



The Parish of St Matthew's North Fawkner
 Archdiocese of Melbourne, 95 William Street, North Fawkner, 3060
 Tel. 9359 2369 e-mail: stmatthewschurch@bigpond.com
www.stmatthewsparish.org.au



Parish Priest: Fr. Florentino (Boy) Y Galdo 9359 2369
 School Principal: Bob Brown 9359 5423
 Deputy Principal: Carmela D'Amato 9359 5423

December 26 —The Holy Family Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (Year C)



Today's Gospel describes the fifth joyful mystery in the Holy Rosary. Only St. Luke (2:41-50) reports the event of the child Jesus' disappearing and then being found in the Temple. Jewish boys were made "sons of the Law" by presenting themselves in the Temple of Jerusalem when they become twelve years old. The straight distance between Nazareth and Jerusalem was 60 miles although the winding roads through the hills in Christ's time made it 87 miles. On pilgrimages to Jerusalem, entire villages joined, breaking up into two groups; one of men, the other of women. Children could go with either group. This explains how Mary and Joseph could go the whole of their first day's journey back to Nazareth before their shocked realization, when the families regrouped to camp for the night, that the boy Jesus was missing and had not been seen in either travel group all that day. So, they retraced their steps, searching everywhere, their fear mounting as the time passed with no word of Jesus. It turned out that Jesus, attracted to some Jewish rabbis teaching Scriptures to boys in the Temple had joined them in their usual teaching place, in one of the Outer Courts. There, sitting at the feet of the teachers with the other listeners, Jesus joined in the lesson, now and again asking questions and, when asked, responding to them. His wise, well-informed questions and answers attracted the teachers' attention. *(frtonyshomilies.com)*

Santa Famiglia di Gesù, Maria e Giuseppe (Anno C)

L'inquietudine e l'incomprensione di Maria e di Giuseppe, nonostante la loro vicinanza a Gesù, nonostante che siano stati preparati da Dio al compito di accompagnare i primi passi della vita di Gesù, ci riportano a quello che è il nostro atteggiamento di fronte all'opera di Dio in noi e intorno a noi. Ogni essere è un mistero per quelli che lo circondano. La sofferenza che nasce da questa solitudine collettiva non trova pace se non nella fede. Noi siamo vicini gli uni agli altri perché siamo tutti amati di un amore divino. L'amore che ci unisce, lungi dall'abolire il nostro essere diversi gli uni dagli altri, rafforza, anima e sviluppa quanto c'è di originale in noi. Ma solo una carità che venga da Dio può mettere nei nostri cuori una tale disposizione. Maria e Giuseppe non hanno capito a fondo ciò che Gesù diceva o faceva. Ma hanno accettato, nella fede e per amore, di vederlo compiere la sua vita e adempiere alla sua missione, partecipandovi nell'oscurità della loro fede. Che lezione per noi! Quando non capiamo l'azione del nostro prossimo, perché supera le nostre capacità, dobbiamo saper amare senza capire: solo con un tale atteggiamento tutto diventa possibile. (lachiesa.it)

The sick in our parish: Teresa & Con Lamonaca, Nola, John Markis, Elda Taranto, Panfilo Ambrosini, Carmela Renda, Lorraine, Patricia, David, Vanessa Borg, Peta Wright, Herrmann Family, Adam, Helen Rakuscek, Bob Brown, Rina Carfi, Angela Barto, Patrick Brennan, Maria Saracino, Rommel Montano, Leonora Aquino Morales, Sonia Taranto, Norm McDonough, Evelyn McDonough

Recently deceased: Ann Simper, Giuseppe Cavalli, Rosetta Petruccelli, Paolo Di Falco, Rosa Curcio, Francesca Perri, Lucia Vocale, Maureen Flood, Quinino D'Alessandro, Carmela Paterno, Michelina Bocale, Francesco Butera

Anniversaries: Vito Di Girolamo, Frank Cichello

We especially pray for all the deceased St. Matthews parishioners, those whose names are on the Church pews & the Resurrection Chapel.

Rosters for weekend masses (Jan. 1/2)

Lectors:

Saturday 5.30 pm: J. George

Sunday 9.00 am: M. Markis

Sunday 10.30 am : C. Di Giulio

Bus driver: B. Tajhano

Mass times

Weekday:

Tuesday-Friday 9.30 am

Novena mass: Wednesday 7.00 pm (Novena masses will not be held from December 29 to January 12 2022). Novena masses will resume on the 19th of January 2022.

Weekend:

Saturday Vigil mass 5.30 pm

Sunday 9.00 am

Sunday 10.30 (Italian mass)

QR check in is required at all masses

Christmas message from Fr. Boy ...

Merry Christmas! This is the greeting we give and receive at this time of the year. It is a greeting that expresses with the words of the angels: "Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth to people of goodwill". Today we would like to praise and thank God because he loved us so much that he sends his Son to become one like us. Our celebration reminds me of a story of a young family one Christmas day during the war—father, mother and the children—were outside their home making a snowman. Suddenly a plane passed directly overhead. The mother shouted to the children, "That's the plane your uncle is on. Let's all wave, maybe he'll see us". The children jumped up and down, waved frantically and shouted at the top of their voice. Seconds later after the plane had passed, the youngest child turned to his father and asked, "Daddy, how do people climb up to the sky to get into the planes?" The father explained the passengers did not have to climb to the sky to get to the planes. The planes came down from the sky to passengers. That story is a beautiful illustration of what Christmas is all about. Christmas celebrates the fact that we don't have to climb up to the sky to get to God. God has come down to earth to us. Christmas celebrates the fact that the infinite God, at a point in time, crossed an unimaginable border and personally entered our world.

Merry Christmas!

St. Matthew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

The electronic version of the Parish bulletin is available on the Parish website @ <http://stmatthewsparish.org.au/>