



ST. PADRE PIO PARISH GLENMORE PARK

Parish Office: 34 - 38 William Howell Drive (PO Box 8037), GLENMORE PARK NSW 2745

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EMERGENCIES ONLY	0451 174 438		

Sunday 19 December 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year C

ST. PADRE PIO CHURCH WEEKLY TIMETABLE

SUNDAY

8:00am Mass
10:00am Mass

MONDAY

No Mass & Office closed

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY

9:00am Mass

SATURDAY

9:00am Mass
Novena to St Padre Pio
9:30am Sacrament of Penance
5:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday – Friday
8:30am – 3:30pm
Closed 12:00pm – 12:30pm

BAPTISMS

11:30am
1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sundays
Please contact the Parish Office.
Presentation Mass & Baptism
Information morning are held every
4th Sunday

FIRST FRIDAY ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

8:00pm Adoration - 9:00am Saturday
3:00am Divine Mercy Chaplet

FRIDAY PLAYGROUP (2022)

9:30am – 11:30am 0-6 years
Bethany Catholic Primary School Hall
Contact Joanne D'Agostino, via the
Parish Office.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

Please contact the Parish office or find
the information on the parish website.

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY by Brendan Byrne SJ

Today's Scripture readings bring us at last to the threshold of Jesus' birth. The **First Reading**, from the prophet Micah, 5:1-4, is famous for designating Bethlehem as the place of the Messiah's birth. The early Christians found it rich with pointers to what they believed God had done in Christ: salvation coming from what is 'least' in human terms; the sense of the 'ruler' to be born 'out of her' who, in contrast to most of the rulers of the time, will be a 'shepherd' who will feed his flock (a theme picked up in the Responsorial Psalm). Finally, there is the pledge that his rule will be synonymous with 'peace', something that the angels will echo when they announce the birth of a Saviour to the shepherds of Bethlehem (Luke 2:14).

The **Second Reading**, from Hebrews 10:5-10, stresses the superiority and effectiveness of what Christ has achieved, in comparison with the sacrificial ritual of the old covenant. To bring this out the writer appeals to a passage from one of the psalms (Ps 40 [39]:7-9). This makes the point that what God wants from worshippers is not so much material sacrifices – holocausts of animals and the like – as an inward commitment to do God's will.

The **Gospel**, Luke 1:39-45, at last brings us to the major players in the story of Jesus' birth. ... it describes the meeting between Mary and her cousin, Elizabeth. In this 'Visitation' story, the two women share their remarkable experience. As their two stories come together, faith overflows in new insight, knowledge and celebration.

Mary has surrendered in faith and obedience to the extraordinary role that Gabriel has announced to her. In faith, too, she has obeyed the angel's additional command to go and seek out the 'sign' to be seen in the pregnancy, at an advanced age, of her cousin Elizabeth. Biblical faith does not presuppose signs already given: it acts, goes on its journey, and *then* discovers signs that confirm what has been believed. This is how Elizabeth's pregnancy functions for Mary. This lesser wonder brought about by God's power (the conception of a child to parents of advanced years) confirms her faith in the far greater marvel: that with God's Spirit replacing the role of male parent she is to become the mother of her people's Messiah.

The account makes much of Mary's greeting, which in the language of the time, would have been 'Peace' (*Shalom*). Mary brings the 'peace' that is to characterise the messianic age. As soon as she utters this messianic greeting, Elizabeth experiences the infant John within her womb leaping with 'messianic' joy.

The below is from <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/seasons-and-feast-days/christmas-20423>

Why is Christmas celebrated?

The Church celebrates the “marvelous works of God” through public worship, or liturgy, commemorating the great events in salvation history. The Nativity of Our Lord celebrates the point in history when the Son of God became Man for our Salvation—an act of loving obedience to the Father, and saving love for us, that will culminate on the Cross.

Phil 2:5-8. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

What is the Christmas Season?

The greatest feasts, like Christmas and Easter, have liturgical seasons dedicated to them. Christmas is preceded by the Season of Advent, a time of preparation, and the celebration of the Nativity itself is extended in the Christmas Season. This season begins on Christmas Eve, as Catholics rejoice in the Lord’s Birth on December 25th, and extends to the Baptism of the Lord, on the Sunday after the Epiphany. Beginning on Christmas Day, eight days are dedicated to an Octave of Christmas, after the Jewish pattern for the greatest feasts. During this octave the Feast of the Holy Family is celebrated, and it culminates in the honoring of Mary as the Mother of God on January 1st. This title was first given to her by the early Councils, as a defense of her Son’s divinity against those who argued He was not God, or not eternally so. The cost of salvation and discipleship is never out of sight, however, during the Octave. The Church recalls the Holy Innocents, killed by Herod in a frantic search for the Messiah, and the proto-martyr Stephen, killed as Saul, later St. Paul, encouraged it. *(continued on next page)*

ST PADRE PIO PARISH ROSTERS WEEK THREE 2022 – 18 & 19 DECEMBER

MASS TIME	5:30PM	8:00AM	10:00AM
MASS COORDINATOR	Help Needed	Lynn Young	Help Needed
ACOLYTE	Joe Badrov	Coley White	Farley Bartholomeusz
SENIOR SERVER	Kylie Sultana	Help Needed	Help Needed
READER	1. Rolaine Vibar 2. Angelina Badrov	1. Lynn Young 2. Ajumol Alexander	1. Regina Rossetto 2. Help Needed
CLEANING TEAM	*Mel Gaudoin *John & Leanne Gately * Susan Guy		

ST PADRE PIO PARISH ROSTERS WEEK FOUR 2022 – 25 & 26 DECEMBER

MASS TIME	5:30PM	8:00AM	10:00AM
MASS COORDINATOR	Cristina Cignarella	Help Needed	Help Needed
ACOLYTE	Joe Badrov	Coley White	Chris Hersey
SENIOR SERVER	Kylie Sultana	Help Needed	Help Needed
READER	1. Cristina Cignarella 2. Reginald Vibar	1. Bev Croft 2. Jacinta Rastegorac	1. Help Needed 2. Help Needed
CLEANING TEAM	*Rastegorac Family *Helen Sipeli *Josephine Caruana *Rebekah Gomez		

ST PADRE PIO PARISH ROSTERS WEEK ONE 2022 – 01 & 02 JANUARY

MASS TIME	5:30PM	8:00AM	10:00AM
MASS COORDINATOR	Help Needed	Lynn Young	Help Needed
ACOLYTE	Joe Badrov	Help Needed	Chris Hersey
SENIOR SERVER	Kylie Sultana	Help Needed	Help Needed
READER	1. Help Needed 2. Phil Walsh	1. Trish Warda 2. Denise Robens	1. Zon Lupisan 2. Regina Rossetto
CLEANING TEAM	*Doris Cutajar *Paula Harris *Mel Gaudoin *Josephine Caruana *Rani Pulikkal		

ST PADRE PIO PARISH ROSTERS WEEK TWO 2022 – 08 & 09 JANUARY

MASS TIME	5:30PM	8:00AM	10:00AM
MASS COORDINATOR	Cristina Cignarella	Help Needed	Help Needed
ACOLYTE	Joe Badrov	Coley White	Chris Hersey
SENIOR SERVER	Kylie Sultana	Help Needed	Help Needed
READER	1. Gilbert Grech 2. Angelina Badrov	1. Marilou Pugoy 2. Marg Rooney	1. Rani Pullikal 2. Help Needed
CLEANING TEAM	*Mary & Frank Mifsud *Lupisan Family *Merley Gearin *Antionette Manna *Cheryl Bowen		

Continued from page 2

Finally, the Christmas Season concludes by looking forward to the Public Life and Ministry of Jesus, with the Solemnity of the Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord. These events, which mark “manifestations” of Christ’s divinity, serve as bookends to His hidden life from infancy to the inauguration of His public ministry.

Why did shepherds visit Jesus?

Angels appeared to the shepherds to announce that Jesus was born (Luke 2:8-15). The deeper significance of shepherds visiting Jesus is that He is the Lamb of God and our Paschal sacrifice (the Lamb that is slaughtered at Passover). This indicates that, even from His Birth, He was meant to die for our sins, as the perfect sacrifice.

Who were the shepherds in Christ’s Nativity story?

They were unnamed, but they have a significant role in the Nativity story. Instead of appearing in front of kings, the Son of God was first made known to humble shepherds.

Why did God choose shepherds to receive heavenly messages?

Scripture portrays the Messiah both as shepherd of souls and victim for souls. David was a shepherd boy when he was chosen to shepherd God’s people Israel as its king. Christ, his descendant, is the eternal shepherd of God’s redeemed people.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS INFORMATION

ROOSTER MASSES

16 December to 24 December @ 5:00am.
Sunday 19 December: Mass times as normal.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St Padre Pio Parish: please ring the parish office to make an appointment.

OR St Nicholas of Myra Church, Penrith:
Tuesday 21st December at 7pm. Please avail yourself of this Sacrament to prepare for Christmas.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Children are invited to dress up as a Nativity character for all Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve – Friday 24 December

6:00pm: Children’s Mass (carols from 5:30pm)

8.30pm: Family Mass (carols from 8pm)

12:00am: Mass (carols from 11:30pm)

Christmas Day – Saturday 25 December

10:00am: Mass (carols from 9:30am)

5:30pm N.B. this is a Christmas Mass (not the Vigil for the Holy Family as previously announced)

Sunday 26 December:

8:00am & 10:00am: Mass of the Holy Family

WEEKDAY MASSES after Christmas

There will no Masses from 27-31 December.
Saturday 01 Jan & Sunday 02 Jan-Mass times will be as normal. (Saturday 01 Jan, 9am Mass is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God).
Weekday Masses will resume from 04 Jan, 9am.

ROSTERS FOR THE CHRISTMAS PLEASE add your name to the roster on the Welcome Table, if you can help. Thank You

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

December:

Sunday 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year C

Readings: Micah 5:1- 4, Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-44

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION 2022

The Parent Letter & Enrolment Form are available on the Parish Website and on the Welcome Table.

THANK YOU TO ALL who donated to the Orphanage and who gave donations of non-perishable items under our Christmas Giving Tree. Your generosity is much appreciated. God bless you.

ARRIVAL OF THE LEGION OF MARY CENTENARY PILGRIM STATUE

The centenary pilgrim statue of Our Lady from the Legion of Mary has arrived in our Parish and is placed in the Shrine next to St Padre Pio’s statue. We will be hosting it over Christmas and to the New Year. May this image of Our Lady inspire in us greater love for God, in following Him more closely just like Mary, our Heavenly Mother did.

NOTICE FROM THE DIOCESE: “On 20 March 2020, Catholics from the Diocese of Parramatta were dispensed from their Sunday Mass obligation until further notice (Canon 1248 2 & Catechism 2181 by virtue of a Decree issued by Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv. From 15 December 2021, this Decree is now revoked & the Sunday obligation is now imposed once again given that public health orders no longer require adherence to density limits in our Church buildings.”

FIRST FRIDAY ALL-NIGHT ADORATION will be in February 2022.



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TRADING HOURS
Monday - Friday Saturday
8:00am-5:30pm 8:00am-3:00pm
Closed Sunday & Public Holidays
Telephone: 4736 5375

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CLINIC HOURS:
Monday-Friday 8am-6pm Saturdays 9am-3pm Public Holidays 9am-1pm

GENERAL PRACTITIONERS
Dr Z Lupisan (Female)
Dr P Acorda (Male)
Dr T Murugathas (Male)
Dr K Singh (Male)

ANCILLARY PROVIDERS
Debbie Deasy (Psychologist)
National Hearing Care
Omar Sawan (Podiatrist)

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Australian Clinical Labs

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