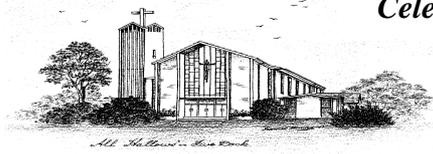


29th December, 2013 - Year A

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus,  
Mary and Joseph.



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Fr Greg McGregor

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Fr Salas Muttathukattil MSFS

**Secretary:**

Elena Di Perna

**Presbytery:**

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Tuesday: 8.30am - 3.30pm

Wed - Thurs: 8.30am - 12.30pm

Friday: 8.30am - 3.30pm

Closed for lunch 12.30-1.30 pm

**Phone:** 9713 7960

**Fax:** 9713 5172

**Email:**

parishallhallows@gmail.com

**Web:** www.allhallows.org.au

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**Email:**

info@ahpsfivedock.catholic.edu.au

**Web:**

www.ahpsfivedock.catholic.edu.au

**Sacramental Life**

**Eucharist:**

Saturday - 9.00am & 5.30pm Vigil

Sunday - 8.30am

Sunday - 10am Children's Liturgy

Sunday - 6.00pm Youth Mass

Monday - 9.00am

Tues - Wed - 8.00am

Thurs - Fri - 9.00am

Lauds (morning prayer) is prayed 20  
minutes before morning mass daily.

All Welcome.

**Italian Mass:**

No Italian Mass until further notice.

**Reconciliation:** Saturday

9.30 - 10am & 4.45 - 5.15pm

**Anointing:** Every 2 months -  
check bulletin for dates.

**Sick Calls:** Any time - day/night.

**Funeral Masses:** In co-operation  
with Funeral Directors.

Dear Parishioners,

**1. Defending the Family**

*In this age of terrorist attacks and threats, and so much unthinking violence in the world, it is easy to imagine Herod's appalling pogrom against the children in Bethlehem and surroundings.*



*He was trying to destroy the Christ child.*

*But the child was hard to find. So Herod thought he might as well slay every newborn baby just to make sure, and apparently this included the girl babies as well as the boys. It was imperative that Mary and Joseph run from this destructive campaign, and run they did, to Egypt, until the danger was past. Immense danger.*

*If you are part of a family, you too must take great care today. The family unit is in peril, chased down and slain by the Herods of modern culture.*

*Television has almost no shows that depict successful families. Advertising pushes us to fill our own personal needs, to load up on pleasure, to buy products that make life easier, to eliminate being bothered. Many or most movies show uncommitted sex in detail and with approval. Of course everyone knows that 50% of marriages and more today end in divorce. Latchkey children, two-job families, a commercially created teenage world, which stand in direct opposition to values and family. Watch MTV sometime.*

*Psychologists tell us we need only a "good-enough" family, as opposed to a perfect one. But many people were raised in a "dysfunctional family," where values are grossly but subliminally skewed, to the extreme detriment of all involved. Portions of the coming generations will be twisted, whether they know it or not, because many of the families today are in trouble, big trouble.*

*Jesus was born into a good family, poverty-stricken, but nevertheless a human microcosm of God's life. Love bestowed and love received, as within the Trinity. Care for a new and helpless infant. A fond gaze into its eyes, the kind that kindles a first fragile identity. People "putting themselves out" for each other. The feast of the Holy Family is placed so close to Christmas in order to show how crucial love and care are to human lives, especially at their beginnings, and their continuings as well.*

*Being in a family is no easy job. All parents are amateurs when they start off. What can they do about today's great assault on family and Christian/human values? For one thing, be willing to spend time even when there is not much of it. Be willing to give up some of their own fascinations for the sake of the others. Commit and do not relent. Defer to sensitivities.*

*In other words, imitate the Holy Family. Get to know and to love the others in your kinfolk, whether they have grown up and left home or not. Every value-rooted family builds one more entrenchment against the ghastly degradation of this most important foundation-stone of human life.*

*We all want to be part of the great web of love that is God's presence on earth. It is played out in the foibles and fun of ordinary family life.*

*God is there.*

## **2. Start the New Year with Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

*The life of Jesus begins with Mary. Therefore, it is appropriate that we begin the New Year with a Feast of Mary, the Mother of God. Since Mary is the Mother of God she is the mother of joy, joy to the world. So the traditional greeting on this first day of the New Year is one of joy: Happy New Year!*

*This solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, falls on New Year (January 1), the first day of the civil year – an occasion when people look back on the past and wish each other God's abundant blessings. It is most opportune that the Old Testament reading for the New Year's Mass is the Priestly Blessing from the book of Numbers (6:22-27). Prayed in the context of the Christmas-Marian feast, it evokes the truth that Mary, Mother of God, is the utmost recipient of God's blessing. In the motherhood of Mary, the icon of the blessed of God, the fullness of blessing is given to the world through her divine Child, the Saviour of the world - the Priest of the New Covenant.*

*The first known mention of Mary's title "Mother of God" was made by St. Hippolytus of Rome who died in 325 AD. How can she be called Mother of God? A woman becomes mother of someone by giving birth to that person. And giving birth can take place only at some point of time. But God is eternal, without beginning or end, and is the Maker of heaven and earth. How can a human person ever become the mother of God? How can a creature become parent of the Creator? The very proposition sounds absurd and repugnant. But let our faith seek understanding. Who is a mother? She is the one who gives birth to someone, that is, provides a body to a person. She does not create the person she gives birth to, nor does she produce the soul of that person. Now the Son of God, who is true God from true God, takes human body and human nature from Mary; she provides Him with a body. He exists*

*from all eternity; not his existence but only his human body and human psyche take origin in Mary's womb. He who is born of her is her son, but he is a Divine Person. Therefore Mary is Mother of God.*

*It is easier to understand that Mary is mother of Jesus. But Jesus is both God and man. He is a Divine Person with both divine and human natures. Now a mother can give birth to a person, not just to a nature. Since Jesus is a Divine Person, his mother is rightly called Mother of God. This title suits Mary only and exclusively on account of Jesus her son who is Emmanuel, God with us (Mt 1:23).*

*Who Mary is, therefore, depends on who Jesus is. Mariology depends on Christology. Speaking about Jesus St Paul says, "God sent His Son, born of a woman" (Gal 4:4). For the same reason St Gregory of Nazianzen writes, "If anyone does not agree that Holy Mary is the Mother of God, he is at odds with the godhead." Mary's title as Mother of God (theotokos) was solemnly affirmed by the Council of Ephesus in 431 AD.*

*Mary fulfilled an irreplaceable maternal ministry. Today's feast places in relief her unique role in the mystery of salvation. Through her son, Almighty God became a member of our human family. Admiring Mary's divine motherhood, St Methodius says, "Your name, O Mother of God, is filled with all grace and divine blessings. You have contained Him Who cannot be contained, and nourished Him who nourishes all creatures."*

*In Jesus God establishes a living and life-giving relationship with us. Jesus is not merely God's messenger or prophet; he is himself Emmanuel, 'God-with-us'. In the encounter of the angel Gabriel with Mary she freely responded to God's message and agreed to be the mother of Emmanuel. He is our Brother, and his mother is also our mother. Moreover, on the cross he gave her to us as mother. We do well to live in filial relationship with her and learn from her example of willing cooperation with God's plan and look for the fulfilment of God's word in our lives.*

## **3. New Altar Servers**

*We congratulate the following children on becoming Altar Servers. We congratulate:*

*Andrew Chan-Quach, Lorenzo Pavan, Gianluca Petrino, Benjamin Sharrock, Felicity Speranza, Dorjan Perri, Lucas Mostacci Emilio Geronimo, Olivia Jacobs and Jai Delisser-Howarth*

#### 4. Welcome Fr Greg McGregor

This week we welcome Fr Greg McGregor as the Parish Priest of All Hallows, Five Dock.

Fr Greg was ordained on the 19th April 2002 at St Mary's Cathedral. He spent time in parishes here in Sydney before assisting in Tasmania and then for the past six years he has been a full-time Navy Catholic Chaplain. Fr Greg left the full-time Navy last November.

Fr Greg has been administrator of St Gabriel's Bexley, during this year, and he will take up his appointment at All Hallows on 1 January 2014.

#### 5. Christmas Celebrations

I would like to thank everyone who helped us in organising the liturgy for our Christmas, it would not have been such a beautiful service without your help.

#### 6. Sebastian Hew

We thank Sebastian for his support throughout the Christmas period, he was a tremendous support. We wish him well as he goes to Perth to visit his family. He will return at the end of January to continue his studies.

#### 7. Father Mac's Puddings

There are a handful of Father Mac's Pudding still available at the Piety Stall.

God Bless You

Fr Salas



#### Prayer Commending Oneself to Mary

O holy Mary, my Mistress,  
into thy blessed trust and special blessing,  
into the bosom of thy tender  
mercy, this day, every day of my life and at  
the hour of my death, I commend my soul  
and body; to thee I entrust all my hopes and  
consolations, all my trials and miseries, my  
life and the end of my life, that through thy  
most holy intercession and thy merits, all my  
actions may be ordered and disposed  
according to thy will and that of thy divine  
Son.  
Amen.

*(This beautiful prayer was composed by Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, who had a special devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. In it, we pledge ourselves to Mary, that she may intercede for us so that our will may be aligned with the will of her Son.)*

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

*In your love and concern, please pray for:-*



#### Recently Deceased:

*Calogera De Nina, Mary Wainwright,  
Seamus McGhee*

#### Anniversaries:

*Elisa Longobardo*

#### Also for:

*Annie Neary*

#### For the following ill members of our community:-

*Tomas Laming, Fr Mial Mc Sweeney,  
Angela Colantonio, Antonia Merlino,  
Ida Bova, Amelia Casarotto, Mirella Mercuri,  
Alex La Rossa, , Norma and Bernie Lloyd,  
Peter Hankinson, Monica Moschella,  
Madelina Michael, Marcello Cheles, Brian Lees.*

*(Names will remain on list for 1 month unless notified.)*



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#### **A Prayer for the New Year**

*Lord, in this New Year which we begin,  
may we have enough happiness to keep us  
agreeable,  
enough trials to keep us strong,  
enough sorrow to keep us human,  
enough freedom to keep us happy,  
enough failure to keep us humble,  
enough success to keep us eager,  
enough wealth to meet our needs,  
enough faith to banish depression,  
enough hope to look forward,  
enough love to give us comfort,  
and enough determination to keep going.*  
– Anon

#### **TRANSPORT HELPERS NEEDED**



Drivers are needed to take elderly parishioners to 8.30 am Mass on Sunday. A roster is organised so that each person drives 2 or 3 times a month and if you are unavailable our drivers swap with each other.

If you can help please contact the parish office or phone Robyn Glover 9181 5265

## POPE FRANCIS' COLUMN



URBI ET ORBI MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS, CHRISTMAS 2013

Wednesday, 25 December 2013

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours (Lk 2:14)

Dear brothers and sisters in Rome and throughout the whole world, Greetings and Happy Christmas!

I take up the song of the angels who appeared to the shepherds in Bethlehem on the night when Jesus was born. It is a song which unites heaven and earth, giving praise and glory to heaven, and the promise of peace to earth and all its people.

I ask everyone to share in this song: it is a song for every man or woman who keeps watch through the night, who hopes for a better world, who cares for others while humbly seeking to do his or her duty.

Glory to God!

Above all else, this is what Christmas bids us to do: give glory to God, for he is good, he is faithful, he is merciful. Today I voice my hope that everyone will come to know the true face of God, the Father who has given us Jesus. My hope is that everyone will feel God's closeness, live in his presence, love him and adore him.

May each of us give glory to God above all by our lives, by lives spent for love of him and of all our brothers and sisters.

Peace to mankind

True peace - we know this well - is not a balance of opposing forces. It is not a lovely "façade" which conceals conflicts and divisions. Peace calls for daily commitment, but making peace is an art, starting from God's gift, from the grace which he has given us in Jesus Christ.

Looking at the Child in the manger, Child of peace, our thoughts turn to those children who are the most vulnerable victims of wars, but we think too of the elderly, to battered women, to the sick... Wars shatter and hurt so many lives!

Too many lives have been shattered in recent times by the conflict in Syria, fueling hatred and vengeance. Let us continue to ask the Lord to spare the beloved Syrian people further suffering, and to enable the parties in conflict to put an end to all violence and guarantee access to humanitarian aid. We have seen how powerful prayer is! And I am happy today too, that the followers of different religious confessions are joining us in our prayer for peace in Syria. Let us never lose the courage of prayer! The courage to say: Lord, grant your peace to Syria and to the whole world. And I also invite non-believers to desire peace with that yearning that makes the heart grow: all united, either by prayer or by desire. But all of us, for peace.

Grant peace, dear Child, to the Central African Republic, often forgotten and overlooked. Yet you, Lord, forget no one! And you also want to bring peace to that land, torn apart by a spiral of violence and poverty, where so many people are homeless, lacking water, food and the bare necessities of life. Foster social harmony in South Sudan, where current tensions have already caused too many victims and are threatening peaceful coexistence in that young state.

Prince of Peace, in every place turn hearts aside from violence and inspire them to lay down arms and undertake the path of dialogue. Look upon Nigeria, rent by constant attacks which do not spare the innocent and defenceless. Bless the land where you chose to come into the world, and grant a favourable outcome to the peace talks between Israelis and Palestinians. Heal the wounds of the beloved country of Iraq, once more struck by frequent acts of violence.

Lord of life, protect all who are persecuted for your name. Grant hope and consolation to the displaced and refugees, especially in the Horn of Africa and in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Grant that migrants in search of a dignified life may find acceptance and assistance. May tragedies like those we have witnessed this year, with so many deaths at Lampedusa, never occur again!

Child of Bethlehem, touch the hearts of all those engaged in human trafficking, that they may realize the gravity of this crime against humanity. Look upon the many children who are kidnapped, wounded and killed in armed conflicts, and all those who are robbed of their childhood and forced to become soldiers.

Lord of heaven and earth, look upon our planet, frequently exploited by human greed and rapacity. Help and protect all the victims of natural disasters, especially the beloved people of the Philippines, gravely affected by the recent typhoon.

Dear brothers and sisters, today, in this world, in this humanity, is born the Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. Let us pause before the Child of Bethlehem. Let us allow our hearts to be touched, let us not fear this. Let us not

fear that our hearts be moved. We need this! Let us allow ourselves to be warmed by the tenderness of God; we need his caress. God's caresses do not harm us. They give us peace and strength. We need his caresses. God is full of love: to him be praise and glory forever! God is peace: let us ask him to help us to be peacemakers each day, in our life, in our families, in our cities and nations, in the whole world. Let us allow ourselves to be moved by God's goodness.

Christmas greetings after the Urbi et Orbi Message:

To you, dear brothers and sisters, gathered from throughout the world in this Square, and to all those from different countries who join us through the communications media, I offer my cordial best wishes for a merry Christmas!

On this day illumined by the Gospel hope which springs from the humble stable of Bethlehem, I invoke the Christmas gift of joy and peace upon all: upon children and the elderly, upon young people and families, the poor and the marginalized. May Jesus, who was born for us, console all those afflicted by illness and suffering; may he sustain those who devote themselves to serving our brothers and sisters who are most in need.

Happy Christmas to all!



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## HEALING MASS -



Friday 3rd January, 2014

St Therese's Church,  
15 Garrong Rd, Lakemba

Rosary: 7pm, Reconciliation 7-8pm,  
Prayer and Praise 7.30pm, Mass 8pm.

The celebrant will be Fr Kim Ha

Enq: Rose 9642 2359/ 0412 115 961  
or email: [rosetwyman@optusnet.com.au](mailto:rosetwyman@optusnet.com.au)

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Many overseas communities request Palms to provide skilled Australian volunteers in education, health, administration, agriculture/farming, trades and other areas. Expressions of interest in these positions are also welcome.

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### PILGRIMAGES 2014:

Fr Wim Hoekstra, Parish Priest of Glenbrook, is organising two pilgrimages in 2014: from July 7 to 23 taking in France and Italy (Paris, Lisieux, Lourdes, Rome, Assisi, Siena, Florence) and from September 19 to October 4 (September school holidays) for Israel and Jordan. Information afternoon: 9 February 2014. For further details, contact Fr Wim on 4739 8928 or wim@stfinbars.org.au or check the website at www.stfinbars.org.au. Limited places available.

### ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

#### SOLO PARENT MINISTRY

The Solo Parent Ministry will be having a picnic at Auburn Botanical Gardens on Saturday 11th January. We will be meeting at the BBQ area close to the car park on Chiswick Road, Auburn at 11.00 am. Please RSVP Madeleine 0410642383 if you wish to attend. All single parent families from all areas of Sydney are welcome.

### The Manhood Forum

A new online community is available for Catholic men at [www.beingcatholic.com.au/men\\_invite](http://www.beingcatholic.com.au/men_invite)  
A dynamic online community for single men, husbands, fathers and religious The Manhood Forum is an exciting new initiative for any man that wants to deepen in faith, love of the Church and their vocation as men.  
If you want to grow as a man and connect with other committed Catholic men please visit [www.beingcatholic.com.au/men\\_invite](http://www.beingcatholic.com.au/men_invite)

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Q. If athletes get athletes foot, what do rocket scientists get?

A. Missile - toe!!



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## WHAT'S ON IN OUR PARISH?

### Inner Wheel Club - Balmain Group

1st Tuesday of month 6.30pm - 9pm in Hall

### St Vincent de Paul Society

Meetings held each 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm in the meeting room connected to the garage.

### Catholic Women's League Five Dock

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of month 12.00pm in Parish Hall

### Choir Practice

All welcome to choir practice in the Church  
7.30 pm every Monday.  
Ring Maria on 9713 7310

### Italian Choir Group

Tuesday - 12.30 pm in the Church

### Italian Prayer Group

Tuesday - 1 pm in Parish Hall  
Messa Italiana ogni ultimo martedì del mese  
Enquiries: M. Mureddu 9712 2394

### Playgroup

9.30am - 11.30am in Parish Hall  
(not during school holidays)  
Wednesday - Franca 0414 868 259

### Family Mass Choir Practice

Wednesday 7.45pm in Church  
All welcome!

### Italian Prayer Group - Thursday

In Chiesa dopo la Messa delle 9 ogni settimana. Ogni terzo giovedì c'è la Messa Italiana con Padre Bob per tutta la comunità di All Hallows.

Tutti ben venuti!

Enquiries: Lucia 9713 1800

### Youth Mass Choir Practice

Tuesday 7.00 pm in Church  
All welcome!

### NEXT WEEK

Sunday 29th December 2013 -  
The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

READINGS: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

SATURDAY 5.30pm	SUNDAY 8.30am	SUNDAY 10am	SUNDAY 6.00pm Youth Mass
--------------------	------------------	----------------	-----------------------------

### READERS

T. McDonald D. Pettenon F. Hume N. Giunta	M. Chesworth R. O'Dwyer C. Mylott G. Sutera	M. Angelatos V. Scelzi A. Slyney	Intro & P/F: Chris M 1st: Liam A Psalm: Owen M 2nd: Lina L
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### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

S. Mangano Z. Di Bella C. Tramonte B. Smyth A. Panuccio T. Coghlan K. Smyth	E. Chesworth M. Chesworth J. Livolsi R. Liberatore M. Mureddu R. Pietrobon M. Piccolo	C. Petrucco N. Ancona S. Carbone L. Moliterno F. Mercuri A. Roberts P. Pavan	A. Den A. Zol A. Kirby E. Di Perna W. Florian S. Roberts N. Lazzaro
---	---	--	---

### ALTAR SERVERS

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 2
---------	---------	---------	---------

**HOME VISITS:** J. Livolsi, J. Livolsi, J. Heffernan, D & L Scelzi

### NURSING HOMES:

Visit 2 January - **Parkview**: no visit

Visit 3 January - **Russell Lea**: no visit

**COUNTERS:** Group 6 **TRANSPORT:** Theresa, Muriel, Sue

**PIETY STALL:** Sue, Mary R, Pina P

**ALTAR SOCIETY:** Lorraine F, Lorraine C, Enza F, Vickie



### NEXT WEEK

Sunday 5th January 2014 - The EPIPHANY of the LORD

READINGS: Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

SATURDAY 5.30pm	SUNDAY 8.30am	SUNDAY 10am	SUNDAY 6.00pm Youth Mass
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### READERS

D. Tomasello T. McCabe L. Gatto M. Piccolo	D. Triulcio L. La Cava A. Casarotto J. Heffernan	Family Mass	Intro & P/F: Stephen H 1st: Emily C Psalm: James C 2nd: Rebecca C
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### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

M. Virtu M. Tomasello D. Grippi G. Bonaddio J. Bonaddio V. Radice A. Fabro	P. Moschella M. Coleman G. Favotto Ma. Chesworth c. Mylott J. Walsh B. Walsh	A. Caldareri M. Caldareri A. Incampo V. Jacobs D. Squadrito A. McMahon E. Ferraro	N. Lazzaro L. Parisi M. Zol A. Den C. Pollifrone W. Florian A. Pavan
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### ALTAR SERVERS

Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 3
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**HOME VISITS:** L. La Cava, P. Moschella, M. Coleman, E. Ferraro

### NURSING HOMES:

Visit 9 January - **Parkview**: no visit

Visit 10 January - **Russell Lea**: no visit

**COUNTERS:** Group 7 **TRANSPORT:** Robyn, Rosy, Tony

**PIETY STALL:** Veronica/Caitlyn, Mary C, Franca, Mari L

**ALTAR SOCIETY:** Rosy, Geraldine, Teresa

**CHILDRENS LITURGY:** School Holidays

