



Hectorville
Catholic
Community

Annunciation Church

Love in all things

Parish Bulletin

Annunciation Church

20 Montacute Road, Hectorville SA 5073

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

31st December 2023

“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.”

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

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

FIRST READING: **Genesis 15:1-6,21:1-3**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

SECOND READING: **Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;
now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: **Luke 2:22-40**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

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



REFLECTION: Mary and Joseph’s presentation of Jesus at the Temple demonstrates their adherence to Jewish law and tradition. This act exemplifies the importance of religious customs and rites in nurturing family faith and identity. The recognition of Jesus as the Messiah by Simeon and Anna symbolizes the discernment of God’s presence in our lives. Their prophetic insights highlight the role of wisdom and spiritual maturity in recognizing God’s work in the world. Simeon’s prophecy about Jesus being a sign that will be contradicted, and Mary’s heart being pierced by a sword, foreshadows the suffering and opposition that Jesus and His followers will encounter. This theme speaks to the reality of suffering in the Christian journey and the cost of redemption. Joy and Praise in Encounter with Christ: Anna’s response of praise and speaking about the child to all highlights the joy and evangelistic zeal that comes from encountering Christ. This theme encourages sharing the good news with others, driven by joyous experience. Obedience, faith, patience, and humility. It offers a model for Christian families in living a life centred on God and His purposes. The final verse, mentioning Jesus growing and becoming strong, filled with wisdom, and the grace of God being upon Him, emphasizes the importance of growth in virtue and grace. It is a reminder that spiritual and moral development is a lifelong process nurtured within the family.

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Mr Angelo Piantadosi
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Mr Rob Holling
Planned Giving Chair
Sagaya Arokiasamy
Work, Health & Safety Officer
Deirdre Richardson
Sacramental Coordinator

Mass & Confession Times

Sunday:

Mass 8.00 am
Italian Mass 9.30 am
Family Mass 11.00am

Tues - Friday 7.00 am

Saturday:

Novena 8.30 am
Mass 9.00 am
Vigil 6.00 pm

Public Holiday 7.00am
(Not on Mondays)

Confessions

Saturday 9.30 – 10.30 am

Office Hours 9am – 3pm

Monday to Friday

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Love in all things

New Year's Message



This final Sunday of the year, our Gospel recalls the moment our Lord is presented in the temple. And it makes for a great help to understand the year that's been and what's to come. So, we hear about Simeon, an old man prompted by God to appear in the Temple. And Simeon is devout, he keeps the commandments, but what really marks him out is that he "looks forward to Israel's consolation." He's attuned to God's presence. His eyes and ears are ready to see and hear the work of God. As Mary enters the temple then, he leaps for joy because he knows that all the prophecies have now been filled, that finally God has come among his people. And as we end the year, we're called to do the same, to see how God has been working and fulfilling his promises in our life. So, let's take a few moments to recall the year. When have we felt the presence of God in a new way? When have we been moved to weep for our sin? When have we understood that where sin abounds grace abounds of the more? Really, I want you to do this. It's important to have eyes and ears attuned to the work of God in our life. And then give thanks for the year that's been. But Christianity is not a feel-good self-help religion. We're realistic and we preach Christ crucified, so if we want to follow Christ more closely this new year, we better be ready for a rough road ahead. Having praised God with the child in his arms, Simeon turns to Mary and says, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against." It's a prophecy that Christ will be rejected, crucified, and will die. But we're not just talking about the past here. Christ remains a contradiction, and if we want to follow him, we better be ready to be a sign spoken against. You know, God forbid we express a different view to the anti-family, anti-church propaganda machine. It's very clear that God is constantly regarded as a threat to human freedom. That God and his truth stand in opposition to man and his lies. Still, we learn from Mary how to carry this news into the new year. Simeon says that a sword will pierce Mary's heart too, and so from her we learn what true compassion looks like. We don't walk the roads of life alone and unconcerned about others. We're called to be compassionate, to take on quite unsentimentally the suffering of others as our own. A lack of feeling, an insensitivity to the suffering of others, is a mark of the pagans, but we Christians must be different. Our faith holds up the God who suffers with men, and his mother whose heart is pierced. And so, as we begin a new year, let's be hopeful for what's to come, let's be ready to see the work of God in our lives and let's be prepared to take up our cross once more and follow the Lord.

New Year's Resolution

Join us in a great New Year's resolution that will change your life – let's read the entire Bible in a year!

Hectorville Parish is inviting our parishioners and friends to join us in reading the entire Bible together using Fr. Mike Schmitz's popular Catholic podcast, "The Bible in a Year," beginning January 1st. With this podcast, we won't just read the Bible in 365 days... this podcast helps Catholics understand how all the pieces of the Bible fit together to tell an amazing story that continues in our lives today!

You can find this podcast on any podcast app, on YouTube, or just by following this link!
www.ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration-parish