

WELCOME TO THE CATHEDRAL PARISH OF SAINTS MARY & JOSEPH

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- Faithful to the Teaching of the Apostles
- Faithful to Prayer
- Faithful to the Breaking of the Bread
- Alive in the Community of the Spirit
- Sharing what we have with those in need
Acts 2:42-46

PARISH CLERGY:

Bishop of Armidale - *Bishop Michael Kennedy DD*
Administrator – *Fr Francis Afu*
Assistant Priest – *Fr Sabu Pulimalayil*

OFFICE HOURS: The Parish Office will be mostly unattended until Tuesday 29th January. Leave a message on the phone and your call will be returned and please use the letterbox outside the entry to the Parish Office for any Mass Offerings, yellow forms etc.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH (C/1)

Sunday 30th December 2018/Psalter Week 1



ROSTERS... Thank you to all who have been on Parish rosters during 2018. There are no rosters for January, so the Parish will be reliant on volunteers. A new roster will be prepared for February onwards in 2019.

Catholic Weekly on sale \$2 at the paper table.

LITURGY THIS WEEK

SATURDAY: 9.15AM; 6PM VIGIL MASS
SUNDAY: The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary & Joseph (C1)
8AM; 10AM; 5.30PM
MONDAY: 7AM; 12.30PM CATHEDRAL
TUESDAY: MARY, the Holy MOTHER OF GOD (NEW YEAR'S DAY)
7AM; 9.15AM CATHEDRAL
WEDNESDAY: Sts Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen
7:am CATHEDRAL (no 9:15 nor 12:30 Mass)
THURSDAY: 7AM; 9.15AM CATHEDRAL
FRIDAY: 9.15AM CATHEDRAL; 10.30AM BUPA;
5.40PM CATHEDRAL
SATURDAY: 9.15AM; 6PM VIGIL MASS
SUNDAY: The EPIPHANY of the LORD
8AM; 10AM; 5.30PM

SACRAMENT of PENANCE

FRIDAY: 5.00-5.30PM
SATURDAY: 11.30AM-12NOON; 5.00-5.30PM

Save the Date...



menALIVE Weekend for Men.

Real men don't do church? Wrong, but living out your faith can be tough, and most of us need help. If you are a bloke over 18, consider this: On the 9 & 10

February 2019, experienced leaders from menALIVE will be running a menALIVE weekend at St Alberts College Armidale for Catholic men. Come along and be inspired, encouraged, and rediscover God's purpose for your life. Details and registration forms are available in the church foyer.

Enquiries: armidalemenalive@gmail.com or Parish office on 6772 2218.

Fr. Tom Shanahan Funeral is on the 2nd of January 2019 at 11am in Saint Nicholas Parish Tamworth. He worked in the Cathedral Parish many years ago. Many of us would still remember him. Let's pray for him and his family.

A Message from Pope Francis to Families

I am grateful for your presence here this evening and for the witness of your love for Jesus and his Church. I thank Bishop Reyes, Chairman of the Bishops' Commission on Family and Life, for his words of welcome on your behalf. And, in a special way, I thank those who have presented testimonies and have shared their life of faith with us.

The Scriptures seldom speak of Saint Joseph, but when they do, we often find him resting, as an angel reveals God's will to him in his dreams. In the Gospel passage we have just heard, we find Joseph resting not once, but twice. This evening I would like to rest in the Lord with all of you, and to reflect with you on the gift of the family.

It is important to dream in the family. All mothers and fathers dream of their sons and daughters in the womb for 9 months. They dream of how they will be. It isn't possible to have a family without such dreams. When you lose this capacity to dream you lose the capacity to love, the capacity to love is lost. I recommend that at night when you examine your consciences,

ask yourself if you dreamed of the future of your sons and daughters. Did you dream of your husband or wife? Did you dream today of your parents, your grandparents who carried forward the family to me? It is so important to dream and specially to dream in the family. Please don't lose the ability to dream in this way. How many solutions are found to family problems if we take time to reflect, if we think of a husband or wife, and we dream about the good qualities they have. Don't ever lose the memory of when you were boyfriend or girlfriend. That is very important.

Joseph's rest revealed God's will to him. In this moment of rest in the Lord, as we pause from our many daily obligations and activities, God is also speaking to us. He speaks to us in the reading we have just heard, in our prayer and witness, and in the quiet of our hearts. Let us reflect on what the Lord is saying to us, especially in this evening's Gospel. There are three aspects of this passage which I would ask you to consider: resting in the Lord, rising with Jesus and Mary, and being a prophetic voice.

Resting in the Lord. Rest is so necessary for the health of our minds and bodies, and often so difficult to achieve due to the many demands placed on us. But rest is also essential for our spiritual health, so that we can hear God's voice and understand what he asks of us. Joseph was chosen by God to be the foster father of Jesus and the husband of Mary. As Christians, you too are called, like Joseph, to make a home for Jesus. You make a home for him in your hearts, your families, your parishes and your communities.

To hear and accept God's call, to make a home for Jesus, you must be able to rest in the Lord. You must make time each day for prayer. But you may say to me: Holy Father, I want to pray, but there is so much work to do! I must care for my children; I have chores in the home; I am too tired even to sleep well. This may be true, but if we do not pray, we will not know the most important thing of all: God's will for us. And for all our activity, our busy-ness, without prayer we will accomplish very little.

Resting in prayer is especially important for families. It is in the family that we first learn how to pray. And don't forget when the family prays together, it remains together. This is important. There we come to know God, to grow into men and women of faith, to see ourselves as members of God's greater family, the Church. In the family we learn how to love, to forgive, to be generous and open, not closed and selfish. We learn to move beyond our own needs, to encounter others and share our lives with them. That is why it is so important to pray as a family! That is why families are so important in God's plan for the Church!

I would like to tell you something very personal. I like St Joseph very much. He is a strong man of silence. On my desk I have a statue of St Joseph sleeping. While sleeping he looks after the Church. Yes, he can do it! We know that. When I have a problem or a difficulty, I write on a piece of paper and I put it under his statue, so he can dream about it. This means please pray to St Joseph for this problem.

Next, rising with Jesus and Mary. Those precious moments of repose, of resting with the Lord in prayer, are moments we might wish to prolong. But like Saint Joseph, once we have heard God's voice, we must rise from our slumber; we must get up and act (cf. Rom 13:11). Faith does not remove us from the world but draws us more deeply into it. Each of us, in fact, has a special role in preparing for the coming of God's kingdom in our world.

Just as the gift of the Holy Family was entrusted to Saint Joseph, so the gift of the family and its place in God's plan is entrusted to us so we can carry it forward. To each one of you and us because I too am the son of a family.

The angel of the Lord revealed to Joseph the dangers which threatened Jesus and Mary, forcing them to flee to Egypt and then to settle in Nazareth. So too, in our time, God calls upon us to recognize the dangers threatening our own families and to protect them from harm. We must be attentive to the new ideological colonization.

Beware of the new ideological colonization that tries to destroy the family. It's not born of the dream that we have from God and prayer – it comes from outside and that's why I call it a colonization. Let us not lose the freedom to take forward the mission God has given us, the mission of the family. And just as our peoples were able to say in the past "No" to the period of colonization, as families we have to be very wise and strong to say "No" to any attempted ideological colonization that could destroy the family. And to ask the intercession of St Joseph to know when to say "Yes" and when to say "No"
<https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2015/01/17/1413935/full-text-pope-francis-message-families-moa-arena>

APPEAL FOR CATECHISTS FOR 2019

More than ever before... young people are hungry to know God's love? Join our team of Catechists and discover how rewarding sharing our Faith with children can be. Contact Kerry Steller on 67722218 for further information.

TAP & GO DEVICES WILL SOON BE AVAILABLE IN THE CATHEDRAL AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO CASH AND DIRECT DEBIT MEANS OF CONTRIBUTING TO THE RUNNING AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CATHEDRAL PARISH. We are still expecting the arrival of these devices. Details will be communicated to you as they arrive.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Fr. Tom Shanahan, Greg Carson, Keith Antney, John Russell, John Gollodge (Wollongong), Bradley Bowen, Chris Toohey, Akhtar Ostowari, Kathleen Heron
ANNIVERSARIES: Ida Schofield, Tony Faint
SICK: Robert Markeljic, Don Armatage, Mary Harb, Rob Baker, Rosemary Britt, Ben Singh, Tommy Hawthorne, Brian Battersby, Tanya Neilson, Molly Burke, Melissa Gamblen, Fergus Watson, Hannah Whitton, Tom Britt, Danny Jones, Ghodsi Amini, Susan Maye, Michael Zhu, Aeron Ryan, John Fleming, Blake Ross, Gemma Milliken, Joseph O'Brien, Deacon Peter Harrison, Frederic Koelmeyer, Maureen Veitch, Maria Selvey, Eleanor Pankhurst, Kay Goodwin, Anne Simpson, Silvia & Ralph Bowles.

My sincere thanks to all who helped in one way or another during the Christmas celebrations. It was indeed a day of great joy. Thank you all and God blessings on you and your family in the coming year.

SUPPORT YOUR PRIESTS AND YOUR PARISH:

FIRST COLLECTION (supports the clergy):
BSB: 082-105 Acc. No: 001023527
SECOND COLLECTION (supports the Cathedral and parish):
BSB: 082-105 Acc. No: 001006225
Reference with your Planned Giving Number and your name