

# The Season of Emmanuel



## A Hymn by St Ephrem 4<sup>th</sup>C AD

At the birth of the Son a great clamour  
took place in Bethlehem,  
for watchers descended  
to give praise there, a great thunder  
were their voices (*Lk 2:13*).  
With this voice of praise  
the silent ones (the animals)  
came to give praise to the Son.

**Refrain:** *blessed is the Babe by whom Adam  
and Eve grew young again..*

Shepherds, too, came carrying  
The good things of the flock;  
sweet milk, Fresh meat, fitting praise.  
They divided (the gifts)  
and gave to Joseph the meat,  
To Mary the milk, to the Son praise.



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Joseph caressed the Son As a babe.  
He served Him As God.  
He rejoiced in Him As in a blessing,  
and he was attentive to Him  
As to the Just One - a great paradox!

**Refrain:** *Praise to You fair Child of the Virgin  
"Who has given me the Son of the most High*

to be a son to me?  
I was jealous of your mother  
and wanted to divorce her.  
I did not know that in her womb  
was a great treasure  
that would suddenly enrich my poverty."



**Every Blessing  
in Christ Our Lord -  
this Christmas time...  
abundant grace  
in the new year to come**

**in prayer & thanksgiving**

**Fr Richard G  
& Fr Kingsley**

**...of St Patrick's  
Glen Innes....nsw**



Dear Glen Parishioners

Every best wish for the coming Season of the Nativity of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Please remember too in our prayers those for whom Christmas this year *is hard going*: loss of a loved one recently, just sheer loneliness, strangers in a foreign land etc....

Many thanks for a lot of things over the past six months or so. I would especially like to thank Fr Kingsley Etoh for his assistance to me personally, and also for his ministry in the parish. Kingsley has been wonderful company and has truly enjoyed his time in Glen, and has grown very fond of the people he has worked with and minister to.

Special thanks to John Adams, Maria Mowle, Kerry Muir, Rachele Lee, Ricky Withers, Maureen Campbell, and Carolyn Hamilton....who have been a truly great support these past few months. There are so many others - Jacqui McConnell and Eric Morgan, the Counters on Monday Sandra and Patricia, the Flower people led by Marianne Coleman....Moir Munro and the catering band and so on.... Stephen Hogan, Ricky Withers, and Shanny Core our parish organists deserve special mention however...

Glen is a good parish. Loads of top people, real potential to grow and build into a solid healthy Catholic faith community of worship, service, and care. Our little family Masses and evening barbecues a clear sign of what can happen when we love our parish, and our Mass, and enjoy time together as St Patrick's in Glen Innes. According to Government stats St Patrick's is made up of: 1,640 Catholics. 653 Catholic families, 23.1% of the Glen population – that was in 2011. We don't have the latest figures yet. But clearly the Lord means us to be a presence in Glen Innes...building for the Kingdom.

I would like to acknowledge the interim Pastoral Council and for their hard work on the Diamond Jubilee. A new Pastoral Council will be needed to be put in place for 2018 and the following years. Over the next few months we will have a fair bit of discernment to undertake concerning our parish and its ongoing story... all in good time I guess....

St Joseph's have done their utmost to work in with the parish and especially the Diamond Jubilee of Dr Carey. They have been so welcoming to the priests, and the Stage 3 students were very enthusiastic when I asked them to do the crib for Christmas 2018. It would be wonderful in 2018 if we could offer some Seminars in the *Faith and Life of Catholics* for our students at the local High School – particularly those recently sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit in Confirmation by our Bishop Michael Kennedy. It's good to have dreams at Christmas.

May the Lord's richest blessing and grace be yours this Christmastide and the coming New Year.

*Fr. Richard Gleason*

# CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2017

## St Patrick's Church Glen Innes nsw

24th December CHRISTMAS EVE      FAMILY MASS      7.00pm

MASS DURING THE NIGHT      MIDNIGHT      12.00am

CHRISTMAS DAY      Christmas Morning      8.30am

EMMAVILLE      Christmas Morning      10.30am

