

All Hallows' Five Dock



3rd Sunday of Advent | Year C | Sunday 12th December

Parish Mission

We, the people of this place,
live and celebrate a love of faith.

We share this faith in a
spirit of service,
that creates a sense of
God's presence among us.

All Hallows' Parish

Administrator:

+ Danny Meagher

Assistant Priest:

Fr Richard Ddumba

Deacon:

Rev. Mr Constantine Rodrigues

Parish Secretary:

Elsa Waldie

Safeguarding Officers

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Parish Office:

Monday - Thursday
9am - 4pm

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A Message from Bishop Danny

Dear Parishioners,

The first reading today commences with the words, "Shout for joy, daughter of Zion...Rejoice, exult with all your heart." The second reading from St Paul commences, "I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness."

The readings of Advent really are the most encouraging of all seasons. They look forward to the coming of God, and those saints and prophets who knew God, could only look forward to God's coming with great enthusiasm. That enthusiasm is what we are called to at this time. Our salvation is near at hand!

So, at Christmas, we will remember the way God did historically enter into the world. Could anything be more surprising or delightful, that the birth of a little baby to a young maiden and her husband. Both poor, but people of great faith, goodness and courage. Mary and Joseph. It is into this poverty – a poverty so rich! – that Jesus was born. Not an easy life. Lots of setbacks. But a life of faith, goodness and courage.

God is so good. And God wants us to all be joyful, as Zephaniah writes, wants us to be "happy" as St Paul says. Material things pass away so quickly. What God wants is for US to be happy. So, let's open our hearts in faith to the Good News. Let God's goodness and joy fill our hearts. And so let us live with courage and peace.

With best wishes -
Bishop Danny.



Sacramental Life

Holy Mass:

Saturday: 8am & 5.30pm Vigil

Sunday: 8.30am, 10am and 5pm

Monday - Friday: 8am

Reconciliation:

Saturday:

8:30am-9am / 4:45pm - 5:15pm

Or any time by appointment.

Sick Calls:

Any time - day/night.

Baptisms:

Every Sunday.

Weddings:

Contact the parish office..

This Week:

Sunday 6:

Corpus Christi Sunday
Youth Group // 4pm - Parish Hall

Wednesday 9:

2pm - Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration
**Please note the change in time for
Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration is for
this week only.*

Sunday 13:

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Youth Group // 4pm - Parish Hall



Notices from Fr Danny

Thanks

Thanks to all who have kept me in your prayers leading up to my ordination as a bishop last Wednesday and a special thanks to all who were able to be present in the Cathedral. Certainly, there was lots of pomp and ceremony. I hope that you also found it a prayerful occasion, one which opened up the glory of God and the diversity of our Church here in Sydney.

I am an Auxiliary Bishop here in Sydney, Archbishop Fisher being the boss. I will remain here at All Hallows for a few months until the arrival of my replacement. Fr Richard will remain as assistant priest.

There are lots of other thanks to offer. Our Church is looking beautiful. The crib is in place. Brass stands have been newly polished. We have all new piety stall cupboards. Very generous parishioners have agreed to join a cleaning roster. The grounds are looking green and luscious. Thanks to all who have contributed.

Thanks also to all our Sacramental team who have done a terrific job over the last few months preparing children for Confirmation and, just recently, First Holy Communion. All the First Holy Communion Masses went very well. Everyone seemed so pleased. Thanks for your great generosity and hard work.

Thanks also to all who participated in our Healing Morning a couple of Saturdays ago. I think it was a positive experience. People spoke honestly of the disappointments and sadness that they have been experiencing and we reflected on these very real feelings in the light of the Gospel of Jesus being with the disciples in the storm and, once woken, quietening the storm.

We celebrated the Year 6 Graduation Mass on Tuesday last week and the school year comes to an end this week.

So, Christmas approaches and the end of a very eventful year. Christmas Mass times are different this year, to reflect a growing trend of people wanting to attend Mass on Christmas Eve. So there are three Masses on Christmas Eve and one on Christmas Day. Please take home a flyer with the Mass times on it.

Note that Christmas Day is a Saturday. We will have the 5.30pm vigil Mass as normal, but there will be no music. Masses on the Sunday (Boxing Day) will be the normal times.

2021 Digital Advent Calendar

Countdown the days until Christmas with our Digital Advent Calendar. This calendar was created by the collaboration of 11 Family Educators from our local Catholic Primary Schools. Visit daily to ensure your heart is prepared for the birth of Jesus Christ.



2021 Digital Advent Calendar

Each day reveals a new prayer, reflection or activity to share as a family in the lead up to Christmas Day.

Return each day and click on the date to view the daily presentation.

We wish you a Blessed and Very Merry Christmas



Use this QR code to access the calendar

Please remember in your Prayers:

Sick:

Silvana La Selva
Joseph Cacnio
George Malouf
Norman Merlino

Do you know of anyone who is sick and in need of prayer? Please send their name in an email to the Parish Office and we will add their name in here.

Recently Deceased:

Joyce Shaw
Vito Pinto
Tony Michael
Francis Cornelius
Twomey
Pasquale Ardore
Mary Shelpot
Thea Bettridge
John Cammareri
Giuseppe Princi
Michael Koprivnjak
Teresa Benitez

Anniversaries:

Pasquale Ardore
Maria Maniaci

For the Souls of the Faithful Departed:

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May all the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.



Parish Notices



Children's Christmas Eve Mass - Invitation to participate

All families are warmly invited to the Children's Christmas Eve Mass, taking place at 5:30pm, Friday 24 December at All Hallows' Catholic Primary School. (Note at the school and not the church) Carols will precede the mass at 5pm. All children are invited to participate in the celebration. There will be two x 30 minute practices for main roles - 3pm Thursday 9 December and 5pm Thursday 23 December. Please complete the registration form below if your child would like to participate. Registration Form: <https://forms.gle/EAxgcrWisEMgNMK86>



Please contact Frances Cordaro via the P&F with any questions - allhallowspandf@gmail.com



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for our Christmas Masses

If you are an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and would like to minister at any of our Christmas Masses, please write your name and contact details down on the sign up sheets in the gathering space.



Counters Roster

The new counters roster for 2022 is now available in the gathering space of the Church. Thank you to those that help in this ministry.



Lights of Christmas 2021, St Mary's Cathedral forecourt, 9-25 December

Join in Sydney's favourite free Christmas tradition, uniting families, locals and tourists with a display of digital storytelling projected onto St Mary's Cathedral.



Find out more:

<https://lightsofchristmas.com.au/>



Supporting our Parish You can support our Parish financially by accessing the BPoint Secure Payment Service on the Parish website or you can use the QR Code printed here. For contributions to the First Collection, please select *Pastoral Revenue* from the drop down menu. For Planned Giving contributions, please select *Planned Giving* from the drop down menu and include your name and your Planned Giving Number (if known). You can also contribute using the Tap and Go devices in the Gathering Space at the entrance to the church.

Safeguarding our Parish

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 Office at 93905810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Become a Catechist or Helper in 2022

Half of Catholic children in Sydney are in public primary and high schools. Share the hope and joy that Jesus brings with them and become a catechist or helper, ready to start in Term 1, 2022. Starting off as a helper, you'll receive easy step-by-step lessons and hand out activity books in primary schools.

Find out more about the work catechists do here, whether at primary or secondary level: <https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/>



"Being a catechist is the most spiritually fulfilling thing I've done"- Rose.

Please speak with Fr Danny / Fr Richard or contact the parish office if you are interested in volunteering.

Baptisms



We welcome

**Lexie Mae Macken
Arianna Caserta**

*who are being baptised into our parish
Community of All Hallows' this weekend.*

St Vincent de Paul

Christmas Cards & Columban Calendars

These are on sale until sold out.

Cards - \$6.00 per pack of 10 cards

Calendars. - \$8.00 (Only 15 left for sale)



Gift Cards

Due to Covid restrictions we will not be accepting presents this Christmas. Instead, we are asking for "GIFT CARDS" from Coles, Woolworths, K-Mart, Westfields etc. The value will be left up to your generosity. These cards can be placed in an envelope and left with our members who are selling the cards and calendars at each Mass.

Thank you for your support.

Children's Corner

What must we do?

S X P B S L M N S H A R E F C
H W T V H T O S E U B T C I W
U U Q Q D J N O Y N T S S R X
D D G H I Q E L V I P A M E H
M I V W Y G Y D F H L T N N G
X F W K O S C I W W O I H Z T
E F P S D K B E L M S S J O F
E E N H I M Z R N U I F A I Z
P R W A T E R S W P E I T H L
U E R P B O Q D V O X E U P B
B N E X Q M E Z H A M D U K X
C T H C E S A N D A L S V F W
Q G M Y M E S S I A H F O O D
A Y T E A C H E R E W F T E B
T J Y J H B A P T I S E M Z N

Try to find these words:

baptise
different
fire
food
Messiah
money
sandals
satisfied
share
soldiers
teacher
water

First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p><u>Zep 3:14-18</u> A reading from the prophet Zephaniah <i>With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.</i> Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.</p> 	<p>(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear. For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. (R.) 2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name! Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples! Declare the greatness of his name. (R.) 3. Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds, make them known to all the earth! People of Zion, sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (R.) 	<p><u>Phil 4:4-7</u> A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians <i>The Lord is near.</i> I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.</p> 
<p>Next Week's Readings</p> <p>4th Sunday of Advent 1st Reading: Micah 5:1-4 2nd Reading: Heb 10:5-10 Gospel: Lk 1:39-44</p>	<p>Gospel Acclamation</p> <p>Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!</p>	

Gospel

Lk 3:10-18
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
What, then, must we do?
When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'
A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.



Reflection by Greg Sunter

Is it any wonder that there was a growing sense among the people that John might be the Christ? His teaching in the first part of this week's gospel might just as easily have come from the mouth of Jesus. It demonstrates for us just how much John was preparing the way for Jesus: even his teaching was in line with what Jesus would later say. In this instance, the people gathered around John (presumably having been baptised by him) are asking how they should live out their new-found conversion of heart. John's response to the three groups is about the need for generosity and justice. It is about not taking more than your share when someone else does not have sufficient. To the crowd of people, he instructs them to give away a second tunic to someone who doesn't have one at all and to share their food with those who are hungry. To the tax collectors, he cautioned them to collect no more than what they were supposed to. Tax collectors made their profit by overcharging taxpayers. Together with the fact that they worked for the Roman occupiers, this made tax collectors one of the most despised groups in society. John's caution to them is to be just in their dealings. He also cautions the soldiers against intimidation and extorting money from the people to supplement their pay. The themes of justice and hospitality that will echo throughout the gospel of Luke are clearly evident in this episode with John. When the people start to talk about him being the Christ, John is quick to point them to the one who is still to come; the one who will share with them more fully the love of God and the fire of the Holy Spirit.



Sunday 12 December 2021
 Luke 3:10-18
 3rd Sunday of Advent

In the
GOSPEL TODAY

What must we do?

John told the people how to live as God asks. Find some words that describe how God wants us to live. Start with **L** and choose every other letter.



The people asked John the Baptist how to do what God wants. John the Baptist tells them to be fair. God wants us to share our things.



Share!

Here is a plate with ten biscuits. You would like some and your friend would like some.

How can you share them fairly? Draw biscuits on your plates.

Me

My friend



Pointing to Jesus

Everything John the Baptist does and says is pointing to Jesus. We can point to Jesus by the way we live. Draw yourself in this hand doing something kind or helpful today, or use the back of this sheet to draw.

"I can point to Jesus today when I..."

.....

A PRAYER TO SAY

Please help me, Jesus, to share. Help me to welcome you by treating everyone with kindness. Amen.

Become better

People ask John the Baptist what they should do in order to be better people. Translate John's words so that you can be a good person too!



a=★ e=○ i=✱ h=+ o=☆ r=☺ s=✿ t=✱ w=●

Answers: Share with others. Love, share, care, hope, pray.