



# St Christopher's & St Patrick's Catholic Parishes


**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B**
**10TH DECEMBER 2023**
**St Christopher's Catholic Church**
**233 Tower Street Panania NSW 2213**
[www.stchristopherpanania.org.au](http://www.stchristopherpanania.org.au)
**Mass Times**
**Saturday Vigil:** 5:30pm

**Sunday:** 8am, 9:30am & 5pm

**Tuesday:** 7pm,

**Wednesday-Friday:** 9:15am

**Saturday:** 9am

**Exposition & Benediction**
**Tues:** 6-7pm, **Thur:** 5-7pm **Sat:** after 9am Mass

**Holy Hour**
**Friday:** 6.15am-7.15 (except school holidays)

**Reconciliation**
**Saturday:** 9.30am & 4.45 pm

**Baptisms**

 11am: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays

**Weddings** (by appointment)


## Gospel Reflection

### Two Gospels

John immersed, baptised, his followers in water, symbolising the washing away of the sins of the *past*. But he could not empower people by drenching them in the dynamic life of God. John anticipates 'Someone' (not named!) who *does* have the power to inundate, baptise, people with the Holy Spirit.

From the heading of St Mark's Gospel, we know that that 'Someone' is 'Jesus Christ, Son of God' who came to flood our lives with that Divine Power which can effect a completely new *future* for humanity.

That is why St Mark took the term 'gospel' (good news) which was used on inscriptions announcing an Emperor's birth or victory, and used it to describe his inspired rendering of the mission of Jesus Christ, which was to inaugurate the 'Kingdom of God', overcoming the pretensions of all Emperors of any kind throughout history.

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the Good News of our being baptised with *water* in the 'Name of the Father and of the Son and of the *Holy Spirit*.'

Fr Michael Tate

**St. Patrick's Catholic Church**
**294 The River Road Revesby Heights NSW 2212**
[www.stpatrickrevesbyheights.org.au](http://www.stpatrickrevesbyheights.org.au)
**Mass Times**
**Saturday Vigil:** 5:30pm

**Sunday:** 9am

**Tuesday- Friday:** 8am,

**Exposition & Benediction**

 7:30 am - 8am, 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month

**Reconciliation**
**Saturday:** 4.45 pm-5:15 pm

**Baptisms**

 10:30am, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month

**Weddings** (by appointment)

**Parish Priest**

Fr Salas Muttathukattil MSFS

**Assistant Priest**

Fr Vijay Kumar Boilla MSFS

CONTACT US 02 9774-3662

 Parish Office [stcpanania@hotmail.com](mailto:stcpanania@hotmail.com)

St Christopher's Catholic Church Panania

St Patrick's Catholic Church Revesby Heights

**St Christopher's Primary School**

02 9771-5492

**De La Salle College**

(02) 9773 7755

**Mount St Joseph College**

(02) 8724 6200



## Entrance Antiphon

*Cf Isaiah 30:19,30*

***O people of Sion, behold,  
the Lord will come to save the nations,  
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice  
heard  
in the joy of your heart.***



## Advent Wreath Liturgy Prayer

***The Second Candle, called the Bethlehem Candle, which is to remind us of the birth of the Messiah, is now lit.***

**Priest:** Lord Jesus, you are the Saviour of Israel, Emmanuel the God who is with us.

**All:** **Come and lead us to share your gift of peace.**

**Priest:** Lord Jesus, you are the one who fulfilled the promise of Micah, that out of Bethlehem, Judah, the least of the clans of Israel, would be from the one who is to rule over Israel.

**All:** **Come and lead us to share your gift of peace.**

**Priest:** Lord Jesus, you are the one who leads the faithful remnant of Israel to the fulfilment of the promise.

**All:** **Come and lead us to share your gift of peace.**

**Priest:** Let us pray that nothing may hinder us from receiving Christ with joy.

**All:** God of power and mercy, open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ. May the lure of greed not impede us from the joy which moves the hearts of those who seek him.

May the darkness not blind us to the vision of wisdom which fills the mind of those who find Jesus Christ your son, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit as our God for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## First Reading

*Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11*

*A reading from the Prophet Isaiah*

Console my people, console them' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.' A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God.**

The psalm texts, from The Psalms, A New Translation, Copyright (D 1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The psalm responses and Alleluia verse are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass (D 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.



**We wish to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet, the Durag people of the Eora nation, and pay respect to their traditions, customs and long and continuous culture and history. It is upon their ancestral lands that this Community of God is built.**

## Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8*

***Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.***

## Second Reading

*2 Peter 3:8-14*

*A reading from the second letter of St Peter*

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up. Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*Luke 3: 4-6*

***Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:  
all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!***

## Gospel

*Mark 1: 1-8*

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way.



A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Communion Antiphon

*Baruch 5:5; 4:36*

***Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,  
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.***

## Volunteers Christmas Party St Christopher's /St Patrick's



Thank you to those who attended our Volunteers Mass & Gathering, it was a most enjoyable and successful evening. For those volunteers who could not attend and wish to collect their Bible Reflections, you can collect them from Fr. Salas or the Piety Stall. Once again thank you for your volunteering throughout the year.

Fr. Salas & Fr. Vijay.



## Combined Staff Spirituality Day –5th Dec.

On Tuesday, December 5th, the parish staff, some of the members from the Pastoral Councils, leadership teams of St. Christopher's Primary School and De La Salle College, and dedicated volunteers gathered at St. Mary's Towers Retreat Centre in Douglas Park, NSW. The day featured meaningful activities like reflection, reconciliation, Mass, and adoration, setting the tone for the upcoming Advent and Christmas season. Heartfelt appreciation to Sr. Anastasia Reeves OP and Helen Wagner, Parish Renewal and Evangelization Officers of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, for expertly leading the sessions. Warm thanks to all active participants in this enriching experience



## BIRTHDAY WISHES:

Wishing Frank Burke a very happy 80th Birthday and Paul Williams a very happy 70th birthday this coming Friday 16 December



# CHRISTMAS MASSES 2023

## ST CHRISTOPHER'S PARISH



Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> December

Normal Vigil Mass

5.30pm

Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> December

Normal Sunday Masses

8.00am & 9.30am

Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Eve Masses

Children's Vigil

5.30pm

Parish Vigil

7.30pm

Midnight Mass

Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day

Parish Masses

8.00am & 9.30am

Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> December

Normal Vigil Mass

5.30pm

31<sup>st</sup> December

Normal Sunday Masses

8.00am & 9.30am

**NO 5pm MASS**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 - New Year's Day

9.00am

## ST PATRICK'S PARISH

Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> December

Normal Vigil Mass

5.30pm

Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> December

Normal Sunday Mass

9.00am

Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Eve Masses

Vigil Mass

5.30pm

Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day

Parish Mass

9.00am

Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> December

Normal Vigil Mass

5.30pm

Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> December

Normal Sunday Mass

9.00am

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 - New Year's Day

8.00am

## RECONCILIATION - 2nd Rite

St Christopher's: Wednesday 20th December 7pm

## FAREWELL WARREN LOY

**On Sunday 17th December after 9.30am Mass,** we will be having morning tea to farewell Warren Loy our current Principal and to welcome Michelle Court as the new Principal for St. Christopher's Primary School. All are welcome.

## Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal

Thank you to all who donated money and gifts to the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Your kindness is much appreciated.

## Piety Stall

Clumban Calendars and Christmas Cards are currently available in the Pious Goods Store.

**St. Christopher's & St. Patrick's Parish Contacts**  
**Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9.00am-3.00pm**  
**Address: 237 Tower Street, Panania**

**Parish Secretary:** Van Doan  
**Parish Manager:** John Tesoriero  
**Sac. Co-ordinator:** Anne Maree Morris  
**Pastoral Care:** Norma Coorey  
**Liturgy and Ministry Coordinator:**  
**St. Christopher's Church**  
**Parish Pastoral Council**  
 Chairperson: Anne Weeks  
 Secretary:  
**Parish Finance Committee**  
 Chairperson: John Tesoriero  
 Parish Safeguarding Officer: Jeanette Carroll

**St. Patrick's Church**

**Parish Pastoral Council:**  
 Chairperson: Roza Bulic  
 Secretary: Pat Nolan  
**Parish Finance Committee**  
 Chairperson: John Tesoriero  
 Secretary: Pat Nolan  
 Parish Safeguarding Officer: Siobhan Van Den Nieuwenhuizen

**COMING EVENTS**



*Mass Intentions*

**Let Us Pray for our Parish Community**

**Recently Deceased:**

Yong Nieva, Sr Rose McDermott, Rosemary Hoad, Michel Altahhan, Liam Grant, Spencer Geddes, Eunice Fraydon, Faye Gordon, Cecelia Donohue, Rose Kerr, Helen Kokoszka .

**Anniversaries:**

Benjamin San Juan Sr., Thomas Gregory Conway, , Toufic and Tamam Coorey, Lubow Salgueira, Mickalina Azzopardi & Evelyn Jones, Patrick Mckenna, Roger Brown, Tony Jabbour, Fr Barry Nobbs, Marija Petrak, K L Porinchu, Jose Quintal

**General Intention:**

Julia, John, Terrence Hoad, Julia & Terrence Thomas, Jean & Vincent Hoad, Anthony Bragg, Therese Boukaram, Anthony Coorey, - Hanna, Mansour & Crowe families, Deceased of Youssib & Nabiha Dagher Family, Dominic Doan, Paul & Tim Burke, Cecilia Gaveran , Gillfeather & McLoughlin Families, Deceased members of the Legion of Mary, Holy Souls in Purgatory.

**The Sick and Infirm:**

Simon Boukaram, Pedro Priou, Richard Hurst, Margaret Maloney, Mario Bosquet, Igor Mileusnic, Jack Mullane, Leonie Mullane, Baby Lexi, Gerry & David Shepherd, Owen & Marie McLoughlin, Micky Long, Joan Jones, Jenny Breen, Sarah & Asher McLoughlin, Sebastian & Pedro Priou, Pedro Rozo, George Ormerod, Sryani Genge, Betty McDermott, Pat Coates, Ivette Charadia, Ursula O'Shea, Peter Yasbek, Glen San Juan, Manfred Adam, Anne Hanna, Lisa Field, Aria Zimmermann, Di Mason, Robert Charadia, Moussa Debs, Michael Hains, Eric Burwile, Bronwyn Pearson, Margaret Azzi, Miriam Priou, Maria Koh, John Esther, Rosanne Sukkar, Bill Papadopoulos, McLoughlin,

**ST CHRISTOPHER'S WEEKEND ROSTERS 2023**

9th/10th Dec.	Sat. 5.30pm	Sun 8am	Sun 9.30am	Sun 5pm	Other Ministries
<b>Readers:</b>	Michael Mallia Sue Bracken	Steve Darcy Carolyn Ford	Mary Chan Pauline O'Shea	Volunteer Tanya Nguyen	<b>Communion to the Sick</b> Ann-Maree Darcy Norma Coorey Josephine Jones
<b>Communion Ministers:</b>	Jeanette Carroll Barbara Tesoriero	Ann-Maree Darcy Norma Coorey	Norma Verjoustinsky Bernadette Saleme	Stephanie Siasoi Volunteer	<b>Counters:</b> Marie Lourye John Tesoriero
<b>Acolytes/ Servers</b>	John Tesoreiro	Aldrae C.	Tony O'Shea	Cheryl Beaver	<b>Other Ministries</b>
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Sybella & Milla Carney Edward Barnett, Charlotte Kavanagh Thomas Larsen	Volunteers	Lachlan Brunton Charlie Deng Gabriel Zdunek	Hannah Henry, Illijana Lembryk, Mackenzie Hooton Chloe Jabbour	<b>Communion to the Sick</b> Terese Jones Gabi Bietresato Ellen Russell
16th/17th Dec	Sat. 5.30pm	Sun 8am	Sun 9.30am	Sun 5pm	Counters:
<b>Readers:</b>	Gabrielle Innes Louise Anderson	Volunteer Ron Woods	Lea De Angelis Andrew Mills	Nazira Hanna Tanya Nguyen	John Tesoriero Jeanette Carroll
<b>Communion Ministers:</b>	David Raish Volunteer	Terese Jones Gabi Bietresato	Magdelene Vetter Margaret Yasbek	Nazira Hanna Volunteer	
<b>Acolytes/ Servers</b>	Jonathan Tran	Andrew Mills	Ruben Nool	Ryan B	
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Sybella & Milla Carney, Veronica Liang, Gabrielle Beale, Mary	Volunteers	Alyssa Smith, Chloe Jabbour	Luke Abounader Diana Martin	

**ST PATRICK'S ROSTERS 2023**

	9th/10th Dec		16th/17th Dec	
	Sat Vigil: 5.30pm	Sun: 9am	Sat Vigil: 5.30pm	Sun: 9am
<b>Acolytes/Servers:</b>	Kevin	Jason	Chris	Ray
<b>Readers:</b>	Marie Carr Roza Bulic	Pat Nolan Dawn Poole	Siobhan Van Den Nieuwenhuizen Wanieta young	Lynda Cameron Mary Cameron
<b>Communion Ministers:</b>	Elena Saigueira Barbara Sherry	Jacqueline Bull May Coorey	Elena Saigueira Alison	Kathy Moussa May Coorey
<b>Counters:</b>		Bill Woods Brian Quinn		Dorothy Gonsales Seamus McKenna



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 (02)9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a