

Fr Alo writes...

Appreciation

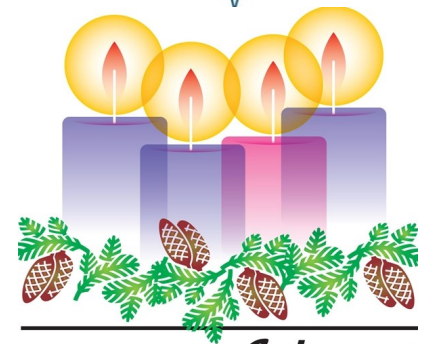
Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent which is the last Sunday before Christmas. While looking forward to the celebration of Christmas, I recall the gospel reading on last Thursday which was about "Genealogy of Jesus" (Matt 1:1-17). Apart from struggle to read the names of the people in that Gospel who are considered to be the ancestors of Jesus, I was spiritually amazed and gladdened by the fact that God wants to become like one of us. God wants to be part of the human history. Even I believe that he wants to be part of every person's history. In terms of daily basis of life he also wants to be part of "my story", "your story", "our story", "their story", "her story" and "his story". For this reason we need to give God great "appreciation". Expression of appreciation would be different from one person to another.

In our first reading today, in appreciation of God's love, David wished to build a house for God, even though God would not allow him. In our second reading, Paul gives glory to God as an appreciation of the strength God gave him to preach the good news. Paul's message today sets us on the track towards the incarnation of God's word which is very close at hand.

The Gospel of today presents us with the humility of Mary who accept the invitation of God to be the mother of our Lord. *"I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done unto me according to your words."* (Luke 1:38). *And her song of joy called "Magnificat" would show her great appreciation to what God has done for her: "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my saviour, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. Henceforth all ages will call me blessed"* (Luke 1:46-55).

Celebration of Christmas is an opportunity to show appreciation to God for being loved and cared for. There are some other reasons to show our appreciation to other people around us. Appreciation for what they have given or done for us. And we remember that some people may not do or give anything for us. To these people we still have to show some kind of appreciation for being "who they are" to us.

Have a blessed Sunday.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF *Advent*

SATURDAY 19 DEC

6:00pm Mass

SUNDAY 20 DEC

9:30am Mass + Morning Tea

3:30pm Indonesian Community Mass

6:00pm Mass

MONDAY 21 DEC

9:00am Mass

6:00pm Adoration

WEDNESDAY 23 DEC

9:00am Mass

6:00pm Advent Reconciliation

THURSDAY 24 DEC

6:30pm Christmas Eve Family Mass

9:00pm CIC Christmas Mass

NO LATE NIGHT MASS

FRIDAY 25 DEC

9:30am Christmas Day Family Mass

NO EVENING MASS

SATURDAY 26 DEC

6:00pm Mass

SUNDAY 27 DEC

9:30am Mass + Morning Tea

3:30pm Indonesian Community Mass

6:00pm Mass



PARISH DIRECTORY

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PARISH PRIEST

Fr Aloysius Lamere msc

PARISH SECRETARY

Maria Caetano

(9:30am - 2:00pm Mon to Fri)

MASS TIMES

Sat 6pm (Vigil),

Sun 9:30am (Family), 6pm

Mon, Wed, Fri - 9am, Thurs 6pm

Indonesian Mass Sun 3:30pm

RECONCILIATION

Mon 9:30am or by appointment

ROSARY

First Saturday at 3.00pm Rosary Room

INDONESIAN COMMUNITY

Fr Petrus Suroto msc - 0450 625 757

BAPTISMS

First Sunday - 11am, bookings required

WEDDINGS

By Appointment

SACRAMENTS

Contact parish office

OLR PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Marie Nilon - 9663 3346

OLSH COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

Jenny Fowler - 9662 4088

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Roy Rigotti - 9313 8334

John Hill - 9663 3222

Sr Pauline Richards - 0419 482 408

Nani Widarto - 0411 850 350

RESPONSES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14-16

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING

Romans 16: 25-27

ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord; may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 1: 26-38

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

OREMUS

Let us Pray

SICK

Grace Veronica, Salvatore Messina, Sr Margaret McKay rscj, Sr Mary D'Apice rscj, Amina Chahrouk, Elisabetta Nesci, Umberto Vaccarella, Xavier Stratton, Maria Zic, Rose Alessio, Joanna & family, David Lai, John Roberts, Gavin Robertson, Chris (Cindy's husband), Manuel Mouco, Eva (Nicole's mum), Paul Galea, A.L., Plutarco Cadornigara, Olga Nasser, Margaret Stocker, Lynne Chaundhuri

PARISHIONERS IN RESIDENTIAL CARE/HOMEBOUND

Malcolm MacDonald, Nella Custorella, Rose Kelter, Jill Rees, Mario De Roit, John Borg, Gwen Smith, Laura Leonard, Sebastiano Gentile, Maria Pockaj, Frances McLaughlin, Lucienne Radzysinski, Nicole Chiaradia

BELOVED DECEASED

Peter Dalle Nogare, John Nasser, Clare Georgey

ANNIVERSARIES

Monica Mary McCaughan, Ana Neil, Charles Munevar, Alexander Balatbat, Maximo Balatbat, Jack Moon, James Maher msc, Mollie Brereton, Fr Peter McGrath ofm, Pam Boreham, Simone Armstrong, Pierre Langy, Keira Donnelly, Maureen & John Lawlor

PARISH ROSTER

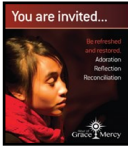
19/20 Dec	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 9:30am	Sun 6:00pm
Acolytes	John Ryan	Roel Castillo	Danny Tjahjadi
Readers	John Dorahy Sr Diana Hayes	Lily Murcutt Ana Corpuz	Marieann Duncan Marissa Meyn
Comm to sick	Thomas Chia	Cathy Castillo	
26/27 Dec	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 9:30pm	Sun 6:00pm
Acolytes	Brian Koh	Gus Alimhamzah	John Allen
Readers	Shilla Azalea Sr Pauline Richards	Roy Rigotti Ross Martin	Isabel Reyes Patricia Reyes
Comm to sick	Trish Veness		

COLLECTIONS - 12/13 DECEMBER

1st Collection \$495
2nd Collection \$195
Env Collection \$940

OTHER

Caritas \$50
Mary MacKillop \$20



HOLY HOUR

Join us for the last Adoration this year,
Monday 21 Dec 6pm-7pm (*call in for a
few minutes or stay the whole hour*)

Adoration will resume at 6pm on Monday 1 Feb



2020 CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Advent Reconciliation, Wednesday Dec 23

6:00pm

Christmas Eve, Thursday Dec 24

6:30pm - Family Mass

9:00pm Indonesian Community Mass

Christmas Day, Friday Dec 25

9:30am - Christmas Day Family Mass

No evening Mass

Holy Family, Sunday Dec 27

9:30am: Mass + Morning Tea

Sat 6pm, 3:30pm (Indonesian), Sun 6pm

Mary, Mother of God, Friday Jan 1

9am Mass

Epiphany, Sunday Jan 3

9:30am: Mass + Morning Tea

Sat 6pm, Sun 3:30pm (Indonesian), 6pm

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday 24 Jan

9:30am: Fr Alo's Final Mass

Sunday 31 Jan

9:30am: Fr Terry's Installation Mass

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS GIVING

Due to Covid we did not have a Winter Appeal this year, nor can we have a Christmas Giving Tree. This Christmas we are asking for GIFT CARDS: \$20 OR \$50 FOR ALDI, WOOLWORTHS, BIG W, TARGET, COLES, MYER, WESTFIELD. OR Money/ Credit Card donations can be placed in the Vinnies Christmas Appeal envelopes. A box will be at the side door of the church where donations can be placed. Please give generously to those in our community who are struggling at this time. God bless you for your kindness.

CHRISTMAS MASS BOOKING

With further relaxation of restrictions, OLR Parish can allow up to 250 people to attend the Christmas Masses. Booking for Mass is essential to avoid disappointment and can be made via: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=695681&> or by calling the Parish Office on 9663 1070. Please note that you must arrive 10 minutes prior to scheduled Mass start time to secure your reservation. After this time, Parish volunteers will begin backfilling the unclaimed places.

As per the NSW Government guidelines, please continue to wear masks to Mass.

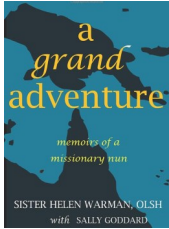


Archbishop's Vision

On 12 December, 2020, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, also known as the Star of the New

Evangelisation, Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP launched the new Mission Plan for the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, entitled *Go Make Disciples*. The fruit of some five years of conversation, research and discernment, this vision for the parishes, chaplaincies and other Eucharistic communities of Sydney will set our direction and priorities for some years to come. Archbishop Fisher shares, "As the Church in Sydney, we seek to live out the mission of Jesus Christ in a time of unprecedented change. Sydney's population continues to grow while the way people live, work and worship has changed... we rightly cling to those things that are perennial: one faith, one Lord, one Baptism (Ephesians 4:5). But we need new passion, expressions and methods of evangelisation and community-building in Sydney. Every pastor, every member of the faithful and all our parish communities are called to deep spiritual renewal as disciples, to being better connected with each other, and to reaching out better to others".

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP



A GRAND ADVENTURE

A memoir written by Sister Helen Warman, a Daughter of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. Sister Helen spent sixty years as an educator in Catholic Missions in Papua New Guinea, primarily in Milne Bay Province (including the Trobriand Islands and Alotau) and in Port Moresby.

Sister Helen's book is available for purchase from the Parish Office for \$20. (Profits from sales will go to the "Back Door" Outreach Projects run by the OLSH Convent in Boroko, Papua New Guinea).

SUMMER NIGHTS 2021


The Summer Schools of Evangelisation that have been running around Australia for over 30 years have responded to the challenge of Covid, and are combining to run a program for young people at the Mt Carmel Retreat Centre in Varroville in January 2021. There are two options (the retreat is run twice during the week): Monday 11 - Wednesday 13 January (3pm to 9pm) & Thursday 14 - Saturday 16 January (3pm to 9pm). COVID safe dinner is provided each day. For age 16-35 year olds. The retreat will feature excellent quality talks and teaching, night sessions with praise and worship, drama, preaching, testimonies, and prayer. Mass, adoration and reconciliation are available each day. It will be held on the grounds of Mt Carmel Retreat centre. A stage will be brought in to hold all the sessions. Run by the Disciples of Jesus Community. For more information and to register: www.summerschool.org.au.

LIVING LIFE TO THE FULL AT HOME

CatholicCare's Home Care Services for seniors can support you or a loved one to live at home independently with comfort and confidence and to remain connected to your parish community.


To learn more call our Home Care Team 13 18 19
connect@catholiccare.org





OF LIFE AND LOVE

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE 2021




OF LIFE AND LOVE gives particular emphasis to the spiritual and sacramental dimensions of marriage, while also paying due attention to the practical elements of relationship building.

Presentations cover the beauty of Christian marriage, openness to life, a critical understanding of 'love', and communication fundamentals.

This marriage preparation course consists of four sessions and will take place on two separate occasions during 2021.

DATES	PLACE
1. Saturday 27 February 10am - 1.30pm and Thursday evenings 4, 11, 18 March 7pm - 10pm	The Assisi Centre, 3 Keating Street Lidcombe NSW
2. Saturday 14 August 10am - 1.30pm and Thursday evenings 19, 26 August and 2 September 7.00pm - 10.00pm	Life, Marriage and Family Office 0415 600 290 or steven.buhagiar@sydneycatholic.org

MORE INFO



CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR ACTION – JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE AUSTRALIA

The Jesuit Refugee Service Australia would like to invite you and your community to take part in [Christmas Cards for Action](#). They are asking communities to wish their MPs a happy holiday by sending a Christmas Card for Action. They have prepared Christmas cards to send to your MP by email or mail to remind them that women, children, and men seeking asylum have been left behind during the COVID-19 pandemic. There are four cards to choose from - including one you can send to friends and family! Hediye and Rabia, both young women seeking Australia's protection, are the talented artists behind the original and intricate art work on these cards. If you would like to make a donation for these cards, it is a wonderful way to support people seeking asylum. All funds will go directly to support the people JRS serves, through specialist casework and employment support, emergency relief payment, life-saving medication and housing support. Hediye and Rabia will receive a percentage of the donations for the cards. **Join us in sharing season's greetings with a social justice twist!** For more information and how to get the cards visit: <https://aus.jrs.net/en/take-action/christmas-cards-of-action/>.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

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 and Ministerial Integrity Office at safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org or 9390 5810. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.