

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today in the Gospel (Lk 1:26-38) we hear the angel's message to Mary and her response. Gabriel tells Mary she is to be the mother of a child, whose titles ('Son of the Most High') and role indicate that he will be the long-awaited Messiah. Mary is taken aback and intelligently asks how this is to come to pass. She is married but, in accordance with the custom of the time, still living in her parental home and has not yet had relations with her husband. The angel's explanation lifts this mystery to a new level. The birth will not come about through relations with her husband but through being 'overshadowed' by the creative power of God's Holy Spirit. Thus, her child will be God's 'Son' in a unique way.

Central in this is Mary's faith – as the later remark of her cousin Elizabeth will bring out: 'Blessed is she who believed that the promise made to her by the Lord would be fulfilled' (Lk 1:45). In the person of Mary, we learn that it is people of faith who channel God's presence, peace and power into the world.

God invites us to renew our faith this Christmas that we may be bearers of his love, peace and hope in our world. Let us pray with Pope Francis:

O God, Trinity of love, from the profound communion of your divine life, pour out upon us a torrent of fraternal love.

Grant us the love reflected in the actions of Jesus, in his family of Nazareth, and in the early Christian community.

Grant that we Christians may live the Gospel, discovering Christ in each human being, recognizing him crucified in the sufferings of the abandoned and forgotten of our world, and risen in each brother or sister who makes a new start.

Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty, reflected in all the peoples of the earth, so that we may discover anew that all are important, and all are necessary, different faces of the one humanity that God so loves. Amen. (Fratelli Tutti).

The peace, love and joy of the Infant Jesus and his Mother, Mary, be with you and your family this Christmas and always.—*Frs Greg, John Pallipadan, Tadgh Tierney and John Follent.*

Christmas Celebration at IJ

CHRISTMAS EVE—Thursday 24 December

◆ Vigil Mass at 6.00pm

◆ Midnight Mass at 12.00am
(Carols 30 minutes before Mass)



CHRISTMAS DAY – Friday 25 December

◆ Christmas Masses at 7.30am, 9.30am and 11.30am (Italian Mass) **NO EVENING MASS**
(Carols 30 minutes before each Mass)

Please see the back page of this bulletin for more information on CHRISTMAS COVID RESTRICTIONS.

FIRST AND SECOND COLLECTIONS

From this weekend, we will again commence taking up the First and Second Collections during Mass. We will be trying out the new way—with a long pole collection bag. Please be patient with us as we might experience teething issues. It has been a challenging year for all and we thank you for your continuing support. A reminder that the first collection supports the priests in our parish and sick/elderly priests in the Perth Archdiocese/Carmelite friars. The second collection is to support the parish work and maintenance.



COVID SAFE PARISH

Thank you all for your patience and cooperation these past months adhering to COVID safe requirements. From the imposed hand sanitising, to mandatory contact registration, everyone has been such a champion. Thank you! Please continue to support these safety measures, so that together, we can ensure that our worship space and community areas are safe places for our whole community, especially our very elderly and vulnerable community members.



Just a reminder, especially for our busy Christmas celebration:

- ◆ If you are unwell or have any symptoms of cold or flu, stay at home.
- ◆ Register your contact details: by safeWA or paper slip.
- ◆ Upon entering, sterilize your hands using the hand sanitisers provided.
- ◆ Keep a safe 1.5m physical distance.
- ◆ Please follow directions of staff/volunteers.
- ◆ Be patient and be respectful to people around you.

AVAILABLE NOW from the Piety Stall or Parish Office

- Lions Christmas Cakes: Small 1kg \$13 and Large 1.5kg - \$17
- 2020 Columban Calendar: \$8
- Advent calendar \$12
- Various Christmas gifts

Garden FUNraiser

We have now set the date for the Garden Funraiser - Saturday 1st May, just in time for Mothers Day 2021! So it will be a Mother's Day Garden Fair, with all kinds of garden related gifts for Mums and others. Please mark your calendars now and put up your hand to help.

Thank you to those who have contacted us to tell us they are planting and potting up for the Funraiser. If you haven't told us yet, please email us at gardenfunraiser@gmail.com or phone the parish office on 9276 8500 to let us know what you are doing, or plan to do. Even send us a photo! We are also happy to hear your ideas - we have had a couple of great suggestions already.

HOW YOU CAN HELP US:

- Please bring in your unwanted—plastic or other pots of all sizes (very large pots needed too); floral/garden themed fabrics; garden statues; old garden tools, etc
- Offer your help with sewing/craft projects
- Share ideas with us about creating a great Mother's Day garden fair.



HOW WE CAN HELP YOU: Moonure, a local company has donated potting mix which you are welcome to collect from parish office to help in potting plants for the fundraiser.

WHAT CAN YOU DO: Bring in any unwanted fabrics for our craft projects, especially green, floral or garden themed materials.

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year B)

The Presider, or an assistant, lights the fourth candle, which is often named the Angel Gabriel Candle for those messengers who bring God's Word into our world.



Priest: Lord Jesus, you established the house of David to be secure forever and from which the Saviour would be born (First Reading). Jesus is the cornerstone. We are a Christ-centred Church.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Priest: Lord Jesus, you alone are wisdom and as St Paul declares, you will give us the strength to live the Gospel (Second Reading). By living a prayerful life Centred on the Eucharist may we open ourselves to your wisdom and the Spirit working in the community.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Priest: Lord Jesus, you sent the angel Gabriel to give the good news to Mary so that she would bring Jesus into the world through the power of the Spirit (Gospel). Giving birth is painful. Change can be frightening. Mary trusted in God and let herself be led by the Holy Spirit so that we can say.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Priest: Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.



PILGRIM STATUE

This week in the home of Sandra Haney; 2 Richards Pl, Noranda. Ph: 0412 589 461.

CRAFTY PEOPLE WANTED

Do you have sewing skills, craft skills, a creative mind or a willingness to help your Parish to raise funds at the Garden Funraiser? If so please contact Deb Laidler at deb.kimlaidler@inet.net.au



A meeting to discuss ideas will be held on Saturday 23 January at 9.30am in the Parish hall! In the meantime please feel free to contact me with any suggestions or ideas you may have! Many thanks in anticipation!

PARISH PRAYER CONCERNS

Deceased: Vasco and Anna Pieraccini;

Anniversaries: Norma Ryan and Antonio Panizza;

The Sick of the Parish: All the sick who are in need of our prayers.

"Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand."

Room to rent—A woman in her 50s is looking for room on a quiet street to rent temporarily until her house is sold. Female landlord preferred. Please contact Billie in the parish office 9276 8500 for more information.

NEXT WEEKEND — 26/27 December 2020 — The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Ministry	Sat 6pm	Sun 7.30am	Sun 9.30am	Sunday 6pm
Acolytes/Altar Ministers	Jeremy N	Eamon D	Josephine M	Chris L
Altar Servers	Aaditya; Abhay and Abigail	Cyril and Marcus	Leandra; Jules and Andrei	Tim; Dan and Noah
Proclaimers	John and Sylvia	Sally and Tang	Joanne and Julia	Alan and Maureen
Extr. Ministers Of Communion	Chris T and Tracy	Yvonne and Kerry	Errol and Patrick	Marie and Maureen
Hospitality	Ann and Janice	Barb and Veronica	Deborah and Pauline	Joanne and Anne
Church Cleaning	Team A			

PLEASE NOTE: If you are unable to attend on your rostered day, please arrange for someone else in your Ministry to take your place.



Preparing for a COVID Christmas

This year is going to be a very different Christmas for us at Infant Jesus.

Due to COVID-19 regulations, seating INSIDE our church is limited to 300 people per Mass. If you intend to come to ANY of the Christmas Masses and wish to be inside, please come a bit earlier.

Numbers outside the church will be unlimited. There will be seating provided, or you can bring your own chairs or a picnic rug and sit on the grass. The glass doors will all be opened so that people will also be able to see what is happening in the church. Our sound system will ensure you will be able to hear clearly. Holy Communion will also be distributed outside the church. In this way we hope to ensure a place for everyone.

PLEASE NOTE: Government regulations apply inside and outside the Church – Hand sanitising, 1.5m social distancing and mandatory contact registration.

Please help by passing this information to family and friends who would normally come to Infant Jesus at Christmas.



Christmas Mass Times:

CHRISTMAS EVE – Thursday 24 December

- Vigil Mass at 6.00pm (Carols 30 minutes before Mass)
- Midnight Mass at 12.00am (Carols 30 minutes before Mass)

CHRISTMAS DAY – Friday 25 December

- Christmas Masses at 7.30am, 9.30am and 11.30am (Italian Mass)
(Carols 30 minutes before each Mass)