generous to the needs of others, and to fulfill with joy the plan of God for the family.

THE PARISH OFFICE

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Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

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Holy Trinity Primary School

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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.

Sunday, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday, 6:00 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

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

Rosters

Church and Toilets Cleaning

Narelle Khoury, Claudette Takchi,
Moona Wehbe

Flower Arranging

*requesting volunteers to form groups of
at least 2 people to arrange flowers for
the sanctuary*

SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



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 1: D. Portelli,
L. Toman, W. Krasinski, J. Galea,
A. Quinlan, N. Begley

Readers

Vigil Gerry Pinto, Racquel La Rosa,
Rosette Chidiac

10:00 a.m. Rosza Kazmer,
Wadzi Mushininga, Jasmine Miranda

Children's Liturgy school holidays

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, Fortunato La Macchia, Silvio La Macchia,
Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro, Ester Matos, Sid Morgan,
Scott Moulton, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, 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

Attard family, Axiak family, Victor Azzopardi, Bonello family,
Engedi Brown, Jim Brown, Dick Cahill, Gwen Cahill, Vincent
Cahill, Les Camilleri, Maria Dinh, Akosita Fetuuaho, Alan Frost,
Carmen Galea, Maria Gambin, John Graham, Joe Grech, Mary
Grech, Sam Grech, Melissa Irons, Salim Karaki, Paul Karam,
Nouhad Khoury, Thomas Lam, Rustica La Rosa, Laurie Lowe,
Frouzine Malkoun, Jacob Malkoun, Mouna Malkoun, Ofimia
Malkoun, Jack McGrath, John McIntyre, Lindsay McIntyre,
Mary McIntyre, Thomas McIntyre, Joseph Nammour, Jack
Newell, Hazel Jean Newell, Tony Newell, Vincent Nguyen,
Laura Pestano, Rogelio Pestano, Rolando Pestano, Guise Pham,
Jack Pickering, Lorna Pickering, Edward Pidgeon, Flory Pinto,
Saliba family, Geoff Senior, Garry Smith, Noel So, Alex Taktak,
Darren Thornton, John Timbs, John Toye, Savina Vailahi, John
Vella, Carmel Watts, Phyllis Webb, Mershed Wehbe, Yasmine
Wehbe, Dennis Wilson, Phyllis Yott, Dib Zaiter, Laila Zaiter.



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

First Thursday Holy Mass in Latin

This Thursday, being the first Thursday of the month, Holy Mass in Latin will be said at Holy Trinity Church at 6:00 p.m.

The first Thursday of the month is traditionally offered as an act of reparation to the wounds of Our Lord and in honour of the Blessed Sacrament. It is also offered as day to pray for Priests in honour of Our Lord Jesus Christ, High and Eternal Priest.

First Friday Devotions in Honour of the Sacred Heart

This Friday, being the first Friday of the month, we continue our devotions in honour of the Sacred Heart of Our Lord and in reparation for our sins and for the sins of humanity.



At Holy Trinity Church, beginning with confessions at 6:15 p.m., there will then be the Holy Rosary at 6:30 p.m., followed by Holy Mass at 7:00 p.m. and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:30 p.m.

Join us for these devotions in honour of Our Lord and for the grace of His Sacraments, especially in this Christmas season as a way to give thanks to Almighty God for the birth of our salvation and for the abundant graces granted to us by His only begotten Son.



The beautiful celebrations enjoyed by the parish at Christmas were the work of many people who selflessly gave of their time over many hours and over many days to make all of it possible.

In particular, we our thanks to John Portelli and Rosette Chidiac, along with Elvis, Jeevan, Patrick, Suzi Chami, Katherine Jenner, Brandon Zaiter, Paulette Zaiter and Avanti Florists (avantiflorist.com.au) for their work in decorating Holy Trinity Church, and to the Khoury family and the Takchi family, and those who made donations, for their work in decorating Holy Family Church. The two churches of the parish are the most beautifully decorated churches in the diocese and are a testament to the faith and the devotion of all those who make this possible.

Thank you to all those who served so devotedly the Holy Masses of Christmas including John Portelli, Filomena Brancatisano, Brenda Drake, Rachel Miu, Louise Morched, Elvis Nguyen, Maryanne Takchi, Chloe Zaiter for the music, and Paul Bains, Patrick Bains, Anthony, Matthew, Patrick, Samuel, Jonah Katrib, Joshua Katrib, Dominic Katrib, Elvis Nguyen, Jeevan Raj, Johnny Tawk, Brandon Zaiter, Joshua Zaiter for serving at the altar. Many of them served three, four and even five Masses at Christmas.

Thank you, also, to all those who read, took up the collections, assisted in the piety shops and donated to the collections in support of the parish.

May God bless all those whose generosity in so many ways helped to make this Christmas one of great solemnity for Our Lord.

New Year's Day Holy Masses

The Church celebrates the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God on Wednesday, 1 January. To honour this solemnity and the first day of the new year Holy Mass will be said at Holy Trinity Church at 8:15 a.m. and at Holy Family Church at 6:00 p.m.

Parish Office Hours During the Holidays

The parish office will close until 14 January.

If needed, please send a message to the parish office email address and a reply will be given when the office opens.

Holy Masses This Week

Whilst many parishes will be reducing their Mass times for the next two weeks, the regular Mass schedule will remain in place with Masses and confessions remaining at the usual times.

2025 Columban Art Calendars for Sale in our Piety Shops

The 2025 Columban Art Calendar is on sale for \$10 from our piety shops which supports the work of the Columban Missionaries and the parish.



The Solemnity of MARY *the* HOLY MOTHER *of* GOD



The title “Mother of God”, together with the title “Blessed Virgin”, is the oldest on which all the other titles with which Our Lady was venerated are based, and it continues to be invoked from generation to generation in the East and in the West. A multitude of hymns and a wealth of prayers refer to the mystery of her divine motherhood, such as a Marian antiphon of the Christmas season, *Alma Redemptoris mater*, with which we pray in these words: “You, in the wonder of all creation, have brought forth your Creator, Mother ever virgin”. Let us contemplate Mary, ever-virgin Mother of the Only-Begotten Son of the Father; let us learn from her to welcome the Child who was born for us in Bethlehem. If we recognise in the Child born of her the Eternal Son of God and accept Him as our one Saviour, we can be called and we really are children of God: sons in the Son. St. Paul the Apostle writes: “God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons” (*Galatians 4:4*).

It was Pope Paul VI who moved to January 1st the Feast of the Divine Motherhood of Mary, which was formerly celebrated on October 11th. Today’s feast preserves a strongly Christological content because, it may be said, before the Mother, it concerns the Son, Jesus, true God and true Man.

O God, who through the fruitful virginity of Blessed Mary bestowed on the human race the grace of eternal salvation, grant, we pray, that we may experience the intercession of her, through whom we were found worthy to receive the author of life, our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son.

Amen.



PRAYER TO THE HOLY FAMILY

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, bless me and grant me the grace of loving Holy Church as I should, above every earthly thing, and of ever showing my love by deeds.

✠

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, bless me and grant me the grace of openly professing as I should, with courage and without human respect, the faith that I received as your gift in holy Baptism.

✠

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, bless me and grant me the grace of sharing as I should in the defence and propagation of the Faith when duty calls, whether by word or by the sacrifice of my possessions and my life.

✠

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, bless me and grant me the grace of loving my family and others in mutual charity as I should, and establish us in perfect harmony of thought, will, and action, under the rule and guidance of the shepherds of the Church.

✠

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, bless me and grant me the grace of conforming my life fully as I should to the commandments of God's law and those of His Holy Church, so as to live always in that charity which they set forth.

✠

Lord Jesus Christ, being subject to Mary and Joseph,
You sanctified family life by Your beautiful virtues.
Grant that we, with the help of Mary and Joseph,
may be taught by the example of Your holy Family,
and may after death enjoy its everlasting companionship.

✠

Lord Jesus, help us ever to follow the example of Your holy Family,
that in the hour of our death Your glorious Virgin Mother together with Saint Joseph may
come to meet us, and we may be worthy to be received by You
into the everlasting joys of heaven. Amen.



PARRAMATTA CATHOLIC FOUNDATION



This Christmas, will you help homeless mothers and children find a safe place to call home to rebuild their lives?



\$25

can provide **nappies or baby formula** for a young mum and baby.



\$75

can help provide **psychological counselling** for a mother suffering trauma.



\$100

can provide **financial counselling** or a session on **parenting and living skills, education, and employment support.**



\$250

can give mums a **newborn hamper** with essentials such as nappies, muslin wraps, bottles, and baby shampoo.



\$500

can provide two homeless young mothers with a **baby bassinet or cot.**



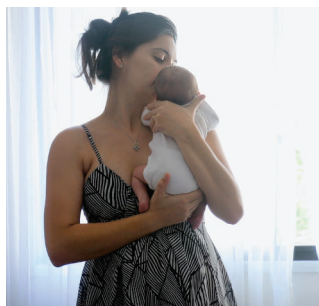
\$1,200

can provide a homeless young mum with a **bed, mattress, cot sheets, and a blanket.**



\$2,000

can provide four homeless young mums with a **maternity kit** including sleepwear, underwear, sanitary pads and baby clothing.



\$5,000

can provide a **safe home** for two months for a young mum fleeing domestic or family violence.

Your gift provides a safe home and practical and emotional family support.

Saints & STUFF

The Holy Innocents

The massacre of the Holy Innocents is the infanticide by Herod the Great, the Roman-appointed King of the Jews, following the birth of Christ.

According to the Gospel of Matthew, Herod ordered the execution of all male children under the age of two in and around Bethlehem, so as to avoid the loss of his throne to a newborn King of the Jews whose birth had been announced to him by the Magi.

It is understood as the fulfillment of an Old Testament prophecy: "It was then that the words spoken through the prophet Jeremiah were fulfilled: A voice was heard in Ramah, sobbing and loudly lamenting: it was Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted because they were no more" (Matthew 2:17-18)

The Holy Innocents, although Jewish, are martyrs of Christ, for they were killed out of hatred of our Lord. And so the Church prays on their feast day on December 28th: "Grant, O Lord, abundant salvation to your faithful as they receive your holy gifts on the feast day of these, your Saints, who, though still unable to profess your Son in speech, were crowned with heavenly grace on account of his birth."

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mary, Mother of God

963 "The Virgin Mary... is acknowledged and honoured as being truly the Mother of God and of the redeemer... She is 'clearly the mother of the members of Christ'... since she has by her charity joined in bringing about the birth of believers in the Church, who are members of its head." [She is] "Mary, Mother of Christ, Mother of the Church."

971 "All generations will call me blessed": "The Church's devotion to the Blessed Virgin is intrinsic to Christian worship." The Church rightly honours "the Blessed Virgin with special devotion. From the most ancient times the Blessed Virgin has been honoured with the title of 'Mother of God,' to whose protection the faithful fly in all their dangers and needs... This very special devotion... differs essentially from the adoration which is given to the incarnate Word and equally to the Father and the Holy Spirit, and greatly fosters this adoration."

The liturgical feasts dedicated to the Mother of God and Marian prayer, such as the rosary, an "epitome of the whole Gospel," express this devotion to the Virgin Mary.

CATHOLIC Trivia

WORLD DAY OF PEACE

The Church celebrates New Years Day, January 1st, as the World Day of Peace. It was established by Pope Paul VI in 1967, being inspired by the encyclical *Pacem in Terris* of Pope John XXIII and with reference to his own encyclical *Populorum Progressio*.

The World Day of Peace has often been an occasion on which Popes have made magisterial declarations of social doctrine. Pope Paul VI and Pope John Paul II made important declarations on the day in each year of their pontificates regarding the United Nations, human rights, women's rights, labour unions, economic development, the right to life, international diplomacy, peace in the Holy Land, globalisation, and terrorism.

The day itself, first established by the Church, is recognised and honoured worldwide as a day for the promotion of peace around the world, echoing the words of the angels to the shepherds and prayed in the Gloria of the Holy Mass: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will."

MT
V C A L S

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Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Year C

The Readings

Introit (*Lk.* 2:16)

The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

First Reading

The First Book of Samuel (1:20-22, 24-28)

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.' When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.'

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull, and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.'

There she left him, for the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm (*Pss.* 83:2-3, 5-6, 9-10. *R.* v. 5)

R. How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

How lovely is your dwelling place,
Lord, God of hosts.

My soul is longing and yearning,
is yearning for the courts of the Lord.
My heart and my soul ring out their joy
to God, the living God. *R.*

They are happy, who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.

They are happy, whose strength is in you;
they walk with ever growing strength. *R.*

O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer,
gave ear, O God of Jacob.

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield,
look on the face of your anointed. *R.*

Second Reading

The Letter to the Hebrews (10:5-10)

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we

are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed, all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Acclamation (*Acts* 16:14)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our heart, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

Gospel

The Gospel of Luke (2:41-52)

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere. Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.

He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

Communio (*Bar.* 3:38)

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.