

Granville Catholic Church Record

Vol. II. No. 4.

January 25, 2026

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



THE MOST HOLY NAME of JESUS

As we advance into the new year, the Church places a powerful spiritual weapon in our hands by dedicating the month of January to the Holy Name of Jesus. While the secular world focuses on resolutions of self-improvement and willpower, Catholic tradition invites us to look outward and upward, anchoring our lives not in our own strength, but in the power of the Incarnate Word. To speak the name of Jesus is to place oneself in the presence of God, for His name is not merely a title, but a definition of His very essence and mission. The name Jesus, derived from the Hebrew *Yeshua*, signifies "God saves." Thus, the Holy Name is the shortest, most perfect creed we can profess; it is a prayer that acknowledges that salvation comes from the Lord alone.

The power of this name is brought into sharp focus by the liturgy of this weekend. In the Gospel of St. Matthew, we read the fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy: "The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death, light has

dawned." This great light is Christ Himself, and the beacon that announces His presence is His Holy Name. Just as a lighthouse cuts through the fog to guide ships to safety, the reverent use of the Holy Name cuts through the spiritual confusion of our times. When Jesus walks by the Sea of Galilee in today's Gospel and calls Peter, Andrew, James, and John, He invites them to leave their former lives and follow Him. To follow Him begins by knowing and loving His name, allowing it to become the centre of our daily lives.

History provides us with stirring examples of how this devotion can transform society. We might look to St. Bernardine of Siena, the great 15th-century Franciscan missionary. He preached during a time when Italy was torn apart by brutal family feuds and political factionalism. To combat this hatred, he did not propose a new treaty or political compromise; he proposed the Holy Name. This he carried on a tablet emblazoned with the letters "IHS" - a monogram of the name of Jesus -

He called upon the faithful to take down their family crests and symbols of division and replace them with the Holy Name. Where the name of Jesus was honoured, peace was restored.

We can bring this same peace into our own homes and parish through simple acts of reverence. It is a longstanding Catholic custom, enshrined in the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, to bow one's head slightly when the name of Jesus is pronounced. This physical act of humility is a powerful witness in a world that often uses the Lord's name in vain. We might also practice "reparation", offering a silent prayer of praise whenever we hear the Holy Name spoken in anger or disrespect in public.

Finally, we can adopt the practice of the beloved "Jesus Prayer," *Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.*" By repeating this throughout the day we constantly invite the "Great Light" to dispel the darkness in our own hearts. May the Holy Name not just be a word we say, but the foundation upon which we build our year and our lives.

THE PARISH OFFICE

Address

200 The Trongate,
South Granville, N.S.W. 2142

T 0497 190 444

E granville@parracatholic.org

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

Parish Administrator

Rev. Fr. Galbert Albino

Assistant Priest

Rev. Fr. Joseph Nguyen

Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

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

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, Terese Jones, Therese Khalil, Kay King, Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Don Provest, Ricardo Tognini, Lorraine Vella, Sam Wardan, Gerard Watts.

⌘

*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.*

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

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

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

Rosters

Church and Toilets Cleaning

Volunteers Needed

Flower Arranging

Ana Brown and Latu Manu

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, 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.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 Rebecca Hanson, Sisters,
Katherine Jenner

10:00 a.m. Armani Barakat, Jasmine
Miranda, Wadzi Mushininga

IN MEMORIAM

Victor Azzopardi, Joseph Baini, Dick Cahill, Gwen Cahill, Vincent Cahill, Albert Camilleri, Les Camilleri, Tessie Camilleri, Doris Casha, Joseph Cunmao Chen, Jamil Chidiac, John Lawrence Denmeade, Christine Derwin, Maria Dinh, Maria Vu Thi Duyen, John Dover, Joe Paul Fehir, Alan Frost, Carmen Galea, Maria Gambin, John Graham, Melissa Irons, Salim Karaki, Paul Karam, Chini Maya Kc, Nouhad Khoury, Thomas Lam, Rustica La Rosa, Laurie Lowe, Frouzine Malkoun, Jacob Malkoun, Mouna Malkoun, Ofimia Malkoun, Jack McIntyre, Giovanna Mondello, Santo Mondello, Kudzai Gerald Mutongerwa, Anthony Newell, Jessica Nguyen, Vincent Nguyen, Michael O'Brien, Zackary Orenshaw, Oswald Pasqual, Doris Pickering, Robert Pidgeon, Anna Pham, Flory Pinto, Peter Robertson, Geoff Senior, Garry Smith, Carlito So, Noel So, Emanuel Tabone, Alex Taktak, John Toye, John Vella, Peter Van Duc Vu, Graham Wales, Carmel Watts, Phyllis Webb, Mershed Wehbe, Yesmine Wehbe, Dib Zaiter, Laila Zaiter

NOTICES

Thank you to Amcha and Baini Families

We extend our deepest gratitude to the Amcha and Baini families for their generous donation of the beautiful granite top which was installed beneath the tabernacle at Holy Trinity Church late last year.

This enduring addition, replaced the previous timber extension, and has significantly enhanced the dignity of our sanctuary, providing a fitting space for candles and floral adornments during our liturgies.

This gift holds a profound significance, offered in loving memory of three beloved family members whom the families sadly lost within a span of just three months in 2025.

We also thank Domonic Baini for his dedication in sourcing and overseeing the installation.

As this granite beautifies God's house for years to come, we ask all parishioners to keep the Amcha and Baini families, and the souls of their faithful departed, in your prayers. May they rest in eternal peace and may God's grace comfort those who mourn them.

Important Notice Regarding Receiving Holy Communion

There has been an unfortunate increase in Sacred Hosts being dropped when receiving Holy Communion. Whilst these are accidents, we all have a responsibility to ensure that the Sacred Host—the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our Lord, Jesus Christ—is guarded and protected.

When receiving Holy Communion, please do not step to the side to consume the Sacred Host, and under no circumstances, turn away from facing the altar before you consume the Sacred Host. Please ensure that you consume the Sacred Host whilst still facing the altar and the Priest or the Extraordinary Minister.

Online Donations in Support of the Parish

Online donations can be made through the Holy Cross Parish website (holycrossgranville.org.au) using our BPoint facility by visiting the website or scanning the QR code below. Thank you to all those who regularly support the parish by your contributions. Your regular support of the parish is greatly appreciated and allows us to continue to undertake the many works of the parish and to look at what other works we can achieve, including the continuing restoration and maintenance of our two parish churches for generations to come.



Become a Parish Volunteer

We're always grateful for the dedication of our volunteers, and encourage others to come forward and get involved.

If you have a passion for service and some time to offer, consider joining one of our many parish ministries. There are opportunities for all ages to join in and take part in the life of the parish.

Please be aware that some volunteer positions will require a Working With Children Check whilst completion of safeguarding training is also required. Assistance will be available. For more information on how you can become a volunteer, contact the parish office. Begin the new year by becoming a parish volunteer!

Holy Mass for the Presentation of the Lord

Join us on Monday, 2nd February, as we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, traditionally known as Candlemas.

This beautiful feast marks the fortieth day after Christmas, commemorating the moment the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph brought the Infant Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem. It is a day of great joy, recalling the prophecy of Simeon who hailed the Christ Child as "a light for revelation to the Gentiles."

Two Masses will be offered in the parish with Holy Mass at Holy Trinity Church at 8:15 a.m. and Holy Family Church at 6:00 p.m.

In keeping with ancient custom, we will begin the liturgy with the traditional Blessing of Candles, symbolising Christ as the Light of the World who dispels the darkness of sin. We invite you to bring your own candles to be blessed that day.

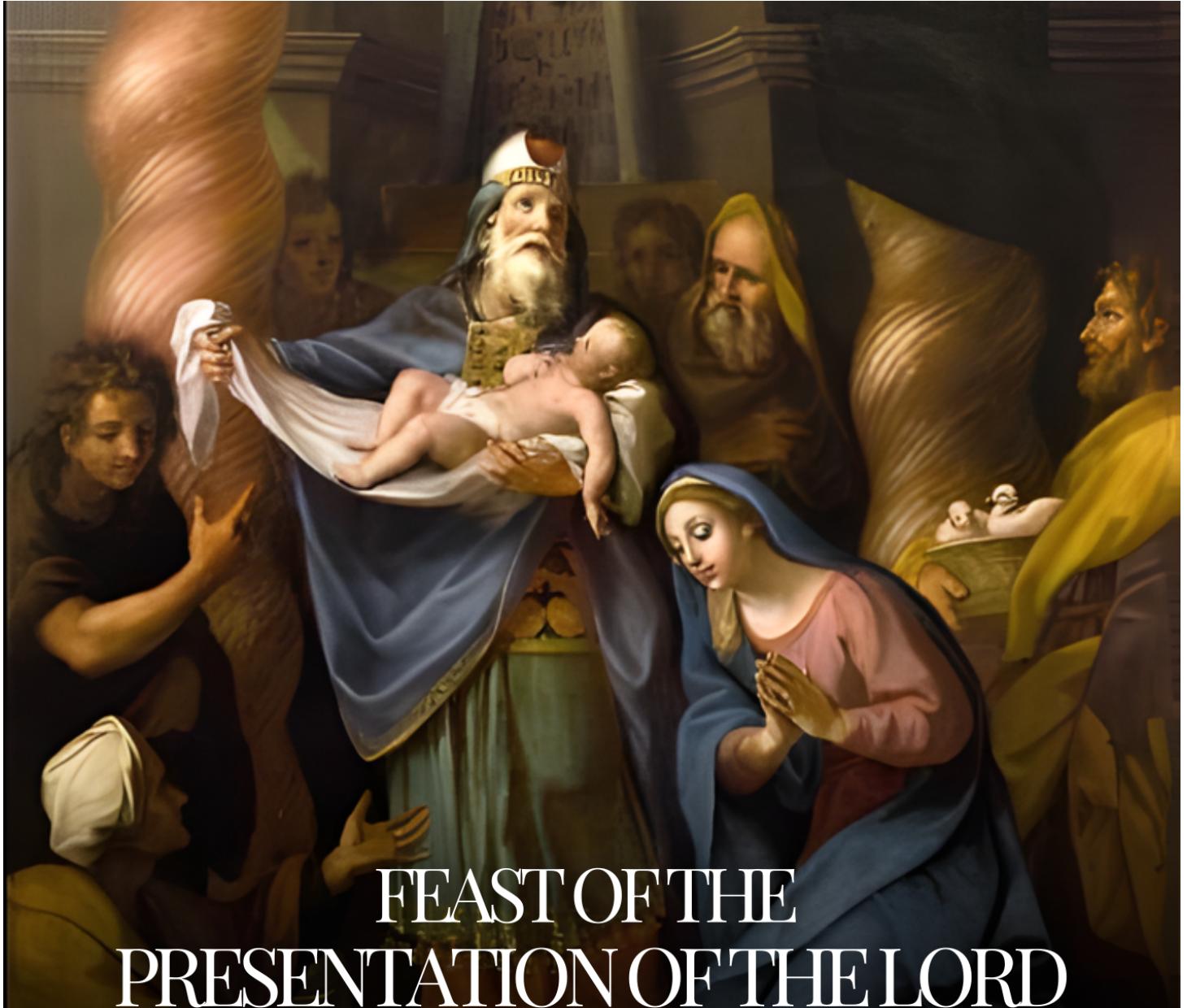
Volunteers Needed for Children's Liturgy Groups

We invite you to help pass on our Holy Faith to the youngest members of our parish. We are seeking at least four new volunteers to join our Children's Liturgy team. Children's Liturgy is run during the 10:00am Sunday Mass at Holy Trinity Church during school term.

Your help will allow us to form two additional groups, ensuring our children can hear the Word of God at a level they understand.

All volunteers must complete safeguarding training and hold a current Working with Children Check. Our Parish Office and Safeguarding Champion will provide full assistance with these requirements.

Please consider this vital service to our parish and email or call the parish office once it reopens to express your interest.



FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD **HOLY MASS**

MONDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY 2026

Holy Trinity Church: 8:15AM

Holy Family Church: 6:00PM



CHILDREN'S LITURGY Volunteers Needed!



Help pass on our Holy Faith to the youngest members of our parish through the Children's Liturgy ministry!





HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED THE HOLY CROSS PARISH APP?

The Holy Cross Parish app is just another way of keeping updated on everything that takes place in the parish!

In addition to finding available Mass, Confession and Adoration times available in the parish, the app also has some great tools such as prayers, daily reflections, audio bible, news feeds, and homilies which are published weekly.

You can also find links to popular catholic podcasts, such as Dr. Taylor Marshall, Fr. Mike Schmitz and updated news from outlets such as the Catholic Weekly.

Once you have downloaded the app to your phone or device, simply click on the 'myparishapp' button, click on "find a parish" and type in "Holy Cross Parish"

Search for 'myparish' on the App Store or Google Play to download the app today!

Saints & STUFF

St. Bernardine of Siena

Known as the "Apostle of Italy," St. Bernardine of Siena (1380–1444) was a Franciscan friar who revitalised the faith of a weary public through his powerful, plain-spoken preaching. While he was a master orator who could move thousands to repentance, his most lasting legacy is his profound and tender devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus.

During a time of intense civil strife and family feuds, St. Bernardine sought a symbol of unity to heal a fractured society. He popularised the IHS monogram—the first three letters of Jesus' name in Greek (ΙΗΣ). At the conclusion of his sermons, he would hold up a wooden tablet displaying these letters in gold, surrounded by a blazing sun with twelve wavy rays. He encouraged the faithful to place this emblem over their doors and in their hearts, replacing partisan symbols of war and factionalism with the name of the Prince of Peace.

For St. Bernardine, the Holy Name was not just a title, but a "brilliant light" that provided strength in temptation and healing in sorrow.

Today, the IHS symbol remains a staple in Catholic art and architecture worldwide, serving as a permanent testament to St. Bernardine's mission: ensuring that the name of Jesus is always honoured, remembered, and loved. *St. Bernardine of Siena, Pray for us.*

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Holy Name of Jesus

432 The name "Jesus" signifies that the very name of God is present in the person of his Son, made man for the universal and definitive redemption from sins. It is the divine name that alone brings salvation, and henceforth all can invoke his name, for Jesus united himself to all men through his Incarnation, so that "there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

435 The name of Jesus is at the heart of Christian prayer. All liturgical prayers conclude with the words "through our Lord Jesus Christ".

2143 Among all the words of Revelation, there is one which is unique: the revealed name of God. God confides his name to those who believe in him; he reveals himself to them in his personal mystery..."The Lord's name is holy." For this reason man must not abuse it. He must keep it in mind in silent, loving adoration. He will not introduce it into his own speech except to bless, praise, and glorify it.

2145 The faithful should bear witness to the Lord's name by confessing the faith without giving way to fear. Preaching and catechising should be permeated with adoration and respect for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CATHOLIC Trivia

The Original TV Streamer

As we settle into the first weeks of 2026, the new television season is officially in full swing. Between setting your DVRs for the latest sci-fi premieres and catching up on returning favourites, it is the perfect time to remember that television has its own patron: St. Clare of Assisi.

In 1958, Pope Pius XII officially declared her the patroness of this modern invention, despite her having lived in the 13th century. The reason stems from a miracle on Christmas Eve in 1252. Clare, the founder of the Poor Clares, was so ill she was confined to her bed while the other sisters attended Midnight Mass. Distraught at missing the liturgy, she began to pray. Miraculously, God projected a vision of the entire Mass—complete with sound—directly onto the wall of her cell. This medieval "live stream" allowed her to witness the service from miles away. Pope Pius XII noted that television "reproduces sights and sounds of distant events," making Clare the ideal guide for the medium.

So, as you dive into your 2026 viewing list, say a quick prayer to St. Clare for the quality and truth of what we watch! Her story reminds us that even when we are isolated, we can still be connected to the heart of the Church. May she guide all creators this season to produce content that inspires and uplifts.

MT
VOCALS

Maryanne Takchi
0402 704 274
maryannetakchi@gmail.com
instagram.com/mtvocals



JOHN PORTELLI

WWW.JOHNPORTELLI.COM.AU

OVER 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN CATHOLIC SACRED MUSIC

John.Portelli@outlook.com.au
0401 463 343

JohnPortelliMusician
 John.Portelli.Musician

The Readings

Introit

(Cf Psalm 95:1,6)

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.

First Reading

The Prophet Isaiah

(Isaiah 8:23 – 9:3)

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun
and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will
confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of
Jordan, province of the nations.
The people that walked in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who live in a land of deep shadow
a light has shone.
You have made their gladness greater,
you have made their joy increase,
they rejoice in your presence
as men rejoice at harvest time,
as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.
For the yoke that was weighing on him,
the bar across his shoulders,
the rod of his oppressor,
these you break as on the day of Midian.

Responsorial Psalm

(Ps 26:1. 4. 13-14. R. v.1)

℟. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
Before whom shall I shrink? **℟.**

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,
for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple. **℟.**

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! **℟.**

Second Reading

First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

(1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17)

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

Gospel Acclamation

(Matthew 4:23)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel

The Gospel of Matthew

(Matthew 4:12-17)

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!
Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan,
Galilee of the nations!
The people that lived in darkness
has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and
shadow of death a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

Communio

(Cf Psalm 33:6)

Look toward the Lord and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.