

## POPE FRANCIS' CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Pope Francis today assured that Christ is coming into our lives this Christmas and is asking for a response like Mary's, but warned that we might be too busy to pay attention. The Pope made this reflection today during his address before praying the midday Angelus with those gathered in St. Peter's Square.

He suggested two aspects to learn from Mary, as a guide to preparing for Christmas.



The first is her "here I am' full of faith'. Mary does not know which paths she will have to trod, which sorrows she will have to suffer, which risks she will face," the Pontiff said. "But she knows that it is the Lord who is asking, and she trusts totally in Him and abandons herself to His love. This is Mary's faith." "The other aspect to learn from "this simple young woman of Nazareth," the Pope said, is her ability to "recognize the time of God." She makes the Incarnation possible, "thanks to her humble and courageous 'yes,'" Pope said. "Mary teaches us to welcome the favorable moment in which Jesus comes into our lives and asks for a generous and prepared response."

Jesus is coming this Christmas in the "today of the liturgy," the Pope explained. "The Word, who dwelled in the virginal womb of Mary, in the celebration of Christmas, comes to call anew the heart of each Christian. He comes by and calls. Each one of us is called to respond, as Mary did, with a personal and sincere 'yes,' placing ourselves fully at the disposal of God and his mercy.".... "How many times Jesus comes in our lives and how many times he sends us an angel. And how many times we don't realize it because we are very busy, submerged in our thoughts, in our activities, and in these days, in the preparation for Christmas, and we don't realize the one who is passing by and knocking at the door of our hearts asking to be welcomed, asking for a 'yes' like that of Mary." The Pope said that when we feel in our hearts a desire to be better, to repent, that the Lord is the source of that feeling.

"If you feel this, stop," he said. "The Lord is there. Go to pray, and maybe go to confession to clean up the dwelling a bit. This is good. But remember well, if you feel this desire to improve, it is He who is calling. Do not let him pass by." Pope Francis concluded by inviting the faithful to learn from Mary's and Joseph's example, and to "welcome Jesus with an entirely open soul." Jesus, he said, "comes to bring to the world the gift of peace. [...] The precious gift of Christmas is peace and Christ is our true peace. And Christ calls to our hearts to give us peace. Peace of the soul. Let us open the gates to Christ."

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\*Quoted from Vatican City, December 21, 2014 (Zenit.org)

**Merry Christmas (2014)  
&  
Happy New Year (2015)**

**to OLR Kensington Parish Community**



### THIS WEEK

#### WEDNESDAY 24 DEC

6:00pm Carols  
6:30pm Vigil Mass (Children)  
8:30pm Indonesian Community Mass  
11:00pm Parish Mass (Youth)

#### THURSDAY 25 DEC

9:00am Carols  
9:30am Christmas Day Family Mass  
(No evening Mass)

#### FRIDAY 26 DEC

9:00am Mass

#### SATURDAY 27 DEC

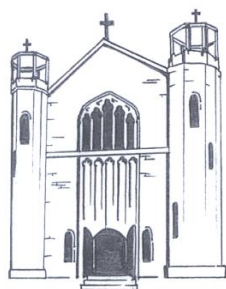
6:00pm Mass

#### SUNDAY 28 DEC

9:30am Mass + Kids Church, Morning Tea  
3:30pm Indonesian Mass  
6:00pm Mass + Kids Church

### ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?

Welcome! Let us know how we can support you in your faith journey. Please introduce yourself to the parish priest and/or one of the hospitality team at morning tea.



# PARISH DIRECTORY

4 Roma Ave Kensington NSW 2033

T: 9663 1070

F: 9313 6348

E: [kensoparish@pacific.net.au](mailto:kensoparish@pacific.net.au)

W: <http://olrkensington.org.au>

## PARISH PRIEST

Fr Aloysius Lamere msc

## PARISH SECRETARY

Maria Caetano (Mon-Fri, 9am-1pm)

## MASS TIMES

Sat - 6pm (Vigil)

Sun - 9:30am (Family), 6pm

Mon, Wed, Fri - 9am

Indonesian Mass Sun - 3:30pm

French Mass Third Sun - 11am

## RECONCILIATION

Mon 9:30am or by appointment

## HOLY HOUR + RECONCILIATION

Thursday before 1<sup>st</sup> Friday - 7:00pm

## INDONESIAN COMMUNITY

Fr Aloysius Tamnge msc – 0426 042 624

## BAPTISMS

First Sunday - 11am, bookings required

## WEDDINGS

By Appointment

## SACRAMENTS

Contact parish office

## OLR PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Marie Nilon – 9663 3346

## OLSH COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

Jenny Fowler – 9662 4088

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Roy Rigotti - 9313 8334, is a JP and is happy to sign documents as required.

# RESPONSES

## 6.30PM CHRISTMAS EVE

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Today you will know that the Lord will come, and he will save us, and in the morning you will see his glory.

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 62:1-5

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

### SECOND READING

Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed: the Saviour of the world will be our king. Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-25

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all flesh will see the salvation of our God.

# OREMUS

*Let us Pray*

### SICK

Vivien Christie, Margaret Carrick (Bowral), Lucienne Radzyminski, Miriam McKoy, Fr Roger Duggan msc, Neville Dunn, Mr MacKenzie, Fr Chris Murphy msc, Derek Chick, Pam (Rose's friend), Tony (Dulwich Hill), Br James Maher msc, Francesco Alessi, Fr Peter Robinson msc, Lucia Simeone, Assunta Ciaglia, Natalina Beghetto, Frank Zakrzewski, Llewellyn Samuel, Antonio Laquian, Joe Di Blasio, Rina Vecchief, Betty Mansfield, Anton's mum, Nella Custorella, Marie LaBrooy, Patty Ingram, Dee Piper, Rosaria Ciaglia, Frank George, Colleen Corcoran, Zanita Banzon, Angela Breen Ortega

### BELOVED DECEASED

Paul Liew, Fr James John O'Meara, Lindawati Alie

### ANNIVERSARIES

Henri Radzyminski, John Valarezo, Monica Mary McCaughan

# ROSTERS

DEC 27/28	SAT 6PM	SUN 9:30AM	SUN 6PM
Acolyte	Handjojo Widjaja	Roel Castillo	George Bedirian
Readers	John Dorahy Thelma Slunsky	Big Kids Church Big Kids Church	Marissa Meyn Jim Nguyen
E. Ministers	Dewi Suryani Jan Nicholas	Margaret Rigotti Roy Rigotti Robyn Kildea Brian Koh Stephen Gatt Amelia Iovanella	Trish Veness Francine Pirola
KidsChurch	9:30am – Christine Mitchell & Christina Halim 6:00pm –		
Counting	James Lynch, John Sparke, Helen Liew		
Comm to Sick	Margaret Rigotti, Robyn Kildea		
JAN 3/4	SAT 6PM	SUN 9:30AM	SUN 6PM
Acolyte	Handjojo Widjaja	Roel Castillo	Terry Gormley
Readers	James Lynch Judith Lynch	Bernard Pacia Sandy Mak	Tony King Will Thorp
E. Ministers	John Ryan Alice Mouco	Thomas Chia Sheila McAndrew Barbara Hitchcox Henny Ramali Amelia Iovanella Ana Corpuz	Lyn King Diana Woon
KidsChurch	9:30am – Aubrey & Holley Curley 6:00pm – Mark & Fiona O'Farrell		
Counting	Terry & Val Gormley, Ratna Santoso, Rob Payten		
Comm to Sick	Thomas Chia, Sheila McAndrew		

## RESPONSES

### 11PM CHRISTMAS EVE

#### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Lord said to me: You are my Son.  
It is I who have begotten you this day.

#### FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1-7

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

#### SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-14

#### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Word became flesh and we have seen his glory.

## RESPONSES

### 9.30AM CHRISTMAS DAY

#### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord is born for us; and he will be called Wondrous God, Prince of peace, Father of future ages: and his reign will be without end.

#### FIRST READING

Isaiah 62:11-12

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.

#### SECOND READING

Titus 3: 4-7

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to God in the highest,  
peace to his people on earth. Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL

Luke 2: 15-20

#### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Rejoice, O Daughter Zion; lift up praise,  
Daughter Jerusalem: Behold, your King will come, the Holy One and Saviour of the World.

### HOLY HOUR

#### Thursday before first Friday (7pm)

This Hour of Grace and Mercy is a time to encounter the healing presence of Jesus and refresh your soul. Reconciliation is also available during Adoration.

### Parish Office - Christmas Break

Maria will be away on Christmas break from 24 December 2014 to 29 January 2015.

No Bulletins during this time.

### MORNING TEA

Fr Alo and all of us wish to express our thanks and appreciation to all those who provided the morning tea after 9.30am Mass each Sunday. Their generosity and commitment has been outstanding.

There will be **no Morning Tea served on 28th December because of holidays**. For 2015 we would like some additional volunteers to help when Domenico and Myrna are overseas for an extended period. Please call Margaret 9313 8334 if you can help.

### PARISH YOUTH GROUP 2015

**Do you have a passion for sharing your faith with the younger generation?**

Plans are in place to launch a youth group in 2015 for Yrs 7-10 (age 12-16). We're looking to recruit some adult leaders who would be willing to join a team to support the group which will get underway in late February. We need parents (especially fathers) and young adult mentors to be part of our adult support team with a variety of different skills including organisation/administration, hospitality, music, good listening, sporty etc. Can you do one of these things really well? Do you have children in this age bracket?

We're looking for expressions of interest in supporting this dynamic initiative. Contact Francine Pirola 0433 451 433 or the parish office and leave your contact details. **Information Evening: Thursday Feb 5, 8pm.**

### BIG KIDSCHURCH

Join the team and lead the 9:30am Mass every fourth Sunday. Ages 10-15. Contact: Ana Corpuz – 0416 166 149.

### Formation & Training Workshop for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion & Readers at Mass

#### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (Beginning or Refreshing)

Our Lady Star of the Sea Miranda  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb and 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015,  
7.00pm-9.00pm.

#### Readers at Mass (Beginning or Refreshing)

St Jerome's Punchbowl  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> February 2015,  
9.30am-12.00pm

#### Registration is Essential

Forms and further details are available on the Liturgy Office website:  
[www.liturgy.sydneycatholic.org](http://www.liturgy.sydneycatholic.org).

# WE'RE CELEBRATING...

**50<sup>th</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY – 28 Dec**  
Sarina & Salvatore Campagna

## NOTICES

### ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL – LIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS 2014

The unique and spectacular Lights of Christmas at St Mary's Cathedral which was launched on 9 December **will run through to and including Christmas Day night**. Each night there will be music entertainment before the **projections begin at 8.30pm and go to midnight**. Hosted by the Archdiocese of Sydney the presenting partner this year is PAYCE and the theme is service – giving what we can to our family, friends and the community. Bring your family and friends to Cathedral Square for a free stunning display of laser lights and the true meaning of Christmas.

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Start the New Year off with a bang! Spend a weekend with your spouse at a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend**. The peaceful setting of this weekend enrichment is a great way to rekindle the romance in your marriage. **Weekend date: 6-8 March at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW**  
**To apply contact Ardell & Bill Sharpe tel. 02 4283 3435 or**

[wsharpe@bigpond.net.au](mailto:wsharpe@bigpond.net.au)

[www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au)

[www.facebook.com/WWMEasternUnit](https://www.facebook.com/WWMEasternUnit)

## JOKE CORNER

Why is Christmas just like your job?

You do all the work and the fat guy with the suit gets all the credit!

## Christmas Season Services



### Christmas Eve, Wednesday Dec 24

6.00pm – Carols

6.30pm - Vigil Mass (Children) (shepherds & angels welcome!)

8.30pm - Indonesian Community Mass

11.00pm - Parish Mass (Youth)

### Christmas Day, Thursday Dec 25

9.00am – Carols

9.30am - Christmas Day Family Mass

(No evening Mass on Christmas Day)

### Holy Family, Sunday Dec 28

9:30am: Mass & KidsChurch + Morning Tea

Also: Sat 6pm, Sun 3:30pm (Indonesian), Sun 6pm

### Mary, Mother of God, Thursday, Jan 1

9am: Mass

### Epiphany, Sunday Jan 4

9:30am: Mass & KidsChurch + Morning Tea

Also: Sat 6pm, Sun 3:30pm (Indonesian), 6pm

## A Christmas Message

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 and lots of love to you and yours!**