

Parish Administrator

Fr Baiyi Gong

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Parish Secretary

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Office Hours: Mon- Wed -Fri

8.30am - 1.30pm

Parish Pastoral Council

Chair: Steven South

Secretary Pam Biggs-Chapman

Parish Finance Committee

Chair: Hugh Davies

Safeguarding Officers

Jane O'Brien

jadashak@gmail.com

Neil Taylor

nrtaylor1950@gmail.com

SJV Primary School Manly

P: 3097 2900 E: pmanly@bne.catholic.edu.au

SACRAMENTS

All enquiries for Baptism,
First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and
Confirmation, please contact
the parish office.

FUNERALS AND WEDDINGS

All enquiries regarding Funerals and
Weddings, please contact **the parish office**

manly@bne.catholic.net.au

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4.00 pm or by appointment

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We follow the words of our patron,
St John Vianney, who said "He is here."

We recognise Christ is in the Word,
the Eucharist, and in us His people,
with a special reverence for Him
in the poor and marginalised.

We are called to make Christ present through
our prayer and charity.

We seek to grow in our spiritual lives and
create a community

where everyone is welcome;
the young and the old, together to
experience the loving presence of God.

We believe He is here amongst us
and we joyfully go out
to make Him present to all.

Reflection—28 / 29 December 2024—Holy Family

Let Us Pray: Beloved Jesus, grant me the grace to be alert when I stray from You and the firm resolve to return to the path that leads me back to You. Amen.

Trusting in Truths Beyond Our Understanding

Saint John Paul II wrote about today's Gospel story in his encyclical on the Rosary, Rosarium Virginis. This scripture, he pointed out, reveals that Jesus was already wholly dedicated to his Father's affairs. And it shows "the radical nature of the Gospel, in which even the closest of human relationships are challenged by the absolute demands of the Kingdom." Which relationships? Family relationships!

Today, we are like Mary and Joseph in their moment of failing to understand the words of Jesus. His teachings challenge us to accept a more difficult life, a life of doing good to our enemies, taking a stand against injustices, standing up for Christian values, getting persecuted for it, turning the cheek and going the extra mile, a life of courageously adhering to the ways of God.

Our preference, when it's inconvenient or unpleasant to be so holy, is to rationalize and make excuses for any behavior that the world says is good and right but which contradicts the Church's scripture-based teachings. However, if we are sincere about following Christ, we are willing to do what is difficult. And it's usually in the doing that we begin to understand the benefits of becoming more like Christ.

Without this understanding, however, we have to trust that the words of Jesus are truth. Like Mary and Joseph, we need to ponder in our hearts what we do not understand and at the same time move forward in holy living. Then we discover the joy that comes from a life that's lived wholly in Christ.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

What teaching of the Church have you rationalized away so that you don't have to obey it? Or what teaching in scripture?

Assume your disobedience is due to not understanding what is really being taught. What will you do to learn more about it? ©

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FOR YOUR DIARY—DECEMBER—JANUARY

SJV, MANLY OFFICE CLOSURE DURING CHRISTMAS BREAK

Our office will close at 12.30 pm on 24 December 2024 and re-open on 6 January 2025 at 8.30 am.

30 Mon	No Mass
31 Tues	New Year's Eve—NO MASS
1 Jan 2025	9.00am Rosary
Wed	9.30am Mass—Mary, Holy Mother of God 7.30pm Rosary on-line via ZOOM
2 Thurs	No Mass
3 Fri	No Mass THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
4 Sat	4.00pm Reconciliation
Sat Vigil	5.00pm Mass (SJV)
5 Sun	7:00am Mass (St Jude's) 9:30am Mass (SJV)
6 Mon	No Mass
7 Tues	6.00pm Mass
8 Wed	9.00am Rosary 9.30am Mass 7.30pm Rosary on-line via ZOOM
9 Thurs	No Mass
10 Fri	No Mass THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
11 Sat	4.00pm Reconciliation
Sat Vigil	5.00pm Mass (SJV)
12 Sun	7:00am Mass (St Jude's) 9:30am Mass (SJV)

Fr Baiyi, the parish staff, PPC and PFC would like to extend our thanks to all the volunteers who devote their time, talent and wisdom in helping run the Parish of St John Vianney's. Blessings and best wishes for a happy and safe 2025.

OF YOUR CHARITY, PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Beth Craig

ANNIVERSARIES: Anne-Marie Arthus, Russell Barton, Kevin Bourke, Floretina Brewer, Jim Clair, John Costello, Cecil Crew, Fazio, Jean Hine, Paul Jackman, Patrick Leben, Luzdivina Lozano, Jennifer Lynas, Dulcie Maher, Agnes Veronica (Ronnie) Mason-Johnson, Hilary Maloney, Jessie Massie, Fletcher McCormack, Sr Paula McGrath, Kevin McGregor, Colin Moir, Doris O'Donnell, Brian O'Sullivan, Mark Purdon, Donna Pytko, George Reading, Millicent (Vera) Reed, Jean Rosenstengel, Joseph (Neil) Sheppard, Theodore Shepherd, Maria Skubis, Hubert Smith, Douglas Southern, Bill Spann, Eric Steeden, John Wade, Lilli Wargin, Aleida Wishey and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Sue McDonald, Chris Lee, Francis Raisch, Eric Roberts, John Cliffe, Sue Wynne-Davies, Jack & Mary Beard, Jocelyn Barron, Dell Chapman, Emily de Looze, Anne Dixon, Irene Gavrilla, Carlos Manabat, Maureen Handcock, Richard Pook, Violet Maureen Phillips, Joanne Small, Barry Smith, Emma Walters Patrick Nofokifolau and Brian Prove.

To include a name in our 'Recently Deceased', the Privacy Act requires the permission of a close relative. For those 'Who Are Sick' requires the permission a close relative. Names of the recently deceased, anniversaries and our sick parishioners are reviewed at the end of each month.

COLUMBARIUM

Plans for the construction of a Columbarium at SJV church are progressing. Designs have now been drawn up by an architect from the Archdiocese of Brisbane. The next stage is to obtain quotes for the construction of the Columbarium. Parishioners will be kept updated via the weekly newsletter.

	Welcomer	1st Reader	2nd Reader	EMHC	Screen	Servers	Counter
Sat 28 Dec	Jane	Alison	Denise	Mikaela/Gerardina/Carmel	Anjoline	DH	B
Sun 29 Dec	Steve	Mark	June	Trish/Margaret/Donna	Donna	Volunteer Needed	
Sat 4 Jan	Maureen	Jane	Gerardina	Denise/Denis/Alison	Pam	AG	B
Sun 5 Jan	Helen	Anne	Donna	Margaret/Sonia/Steve	Donna	Volunteer needed	
Sat 11 Jan	Roster will be ready before the weekend.				Carmel	DH	
Sun 12 Jan					Donna	Volunteer needed	

This parish is Child Safety Aware and complies with Australian Privacy Laws. A copy of the Safeguarding Policy is situated in the foyer of the church. STOPLINE CONTACT: Phone: 1300 304 400 Email AOB@stoline.com.au

READINGS FOR THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS,

MARY AND JOSEPH—28/29 DECEMBER 2024

FIRST READING: *1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28 (Year C)*

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 bul 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.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Ps 83:2-8, 5-6, 9-10*

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

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.**

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.**

O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer,

Give ear, O God of Jacob.

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield,

Look on the face of your anointed. **R.**

SECOND READING: *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.

SECOND READING: *John 3, 1-2, 21-24 (cont'd)*

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

Thanks be to God.

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.

Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

READINGS FOR THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD:

5/6 JANUARY 2025

FIRST READING: *Isaiah 60:1-6*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Arise, shine out Jerusalem, for your light has come,

The glory of the Lord is rising on you.

Though night still covers the earth

And darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round:

All are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you.

Camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries

O Midian and Ephah;

Everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13*

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice,

That he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement.

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. **R.**

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute.

The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts.

Before him all king shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him. **R.**

For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. **R.**

PIETY STALL The Piety Stall is open before and after each weekend Mass at SJV church for your convenience. Please stop by and look at the beautiful gifts available: books, bracelets, rosary beads, Columban Art calendars and copies of the new *God's Word Daily Reflections for 2025*.

SECOND READING: *Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that it was given the knowledge of the mystery.

This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations. It means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Matthew 2:2*

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: *Matthew 2:1-12*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

We have come from the East to worship the King.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. "Where is the infant king of the Jews?" they asked. "We saw his star as it rose and have to do him homage". When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. "At Bethlehem in Judaea", they told him "for this is what the prophet wrote: And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. "Go and find out all about the child," he said "and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage." Having listened to what the king had to say they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS—BAPTISM OF THE LORD

11/12 January 2025

First Reading: *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 (Year C).*

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-30*

Second Reading: *Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7*

Gospel Acclamation: *cf Luke 3:16*

Gospel: *Lk 3:15-16, 21-22*