THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
Year C
28th & 29th of December 2024

# St Aidan's Parish and Other News

9 Adelaide Street, Rooty Hill, NSW 2766

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| Parish Priest: | Fr Alan Layt |
| Assistant Priest: | Fr Matthew Dimian |
| Rev Deacon: | Jerome D'Rozario |
| Parish Secretary: | Elizabeth Idaszak |
| Office Assistant: | Yvonne Lanau |
| Phone: | (02) 9625 8404 |
| Email: | rootyhill@parracatholic.org |
| Website: | http://rootyhillparish.org.au |

PARISH OFFICE OPERATING HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
10:00am - 4:30pm

WEEKLY MASSES

Monday: 9.15am
Tuesday: 9:15am
Tuesday: 7:00pm Charismatic Mass (Mary's Little Children) All are Welcome
Wednesday: 9:15am & 7:00pm
Thursday: 9:15am
Friday: 9:15am & 7:00pm
Saturday: 9:00am & 6:00pm
Sunday: 7.30am, 9.00am, 10.30am, 5.30pm

PERPETUAL ADORATION IS CARRIED OUT IN THE CHURCH 24/7

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

If you are interested in participating in our Perpetual Adoration which begun on Sunday, 20th November 2022, please just click on this link https://forms.gle/MzaQAEaCv7Sc4aB69 and fill in or you can scan this QR code.

ST AIDANS PARISH LEGION OF MARY JUNIOR PRAESIDIUM
Parents and Children of age 6-16 years
6:00pm–7:00pm– Every Friday at St Aidan' s Parish Centre.
For more information please call
Fr Alan Layt on (02) 9625 8404
or Boy Torres on 0468 853 857

PARISH SACRISTAN
Stephen Pritchett 0431 499 208
ASSISTANT SACRISTAN
Anthony Pereira 0422 884 160
FORMATION CO-ORDINATOR
Precious Tamayo (Contact Parish Office)

YOUTH
YOUTH CONTACT: Josh San Pedro: 0481 372 544
EMAIL: staidans.eucharisticyouth@gmail.com

JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB
Every 2nd Sunday of the Month 11:30am - 2:00pm
In the Mary Mackillop Hall

YOUTH CHOIR
Every 2nd Sunday of the month -
at the 10:30am Sunday Mass (*Subject to Change*)

ST AIDANS YOUTH
Every 3rd Friday of the Month 7:30pm - 9:00pm
In the Parish Centre

SAVOUR (18+)
Every last Thursday of the Month 6:00pm - 7:30pm
Eucharistic Adoration inside the Church followed by fellowship

SACRAMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR
Elizabeth Portelli - To make contact please ring the Parish office During operating hours

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
Thursday 8.00pm - 9.00pm
Saturday 4:30pm - 5:30pm

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM
By Appointment
Every 2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE
At least six months notice is required, plus birth and Baptism certificates.

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

ST. AIDANS PRIMARY SCHOOL
Mrs Marian Bell
(02) 8886 9800

ST. AGNES CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Mrs Janette Holland
(02) 8882 0700

CATHWEST INOVATION COLLEGE-LOYOLA CAMPUS
Mr Paul Stenning
(02) 8886 9500

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM TUESDAY THE 24th DECEMBER, 2024 through to THURSDAY, 2nd JANUARY, 2025.

Dear Fr Alan, Fr Matthew & parishioners,
Thank you very much for your generous donation and kindness to me.
God bless you all and I will continue to pray for you and your families…
wishing you all a very happy and holy Christmas and a beautiful New Year. *Fr Neil*

We would like to wish everyone a Happy & Holy New Year! May the New Year fill your home with joy, your heart with love and your life with laughter & may God bless you today and everyday.

# THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Year C -
28th & 29th of December 2024

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

## FIRST READING Sir 3:2-6. 12-14

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus
*Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.*
The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons. Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune.
Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord.
My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life.
Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 127:1-5. R. see v.1

(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. (R.)
2. Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. (R.)
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life. (R.)

## SECOND READING Col 3:12-21

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians
*Concerning the Christian life in the world.*
You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.
Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.
Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you. Alleluia!

## GOSPEL Lk 2:41-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
*His parents found him in the temple, sitting among the learned men, listening to them.*
Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere. Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.
He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

## RECENTLY DECEASED

Teodorico Peralta Jnr., James Bray, Katarzyna Haladus, Fe Alegado, Consuelo Zargoza, Ponciano Del Rosario, Dominador Grecia, Macario S. Reyes Jr., Rhoda Fernandez, Norma Labrador, Mr & Mrs Israel, Benjamin Santiago

## COMMEMORATIVE DECEASED

Patrick & Olga Thomas, Theresa Tomas, Allwyn & Daisy Assey, Rudy Batula, Christian Andaya, Joven Mercado, Jezebel Castellino, Teodoro & Emma Sibulo, Conrado Sibulo, Josefina Manacop, Aguido Gonzales, Benjamin S Recto, Benjamin Junior C. Recto, Eligio Solomon, Leni Ibanez Sicat, Lourdes Ramos Estacion.

## PRAY FOR OUR SICK

For those among us who are sick, may they be healed through the wounds of the crucified Jesus and the intercessory prayers of The Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop, especially: Precious Tamayo, Eve Carney, Fe Alegado, Milagros Felizardo, Maria Maligalig, Dolly Laroza, Zeny Bables, Bronia Flak, Andres Diaz, Rachelle Nikic, Mario Edwin, Josie, Kristie, Joshua & Alfonso, Lanie, Federico Manzo, Marion Irwin, Marivi Gonzales, Phillip Hodge, Stephy Sanju & Joyce Meneses, Stephy Mary John, Antonio P.Olay.

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on *Sunday, 2nd February, 2025 at 3pm* in *Mary MacKillop Hall*. At least one representative from each group needs to be in attendance.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for new Acolytes, Special Ministers and Lectors to serve at Saint Aidan's.

If you are over 18-years of age and can dedicate your time on the weekends to serve Our Lord, please give Anthony a call on 0422884160.

Thank you, Fr. Alan

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

AT ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH
WILL BE HELD EVERY
2ND & 4TH SUNDAY
OF THE MONTH AT 12.00PM

THE NEXT BAPTISM PREPARATION EVENING IS ON
WEDNESDAY the 8th of JANUARY 2025

7.30pm Parish Centre
Rooty Hill Road North Rooty Hill

PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND THIS INSTRUCTION YOU CHILD'S BAPTISM COULD BE DELAYED UNTIL THE FOLLOWING MONTH. GODPARENTS CHOSEN SHOULD BE CATHOLIC.

OUR NEXT BAPTISMS

SUNDAY the 12th of JANUARY 2025
SUNDAY the 26th of JANUARY 2025

## ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS

**SATURDAY, 28th December**
**9:00am & 6:00pm Mass**

**SUNDAY, 29th December, 2024**
**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**
**7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am & 5:30pm Mass**

**TUESDAY, 30th December,2024**
**9:15am & 7:00pm (7:00pm *is CHARISMATIC MASS)***

**WEDNESDAY, 31st DECEMBER, 2024**
**Feast of Mary, Mother of God**
**9:15am, 7:00pm**

**THURSDAY, 1st JANUARY, 2024**
**9:15am Mass**

## FRIENDS OF GOD - ST JOSEMARIA ESCRIVA

*Our Mother*

Children, especially when they are small, give very little thought to what they should do for their parents and are much more concerned about what they hope to get from them. As children, we tend to be very self-interested, although our mothers, as we have already mentioned, do not seem to mind really, because they have so much love in their hearts and they love with the best kind of affection: that which gives without expecting anything in return.

The same is true of Mary. But today, on the feast of the Holy family, we should try to be more attentive than usual. If we find there have been times when we failed to be gentle and kind towards this good Mother of ours, we should feel sorry. I ask you now, as I ask myself, how are we honouring her?

Let us return once again to our everyday experiences and see how we behave with our earthly mothers. What does a mother want most of all from her children, from those who are flesh of her flesh and blood of her blood? Her greatest desire is to have them close to her. When the children grow up and it is no longer possible to have them beside her, she waits impatiently for news from them, and everything that happens to them, from the slightest illness to the most important events, concerns her deeply.

Look: in the eyes of our Mother Mary we never cease to be little, because she opens to us the way to the Kingdom of Heaven, which will only be given to those who become little children. We should never separate ourselves from our Lady. How should we honour her? By keeping close to her, talking to her, showing her that we love her, pondering in our hearts the scenes of her life on earth and telling her about our struggles, successes and failures.

When we do this we discover the meaning of the Marian prayers, which the Church has always used, as if we were saying them for the very first time. What are the *Hail Mary* and the *Angelus* if not loving praises of her divine Motherhood? And when we say the Holy Rosary, which is a wonderful devotion which I will never tire of recommending to Christians everywhere, our minds and hearts go over the mysteries of Mary's admirable life which are, at the same time, the fundamental mysteries of our faith.

Mary, Queen of the Family Parish Blacktown is seeking a dedicated and enthusiastic Parish Secretary to join the parish team on a part time basis, working from the Parish Offices at St Patrick's Church, 51-19 Allawah Street, Blacktown. This position is for 4 days per week, Tuesday to Friday, with working hours from 9am to 4pm. This role offers a unique opportunity to support the mission of the Church in Western Sydney, For job description and details please email admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

## HOW TO SUPPORT OUR PARISH FAMILY FINANCIALLY

We are very appreciative of those who continue to drop in envelopes each week and also those who are taking advantage of online contributions. As we continue to receive our expenses each week, it is important, that, if it is at all possible, parishioners continue to offer their financial support to our parish family. This can be done *ELECTRONICALLY VIA Internet banking to St. Aidan' s Church, Rooty Hill NSW 2766*, you can make a *direct deposit into our account*. All contributions are greatly appreciated and will help meet the upkeep needs of our Parish.

*The details are as follows:-*

Name of Bank: Commonwealth Bank
BSB: 067 950
Account Number: 00000529
Account Name: Rooty Hill Catholic Church
Reference: YOUR NAME IN FULL

We also have available Donation Point at the table in the gathering area of the Church, where you can make a donation to St. Aidan's Church from your own account.
Just place your card on the machine as indicated and select the amount you would like to donate. Thank you.

### PERPETUAL ADORATION

The Feast of Christ the King this year was the second anniversary of the beginning of Perpetual Adoration in this parish. I would like to congratulate everyone, particularly those who organize the Adoration, for their efforts and every one for their fidelity to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. This Practice is of great benefit to the parish and will bring many blessings upon all of us. In this sort of adoration Jesus really in face to face with us although we are restricted because we can only see Him with the eyes of faith. Regardless it is an intense human and personal encounter with Jesus Christ in which the extraordinary blessings of the mass continue to be made available to us. If it is at all possible I would urge everyone to become involved even if you can only do so irregularly. All those involved are invited to a celebratory lunch on Sunday the 15th of December in the Mackillop Hall.

### SOME PRACTICAL MATTERS

Just a reminder to everyone that Jesus, if exposed in the Blessed Sacrament, cannot be left without someone adoring Him. So if you are in the Church during the day and no-one replaces you then please close the sliding door in front of the glass tabernacle where the monstrance is. The next person to come in can open it again for their adoration. Every adorer is authorized to go into the sanctuary and do this. If you are in the small chapel/crying room then put the screen in front of the glass tabernacle and lock to security screen door into the church if no-one comes to replace you. Please also check that the front doors of the church are locked as these have been left unlocked at times. This is especially important in the holiday season. Some of our regular adorers are on holidays and holes are appearing in our roster, especially late at night. We will launch a campaign for more adorers in the early part of next year so please bear with some of the problems we are experiencing at the moment.

Note: Jesus really notices those who make the sacrifice to come to adore him late at night or in the early hours of the morning. If you are seriously seeking something from Him that is well worth bearing in mind. God bless you all and congratulations to everyone once again. Fr Alan

Dear Friend in Christ our true Peace,

The familiar words in many Christmas carols is; "Peace on earth, good will to all." But is that what the angels really meant that night outside of Bethlehem? If it was, then the angels were making some sort of prediction that has not come true, The earth is not at peace. This year the fighting in the middle East, in northern Europe and in Sudan Africa tells us peace is elusive. In the last three thousand years only three hundred have been without war. Jesus Himself said, "You will hear wars and rumours of wars; see that you are not frightened, for those things must take place" (Matthew 24:6). So if we have been thinking that there was to be no more war after the birth of Jesus, we have not heard the angels correctly.

Christmas peace, is the peace that begins with God, the angels announced "peace among men and women with whom God is pleased." That's what the angels were talking about that night. Christmas peace begins, by having peace with God, the result of becoming a disciple of Jesus. Jesus Himself said to His disciples: "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, do I give to you" (John14:27).

Thank God, this peace that God offers is beyond our human efforts. And the peace of God, which surpasses our understanding, is what the angels were talking about. Christmas peace begins through peace with God, and then flows out of our hearts to others. If peace is possible, it depends on us, being at peace with others. One day Jesus told His disciples, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God" (Matthew 5:9). If you and are at peace with God, others will come to know peace. As the Christmas song says; 'Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me'.

I pray that you and your family, will experience God's promised 'peace' this Christmas and throughout the New Year. Let us seek for peace and pray for peace. May the peace of Christ dwell richly in our hearts.
Your Brother and friend in Jesus, the Christ Child of Bethlehem.
Fr Andrew Robinson (Christmas 2024)

### SERVING ROSTER for next weekend - 4th & 5th of JANUARY 2025

| MASS | LECTOR | ACOLYTE/ ALTAR SERVER | SPECIAL MINISTER | SPECIAL MINISTER | SPECIAL MINISTER |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Vigil 6:00pm | Marilyn W | Dave S | Jennifer F | Rita D | |
| Sun 7:30am | Alma E | Vena T | Sen C | Gertrude E | |
| Sun 9:00am | Angelo A | Sonny B | Juliet A | Edith G | |
| Sun 10:30am | Rosie D | Ryan R | Nora P | Mary B | Emmanuel M |
| Sun 5:30pm | Elvie Y | Anthony P | Evelyn E | Sharon Q-C | |

### ALTAR SERVING ROSTER for next weekend - 4th & 5th of JANUARY 2025

| MASS | ALTAR SERVER | ALTAR SERVER | ALTAR SERVER |
|---|---|---|---|
| Vigil 6:00pm | Noah T | Lucas T | Ciara T |
| Sun 9:00am | Laura N | Emily N | Mauryce P |
| Sun 10:30am | Joaquin L | Maddison L | Charles S |
| Sun 5:30am | Annie V | Kava M | Angelina U |

### Church CLEANING ROSTER for next weekend - 3rd & 5th of JANUARY 2025

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| Group 6 |
| June M |
| Maria G |
| Dennis G |