

# HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH HUNTERS HILL



*We acknowledge the Wallumattagal people — the first custodians of this place*

**DECEMBER 24 & 25 2023**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Year B & CHRISTMAS**



## DECEMBER

**Month** *No Twiddle Muffs*

**22 Parish Office Closes**  
Friday 4pm  
**Christmas Masses**  
See page 2

## JANUARY

**Month** *No Twiddle Muffs*

**8 Parish Office Opens**  
Monday 9am

## WEEKLY

### Monday

#### **Meditation**

Mon 7pm-7:45pm  
Chapter Hall

### Tuesday

#### **Meditation**

Tues 10-10:45am  
Chapter Hall

### Thursday

#### **Scripture Group**

2pm Meeting Room

### Friday

#### **Adoration**

7:30-9am  
HNOM

### Friday

#### **Legion of Mary**

9:30am  
Chapter Hall

## MONTHLY

**1st Friday**

#### **Twiddle Muffs**

9:30am Chapter Hall

**1st Saturday**

#### **Anointing Mass**

8am HNOM

**2nd Saturday**

#### **Marist Laity**

9-10:30am  
Chapter Hall

## A SLIP OF A GIRL FROM A BACKWATER....

Today's liturgy brings a new focus. Luke's gospel (the Annunciation) emphasises how the coming of the Saviour depended upon Mary's consent. God always respects human freedom.

All that we do, leading to eternal life, begins with the unmerited gifts of God's 'grace'. Such gifts bring with them the tasks whereby we realise our true personhood, as followers of Christ.

Our first reading from 2 Samuel contains the prophecy that the sovereignty of the House of David will last forever. This prophecy, the angel tells Mary, will be fulfilled in the Son she is to conceive, who will be given 'the throne of his ancestor, David' and exercise a 'reign that will never end'.

But this particular text also reflects the ambiguities of the mystery of divine/human collaboration through which God's designs are realised. Though David became, in retrospect, a symbolic figure in the messianic expectations of old Israel, his life was touched by sin and shame. That pattern continued after him—many of the kings (his descendants) were oppressors of the people; the Jerusalem temple was a symbol of their centralised political power.

Think of the prophecy of Nathan. He had confronted David for his adulterous involvement with Bathsheba and his manoeuvrings leading to Uriah's death. It is God who will fulfil the messianic expectations associated with David's name. David will not build God's 'house'. He is reminded he was only a shepherd boy when God made him great. When God builds up his house, giving it a reign that will never end, the whole world will know that it is all God's doing.

What a contrast between this history, marked by human inadequacies, and the consent of Mary, opening the way to the glorious fulfilment of old Israel's hopes. The gospel account of Mary's encounter with God's messenger is a dialogue, spelling out a decision from Mary.

Despite her puzzlement and uncertainties, she gave her wholehearted consent. Clearly, this consent is possible through God's 'grace' and favour—reflected in the greeting of God's messenger.

The narrative clearly indicates that this beginning owes nothing to human standing or achievement. By human standards, Mary is an insignificant slip of a girl – fourteen or fifteen was the usual age of betrothal. She comes from Nazareth, an obscure village of about 150 souls, not even mentioned in the Old Testament.

Time has shown how great were God's gifts, and how total was Mary's heroic response. She is the mother of the Saviour, the model of discipleship—indeed the Mother of the whole family of discipleship.

Today's reading from Romans calls us back to awareness of the place of —Mary's response and our personal responses—in a total plan shaped by God's gifts. We are meant to carry out the tasks these gifts have brought – a 'mystery kept secret for endless ages' revealed in Jesus Christ, and to be made known to the whole human family.

Reflections (adapted) of the late John Thornhill sm from his *Emmaus Series*.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Year B READINGS

## First Reading

## 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

## Responsorial Psalm

## Ps 88:2-5, 27, 29

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;  
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.  
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,  
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. R.

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your dynasty for ever  
and set up your throne through all ages.' R.

He will say to me: 'You are my father,  
my God, the rock who saves me.'  
I will keep my love for him always;  
for him my covenant shall endure. R.

## Second Reading

## Romans 16:25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord;  
May his will for me be done.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

## Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

## CHRISTMAS LITURGIES

## 4th SUNDAY ADVENT

Sat 23rd/Sun 24th Dec

## HOLY NAME OF MARY

Saturday 23rd Dec - 6pm Vigil

Sunday 24th Dec - 8am,  
10am

NO Sunday 24th Dec 6pm  
Mass in church

## ST PETER CHANEL

Sunday 24th Dec - 9am

## CHRISTMAS EVE - 24th Dec

## HOLY NAME OF MARY

Outdoor Mass Villa Maria  
Monastery Grounds

Carols 6.00pm Mass 6.30pm

## ST PETER CHANEL

Carols 7.00pm Mass 7.30pm

## CHRISTMAS DAY - 25th Dec

## HOLY NAME OF MARY

Masses 8.00am & 10.00am

## ST PETER CHANEL

Mass 9.00am

NO 6PM Monday 25th Dec-  
CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

## JRS DONATIONS

Jesuit Refugee Service are collecting non-perishable food items—please deliver to the Parish Office. Thank you.

## SISTER FIDELIS

The following items are needed. Please drop at Parish Office.

Men's Toiletries, men's warm casual clothes, men's shoes and backpacks/roller luggage.

## Holy Name of Mary -

## Christmas Eve Mass

## Calling all Christmas Angels and Shepherds!

Join in the Entrance Procession at the Vigil Mass. Bring your picnic rugs and low chairs. Sunday, Dec 24 at 6 pm Carols - Mass 6:30 pm - Outdoors in the Marist Fathers Monastery Grounds, where Mass will be held. See you there.



Parish Office closed  
4:00pm Fri 22 Dec 2023

9am Mon 8 Jan 2024



Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.



**MARIST LAITY CHRISTMAS CAKE WINNER**

Congratulations to **ALAN OXENHAM** who is the winner of the beautiful Christmas cake.

May thanks to all those who supported the raffle so generously. We are so happy to be able to send \$1372.30 to the Marist children's homes in the Philippines.

**JANUARY AT SPC—NO WEDNESDAY 12:15pm MASS**

There will be NO Wednesday 12:15pm Mass held at St Peter Chanel throughout January.

**PRAYER ZONE**

Please pray for all those who are sick or in special need in our community:

**Adrienne & Tony Ryan, Lilian Hakim, Bishop Peter Ingham, B McNamara, Joe Bannon, Janet Muscat, Andrew Gullotta, Suzanne Traill, Valerie Grant, Catherine Keating, Carmel Walsh, Michelle Makin, Colleen Hussin.**

**Pray for...**

Many of you may be aware of a large fire that occurred in Gladesville last week. One of our Parish families, **Maribel Gomez and family**, have been impacted by it and are facing some challenging months ahead. Please pray for Maribel and her family.

**CHRISTMAS DAY READINGS****First Reading****Isaiah 52:7-10**

How beautiful on the mountains,  
are the feet of one who brings  
good news,  
who heralds peace, brings hap-  
piness,  
proclaims salvation,  
and tells Zion,  
'Your God is king!'  
Listen! Your watchmen raise  
their voices,  
they shout for joy together,  
for they see the Lord face to  
face,  
as he returns to Zion.  
Break into shouts of joy togeth-  
er,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the Lord is consoling his peo-  
ple,  
redeeming Jerusalem.  
The Lord bares his holy arm  
in the sight of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth  
shall see  
the salvation of our God.

**Responsorial Psalm****Ps 97:1-6**

**R. All the ends of the earth  
have seen the saving power of  
God.**

Sing a new song to the Lord  
for he has worked wonders.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have brought salvation. **R.**  
The Lord has made known his  
salvation;  
has shown his justice to the na-

tions.

He has remembered his truth  
and love  
for the house of Israel. **R.**  
All the ends of the earth have  
seen  
the salvation of our God.  
Shout to the Lord all the earth,  
ring out your joy. **R.**  
Sing psalms to the Lord with the  
harp,  
with the sound of music.  
With trumpets and the sound of  
the horn  
acclaim the King, the Lord. **R.**

**Second Reading****Hebrews 1:1-6**

At various times in the past and  
in various different ways, God  
spoke to our ancestors through  
the prophets; but in our own  
time, the last days, he has spo-  
ken to us through his Son, the  
Son that he has appointed to  
inherit everything and through  
whom he made everything there  
is. He is the radiant light of  
God's glory and the perfect copy  
of his nature, sustaining the uni-  
verse by his powerful command;  
and now that he has destroyed  
the defilement of sin, he has  
gone to take his place in heaven  
at the right hand of divine Majes-  
ty. So he is now as far above the  
angels as the title which he has  
inherited is higher than their own  
name.  
God has never said to any angel:  
You are my Son, today I have

become your father, or I will be a  
father to him and he a son to  
me. Again, when he brings the  
First-born into the world, he  
says: Let all the angels of God  
worship him.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
A holy day has dawned upon us.  
Come, you nations and adore  
the Lord.

Today a great light has come  
upon the earth.

Alleluia!

**Gospel****John 1:1-18**

In the beginning was the Word:  
the Word was with God and the  
Word was God.  
He was with God in the begin-  
ning.  
Through him all things came to  
be, not one thing had its being  
but through him.  
All that came to be had life in  
him and that life was the light of  
men, a light that shines in the  
dark, a light that darkness could  
not overpower.

*[A man came, sent by God.*

*His name was John.*

*He came as a witness,*

*as a witness to speak for the*

*light,*

*so that everyone might believe*

*through him.*

*He was not the light,*

*only a witness to speak for the*  
*light.]*

The Word was the true light  
that enlightens all men;  
and he was coming into the  
world.

He was in the world that had its  
being through him, and the world  
did not know him.

He came to his own domain  
and his own people did not ac-  
cept him.

But to all who did accept him  
he gave power to become chil-  
dren of God, to all who believe in  
the name of him who was born  
not out of human stock or urge  
of the flesh or will of man but of  
God himself.

The Word was made flesh,  
he lived among us, and we saw  
his glory, the glory that is his as  
the only Son of the Father, full of  
grace and truth.

*[John appears as his witness. He*  
*proclaims:*

*'This is the one of whom I said:*

*He who comes after me*  
*ranks before me because he*  
*existed before me.'*

*Indeed, from this fullness we*  
*have, all of us, received-*  
*yes, grace in return for grace,*  
*since, though the Law was given*  
*through Moses, grace and truth*  
*have come through Jesus Christ.*  
*No one has ever seen God;*  
*it is the only Son, who is nearest*  
*to the Father's heart,*  
*who has made him known.]*

*[Short Form: omit text in brack-*  
*ets.]*

**Villa Maria Primary School**

Prin: Mrs. Hannah Schneider  
Mark Street, Hunters Hill, 2110  
Ph: +61 2 9879 6100

[www.vmhuntershill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.vmhuntershill.catholic.edu.au)

**Marist Sisters' College**

Prin: Dr Anne Ireland  
Woolwich Rd, Woolwich 2110  
Ph: +61 2 9816 2041

[mcswoolwich.syd.catholic.edu.au](http://mcswoolwich.syd.catholic.edu.au)

**St Joseph's College**

Prin: Michael Blake  
Mark St. Hunters Hill, 2110  
Ph: +61 2 9816 0802

[www.joeyes.org](http://www.joeyes.org)

**Next Week:**

*First Reading : Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3*

*Second Reading : Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 7-19*

*Gospel Reading : Luke 2:22-40*



# A PARISH OF THE MARIST FATHERS

## CATHOLIC WEEKLY LINK

<https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/catholic-weekly-newspaper-online/>

### PARISH OFFICE:

3A Mary Street.

Hours: 9.00am – 4.00pm, Mon-Fri

PHONE: 9817 5325.

EMAIL: [office@holynamemaryhh.org.au](mailto:office@holynamemaryhh.org.au)

Web: [www.hnom.com.au](http://www.hnom.com.au)

Facebook: Holy Name of Mary Parish

### SUNDAY MASS TIMES

#### Holy Name of Mary:

Sat. 6.00pm

Sun. 8.00am, 10.00am, 6.00pm.

St. Peter Chanel: Sunday – 9.00am.

#### WEEKDAY EUCHARIST

##### Holy Name of Mary:

Monday to Friday – 9.00am.

Saturday – 8.00am.

St Peter Chanel: Wednesday 12.15pm

#### RECONCILIATION:

Holy Name of Mary: Saturday

5.15pm-5.45pm or by request.

### PARISH TEAM:

#### Parish Priest:

Father Brian Wilson SM Ph 0430 270 640

#### Priests Assisting:

Fathers Aliko Langi SM, Ph: 0408 896 839

Paul Pidcock SM, OAM, Paul Pearce SM, JP

#### Parish Secretaries: Madeleine Carter &

Maggie Mullane

[office@holynamemaryhh.org.au](mailto:office@holynamemaryhh.org.au)

#### Sacramental Coordinator: Rosalia Foley

[fft@holynamemaryhh.org.au](mailto:fft@holynamemaryhh.org.au) 0409 608 979

### Parish Safeguarding Support Officer:

Linda Power:

E: [safeguarding@holynamemaryhh.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@holynamemaryhh.org.au)

### BAPTISMS & PREP EVENINGS:

Please book online on the Sacraments tab, via our website [www.hnom.com.au](http://www.hnom.com.au). Private baptisms by arrangement with the Parish Office 9817 5325

### BAPTISM PREPARATION EVENINGS:

Dec 12th 2023, Feb 13th 2024, Mar 12th, Apr 9th, May 14th, Jun 11th in Parish Hall @ 7.30pm

### MARRIAGE:

At least six months notice must be given. The parish clergy will officiate primarily for parishioners. Others will generally need to arrange their own Priest or Deacon.

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

PPC Chair: Tom Roche, contact Parish Office 9817-5325

PPC Secretary: Jayden Zullo 0403 981 114

### Parish Finance Committee:

Richard Quinn 0417 462 893

### Family Faith Educator: Marea De Angelis

Ph: 0419 448 201

RCIA: Janet Greene 9879 6515, Helen Farrell 0421 450 650

Counselling: contact Parish Office 9817-5325

### Villa Play Group: Tues 9:30-11:30am

Parish Hall. Becky Klimeck 0475 568 060

[www.hnom.com.au/children](http://www.hnom.com.au/children)

### St Vincent De Paul:

Tony Aduckiewicz 0411 641 895

### Meditation Group:

Gabrielle Woodcock 9817 0097

### Morning Tea:

Angela Diec [angeladiec@gmail.com](mailto:angeladiec@gmail.com)

### Youth Group:

Email: [youthministryhnom@gmail.com](mailto:youthministryhnom@gmail.com)

IT Group: Bobby Mackun 0434 070 350

### Aged Ministry :

Margaret Gambley 9807 2160

### Care & Support Group:

Cecilia Brungs: 0412 284 028

### Social Justice Group:

Michael Cooley 0410 542 781

### Marist Laity Group:

Cathy Gallo 0400 900 120

### Liturgy Group & Music Ministry:

Kia Mackun 0435 899 917

Ralph Fitzgerald 0412 230 626

### Eucharistic Ministry Coordinators:

HNM: Damian Boland:

[damian.boland@acciona.com](mailto:damian.boland@acciona.com)

SPC: Maria Goode: 0423 706 830

### Altar Servers Coordinator:

Grace Touma: 0410 536 295

Email: [altarhnom@gmail.com](mailto:altarhnom@gmail.com)

Readers HNM: Paul Trainor: 0416 884 142

SPC: Mark Volpato: 9816 4431

### Children's Liturgy:

HNM: Christine Clark 0402 345 671

[childliturgyholynamemaryhh@gmail.com](mailto:childliturgyholynamemaryhh@gmail.com)

Altar Society: Julia Cuming: 0412 031 451

Annette Hills: 0401 252 064

Ukulele Group: Fr Aliko: 0408 896 839

### Cleaners:

HNM: Andrew Hogan 0473 033 435

SPC: Sharon Breen: 0403 189 018

### Men's Group:

Gerardo D'Angelo 0418 294 063

### Inter-Church Council:

Richard Korkor 0410 431 022

### Prayer Group: Maryanne Knoblanche

9816 2273/ 0403 170 061

## New or Returning Parishioners...

Please come along to the Parish Office for a warm welcome and to pick up a Parish Information Kit.

## OUR PARISH PRAYER

Loving God,

you are the home for our hearts' deepest longings.

We find our way as families and as individuals only in you, through our brother Jesus, encouraged by the breath of your Spirit.

We thank you for all the blessings we enjoy in our parish family.

May we continue to share our gifts of life and love with glad and generous hearts.

May our world be somehow more alive because we have passed this way.

May Mary our parish patron continue to inspire us as we give new birth to your Word in our turn.

We make our prayer in Jesus' Name. Amen.