

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER  
29 December 2019

Holy Family  
Year A  
★★ ✝ ★★  
St Monica's

Readers

6.30pm— C. Galea A. Copland  
7.30am— J. Robinson  
9.30am— K. Petersen M. Mizzi  
5.30pm— C. Salkeld P. Buckley  
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion  
6.30pm— J. McCarter J. Muscat  
7.30am— A. Burnett H. Robinson  
9.30am— L. Ryan L. Vella  
5.30pm— D. D'Mello L. Battersby

Acolytes / Senior Server

6.30pm— W. Bennett  
7.30am— A. Moloney  
9.30am— D. Ryan  
5.30pm— D. Murphy

Junior Ministers

6.30pm— C. Galea I. Galea  
7.30am—  
9.30am— G. Attard A. Portelli  
5.30pm— P. Murphy A. Kuriakose

Data Projector

6.30pm— M. Breden  
7.30am— C. Thompson  
9.30am— M. Saliba  
5.30pm— T. Tomasella

Children's Liturgy

6.30pm -  
9.30am -

Choir

6.30pm - J. Lewis M. Lewis  
9.30am - M. Quirk L. Ryan Choir  
5.30pm - N. D'Mello

Altar Preparation R. Larven  
Cleaners K. Murphy C. Murphy

Counters

22 Dec— M. Ryan D. Bowles  
29 Dec— L. Clegg R. Larven R. Vick  
M. McMahon

WEEKDAY ROSTER

**Monday 23 December 2019**

Reader— R. Crane  
EMoHC— F. Crew

**Wednesday 25 December 2019**

Reader— M. Breden  
EMoHC— C. Nickle

**Friday 27 December 2019**

Reader— M. Pirovic  
EMoHC— A. Moloney

★★ ✝ ★★

St Gregory's

**Saturday 28 December 2019**

Reader— Jackie  
EMoHC— Marcia

**Sunday 29 December 2019**

Readers

8.00am— M. Ryan A. Drew S. O'Rourke  
Altar Server David

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

8.00am—

Altar Preparation

Cleaners N. Fienberg

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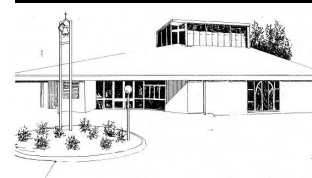
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The Parish of Richmond

<https://parishofrichmond.org.au/>



Parish of Richmond



**ST MONICA'S CHURCH**  
Cnr Windsor & Bourke Sts  
RICHMOND NSW  
**ST GREGORY'S CHURCH**  
5 Old Bells Line of Rd  
KURRAJONG NSW

**ST JOHN OF GOD CHAPEL**  
177 Grose Vale Road  
NORTH RICHMOND NSW  
**ST MONICA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
PO Box 274, RICHMOND NSW  
Ph: 4570 3700

**PARISH OFFICE**  
1A Bourke Street RICHMOND NSW  
Mon, Tues, Wed & Friday  
9.30am - 4pm  
Ph: 4578 1410 Fax: 4588 6094



Fourth Sunday of Advent — Year A 22 December 2019

**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: ISAIAH 7:10-14**

*The virgin will conceive.*

**RESPONSORIAL PS: PSALM 23:1-6**

**Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.**

**SECOND READING: ROMANS 1:1-7**

*Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**Alleluia, alleluia! A virgin will give birth to a son; his  
name will be Emmanuel: God-is-with-us. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL: MATTHEW 1:18-24**

*Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of  
David.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:**

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

**Presider:** As we begin our celebration for the Fourth Sunday  
of Advent, let us  
prepare to light the fourth and last  
candle on our Advent wreath. As Advent  
draws to a close, we pause to pray for  
faith that opens our lives to the Spirit of  
God...*pause*...In the words of the  
acclamations, let us pray...*pause*...

**Presider:** Come, Sun of Justice and  
Radiant Dawn.

**All:** Come! Shed your light in every heart and home where  
darkness reigns.

**Presider:** Come, child of Mary, given to us as a sign of love.

**All:** Come! Dwell in the hearts of your people.

**Presider:** Come, Emmanuel, God-with-us through all ages.

**All:** Come! Save us without delay.



Reflection - Double identity...

*The prophet Isaiah talked about the coming of a very special child (First Reading). But there is no reason to believe that he knew just how special that child would be. Every king of David's line was an embodiment of God's promise to be 'with us'. The Second Reading and the Gospel reveal to us the true identity, in fact, the double identity, of this special Child (Jesus). No prophecy is fully understood until after its fulfilment. To say that Jesus came from the line of David was already a great thing. But he is more than that. He has another, and infinitely greater, identity. He is 'Emmanuel', which means God is with us.' He is not just the Son of David but also the Son of God. Hence he is able to save his people from their sins. We believe then in the double identity of Jesus. He is Son of David and Son of God. But we too have a double identity. As children of our parents we are human beings, which means we have a human dignity. That in itself is a great thing. But through Jesus we have become children of God, which means we also have a divine dignity. However, our divine dignity, like that of Jesus, is a matter of faith. Christmas is a wonderful time. It recalls the greatest event in history, namely, the Incarnation, when God's Son came down on earth to confer on us the dignity of children of God. It's not true that Christmas is just about children. It's about us all. We may consider ourselves very ordinary. But nobody is ordinary any longer, not since Christ came on earth. The world today is in danger of drowning in bad news. It is crying out for good news. But the best news of all is the news brought by the angels to the shepherds: 'Behold I bring you good news of a great joy for all the people. This day a Saviour is born to you. He is Christ the Lord.' Let us open our hearts to receive the good news.*

By Fr Flor McCarthy, SDB

**PARISH CLERGY**

Fr Clifford D'souza  
frclifford@parishofrichmond.org.au

Fr Jessie Balorio

frbalorio@parishofrichmond.org.au

**PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK  
CO-ORDINATOR**

Mary McGuinness  
mary.mcguinness@parishofrichmond.  
org.au

**PARISH ADMINISTRATION**

Teshana Laferla & Kara Hargrave  
admin@parishofrichmond.org.au

**SACRAMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR**

Mary Pirovic  
sacraments@parishofrichmond.org.au

**PRINCIPAL—ST MONICA'S SCHOOL**

Cameron Lievore  
StMonRic@parra.catholic.edu.au



## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES...

**St Monica's:** Tuesday December 24  
6pm Vigil (Children's Mass) & 11pm (Carols at 10.30pm)  
Wednesday December 25 7.30am and 9.30am

**St Gregory's:** Tuesday December 24 8.00pm Vigil Mass  
Wednesday December 25 8.00am

**St John of God:** Tuesday December 24 7.00pm Vigil Mass



**Christmas Office break:**  
Over Christmas our office staff will be having some holiday time.  
The Parish Office will be closed from Tuesday 24 Dec - Friday 3 January 2020.  
In case of an emergency please phone Windsor Parish on 4577 3073

**Come Join the Celebrations  
At St Paul's Feast**

**Saturday 18 January 2020**  
St Monica's Catholic Church

We will be celebrating the 30th year anniversary of St Paul's Feast. Mass commences at 5:30pm followed by a procession & activities. Food & drinks available for purchase, raffles, prize wheel & rides.  
**Raffle tickets will be on sale this weekend.**  
All welcome.

**Fun For The Whole Family...**

**Readers please note:** The Readings for St. John of God Vigil 7pm, St. Gregory's Kurrajong Vigil 8pm and 11pm St. Monica's Richmond will be taken from the Mass during the night.

## Merry Christmas!

*At this time of great joy & festivities  
we wish all visitors & parishioners a happy, holy & safe Christmas.  
May God's richest blessings be with you & your loved ones.*

Fr Clifford and The Parish Team

## A Christmas Message

(Following Paul's message to the Corinthians:

'If I should give away to the poor all that I possess, but have not love, it will profit me nothing.')

*If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator.*

*If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cakes, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another cook.*

*If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family, it profits me nothing.*

*If I trim the tree with shimmering angels, attend a myriad of parties and sing in the choir but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.*

*Love stops the cooking to hug the child. Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the husband. Love is kind, though harried and tired.*

*Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way. Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return but rejoices in giving to those who can't.*

*Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.*

*Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf clubs will rust, but giving the gift of love will endure.*

**Merry Christmas to you and yours!**

## Grant Eternal Rest to the recently deceased

Alan Hardman  
Andreana Medak  
James Carroll  
Kathleen Boyce  
Betty Bambrick  
Philip Cauchi  
Hugh Walker  
Susan Whyte

## ... and those we remember at this time.

Laurie Xerri, Carmen Xerri,  
Jane Vassallo, Kathleen Breden,  
Bill McMahon, Michael John McMahon,  
Agnese Baratto, Ken & Cis Luscombe,  
Sr Pauline Mary Babicci (Sr Angela),  
Peter Galluzzo, Carmelo Magro,  
Magro & Portelli Families,  
Kathleen Breden, Dianne Smyth,  
Bryan Bambrick, Joseph Baldacchino,  
Joseph Vella, Grazio & Salvina Camilleri

**Please Note: Suspension of Weekend & Weekday Masses:**  
**Due to Fr Clifford being on leave.**

**St John of God - Weekday Mass:** No Mass on Tuesdays beginning 31 December until 21 January 2020.

Mass resumes on Tuesday 28 January 2020.

**St John of God - Weekend Mass:** No Masses from 28 December until 18 January 2020.

Vigil Mass resumes on Saturday 25 January 2020.

**St Gregory's - Saturday Mass:** No Saturday morning Mass from 28 December until 18 January.

Mass resumes on Saturday 25 January 2020.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To all those celebrating this week



## WE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER THE SICK

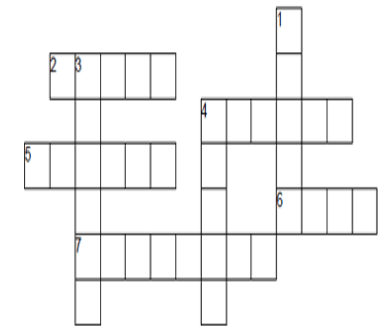
Sr Assunta Leong FMM,  
Stan Fienberg,  
Paul McDonald, Peter McGrath,  
Katrina Coutis-Cooper,  
Archun Leong, Min Tamsitt,  
Jeff Steven, Rachel Stoveigh,  
Josephine Cutajar,  
Pauline Azzopardi

## An Angel Appears to Joseph

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus. Matthew 1:24-25 (NIV)



Using the Across and Down clues, write the correct words in the numbered grid below.



## ACROSS

2. To become husband and wife
4. The earthly father of Jesus
5. A pure, unmarried girl or woman
6. The mother of Jesus
7. A name that means "God is with us"

## DOWN

1. Images and emotions that occur while you are sleeping
3. To be filled with fear
4. The Son of God

DREAM	JESUS	MARRY	IMMANUEL
MARY	AFRAID	JOSEPH	VIRGIN

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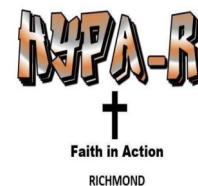
## HYPA-R News...

Thank you to everyone that came to our HYPA-R Christmas Party on Saturday 30 November 2019.

Congratulations to our RAFFLE WINNERS\*:

1st Prize: Connie Sultana. 2nd Prize: John Farrugia. 3rd Prize: Sam Cauchi. Winners have been notified.

Thank you for supporting the HYPA-R Youth Group. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year. God bless



*Thank you from St Vincent de Paul for your generosity with food donations and \$5008.00 was collected.*

*Thank you to all who assisted with the Christmas Liturgies - preparing, cleaning and participating in many and varied ways. We particularly thank the children who always bring joy to tired and weary people reminding us about the true meaning of Christmas.*

## PARISH MASS TIMES

**St Monica's**  
Saturday: 6.30pm  
Sunday: 7.30am, 9.30am, 5.30pm  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9.00am

**St Gregory's**  
Saturday: 9.00am  
Sunday: 8.00am

**St John of God**  
Tuesday: 4.00pm  
Saturday: 6.00pm Vigil Mass

## SACRAMENTS

**Reconciliation**  
St Monica's:  
Saturday 5.30pm - 6pm.  
St Gregory's:  
Saturday after 9.00am Mass.

**Anointing of the Sick**  
Friday 31 January 2020, 9.00am  
at St Monica's.  
Or by arrangement with the priests.

## Baptism

By appointment only.  
St Monica's: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at 11.00am.  
St Gregory's: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday at 11:00am  
Booking & Preparation are essential.

**Marriage**  
Strictly by appointment. A minimum of 6 months notice is required.  
All enquiries please email  
admin@parishofrichmond.org.au

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**11 February 2020 at 7pm.**

*Meeting Minutes available on notice boards in church foyers.*

## REGULAR PARISH ACTIVITIES

**Rosary**  
St Monica's: 8.40am  
before weekday Mass.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
St Monica's: Wednesday after 9.00am Mass to pray for vocations.

**Choir Practice**  
St Monica's:  
Wednesday 7-8pm  
*NEW MEMBERS WELCOME*

**Body of Christ Prayer Group**  
Wednesday 7-8.30pm  
pray for vocations. All welcome  
1 Hughes Ave, Hobartville.

**Children's Liturgy**  
St Monica's:  
Saturday 6.00pm  
Sunday 9.30am

**Circle of Friends**  
Parish Meeting Room:  
1st Monday of the month  
9.30am

**Youth Group Social**  
Meet every 3rd Saturday of the month after 6.00pm HYPA Mass.

**HYPA-R Holy Hour**  
Meet every 1st Friday of the month 6:30pm-7:30pm praying for youth followed by pizzas.