



Catholic Parish of St. Canice

We acknowledge the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians on whose land this Church was built
28 December 2014

Parish Directory

St Canice Parish
28 Roslyn Street, Elizabeth Bay
NSW 2011

www.stcanice.org.au

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Parish Priest

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Director JRS

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Associate Director JRS

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Jesuit Mission (National Office)

www.jesuitmission.org.au

Jesuit Refugee Service - Australia

www.jrs.org.au

Mass Times

Sunday- 8:30am & 10:30am

Tuesday to Friday- 7:00am

Saturday- 9:00am Vigil- 6:00pm

Public Holidays- 9:00am

Reconciliation

Before Vigil & Sunday masses or on request

Anointing

Healing Mass

11:00am - First Friday of each month - otherwise by request

Holy Family Sunday

Cherishing Family Life

Our families have an essential place in our lives not only during the formative years of childhood but also in adulthood for continuing nurture. We look to family for physical, emotional and spiritual support. We have high expectations of marriage and family life.

However, it is also true that family life is under great strain today - families are harassed by concrete problems like debt, lack of childcare, the high cost of housing, unemployment or long hours of work, and the perpetual juggling act known as the work-life balance. These pressures are often confusing and contradictory, pulling in all directions, sometimes good and bad simultaneously. Then there's the reality of dealing with teenagers who live in the virtual world of computers and smart-phones!

Many women feel financially pressured to return to work soon after birth of a child, and are forced with managing a home as well as pursuing a career - it is still the woman who bears the brunt of homemaking. Some marriages (Catholic marriages are not immune) buckle under the strain.

Our role as Church is to ease the institution of the family into the future by acknowledging the present realities of family life, not pining for the return of a golden past; we must encourage strategies that mitigate pain and maximise healthy loving relationships which give life, recognising that the family is still the centre of most people's hopes of happiness.

Cherishing family life as a structure or fabric out of which we live, rather than simply one element within life, is integral to its success. Our Catholic understanding of the sacrament of marriage expresses this truth in a profound way: God lives in human love.

"God of all people, families come in many shapes and sizes. We ask you to bless all families in all their variations, and to strengthen each of their members to the committed to a fruitful family life marked by understanding, compassion and forgiveness." *Fr Chris*



Entrance Antiphon

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

Entrance Hymn:

No 286 (Gather) Angels We Have Heard on High

Opening Prayer

O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practising and virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards.

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

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great'. But Abram said, O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eleizer of Damascus?' And Abram said, You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir?' But the word of the Lord came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him.

Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11: 8, 11-12, 17-19

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, 'as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.' By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He who had received the promises was ready to offer up his only son, of whom he had been told, 'It is through Isaac that descendants shall be named after you.' He considered the fact that God is able even to raise someone from the dead—and figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Offertory Hymn: No 297 (Gather) Once in Royal David's City

Communion Antiphon: Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

Communion Hymn: No 288 (Gather) While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks at Night

Recessional Hymn: No 287 (Gather) O Come All Ye Faithful

Let us pray for:

Recently Deceased: Dorothy Antico, Sue Bloomfield, Josephine Moron, Michael Deloughery, Johann Schoditsch, Tom Claffey, Janet O'Connor, Terry Millington, Paul Lynch, Marjorie Douglas, Bill Pincuis, Fr Laurie Christie, Lawrie Kennedy, Bobby Gordon, Harry Burke, Tim McEniery, Edith Meth, Robert Barnes, Peter Ferguson, Richard Heekis, Simon Bleasel, Winston Lindsay.

Anniversaries: Ken East, Mario Juka, Thomas Eugene Hemera, Mary Fear, Fr. Donal Taylor *sj*, John McAuliffe, Brian Cassidy, Arthur Kavanagh, Fortunato Edmond Mallia, Vic Zaknich and Mara Separovich. Helen McCarthy, Irene Harding, Jadvyga Venclovas, Antanas Svedas, Bridget Ohlsson, Angela Viola.

Recently ill: Jane Bernstam, Jack Wilson, Richy Howard, Tim McCarthy, John Giblin, Dennis O'Brien, Jack Wilson, Rosa Maria, Cath Raper, Dorothy Harding, Elizabeth Lynch, Jill Rolfe, Zoe Dudley, Lee Tillam, Paul Taylor, Desmond Whelan, Geraldine Kavanagh-Ohlsson, Cythnia Daniel, Tony Musgrave, Wayne Laphorne, Richard Ellul, Eric Robinson, Siena Mainali, Brian Loughry, Alex Pemberton, Carlie Soussa, Davina Kohler, Colin Walke, Helen, Margaret Shoditsch, Elisa Pier De Siun Young, John Myers, Jeannette McSwini, Rosemary Nugent, Robert McCormack, Jean McInerney, Bernard McCauley.

Next Week's Readings: 04 January 2015

First Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-6
 Second Reading: Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6
 Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12

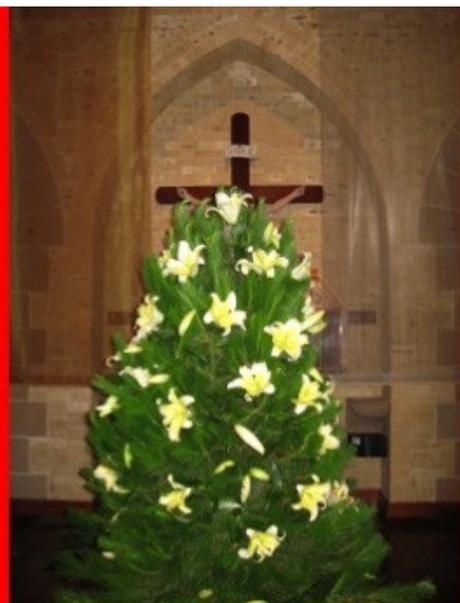
Roster for Eucharistic Celebrations

4-5 Jan 2014	Vigil 6pm	8.30am	10.30am
Greeters	W Fothergill	N Rowe	P Benson
Readers	B McSoriley	A Weeks	C Coggins
Ministers of the Eucharist	As available	As available	B Campbell B Clulow T Hunt M Musgrave

St Canice's - 2014



Parish Notices



A look at Christmas past at St Canice's

