

# THE PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

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Rev Fr Peter Tammearu, Pastor

**JOY • PEACE •  
LOVE**



**HOPE • FAITH**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**DECEMBER 24, 2017**

**“Glory to God in the highest;  
 and on earth peace to men of good will.”**

And it came to pass, that in those days there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that the whole world should be enrolled.

This enrolling was first made by Cyrinus, the governor of Syria.

And all went to be enrolled, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem: because he was of the house and family of David,

To be enrolled with Mary his espoused wife, who was with child.

And it came to pass, that when they were there, her days were accomplished, that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him up in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because

there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds watching, and keeping the night watches over their flock.

And behold an angel of the Lord stood by them, and the brightness of God shone round about them; and they feared with a great fear.

And the angel said to them: Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, that shall be to all the people:

For, this day, is born to you a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord, in the city of David.

And this shall be a sign unto you. You shall find the infant wrapped in swaddling clothes, and laid in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly army, praising God, and saying:

Glory to God in the highest; and on earth peace to men of good will.

And it came to pass, after the angels departed from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another: Let us go over to Bethlehem, and let us see this word that is come to pass, which the Lord hath shewed to us.

And they came with haste; and they found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger.

And seeing, they understood of the word that had been spoken to them concerning this child.

(Lk 2:1-17, Douay-Rheims version, 1899)



**Monday December 25**

**The Nativity of the Lord**

- 9 am For the intentions & health of Andy Diaz  
*requested by Manuel Casildus*
- 11 am For the People of the Parish

**Tuesday December 26**

**St. Stephen, The First Martyr**

- 12:05 pm † Teodulo Hipolito  
Hipolito & Llarenas family

**Wednesday December 27**

**St. John, Apostle and Evangelist**

- 12:05 pm † Deceased Members of F.O.S.S. & the souls in Purgatory  
*requested by Alan Tanaka*

**Thursday December 28**

**The Holy Innocents, Martyrs**

- 12:05 pm † Socrates Fernandez  
*requested by the Llarenas Family*

**Friday December 29**

**Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**

- 12:05 pm † Jeff Cairns  
*requested by Anne Hoban*

**Saturday December 30**

**Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**

- 9 am † Ray Suryadinata  
*requested by the Lavecchia family*
- 5 pm In thanksgiving for the Sevilla family  
*requested by the family*

**Sunday December 31**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

- 9 am † Mary Hornsby  
*requested by her nephew, David Patten*
- 11 am † Francesco Bruno  
*requested by his wife, Assunta Bruno*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Thursday December 28**

7:30 pm – 9 pm Legion of Mary meeting [Seniors]

**Saturday December 30**

3:30 – 4:30 pm Legion of Mary meeting [Juniors]

99-4





**CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S MASSES**

The obligation to attend Mass is one of the fundamental precepts of the Catholic Church. Nevertheless, there are some Catholics who are not sure what this “Sunday obligation” means. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that:

*2180 The precept of the Church specifies the law of the Lord more precisely: “On Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass.” “The precept of participating in the Mass is satisfied by assistance at a Mass which is celebrated anywhere in a Catholic rite either on the holy day or on the evening of the preceding day.”*

*2181 The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor. Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin.*

*2182 Participation in the communal celebration of the Sunday Eucharist is a testimony of belonging and of being faithful to Christ and to his Church. The faithful give witness by this to their communion in faith and charity. Together they testify to God's holiness and their hope of salvation. They strengthen one another under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.*

Please be reminded that Christmas and New Year both fall on a Monday this year. Faithful Catholics are obliged to attend separate Masses for both the regular Sunday liturgy as well as the holy day of obligation on Monday. This creates an unusual situation where some people may choose to attend two different Masses on the same day in order to fulfill their spiritual duty. Our parish celebrations will take place as follows:

- ✘ **4th Sunday of Advent**
  - Saturday December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5pm
  - Sunday December 24<sup>th</sup> at 9 & 11am
- ✘ **Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord**
  - Sunday December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5 & 9pm
  - Monday December 25<sup>th</sup> at 9 & 11am
- ✘ **Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
  - Saturday December 30<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm
  - Sunday December 31<sup>st</sup> at 9 & 11am
- ✘ **Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**
  - Monday January 1<sup>st</sup> at 9 & 11am

**2018 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES**

Please pick up your 2018 envelopes in the foyer of the Church. If your envelope # is above the 300 range, please check the listing before picking up your **NEW envelope NUMBER**.

There will be **EXTRA** boxes of envelopes for those wishing to use Church envelopes and those with envelope numbers in the 8XX series.

Forms will be made available for those wishing to contribute on a monthly basis via the ‘Pre-Authorized Giving Plan’ [PAG]. **NOTE:** For parishioners currently using PAG, you will still need to pick up a box of envelopes for special collections.



Please feel free to contact the office if you have any questions.

**SO, WHEN DOES CHRISTMAS END?**

When Christmas ends depends on the Rite [Latin or Eastern], the liturgical calendar [Ordinary or Extraordinary], and whether you’re looking for the end of the Christmas ‘feast’ or the end of the Christmas ‘season’.

- The Christmas feast proper ends on the final day of its octave, which is the feast of Mary the Mother of God, on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Keep your feasting, parties, and merriment going for the full 8 days.
- The ‘peak’ of the Christmas ‘season’ is January 6<sup>th</sup> – Epiphany –the end of the 12 Days of Christmas. Jesus is now revealed as a light to the Gentile nations. Keep your Christmas decorations, especially your Christmas tree and lights, up at least until this day is over.
- The official end of the entire Christmas season on the new liturgical calendar is the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, after which Ordinary Time begins. Keep your nativity scene displayed up through this day, or better yet, until the Presentation of the Lord on February 2<sup>nd</sup> [which is a feast of the Baby Jesus].



**REGISTRATION FOR THE SACRAMENTS**

Registration for the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation will take place on **Sunday January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018** before and after the 9am and 11am Masses in the Church Hall.



Registration forms are available at the back of the Church for your convenience. Please remember to bring a **COPY** of your **child’ s** Baptismal Certificate along with the completed registration form no later than **Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>**. Please note that no registration forms will be accepted after this deadline.

If you are unable to attend, please contact Alice Warford at the Parish Office. Thank you for your co-operation.


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