



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph - Yr C

29th December, 2024

Parish Priest Fr Vincent Nguyen
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Ph: 5428 2591

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P O Box 467, Gisborne Vic 3437
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CHILD PROTECTION - is everyone's responsibility

Check the Parish Website for:

Child Safety & Code of Conduct Policy
Parish Privacy Act / Professional Standards

*A parent must accompany any child leaving the church during Mass.***Parish Email** gisborne@cam.org.au**Parish Website** melbcatholic.org/s/gisborne**Secretary Hours** Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am – 5:00pm**CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:**

Please pray for those who are in ill health:

**Eileen S, Corine V,
Anthony S, Fran S, Helen K,
Shane R, George T, Henslee C,
Doris S, Jacqueline D, Sebastian M,
Diane M & Eddie G.**

We pray for the recently deceased and for those who have
an anniversary at this time, especially

John Garzia & Tessie Galea.**May they rest in peace***Please email Tam if you would like an Anniversary included.***UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

28/12/24 Saturday 6pm Mass – Gisborne
29/12/24 Normal Sunday Masses
31/12/24 5pm – Weekday Mass – Gisborne

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

01/01/25 10am – New Years Day Mass – Gisborne
02/01/25 9:15am – Weekday Mass – Gisborne
03/01/25 9:15am – Weekday Mass – Gisborne
04/01/25 Saturday 6pm Mass – Gisborne
05/01/25 Normal Sunday Masses

SECRETARY ANNUAL LEAVE

Tam will be taking some time off throughout January but
will still attend the office one day per week to do the most
urgent of tasks.

From January 1st to the 31st the office will only be manned
on Thursdays.

If you have any queries during this time, email would be
the best option and I can reply as time permits.

JANUARY ROSTERS

A many of us are lucky enough to get away during the
Christmas & New Year season there are no rostered
duties for the month of January.

It would be appreciated if volunteers could make
themselves available at any Mass they attend to ensure
all ministry roles are filled.

REFLECTION by Fr. Michael Tate

Forget the tinselly sentimentality of most depictions of
the Holy Family. This Gospel is real life. Anyone who
has temporarily lost their child in a crowd knows the
stabbing pain of uncertainty and fear. Even more real,
and occurring more often, is the adolescent impatience of
Jesus: 'Did you not know I must be about my Father's
business?'

Every parent, bewildered and saddened by the growing
up and the growing distance of a son or daughter, knows
what Mary and Joseph must have felt.

By the time Mary and Joseph found Jesus, he had found
the words to express his unique identity. In this little
scene so full of pathos and heartbreak, we hear the first
words of Jesus in the Gospels: 'Did you not know I must
be about my Father's business?'

What was his 'Father's business' which was so engaging
for Jesus? To draw every human being into the same
family relationship as He enjoys.

But did you note that it is our privilege to celebrate this
realisation as a community? Only Jesus can say 'My
Father'. We say 'Our Father'. We enter into the grace of
intimate relationship with God, not as an atomised
individual, but as a person within a society of baptised
Christians – the Church.

We could take a moment to pray for the integrity which
will enable us to express this sense of identity in the
unfolding of our lives. We can pray also for those
saddened or bewildered by our following of the One who
taught us to pray 'Our Father'. mtate@bigpond.com

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

Our parish would not function without the service of
many volunteers who keep our Masses and all other
special events running so smoothly.

I am reluctant to list them in fear I may omit someone but
on behalf of our parish may I thank the following:

Sacristans, Readers, Special Ministers, Florists,
Musicians, Singers, Cleaners, Gardeners, Counters,
Visitors of the sick, Fundraisers & everyone who says
yes when I ask for help! **You are AMAZING!!!**

St. Brigid's Catholic Church, Gisborne

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS 1875 - 2025



You are invited to celebrate this wonderful moment in our history.

Our Celebration will include Mass at 11.00am
(also live-streamed for those who cannot attend in person),
a memorabilia display, activities and food vendors.

This day of festivities is an opportunity to learn more about our St. Brigid's Church
story and meet, or reconnect with present and past parishioners.

Location: St. Brigid's Parish Church
Aitken Street, Gisborne, Victoria

Date: Sunday 9th February, 2025
Time: 11.00am Mass

Followed by activities and events (12-4.00pm approx)

Bring along your family and friends and any others you know of with
a St. Brigid's connection to this special event.

We would love as much memorabilia or information about our wonderful history as
possible, so if you have any stories, memories, photos or memorabilia that you can
share, please contact us at trishannarmstrong@gmail.com / 0417 526 945

SAVE THE DATE - 9th FEBRUARY 2024

Our 150th Anniversary of Gisborne Church will incorporate Parish Day.

Please note there will be NO other Masses that Sunday.

Come and Celebrate the Feast of St. Brigid.

EVERYONE WELCOME

THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

If you would like to contribute to the
Thanksgiving Program, you may do so
by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Brigid's Church Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6742 95773

Please use your surname and TG
number as the reference.

PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

If you would like to contribute to the
Priest & Presbytery expenses, you
may do so by direct debit to the acct
below:

**St. Brigid's Presbytery Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6672 72303

Please use your surname as the
reference.

COLUMBAN PARTNERSHIP FUNDRAISER

A total of \$470 was raised for this wonderful cause.

Thank you for your support at such short notice!

All proceeds to go to St. Elizabeth Hospital – Hyderabad.

Fr. Robert will celebrate Mass at St. Brigid's on the
weekend of 25/26 of January to tell us more about this.

HOME VISITS TO THE SICK

Parishioners wanting to have a home visit from Fr. Vincent
should please contact the office by phone or email to arrange
a suitable time.

Our Safeguarding Policy does not allow for a Priest or
volunteer to attend a home to provide Communion or counsel
without consent of the person directly involved.

CARDS GROUP

We will recommence on January 21st, 2025.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Should you have a loved one gravely ill
and in need of anointing or the services
of a priest, please call the Parish
Landline on 5428 2591.

St Brigid's Parish Weekly Giving

Collections last week: Presbytery \$501
Thanksgiving \$1055

Thank you for your ongoing support
through the Thanksgiving Program.



SCRIPTURE STUDIES

Thursday – 10am

For all enquiries

please contact

Bernie 0414 890 377

OPEN HOUSE

Meet after 11am

Sunday Mass at the

Kaffeine Bar for a

coffee and chat.

Everyone Welcome!

Introduction: The Feast of the Holy Family, assigned as the Sunday after Christmas, becomes a strong occasion to continue the spirit of Christmas lived in family life. In a year when family life has been constantly challenged, we need the vision of hope.

1st Reading: Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

We hear the story of the commitment of the parents of Samuel. His mother, Hannah, and her husband go up to the temple to offer a memorial sacrifice.

2nd Reading: John 3:1-2, 21-24

We hear the extended meditation on God's love shown us because God has let us be called God's children.

Gospel: Luke 2: 41-52

We hear of another journey to Jerusalem of the parents of Jesus, for the Feast of Passover. This is the context of his manifestation which so impressed the lawyers and doctors who questioned Jesus at the temple.

Prays of Intercession: We are already God's children, and we believe that we receive from God, whatever we ask. Inspired by the words of today's scriptures, we confidently ask God to hear our prayers.

1. We pray for the family of the Church, for the Pope and the bishops who lead their flock. May they be courageous in speaking out to the world of Christian family values.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our Prayer.

2. We pray for the family of the Church at the grass roots level of every parish and diocese. May they be a sign of Gospel values manifested to their local communities.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our Prayer.

3. We pray for the domestic Church which is the sublime call and responsibility of every family. May the unconditional love of parents mirror God's unconditional love in calling us his children.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our Prayer.

4. We pray for families who experience illness, separation or unemployment. May they find hope in experiencing the invitation to take up the cross daily with Jesus.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our Prayer.

5. We pray for those suffering throughout the world from hunger, war, conflict, epidemics, drought and other natural disasters. May they be strengthened and sustained by our prayers and the love of God.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our Prayer.

6. We pray for ourselves and the special needs of all in our parish community. We pray for those who are sick – especially those on our parish prayer list – the frail, and for all who care for them. For the faithful departed: for those who have died recently, especially **Jan Bassett** and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially **John Garzia & Tessie Galea**. May this time help their families to renew their love and continue their memory throughout the year ahead.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our Prayer.

Please join in the Parish Prayer.

Celebrant: Loving God and Father, like Hannah who prayed to you in her need, we have brought you our petitions. With her, we trust that you will grant our requests. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Next week's readings: Isaiah 60: 1-6, Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6, Matthew 2: 1-12

ST. BRIGID'S GISBORNE PARISH PRAYER

God our Father, we thank you for all the blessings we enjoy in our parish family of St. Brigid's Gisborne.
Many have laboured to build our parish. May we all work together and hand in hand stand together.
May our parish be filled with holiness and prayer, faith and love.
May all who come here find a welcoming home, comfort in their needs and strength for their journey.
St. Brigid, St. Patrick, St. Ambrose and St. Colmcille watch over us always we pray, that with faith we grow and learn.
We make our prayer in Jesus name.
Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, (*all bow*)
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried; "he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen

The Living Word

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Year C

29 December 2024

First Reading

1 Samuel 1:20-22. 24-28

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

For the whole of his life, Samuel shall be lent to the Lord.

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.'

When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.'

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull, and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.' There she left him, for the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 83:2-3. 5-6. 9-10

(R.) *How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.*

1. How lovely is your dwelling place,
Lord, God of hosts.
My soul is longing and yearning,
is yearning for the courts of the Lord.
My heart and my soul ring out their joy
to God, the living God. (R.)
2. They are happy, who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.
They are happy, whose strength is in you;
they walk with ever growing strength. (R.)
3. O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer,
gave ear, O God of Jacob.
Turn your eyes, O God, our shield,
look on the face of your anointed. (R.)

Second Reading

1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

A reading from the first letter of St. John.

He calls you his own children, and that is what you are.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed, all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

See Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our heart, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.