

HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH HUNTERS HILL ST PETER CHANEL WOOLWICH



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

2 December 2018

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C

ADVENT—MAKING ROOM FOR JOY

Calendar

December

- 1-2 Vinnies Christmas Appeal**
- 7 Monthly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**
HNM 7.00-9.00 am
- 8-9 Charitable Works Fund Appeal**
- 9 Joubert Singers Jubilee Concert** HNM 2.30pm
- 11 Baptism Prep**
Chapter Hall 7.30pm
- 12 Liturgy Group Meeting** Parish House 7.30pm
- 13 Men's Group Dinner** Parish Hall 7.00pm
- 17 Inter-Church Christmas Carols** Details soon
- 18 Villa Maria Yr 6 Grad Mass**
HNM 6.30pm
- 21 Reconciliation Service** HNM 7.30pm

Musing with me the other night as we suffered through the evening news bulletin, my companion remarked on the changing nature of society and the fact that we are almost obliged to adjust our understanding of the way the world works and settle for the chaotic dis-order which is becoming the new normal.

We watched the report on the violent protests in Paris, with other stories playing in the background. There are the unknown thousands of children and adults dying of starvation in Yemen because of a port blockade imposed by the Saudi-led coalition in its war with Yemeni rebels. The Saudi coalition enjoys the backing of the United States and Australia remains mute about this humanitarian disaster.

Further east, there is a largely un-reported genocide occurring as the Hazara people are hunted down and killed in Afghanistan. Rohingya refugees who fled from Myanmar last year are still too frightened to return home.

The rise of nationalism, spear-headed by US President Trump and mimicked by recently elected Right Wing governments such as the new Brazilian leadership is causing concern around the world. It's the sort of national self-aggrandisement that gave rise to Nazi Germany and the destruction that World War 2 visited on the world.

Such nationalist influences are at work here in Australia too, using refugee and migrant peoples as fodder for their vitriol. Some of this finds a not-so-subtle voice in Parliament from time to time. As we watch the news reflectively, we feel that the world is becoming a more dangerous place for everyone and we seem constrained to accept that this is as good as we get.

Out of this wilderness emerges John the Baptist, a wild man it's true, but a wild man on fire with an alternative for us to consider. He points to the Messiah who is emerging into view who he thinks is a way forward for all of us.

Instead of famine, this Jesus brings nourishment in abundance. Instead of blockades, we find fences removed, doors opened and welcomes offered. Instead of national chest-thumping, we encounter humble foot-washing and a leader who emerges from within us rather than from above us. He comes as servant, able to reach us at our lowest, most conflicted point.

His presence models for us the sort of freedom and peace we never thought possible. His words, stories and actions transform a battered, headstrong world into a communion of love and justice. Wounds can be laid open for healing, the wounds within and between persons, wounds within and between nations. The way of being that Jesus opens up for us, is realistic, do-able and within the reach of anyone who cares to listen.

Advent is here and with it the urgent, passionate voice of John the Baptist. His voice has such an urgency for he knows well enough the path the rest of us will likely follow if left to ourselves. This world of conquest, massacre, subjugation and slavery is not inevitable. John points to Jesus as our way through to another kind of world, "the Kingdom of God" as Jesus would later describe it.

People who dare to take Jesus seriously, can't help but be refreshed with hope and a joy that shows in their faces. All relationships, thanks to him, have a different starting point, a tranquil present and a future that promises unbounded joy. Understandably, we can be overwhelmed by the degree of violence that many are forced to tolerate across the world, and that many of us are pretty-much forced to absorb as we observe the state of this world.

Advent reminds us that even here there is room for joyful hope, hope deeply grounded in reality, hope whose role is to transform the world's violence into the sort of joyful communion that God intends for all of us. A thoughtful pause each day this Advent could provide a worthwhile tonic as you go about engaging with our perilously spinning planet.

Father Kevin

What's on?

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR PARISH?

See if anyone in your pew knows the name of this parish-ioner. Her name next week. Last week's photo: **Donal Curtin**



VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Members of our parish St Vincent de Paul Conference will be speaking at Masses this weekend asking for your support for the annual Vinnies Christmas Appeal.

MEN'S GROUP DINNER

Thursday 13 December, 2018.
7pm for 7.30 pm dinner Parish Hall

Guest speaker: Father Alik

\$25 includes meal and drinks
RSVP Monday 10th December, 2018. Bring a friend or family member
Gerardo m 0418 294 063 Clinton m 0419 646 311

SCRIPTURE PRAYER GROUP

Began on Tuesday 27 November and continuing on 4, 11 & 18 December the Scripture Prayer Group is meeting for the Advent Series of the Lectio Divina Heart-beat Program – 'The Kingdom of God is Near!'

Place: Chapter Hall Time: 6.45 for 7pm. All welcome.

JOUBERT SINGERS SILVER JUBILEE CONCERT

Celebrating our Jubilee Anniversary and the Christmas Season. Sunday 9th December 2.30pm Holy Name of Mary Church Tickets \$35/\$30

Bookings:
joubertsingers@gmail.com
Enquiries 0428178797

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP RETREAT RE-SCHEDULED

"Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed:

"Everyone is looking for you!" (Mark 1: 35–37; see also Luke 4:42) He undertook his solitary respite not when there were no other important matters to tend to, but because of the essential need to make time for prayer *despite* all the things to be done.

Join us on Friday, 7 December from 9.30am - 12.30pm in The Chapter Hall.

for an opportunity to connect with others in our parish community,

reflect on your grief journey, pray and be refreshed. The morning will be facilitated by Mark Hamilton (ObiSB), Bereavement Consultant Catholic Cemeteries. Please register your interest by calling Carmela Di Pietro 0412 277 388.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM DATES 2019 Now available

Dates for the Sacramental Programs for Confirmation, First Communion and First Reconciliation for 2019 are now available on the parish website for parents and any other interested parties to bookmark.

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND

Our Charitable Works Fund is on again on 8th and 9th December 2018

Your assistance helps raise funds for many important works for the Sydney Archdiocese, including providing family counselling, aboriginal ministry and formation for seminarians—amongst many other good works.

This donation is 100% tax deductible.

PLENARY COUNCIL GET-TOGETHER

After 8.00 am Mass on Saturday 1 December. Croissants and Coffee provided.

Hosted by Plenary Council Ambassadors Paul and Chris to have conversation about the renewing and re-shaping of the Church called for by the Australian Bishops. All Welcome. Please contact Paul on:

paul.bingham@bingardi.com.au or 0413 273 087 or Chris on 0405 253 820

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST:

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney

Applications are invited for the opportunity to undertake the role of Property Officer, part of the Chancery Team located at the Polding Centre Sydney.

For further information, the advertisement for this role can be viewed at: <https://catholicjobsonline.com.au/jobs/property-officer-sydney/>

FAMILY FAITH FAITH EDUCATORS RETREAT DAY

Need a bit of inspiration right now? There will be a one day retreat next Friday 7 December at Holy Name of Mary Parish Hall, Hunters Hill, from 9.15—2.30pm. The day will include Mass, reflection, lunch and morning tea. Cost \$15. Please contact Elsa Manu 0433914230 to register by 5 December. All Welcome!

CATHOLIC CARE HOME CARE PACKAGES

CatholicCare provides services in your home to help you remain living independently. From occasional or short-term services to round-the-clock options, CatholicCare can help you decide on the services to meet your individual needs. For more information please contact CCareline on 13 18 19.

THANK YOU CLAIRE GLASE

Claire has been the contact person for the St Peter Chanel Management team for the past three years and is now moving on from this role. We thank Claire very much for the dedication and generous spirit she has brought to the role and offer her our heartfelt thanks and prayers.

GLIMMERS OF GRACE FLASH MOB!



CHILD SAFETY OUR SPECIAL PRIORITY



Well Done...CONGRATS AND THANKS ZONE

Congratulations and welcome to **Sophie Macryannis & Bronson Merline** who will be baptised into our Christian community this weekend.

PARISH ADVENT DAILY REFLECTIONS

Thanks once again this year to Nicholas Chaplin and his team of writers for providing us with a fine book of daily reflections for Advent. The parish is very grateful.

GLIMMERS OF GRACE FLASH MOB

Monday night, a small group started to put the dust covers on the Glimmers of Grace Book. Team one retired, and thanks to Deb Khoury and Fr Alike and a couple of phone calls, Fr Kevin's office was no longer his own. Seemingly in no time nearly 800 books were dust-covered and loaded into vehicles for the trip to the Hunters Hill Club the next day.

We have an amazing community here. God bless you doesn't seem to say nearly enough!! (Pics p.2)

POINT TO PONDER

THE HIDDEN CENTER

Some may introduce their God
as moody sovereign meddler,
busybody puppeteer,
a gamester stacking the cards.
Mine plays in a crude combo –
members free to improvise,
exchanging cues uncharted,
yielding to quick chance solos.
Behind this motley hubbub
weaving measured counterpoint
God relaxed directs somehow
by quiet indirection. **Vernon Roland *Tactics of Nevertheless***

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

Gifted Education Program

Students in the Year 7, 8 and 9 Newman Selective Gifted Education Program will hold their Learning Symposium next Wednesday evening. We congratulate these students on their learning projects throughout the year.

Pray for... PRAYER ZONE

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

Marie Ferris, Janet Muscat, Judy Craig, Monica Carroll, Lina Gullotta, Suzanne Traill, Frank Lloyd & John Burton & Anna Juekiewitz.



I WAS SICK AND YOU VISITED ME

A SPIRIT OF HOPE

For all that weighs on us, confuses, distracts and concerns, we have among us a remarkable spirit of faith and love. We pray that during this Advent season, this very special spirit that breathes through our parish, continues to refresh, comfort and heal well beyond the boundaries of our community here.

FAREWELL ARIANNA

Arianna, an exchange student has been among us since July. She is leaving for home this weekend and we wish her every blessing as she returns to her family.

Coming Soon

Joubert Singers Jubilee Concert HNM
9 December 2.30pm

This Week... Scripture Zone

First Reading:

Jeremiah 33:14-16

This reading comes from part of Jeremiah's oracles or prophecies about the coming Messiah. When the Messiah comes, not only does he bring salvation, but integrity and honesty, too.

Response

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,

And grant us your salvation.

Alleluia !

Gospel Reading:

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

The coming of the Son of Man at the end of all time will be accompanied by agony and clamour and fear. Yet for us who believe, we stand with our heads held high, for our redemption is near at hand.

Second Reading :

1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

St Paul prays that the Christians of Thessalonika may be strengthened in holiness with the advent of the Lord Jesus Christ, so they may make progress in the life they are meant to live.

First Reading : Baruch 5:1-9

Second Reading : Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

Gospel Reading : Luke 3:1-6



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
Ph: 0425 333 129
kev@kevinbates.com

Priests Assisting:

Fathers Alike Langi SM, Ph: 0408 896 839
John Worthington SM, Paul Pearce SM

Parish Secretary: Sylvia Gutierrez

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 Pfafflin & 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 Dec, 19 Feb, 19 March,
9 April, 14 May Chapter Hall @ 7.30pm

MARRIAGE:

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

PARISH PASTORAL GROUPS AND CONTACTS

Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson:

Matt Fehon
mfehon@mcgrathnichol.com

Parish Pastoral Council Secretary:

Richard McNamee:
richard_mcnamee@baxter.com

Parish Finance Committee:

Michael Lindsay 0423 020 002

Parish Youth Minister:

Jessie Wade 0455 488 272

Family Faith Educator: Marea De Angelis

Ph: 0419 448 201

RCIA: Janet Greene 9879 6515

Counselling: Allison Cahill 0402 405 843.

& Deborah Khoury 0409 719 443

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

ish Hall. Elsa Hietbrink 0422 237 356
hnom.com.au/children

St Vincent De Paul: Paul Ladd 0468 355 753

Meditation Group: Gabrielle Woodcock,
9817 0097

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:

Marnie Butler: Ph:0413 004 702

Marist Laity Group: Cathy Gallo 9817 2959,
Josiane Espinosa 9807 9199

Liturgy Group:

Moya Preece Ph: 0418 406 513

Eucharistic Ministry Coordinators:

HNM: Maggie Mullane: 0411 475 469

SPC: Maria Goode: 0423 706 830

Altar Servers Coordinator:

Yvonne Young 0410 588 063 Email:
yyhnom@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: Jane Keneally 0419221185.

Annette Hills 0401 252 064

Cleaners:

HNM: Mike Burfitt 9879 4197

SPC: Claire Glase 0418 668 486

Men's Group:

Clinton McDonald: 0419 646 311

Gerardo D'Angelo Ph: 0418 294 063

Inter-Church Council:

Richard Korkor Ph: 0410 431 022

St Peter Chanel Management Team:

TBA

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.