

Parish Bulletin

Churches of Annunciation & St Mark's 20 Montacute Road, Hectorville SA 5073 St Mark's Church: Cnr Reid Ave and Harrison Streets, Magill SA 5072

Annunciation Church

Love in all things

Fr Jeevan Gabriel SMM Parish Priest Fr Pat Lopresti Assistant Priest Ms Liz Thomas School Principal Phone: 8115 7700 Ms Shanti Suppiah Parish Secretary Office Manager Mrs Angela Perilli Planned Giving Coordinator Mr Mark Jaksa Parish Pastoral Chair Mr Angelo Piantadosi Parish Finance Chair Mr Rob Holling Planned Giving Chair Mrs Julieta Navarro Work, Health & Safety Officer

Mass & Confession Times

Annunciation Church Sunday 8.00 am 9.30 am (Italian) 11.00 (Family Mass) 5.30 pm Monday to Friday 7.00 am Friday 9.15 am Saturday – Novena 8.30 am Mass 9.00 am

Public Holidays 7.00 am *Confessions* Saturday 9.30 – 10.30 am

St Mark's Church Saturday (Vigil) 6.00 pm Sunday 9.30 am

Confessions Saturday evening : Immediately following Mass. Office Hours 9 am – 4.30 pm Monday to Friday Ph: 8336 9988 Fax: 8336 4040 email: admin@hectorpar.com.au Website: www.hectorvilleparish.com.au

Love in all things

CHRISTMAS VIGIL & MIDNIGHT MASS

24 December 2021

"Moved by God's love, we the people of Hectorville Catholic Community work for fullness of life and joy for all by living out together our love for God, each other and all God's creation."

READINGS FOR MASS DURING THE NIGHT:

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

The Lord said to me: You are my Son. It is I who have begotten you this day.

1st **READING:**

Isaiah 9:1 - 7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

SECOND READING:

Titus 2:11 - 14

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

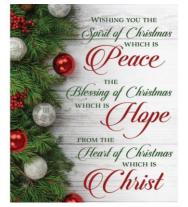
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 2:1 - 14

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.

MAY YOU ALL HAVE A BLESSED AND HOLY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATED WITH YOUR LOVED ONES



Pope Francis: 'Light of Christmas Shines All the Brighter Amid Darkness of Pandemic'

Pope Francis met with a Christmas concert in which young people competed with original Christmas music, and told participants that Christmas is not "out of tune" with the trial we are still facing with the pandemic. This concert "gives a voice to young people by inviting them to create new songs inspired by Christmas and its values.

Christmas and Covid

The Pope expressed his happiness at meeting them all "at the threshold of Advent, the period that every year introduces us to Christmas and its Mystery." He noted that this year, too, the lights of Christmas seem dimmed by the consequences of the pandemic, which, the Pope added, "still weighs heavily on our time." All the more reason why we are called to question ourselves and not to lose hope, said the Pope, describing the feast of the Birth of Christ as not being "out of tune" with the trial that we are going through, "because it is par excellence the feast of compassion, of tenderness. Its beauty is humble and full of human warmth."

The Spirit of Christmas

Pope Francis went on to stress that the beauty of Christmas shines through in the sharing of small gestures of concrete love. "It is not alienating; it is not superficial or escapist. On the contrary, it broadens the heart, opens it to gratuitousness, to the gift of self, and can also generate cultural, social and educational dynamics." But, continued the Pope, "in order to achieve these objectives, courage is needed: 'The courage to put the person at the centre' and to 'place oneself at the service of the community'," he said. It takes both courage and creativity, added the Pope. "For example," he said, "you have composed new Christmas songs and shared them for a larger project, a project that believes in beauty as a way of human growth, to dream together of a better world."

Beauty to Avoid Despair

Brining his message to a close, Pope Francis repeated the words of Pope St Paul VI: "This world in which we live needs beauty so as not to fall into despair'. What beauty? asked the Pope. "Not a false one, made up of appearances and earthly wealth, which is empty and generates emptiness. No, rather, the beauty of a God who became flesh, the beauty of faces, of stories; the beauty of the creatures who make up our common home and who - as St Francis teaches us - share in the praise of the Most High."

Dear Parishioners, Young adults and children, the whole world rejoiced at the birth of Jesus. Christ was born to bring hope to all. Through his birth he brought peace and joy. He brought consolation and strength to the weary and suffering. Since the time of pandemic, the world and humanity are in suffering and pain. All of us had challenges, tough times, loss of loved ones, unemployment, financial crisis and many others. Amidst all these Christ will be born again and I'm sure and strongly believe, He will fill us with hope, peace and joy in the days to come. At the very outset, I would like to thank all parishioners in particular (Planned Givers) for your ongoing and incredible support to the Parish in many ways. I truly appreciate and acknowledge you all. Secondly, I thank the leadership team and the staff for their wonderful support. Thirdly, I thank all the Volunteers, Covid Marshalls, Cleaners and all the others for your marvellous support and hard work towards the parish. Your presence and involvement in every aspect of the Parish Life are truly amazing. May you continue to spread the message of Christ to all people. Together with Fr. Pat and the Staff, I take this opportunity to greet you all a beautiful season of Christmas and a Prosperous New Year-2022.

Fr Jeevan Gabriel SMM Parish Priest

