

# St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall



Feast of the Holy Family | Year B | Sunday 27th December 2020



## Mission Statement:

We the St Mary Queen of Heaven parish, are called to be a strong, loving, caring family united in faith. Guided by the Spirit of Jesus we desire to use our diverse talents to reach out and encourage others. We cherish the living tradition of our Catholic church and will seek to heal misunderstandings and hurt in our midst so that Jesus' prayer may be realised, "Father may they be one, as you and I are one."

## Parish Priest:

Fr Joseph Kolodziej

## Parish Office:

Monday - Friday ph: 9727 3759  
[parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com)

## Safeguarding Officer/Secretary:

Veronica Denning  
[veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com)  
(Please email to join our Bulletin mailing list)

## Parish Website:

[www.smgh.org.au](http://www.smgh.org.au)

## Parish Facebook:

Follow: [fb.me/smgh2](https://fb.me/smgh2)



## Parish School:

Ph: 9727 0000  
[www.stmgeorgesshall.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmgeorgesshall.catholic.edu.au)



## A Message from Fr Joseph

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is a model for all families. Being a Holy Family does not mean that everything was smooth for them. It was a family with many ups and downs. Mary conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. Mary's pregnancy was a troubling situation for both Mary and Joseph. They, however, accepted the situation when each of them was ministered to by the angel of the Lord. Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). "When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son" (Matthew 124-25). Mary gave birth to Jesus in a very difficult circumstance. After a long journey on foot from Nazareth to Bethlehem, a distance of about 100 miles, there was no inn to lodge in. They went to a shed in a farm where Mary gave birth to Jesus. The Holy Family experienced sudden change and challenge – they had to adapt and make new plans – leave the certainty they knew and venture to new places and adapt to new situations.

Sometimes change is good so we are not aware of the changes taking place around us and even within us.

Families this year have faced many challenges and we have all had to learn new ways of being together and supporting each other sometimes at a distance. The aged and frail have been dramatically affected and families have struggled to keep them safe and support them appropriately.

Faith in God makes us realize that life is better as 'us' not as 'me.' Faith in God encourages us to value self-denial and self sacrifice for the good of those in need. Faith in God enables us to be obedient to God and to one another.

In family life all members need time, time to talk and listen, time to reflect and pray, time to enjoy each other's company, time to listen to the stories of family and share God's Love.

Let us pray for every Family in our Parish.

Merry Christmas! Happy New Year 2021!

## EACH WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

### SATURDAY:

Mass // 9am  
Reconciliation // 4pm  
Vigil Mass (English) // 5pm;  
Vigil Mass (Vietnamese) // 6.30pm

### SUNDAY:

Mass (English) // 8am, 10am, 5pm  
Mass (Vietnamese) // 3pm

### MONDAY:

Mass // 8am  
Prayer Group in the Chapel // 5.00pm

### TUESDAY

Holy Hour and Rosary // 5pm  
Mass // 6pm

### WEDNESDAY

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am

### THURSDAY

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am

### FRIDAY -2021

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 9am, Viet. 6.00pm

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

### Sunday 27:

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

### Monday 28:

Holy Innocents

### Friday 1:

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God  
New Years Day

### Saturday 2:

Sts Basil and Gregory

### Sunday 3:

Epiphany of the Lord

***"A healthy family life requires frequent use of three phrases: May I? Thank You, and I'm Sorry and never, never, never end the day without making peace." – Pope Francis***

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Sick:**

Bourke Gibbons  
Christina Apolinari  
Daniel Matesic, Daniel Clarke  
David Sanders, Eileen Ellery  
Heather Graham, John Sanders  
Kerry Gibbons, Margaret Ward  
Marie Reich, Mary Strambio  
Paul Roughley Phillip Nehme  
Romela Onkowiedjaja  
Rosa Agostino, Tamara Kalass  
Tony Strambio, Vic Ryan  
Warren Clarke

**Recently Deceased:**

June Ryan, Eddie Marks  
Luisa Ius, Peter McMartin  
Dawn (Lawrence) McHugh

**Remembrances:**

Joseph Wehbe, Paul Loc Van  
Phan Maria Thi Tuu Nguyen  
Rosario Ivan Kucic (2017)  
Sylwester Szatan (2019)

**Anniversaries:**

Auklena Khoury  
Margaret Murphy  
Ida Allen  
Steven Lee  
Mary Newman  
David Newman  
Julia King  
Ashwin Sheldon Andrews  
Vincenzo Romeo  
Vincent McGee  
Les Best  
Peter Semrany (2012)  
Yanek Muzyka (2015)  
Alf Boon  
Mary Tabone  
Leopold Dominic D'Cruz  
Andrew Mizzi  
Olive Boyle (2019)  
Marie Louise Khoury  
Gregory Semionov  
Hari Chilla  
Robert Johnson  
William Kerr  
John Enright

**For the Souls of the Faithful Departed:**

Eternal rest grant unto them  
O Lord and let perpetual light  
shine upon them.

May all the souls of all the faithful  
departed, through the mercy of  
God, rest in peace.  
Amen.



**COVID Update**

**CORONAVIRUS**  
(COVID-19) UPDATE

We are grateful that we can come together and celebrate Christmas, even though it will be a little different. As you are aware, due to the Covid pandemic,

restrictions have been put into place at all gatherings and places of worship. So we ask you to respect and comply with our COVID safe plan:

- Before entering the Church: Please record your contact details, take your temperature and sanitise your hands.
- Please ensure you are 1.5 metres away from other people, unless you live in the same household. This also applies to outdoor seating and people standing.
- Wearing masks is STRONGLY recommended.
- There is to be NO SINGING by the congregation. A Mass may have a cantor or a small choir of up to 5 people.
- When in the communion line please leave a space between yourself and the person in front. Communion will be given outdoors as well to minimise congestion.
- At the end of each Mass, volunteers sanitise the pews and seats. It would greatly help if people sitting outside could clean their own seat. We kindly ask that you do not congregate after Mass in the Church, foyer or carpark.



**Pope Francis** @Pontifex · 11h

If the #pandemic has forced us to be more distant, Jesus, in the crib, shows us the way of tenderness to be close to each other, to be human. Let us follow this path. #Christmas ✨ #GeneralAudience

**Sacraments**

- **Baptism:** Any weekend Mass or Sundays at 11am; bookings via Parish office.
- **Marriage:** At least 6 months notice is needed, a preparation course is required.
- **Reconciliation:** Sat @ 4.00pm or by appointment, please contact Fr Joseph.

**Family & Faith**

**LOOK CLOSER...**

**School of Love.**

The family has been called 'a school of love'. It is the place of grace where we learn what it is to love and to be loved. Jesus grew in maturity and wisdom because he knew the love of his father and mother. We too grow in wisdom and maturity when we are loved.

**New Year's Resolution:**

Share together the highlight and low point of your year. Commit to one thing that will nurture your relationships over the year.



**WHAT'S IN YOUR PRAYER SPACE?**

**A Photo of Your Family**

Father in Heaven,  
We thank you for the example of the Holy Family.  
Help us to be more like them.  
Amen.



**DID YOU KNOW?**

**Christmas is just a day, it's a whole mini season!**

Traditionally, 12 days of celebration are set aside for feasting, give giving and family time from Christmas Day to the Epiphany.



Our lived streamed Masses are available from <https://cutt.ly/StMarys>



# Parish Notices

## Vinnies Christmas Appeal

"The Georges Hall Conference of SVDP would like to acknowledge the wonderful response to our Christmas appeal. Although this has been a difficult and unusual year we have been able to provide some much needed Christmas cheer to several families in our parish who have been facing challenging times. Not with food hampers and presents as in past years but with generous amounts of gift and food cards. The overwhelming response from both our church and school communities made this possible. One single mum and her children had just lost their home and had to move to temporary accommodation, aged pensioners and others with health challenges, a refugee family and others all benefited from your amazing, generous hearts. We also appreciate the tremendous support from St Mary School and the wonderful assistance of Natalie Goetz in coordinating the fundraising. May God bless all our supporters and we wish you and your families all the joy of the season.

Mary Scott

On behalf of St Vincent de Paul Conference - Georges Hall



## Supporting your parish

It is possible to support your parish by:

- Christmas Offering envelopes are available in the church
- make an online donation from the [website](#) - click on the Support Us link and follow the prompts.
- Using the cashless tap devices available in the church
- Join the Planned Giving Program - application forms are available in the sacristy

## Family Prayer for the Feast of the Holy Family.

**We give you thanks Lord God who has blessed us with life and love. You have given us the gift of the family. Help us to nurture and to protect to guide and to love one another. Through the intercession of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph – protect us. Give us wisdom and courage, joy and faithfulness in responding to our special vocation as a Christian family so we may help each other to grow in grace and love to the glory of God. Amen.**

## Safeguarding our Parish

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 93905810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. Safeguarding resources are available in the sacristy. Enquiries: [veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com)

## The Holy Family

This feast was established as part of the Christmas season in 1921. The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, itself subject to the difficulties and social pressures of its time, is offered as a model for Christian family life today. The Church promotes the observance of this feast with the hope that it might nurture faithful love and the fidelity that characterise the family of Nazareth. *O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards.*



## Prayer to the Holy Family

### PRAYER TO THE HOLY FAMILY

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendour of true love, to you we turn with trust.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic Churches.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division: may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.*

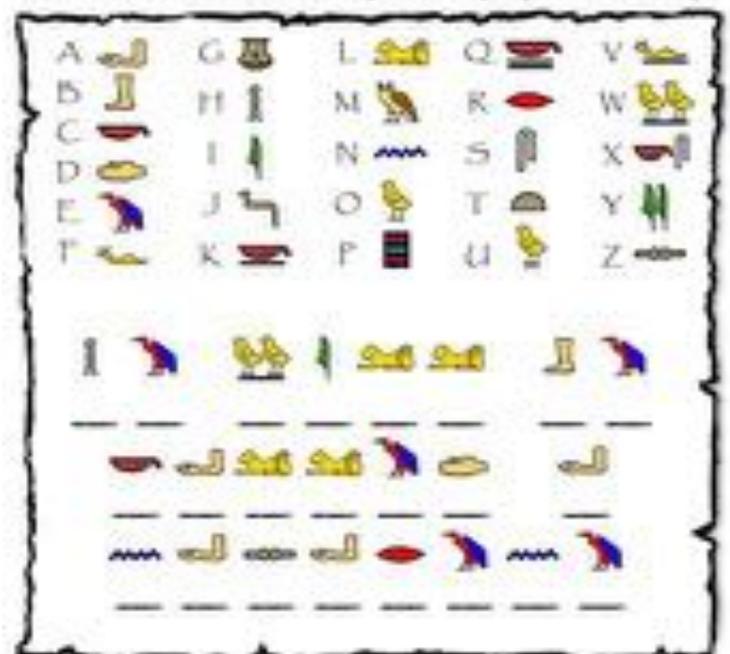
*Holy Family of Nazareth, may the approaching Synod of Bishops make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan.*

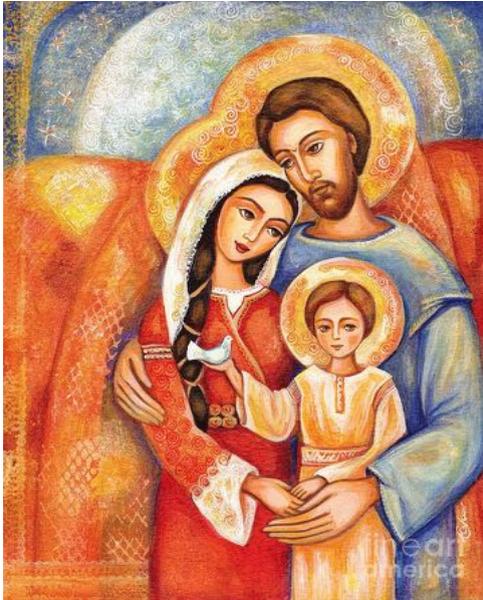
*Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer.*

Amen.

## Children's Corner

**DECODE THE PROPHECY**  
Use the code below to decipher the prophet's message



First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p><b>Sir 3:2-6. 12-14</b>            A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus  <i>Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.</i></p> <p>The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons. Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune.</p> <p>Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord.</p> <p>My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life. Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.</p>	<p><b>(R.) The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. O sing to him, sing his praise; tell all his wonderful works! (R.)</li> <li>2. Be proud of his holy name, let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice. Consider the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face. (R.)</li> <li>3. Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, the judgements he spoke. O children of Abraham, his servant, O sons of the Jacob he chose. (R.)</li> <li>4. He remembers his covenant for ever, his promise for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. (R.)</li> </ol> 	<p><b>Col 3:12-21</b>            A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians  <i>Concerning the Christian life in the world.</i></p> <p>You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same.</p> <p>Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.</p> <p>Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.</p> <p>Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.</p>
<b>Next Week's Readings</b>		
<p><b>Epiphany of the Lord</b>  <b>1st Reading:</b> Is 60:1-6  <b>2nd Reading:</b> Eph 3:2-3. 5-6  <b>Gospel:</b> Mt 2:1-12 - The Wise Men</p>		
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>		
<p>Alleluia, alleluia!            May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you. Alleluia!</p>		

<b>Gospel</b>
<p><b>Lk 2:22. 39-40</b> - A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke  <i>The child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom.</i></p> <p>When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.</p>
<b>Reflection by Greg Sunter</b>
<p>The writer of the gospel of Luke uses this presentation event to announce or forecast the ministry of Jesus. The explicit identification of the poverty of Mary and Joseph is an indicator of the emphasis that Jesus will give to the poor throughout his ministry. The gospel writer also makes plain the link between the Temple (the Jewish tradition) and the ministry of Jesus. Tying these events into the prophecies of both Simeon and Anna reinforce the prophetic nature of this whole episode. Jesus is portrayed in this gospel as the fulfilment of the prophecies of scripture. A strong image that emerges from this passage is the faithfulness of Mary and Joseph. Their whole purpose in visiting the Temple is to fulfil the requirements of their faith. They are faithful to the Jewish tradition and it is into this tradition that they initiate Jesus. The faithfulness of Mary and Joseph is a hallmark of their life as a family. Their faithfulness is a significant element of what we celebrate in the feast of the Holy Family and their faithfulness to God and to one another is a model for all families and for all people.</p>