



## CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS

Catholic Parish of Dulwich Hill, Archdiocese of Sydney, Established in 1907

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[secretary@dulwichhillparish.org.au](mailto:secretary@dulwichhillparish.org.au)



Bishop Richard Umbers DD VG (Bishop in Residence)

Fr. Andrew James (Parish Priest), (Deacon) Rev Louis Azzopardi

### Coffee Conversations for the Synod

The Synod of Bishops consultation has now commenced and parishioners are invited to gather in small groups to discuss one or more of the topics for the Synod. This is a low key discussion with responses invited to the National Team by February 27.

The Coffee Conversation leaflet will be available in parishes for interested parishioners to assist in the conversation.

If you require more information can you please contact Sr Jo Brady RSJ Plenary Council/Synod Liaison Support Officer at [jo.brady@sdneycatholic.org](mailto:jo.brady@sdneycatholic.org)

### EthicsFinder.com

EthicsFinder is a free, global, digital resource which will be of immense value to interested parishioners. Explore [www.ethicsfinder.com](http://www.ethicsfinder.com). Wish you could easily find Church teaching and the best articles, books and videos on bioethics, business ethics, cancel culture, human rights, marriage, subsidiarity, and 100+ other topics? Try ACU's free digital tool [www.ethicsfinder.com](http://www.ethicsfinder.com).

### PARISH WEEKEND MASS ROSTER 1st & 2nd January 2022

Readers:	5:30pm	R Lazarus P Allport
	8:00am	A Di Donato N Dudley
	10:00am	M Peddie M Portell

**"Break Open the Word"** (the book for readers) now available in the Sacristy.

### Choir Notice

The choir will be taking a holiday after Christmas. The next rehearsal will be on Monday 31st January 2022.

### A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes 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](mailto: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.



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph / C

26 December 2021

**PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**



Ph: 9558 5308

Principal:

Ms Frances Stewart

REC: Ms Jo-Anne Ross

Email:

[info@stpcdulwichhill.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stpcdulwichhill.catholic.edu.au)

**With St Paul of the  
Cross we pray ...**

### For the sick

Allen Portell  
Leonor Delgado  
Noel Nacua  
Patricia Stack  
Jovito Redaja  
Raul Cabrera  
Angela Di Donato  
Sr Julianne Murphy  
Natalina Gallace  
Ruth Wilson  
Raymond Hudson  
Fr Jim Duggan  
Pat Allport  
Cardo, Zennie, Ian, Pat  
Francheska Bechara  
Robyn, Eimy & Helen  
Angelis Alima & Charlie  
Jan Lawson  
Genaro Villanueva  
Paula

### Recently Deceased

### Death Anniversary

Clarita Pacheco (40 days anniv.)

### For the Souls

Ermelinda Quintal  
Manuel Quintal Nobrega  
Arcenia Quintal  
Nadim Sarah, Fr Anthony,  
Hana & wife, Elias & wife,  
Youssif & wife, Amira Srash  
Mikel & Nszira  
All forgotten Souls and Holy  
Souls in Purgatory

### Special Intentions

Giuseppe  
Antonia  
Henry & Tina and my Family  
Leah Tillam

### "How happy are they who dwell in your house, O Lord"

Today's Gospel for the Feast of the Holy Family is all that we have to tell us about Jesus' experience of family life. Jesus was *"like us in all things but sin,"* so, for him, as for each one of us, his family life, the years with Mary and Joseph were a major formative experience of his life. Our reading in fact concludes by saying that Jesus *"increased in wisdom, in stature and in favour with God and men."*

The little that we have in Luke's gospel in fact tell us a great deal about the family environment that formed Jesus and the way in which we, as parents, can help our own children grow and mature *"in favour with God and men."* We need first to remember that *"the Word became flesh."* The story of Jesus' birth and early life is not a 'once upon a time' myth. Jesus was born in a particular place and in a specific period of history.

Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up according to the traditions and customs of Israel that had formed them. The *"authority"* that He lived under when he was with them was not just their own authority as his parents but also the authority that they themselves lived under. It was that of God's covenant with Israel, the relationship with God as revealed through Moses and the prophets.

Jesus' age is significant. At 12 he was on the edge of being a man, according to Jewish custom. At 13, Jesus would become *"the son of the Law"* and obliged to know and to keep all of the 613 commandments. Joseph, as his father, would have then presented him as a full grown man at their synagogue in Nazareth. Since the gospels are not a biography of Jesus, Joseph's role in his upbringing and formation is often overlooked. His role however was a very significant one as it was primarily the father's responsibility to instruct his son and to bring him up according to the Law (Torah). *"Train the child in the way he should go and he will not depart from it when he is old"* (Proverbs 22:6)

This responsibility, undertaken in love, is a very important one for all of us who are fathers. It is not fulfilled simply by looking after them and perhaps sending them to a Catholic school. As the blessing at the end of Baptism puts it, *"fathers, together with their wives, are the first and best teachers in the ways of faith by what they say and do."* Their lives provide a moral and spiritual compass for their children.

Joseph and Mary provided this moral and spiritual compass for Jesus by the way they lived out their faith in God through being part of the community of Israel and sharing in its life and traditions as well as by the example of their own lives. They go to Jerusalem *"every year"* for the great feast of the Passover, an obligation for every Jew.

This journey to Jerusalem would have been a transforming pilgrimage in itself. It not only concluded at the Temple in the Holy City itself but the journey they made from Nazareth to Jerusalem passed sites that recalled some of the most significant moments in Israel's history. It went past the ruins of the palace of King Ahab whose worship of the pagan gods angered the prophet Elijah, past the place where Joseph had been thrown into a well and then sold by his brothers into slavery in Egypt, through the hostile region of the Samaritans and then past Shechem where God had said to Abraham *"To your descendants I will give all this land"* as well as many other memorable places before finally arriving at Jerusalem.

Stories associated with each of these places would have been recalled by the pilgrims as they passed each site. The boy Jesus would have listened attentively to them in the way of all children who love to listen to stories, especially familiar ones. They would have prepared him for his meeting with the learned rabbis in the Temple, *"astounding them with his intelligence and his replies."* This meeting, as well as all that he had seen and heard along the way, were all part of *"his Father's affairs"* that, in due course, he himself was to inherit.

Our own experience of family life can also be seen as a pilgrimage, an experience of God at successive stages of our life together culminating in the moment when we will see God *"face to face"*. It begins with the moment when we are joined together by God in marriage, then, through the time when we are blessed to share in the creative power of God through the miracle of children. It continues on, long after our children have grown up and are no longer with us in all the ways in which, with God's guidance and through the community of the Church, we help them to *"increase in wisdom, in stature and in favour with God and men"*.

Reference: H Skryzynski **The Jewess Mary Mother of Jesus: Jewish women's life in Palestine thousand years ago** two Chevalier Press Sydney 2002

Deacon Louis

### Feast/Solemnity/Memorial/Saint of the Week (27 Dec 2021 - 1 Jan 2022)

Mon	27/12	St John, apostle, evangelist
Tue	28/12	The Holy Innocents, martyrs
Wed	29/12	St Thomas Becket. Bishop, martyr
Fri	31/12	St Sylvester I, pope
Sat	1/1/22	MARY, the Holy MOTHER OF GOD

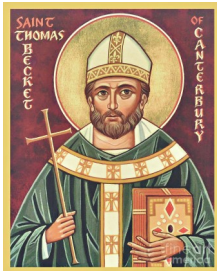
**St John**, the son of Zebedee, and the brother of St James the Great. He became the 'beloved disciple' and the only one of the twelve who did not forsake the Saviour in the hour of His Passion. He stood faithfully at the Cross, whence the Saviour made him the guardian of His Mother. He wrote the fourth Gospel and three Epistles, and the Book of Revelation is also attributed to him.



The **Massacre of the Innocents** is the incident in the nativity narrative of the Gospel of Matthew in which Herod the Great, king of Judea, orders the execution of all male children two years old and under in the vicinity of Bethlehem.



**St Thomas Becket** was Archbishop of Canterbury from 1162 until his murder in 1170. He engaged in conflict with Henry II, King of England, over the rights and privileges of the Church and was murdered by followers of the king in Canterbury Cathedral. Soon after his death, he was canonised by Pope Alexander III.



**St. Sylvester** was the first Pope of Rome to reign entirely under the liberty of the Church, guaranteed by the Edict of Milan in 313. Sylvester was elected to the See of Peter in 314. During Sylvester's reign, the city began its transition into its Christian era, with the



construction of the great Constantinian basilicas. The first general council was held during his reign at Nicaea to deal with the Arian heresy.

### Mary, the Holy Mother of God

*Hail Mary full of Grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus. Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*



### Parish Office

Maria - Mondays  
Cecilia - Wed-Friday  
9.30am - 2:30pm

**Parish & Hall enquiries**  
9558 3257

### Mass Times

**Sat:** 5:30pm (Vigil)  
**Sun:** 8am & 10am  
**Mon to Fri:** 9:00am  
**Sat:** 9:30am

**Family Mass with  
Children's Liturgy**  
3rd Sunday of the  
Month 10am Mass

**Family Rosary & Morning  
Tea** - 2nd Sunday of the  
Month after 10am Mass in  
the Church Hall

**Filipino Mass**  
1st Sun 11:30am

### Sacraments

#### Confession

Sat 8:30-9:20am, 4:45pm  
or any time by  
appointment

#### Baptism

Every 2nd, 3rd and 4th  
Sunday 11.15am

#### Marriage

At least 6 months notice  
required

#### Anointing of the Sick

Any time on call

#### Devotions

**Holy Hour & Rosary**  
Sunday - Friday  
before morning mass

**Rosary & Benediction**  
Sat 8:30-9:30am

**Novena to Our Lady of  
Perpetual Help**

Wednesday 7pm

