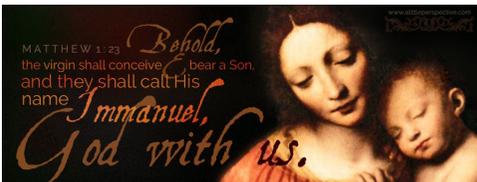


Gospel Lk 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

Communion Antiphon

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.



Next week The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Yr B

Readings : 1st: [Sirach 3:2-6,12-14](#), [Psalm: 104](#)
2nd: [Col 3:12-21](#) **Gospel:** [Lk 2:22-40](#).

Family Drug Support

This is a caring non-religious organization which provided non-judgmental, non-directive support and information to families and friends of drug users across Australia. Telephone Support Line 24hrs/7day a week: 1300 368 186. Please see brochures in the Church foyer



New Website for Eileen O'Connor

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney has launched a new website, Facebook and Instagram pages today, aimed at promoting the pathway to sainthood for the Co-Founder of Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor, Servant of God, Eileen O'Connor. Eileen's great courage in serving the sick poor, despite enduring great personal illness herself is a truly remarkable example to us all. Visit the new website at this address: www.eileenconnor.com.au and follow the new Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/SoGEileenOConnor> and Instagram page at this address: www.instagram.com/theeileenconnor

Calendars and Christmas Cards

Still available NOW St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards @ \$5 per pack and Columban Calendars for 2021 @\$8 each. Place money in the poor box



A Message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Our Lady of Lourdes Church: 280 Homer St, Earlwood, NSW. 2206

St Bernadette's Church: Corner William St & Bexley Rd.

Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School: Ph: 9559 2556 Principal: Dermott O'Neill

Society of Our Lady of Lourdes: Ph: 9559 2171 (Mon & Fri 9am to 1pm)

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LOURDES PARISH



EARLWOOD

Fr. Patrick Njenga *Parish Administrator* Fr. Miguel Perez Campos *Assistant Priest*

Fr. Adrian Pittarello *Italian Chaplain* Ph: 80681595

Office Hours: Temporarily Mon & Fri 8.30am to 12noon

Cinzia - Tues to Thurs 9am to 1pm Maria - Tues to Wed 9am to 2.30pm

Parish Office: 9558 1254 **Email:** secretary@lourdesparish.com.au

WEEK 51

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

19/20 DECEMBER 2020

Entrance Antiphon

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

First Reading 2 Sm 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16

'Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent'. Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.' But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever.'"

Responsorial Psalm Ps 88:2-5. 27. 29. R. see v.2 (R.) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (R.)

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your dynasty for ever and set up your throne through all ages.' (R.)

He will say to me: 'You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me.' I will keep my love for him always; for him my covenant shall endure. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 16:25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

Mass Weekends:

Saturday 5.00pm OLOL, 6.30pm Bernadette's

Sunday 8.00am Bernadette's, 9.30am OLOL

Children's Liturgy: during 9.30am Mass

10.45am (Italian). 6pm Maronite Mass in English.

Reconciliation: Saturday 4- 4.45pm OLOL

Mass Weekdays:

St. Bernadette Tue 6.30 pm, Fri 6.30am

OLOL: Wed 8.30am, Thurs 8.30am, Friday 9am

Baptisms: 12noon 2nd & 4th Sundays at *OLOL*

11am 3rd Sunday at *St Bernadette's*

Reconciliation: Saturday 6 - 6.20pm *St. Bernadette's*

Rosary Statue
Miles 0481 977 194



Grotto Rosary
Rosary every Mon & Fri at Grotto at 10am.

Eucharistic Adoration & Holy Rosary
Please join us for **Holy Hour on Fridays**
6:30-7:30pm at Our Lady's Church. "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." (Mt. 26:41)

Booking Continues
Booking for weekend Masses is still necessary but some permanent bookings have now been taken. You need to book in by ringing the Parish Office on 9558 1254 on Tues, Wed or Thurs mornings.

Make a Booking

COVIDSAFE church COVID Update
In a welcome step forward for our churches in the lead up to Christmas, NSW Health has announced that from Monday 7 December, churches will be able to have unlimited numbers at all religious services, when a two square metre rule is observed. This means St Bernadette's can have 100 people while OLOL can have 230. You'll find more information here: <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/coronavirus-frequently-asked-questions/> Churches are required to keep records of all attending Masses for contact tracing purposes and the NSW Government recommends that church-goers continue to wear face masks when attending Mass..

First Friday Mass at Grotto
There will be Mass on New Years Day - 1st January 2021 - at the Grotto at 10.30am.
The Rosary will be said from 10am. All welcome.



Advent Wreath
Today we light the fourth and last candle of the Advent Wreath. This candle represents us. It is a sign that Christmas is upon us and each one of us needs to open our hearts to receive Jesus as he comes.

Thank You
Special thanks to Pascal Xavier who, following in the footsteps of St Joseph the Carpenter, made the Wooden Stable for the Crib at St Bernadette's.



Go Make Disciples
Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP has successfully launched a new Archdiocesan Mission Plan **Go Make Disciples** on 12 December, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Star of the New Evangelisation. The new plan is aimed at renewing our parishes as places of encounter with the living Christ and centres of evangelisation and outreach to our community in love and mercy. In the weeks and months ahead we hope you will join us in an Archdiocesan-wide prayer campaign, calling on the Holy Spirit, to prepare the hearts of each of us and of all our parishes and Eucharistic communities to receive anew the fire of God's love and the desire to be ever more faithful witnesses of Jesus Christ.

Wanted - Baby Jesus
We still need 1 more baby to portray Baby Jesus at the St Bernadette's Christmas Vigil Mass at 6.00pm. We also need Mary & Joseph as well. If you can help ring 0414 851 143.



Summer Nights 2021
The Summer Schools of Evangelisation that have been running around Australia for over 30 years have responded to the challenge of COVID, and are combining to run a program for young people at the Mt Carmel Retreat Centre in Varroville in January 2021. There are two options (the retreat is run twice during the week):
Mon 11 - Wed 13 Jan (3pm to 9pm) &
Thurs 14 - Sat 16 Jan (3pm to 9pm)
COVID safe dinner is provided each day.
For age 16-35 year olds.
The retreat will feature excellent quality talks and teaching, night sessions with praise and worship, drama, preaching, testimonies, and prayer, Mass, adoration and reconciliation are available each day.

New Year's Day Mass
Fri 1st Jan 2021 (New Year's Day) while no longer a Holy Day of Obligation is nevertheless a lovely day to attend Mass. It is the Feast of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Mass times will be:
St Bernadette's 9.00am
OLOL Earlwood: 11.30am



Lights of Christmas
Celebrate the 11th Anniversary of the Lights of Christmas at St Mary's Cathedral starting Thursday, 10 December with the Lights Display from 8.30pm to 11pm, concluding on Christmas Day.. Some COVID restrictions will be applied.

Christmas Lights
Once again there are some lovely homes with beautiful Christmas Lights around our district – one of the best displays is at 73 Guedecourt Ave (home of the Abihanna Family- parishioners). Another very eye-catching display is at 144A-Bexley Road home of one of our parishioners Alice Lucas.



Happy Birthday Holy Father
Pope Francis celebrated his 84th birthday on 17th December.

HSC Results
We had some splendid HSC results amongst those on our HSC Prayer Board, Congratulations to all students. Once again thank you all for praying for them at the exam time. Your prayers definitely helped.



Advent Booklets at St Bernadette's
There are Advent Booklets, produced by the Diocese of Wollongong, available at St Bernadette's. Great preparation for Christmas.

Clemton Park Cake Shop
Special thanks to Clemton Park Cake Shop for their Donation of 50 Christmas Puddings.



Christmas Mass Times
Thurs 24th Dec (Christmas Eve):
Earlwood: **5.00pm & 6.30pm Vigil**
Clemton Park: **6.00pm Vigil**
Fri 25th Dec (Christmas Day):
Clemton Park: **8.00am**
Earlwood: **8.00am & 9.30am 10.45am (Italian)**



Please ring the Parish Office as BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL.



Please pray for the following:

Rec Deceased: Mark Calderwood (5/12), Robert Edward Thomas (7/12), Marcus Manning (13, beloved grandson of Ed & Joan Winters, 8/12), John Bourke, Anthony Zagame (30/10), Patricia Meleo .

Anniversaries Joseph Merlino (7th, 4/12), Irene Duarte (6th), Maria Elias (20 mth), Dr John George 19/12), Jordão Nóbrega Franco (13/12), Brian Davies (5th, 15/12).

Also: Joseph & Santa Vassallo, Mary Muscat, Gesualfo Nigro, Doris & Keith Allison, Doreen Quinn, Delores Barakat, Annette Gatto, Derek Gilbert, Babs & Terry Rodrigues, Monica Brewer, Gillian Sofatzis, Pierino, Pasquale & Roberto Stanghieri, Vincenzo Zaccardelli, Mary & Karam Elkhouri, David Staunton, Regina & Katharina Liebig, Carmel Henwood, Sebastiano Salvato, Manuel De Nobrega, Carlo Favorito, Celie Channon, Dorothy Price, Joan Ashton, Giovanni & Maria Corrente, Giacomo Rosanella, Athol Cullen, Corrado Ardizzi, Antonio Camara, Sinacori & Salvato families, Spinola Family, Brian Davies, Michael & Flora Vartuli, Tony Miller & Maria Fung, Helen & Frederick Seeto, Joy Hockings, Anthony & Therese Bonnici, Joseph Sparrow, Lucy Elizabeth Sparrow, Christine Margaret Mary Sparrow, Edward Sparrow, John Sparrow, Pat & Lex Yule, Lillian Weaver, Ruth Yule, Frank & Kathleen O' Donoghue, James & Lesley Dalley, Nora & Joseph Collins, Andrea Canu, Domenico Antonio Mazzù, Sebastiana (Nella) & Francesco Di Stefano, Holy Souls. **May they rest in Peace.**

Special Intentions: Thanksgiving for favour granted, Larrie Palac Tan, Michael Kenny, Maria Cristovao & family, Jose Gomes & family, Sister Elana, Sanjogta Sabharwal Blessings

Sick: Alfonso Costantini, Michelle Mordocco, Thomas Hunter, Colin McKinnon, Peter Dalley, Mary (Penny) & Max Houterman, John Shanahan, Fred & Doris Mordocco, Shirley Rait, Kristian Seric (little boy hit by car), Maria Camara, Maria Porcu, Maria Robson, Dick & Judy Poole, Kiani & Tasha, Berry D'Rosario, Ema Halangahu, Joyce Cutuli, Emilio Canteli, Joseph, Mercedes & Teresa Artigas, Carlos Vivero, family & friends Artigas & Canteli Families, Fr Colin Mason, Jess Harrison, Lenny Parisi, Kiani & Malik Hage, Salvatore D'Amico, Sarah Maria Robin, Domenico Guarnieri, Giuseppe Ferlino, Marina Beeby, Rosina Cimino, Melanie Reardon, John Kellert, John O'Neill, Maria Amarin, Mark & Joe Borg, Maureen Nuttal, Johanna Banaghan, Trent, Rosa Maria Santos, Nicole Camara, Elaine Rowda, Sr Catherine Carroll, Val Crawford, June Lynch, Ida Gilio, Patsy O'Connor, Gladys Richardson, Baby Sebastian Valens, Mary Carroll, Steve Channon, Betty McGee.

