

HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH HUNTERS HILL ST PETER CHANEL WOOLWICH



We acknowledge the Walumatagal people — the first custodians of this place

15 DECEMBER

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT YEAR A

WITH MARY IN ADVENT—2

Calendar

DECEMBER

- 16 Liturgy Group Meeting** Parish House 7.30pm
- 17 Villa Maria Graduation Mass** HNM 6.00pm
- 18 Advent Reconciliation Service** HNM 7.00pm
- 19 Anointing Mass** Chapter Hall 11.30am
- 20 Parish Office Closes**
- 23 Inter-Church Christmas Carols** Details P. 2
- 24-5 Christmas**
- JANUARY**
- 6 Parish Office opens**

Like some others, this bulletin will take a rest from the last weekend in Advent until late January.

We visit Mary again this week. Here we have two contrasting events in the gospel where Mary is present, in each instance as an example for us of faithful, creative love.

“They have no wine”

Mary's mission wasn't all hard work. Right from the beginning the pattern of fasting and feasting has its place. Jesus launches onto the public scene at a party, a wedding, and Mary is there with him. She encourages him to give a hand, to ease the embarrassment, to help the celebration continue. It is when we celebrate that we most deeply taste what life has to offer, its pleasures its joys and its deeper meaning. Just as when we suffer deeply, deep and joyful celebration opens our hearts and our eyes to our inner depths and we get to taste God. Fasting of course is a central part of Christian spiritual tradition, and so is feasting and the two need to be held in tension with each other. To taste God's good gifts without celebrating those gifts would be a great ingratitude.

Often enough we are called to celebrate with others when our own life is not in celebration-mode. Maybe we sometimes feel like saying "My hour has not yet come", I have no desire to join your party. Sometimes this may be the appropriate response, but there will be times when we need to rise about our own concerns in order to honour the gifts of God in others, and to rejoice with them with a gracious spirit.

Mary is the one who breaks open Jesus' gifts for this community. Like her we are to break open his gifts for our community, when we see that they have run out of wine, we call on him to do his thing, to bring his sense of creativity and humour to bear so that the celebration can continue.

Celebration offers us a glimpse of eternity and invites us to transcend ourselves beyond the point we have reached thus far. Celebration invites us to focus on gift rather than law or obligation, on achievements rather than failures, on hopes rather than fears. Celebration is one of God's great gifts and Jesus and Mary were in the thick of it when it came to a good party!

Standing there was Mary his mother.

Here again we see Mary at a key moment in Jesus' journey, his death. With quiet dignity, with the same faithful love that saw his conception and birth, she sees him through his death. There is no self-pity, no attention-getting for herself. Her focus is simply him. Hope seems to be snuffed out in this moment and she is called on to deepen her understanding and trust in God's ways. The cost again is enormous and of course later on, so is the joy and victory. The things of death can never have the final say. "I can't help it, well that's just the way it is", the language of death or despair which is so often our bottom line, no longer need to win out. Even at the Cross, the things of life and love are our horizon.

In Australia at this time we have the opportunity to believe beyond the pain and the cross that weighs on so many in our country in the form of unemployment, of loneliness, in the form of racism, of rampant consumerism, human trafficking, of droughts and fires to name just a few.

We stand at the foot of the Cross with Mary and hear Jesus inviting us to look out for each other, to make a home in our hearts for each other, to stand with each other when the Cross is challenging our sense of well-being.

We hand over our concerns and our burdens with Mary and with Jesus, into God's safe-keeping. At the end of the day there is always Love, and it is to this Love that we commend our spirits.

Father Kevin

What's on?

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR PARISH?

See if anyone in your pew knows the name of this parishioner. Her name next week. Last Week's photo: Brian Harkin



CHRISTMAS MASSES CHRISTMAS EVE

Holy Name of Mary

6.00pm Carols & Mass (Villa Maria Monastery Grounds)

9.00pm Carols and Mass

St Peter Chanel

7.30pm Carols & Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

Holy Name of Mary

Masses 8.00am & 10.00am

St Peter Chanel

Mass 9.00am

BRING A CHAIR!!

Just a reminder if you are coming to the outdoor Christmas-Eve Mass to bring rugs or picnic chairs for the occasion.

MUSIC PRACTICES FOR CHRISTMAS

There will be practices at Holy Name of Mary Church as follows:

For Instrumentalists: Tues 17 December

For Choir: Thursday 19 December

For Instrumentalists and Choir: Monday 23 December,

All at 7.30pm

GLIMMERS OF GRACE BOOKS AVAILABLE

Copies of Father Kevin's book "Glimmers of Grace" are available from the parish office at \$30 per copy. They'd make an excellent Advent or Christmas gift.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND COLUMBAN CALENDARS

These are on sale at both churches. The price for a 10 Christmas cards pack is \$8 and Calendars \$10 each.

If no one from Vinnies is in attendance, please put money in the poor box near the church entrances, or paper box (at Holy Name of Mary.)

Thank you for your patronage. St Vincent de Paul Society.

INTER-CHURCH CHRISTMAS CAROLS Monday 23 December

5:00pm IRT Woolwich – Woolwich Village (we will meet at 4:50pm in the front foyer and travel up to the floor where they will have gathered for their evening meal);

5:30pm Hunters Hill (Twilight, behind Congregational Church)

6:00pm St Josephs on Gladesville Road

6:30pm St Anne's

7:00pm Hunters Hill Lodge

CAMPION COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAM 5-9 JAN 2020

Young people aged 16-20 interested in history, literature, philosophy and theology are invited to attend Campion College's five day Summer Program and get a taste of a Catholic tertiary education in the liberal arts.

Free to attend and register for Campion College's donation (including meals, activities and accommodation on campus in Toongabbie) but spaces are limited
www.campion.edu.au/summer-program.

HOLY SPIRIT PILGRIMAGE 2020 SEPT/OCT

Germany and Austria 11 days Extension to Finland and Russia (11 days) Holy Land (12 Days) and Exodus Pilgrimage (20 days) Egypt Jordan & Holy Land—contact us asap for detail :

Fr. Emmanuel
(fremmanuelty@gmail.com or 0417999553).

RETIREMENT VILLAGE AT GREENWICH

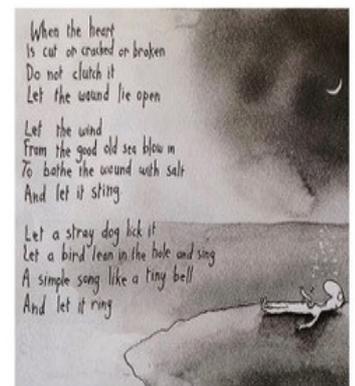
Clancy Terrace is a small self-care Retirement Village located in Greenwich. We have two one bedroom units available. If you are considering the move to a Retirement Village and would like to enquire please contact Christina Savides 9540 4650 or email christina@oscheamanagement.com.au

INVITATION

You are cordially invited to an **OPEN NIGHT** commencing at 630pm on Thursday, February 13 2020, at St Bede's Church, 43 Pymont Rd. Pymont, to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of **The Gregorian Schola of Sydney**. Come, see, and hear the schola for our thirtieth anniversary. Manuscript sources will be shown and sometimes used. There will be audience participation with QandA. Bookings are essential, Email Stephens.harry@gmail.com. Enquiries 9419 5838. Please come and support this important group and those who keep it together. Entry by voluntary donation. Let us know ASAP if you hope to come.

GRIEF CARE ZONE MOVING THROUGH THE PAIN

We now know that there are no set stages or timeline to complete for 'getting over' grief. What happens is that we learn to live with the changes it brings and they become part of us, part of our story. The word 'reconciliation' is more appropriate for what occurs as we work through our pain to integrate the new reality of moving forward in life, without the physical presence of the one we lost. In reconciliation, the sharp ever-present pain of grief eventually gives rise to a renewed sense of meaning and purpose. The feelings of loss will not completely disappear, yet they will soften. HOPE for a continued life will emerge, as we realise that our loved one will never be forgotten and our life can and will move forward.



CHILD SAFETY— OUR SPECIAL PRIORITY



WEDNESDAY MASS SPC

The weekly 12.15pm Mass at St Peter Chanel will be cancelled from this coming week until further notice.

Well Done... CONGRATS AND THANKS ZONE

Congratulations and a very warm welcome to **Ava Narkisic** who will be baptized into our Christian community this weekend.

GLENN FRENCH

Glenn, who has taught for many years at Marist Sisters College Woolwich, will be received into the Catholic Church at the Friday morning Mass, 20 December by Father Paul Pidcock.

Glen has completed his RCIA journey with Helen and Janet and we once again thank them for their service in this great ministry.

Glenn, a heartfelt welcome to you and every blessing at this special time.



POINT TO PONDER

SO LOVED THE WORLD

*The whole round world, in Greek, the total cosmos,
is all encompassed in this loving word;
Not just the righteous, right on, and religious
But everyone of whom you've ever heard,
And all the throng you don't know or ignore,
For everyone is precious in his sight,
Chosen and cherished, loved, redeemed, before
The circling cosmos ever saw the light.*

*He set us in the world that we might flourish,
That his beloved world might live through us.
We chose instead that all of this should perish
And turned his every blessing to a curse.
And now he gives himself, as life and light,
That we might choose in him to set things right.
Malcolm Guitte, Parable and Paradox.*

Villa Maria Primary School

Principal: Mr. Kevin Turner
Phone: 98796100
www.vmhuntershill.catholic.edu.au

St Josephs' College

Principal: Dr Christopher Hayes
Mark Street, Hunters Hill, NSW
2110 T +61 2 9816 0802
www.joeys.org

Marist Sisters' College

Principal: Dr Anne Ireland
Ph: 9816 2041
www.mscw.nsw.edu.au

Congratulations to the Year 7 -10 students who were recognised at the College Award Assemblies this week, for their outstanding achievements and consistent efforts.

Pray for... PRAYER ZONE

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

Janet Muscat, Judy Craig, Andrew & Lina Gullotta, Suzanne Traill, Frank Lloyd, Winifred Wall, John Burton, Madge Mullen, Jill Caldwell, Brian and Annette Sidgreaves, Valerie Grant & John O'Connor

JOYCE MAIORAMA

Joyce's family are remembering her especially on 16 December, the fourth anniversary of her death. We join with them in prayerful thanks for Joyce's faith-filled life.



Coming Soon

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE HNM

18 December 7.00pm

This Week... Scripture Zone

First Reading:

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

Isaiah speaks to the people of Israel who long for the messianic age where God's reign is restored. He tells them of life that will abound where they see none. What appears desert and lifeless is but a bountiful garden waiting to bloom.

Response

Lord come and save us
Alleluia !

Second Reading

James 5:7-10

James also uses horticultural imagery to encourage believers to be patient as they wait for the fullness of life. They are also encouraged to live in a manner worthy of their expectant faith.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia,
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
He sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia !

Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:2-11

John the Baptist seeks assurance that Jesus is the expectant salvific figure that John himself prophesied. The Lord responds to John's enquiry by pointing to the works he is doing. Jesus also reminds people to not let presupposition cloud their vision of where God's activity can be found.

*First Reading : Isaiah 7:10-14
Second Reading : Romans 1:1-7
Gospel Reading : Matthew 1:18-24*



A PARISH OF THE MARIST FATHERS

PARISH OFFICE:

3A Mary Street.

Hours: 9.00am – 5.00pm, Mon-Fri

PHONE: 9817 5325.

FAX: 9817 4615.

EMAIL: villamar@bigpond.net.au

Web: 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 Kevin Bates SM, OAM

Ph: 0425 333 129

kev@kevinbates.com

Priests Assisting:

Fathers Aliko Langi SM, Ph: 0408 896 839

John Worthington SM, Paul Pidcock SM,

OAM

Parish Secretary: Sylvia Gutierrez & Catherine Byrne

New or Returning Parishioners...

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

Associate Secretary: Maggie Mullane

Sacramental Coordinator: Rosalia Foley

fft@hnom.com.au 0409 608 979

Parish Safeguarding Support Officers:

Caitlin Pfaffin & Kathleen Lee:

hnompsso@gmail.com

BAPTISM:

By arrangement. Parents please contact the presbytery to book & arrange to attend the Baptism Prep Program

BAPTISM PREPARATION EVENINGS:

Tuesdays: 11 February. Wednesday 11 March, Tuesday 14 April, Chapter 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 GROUPS AND CONTACTS

Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson:

Marita Winters

bmwinters6@gmail.com

Parish Pastoral Council Secretary:

Carmen Pelling

cdpelling@gmail.com

Parish Finance Committee:

Andrew Curtin 0423 123 995

Family Faith Educator: Marea De Angelis

Ph: 0419 448 201

RCIA: Janet Greene 9879 6515

Counselling: Deborah Khoury 0409 719 443

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

Parish Hall. Mercedes Simola 0414 625 384

www.hnom.com.au/children

St Vincent De Paul: Paul Ladd 0468 355 753

Meditation Group: Gabrielle Woodcock, 9817 0097

Youth Group: Luana: 0426845053 or

Danielle: 0400 871 423

Young Adults Group: Nicholas Fearnley

0401 722 839

Aged Ministry : Margaret Gambley 9807 2160

Grief Support Group:

Cecilia Brungs: 0412 284 028

Social Justice Group:

David Macedone: 0412 049 895;

Marnie Butler: 0413 004 702

Marist Laity Group: Cathy Gallo 9817 2959

Josiane Espinosa 9807 9199

Liturgy Group: Kia Mackun 0435 899 917

Eucharistic Ministry Coordinators:

HNM: Maggie Mullane: 0411 475 469

SPC: Maria Goode: 0423 706 830

Altar Servers Coordinator:

Yvonne Young: 0410 588 063

Email: yhnom@gmail.com

Readers HNM: Barry Buffier: 9817 8805

SPC: Mark Volpato: 9816 4431

Children's Liturgy:

HNM: Olivia Edwards: 0409 541 177

Email: oedwards121@gmail.com

SPC: Tee Davies: 0407 827 957

Altar Society: Julia Cuming: 0412 031 451

Annette Hills: 0401 252 064

Ukelele Group: Fr Aliko: 0408 896 839

Cleaners:

HNM: Maggie Mullane 0411 475 469

SPC: Tracy Ferguson : 0408 324 611

Men's Group:

Clinton McDonald: 0419 646 311

Gerardo D'Angelo 0418 294 063

Inter-Church Council:

Richard Korkor 0410 431 022

Prayer Group: Maryanne Knoblanche

9816 2273/ 0403 170 061

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.