

# All Hallows' Five Dock



The Nativity of the Lord | Year A | Sunday 25th December

## Parish Mission

We, the people of this place,  
live and celebrate a love of faith.

We share this faith in a spirit of  
service, that creates a sense of  
God's presence among us.

### All Hallows' Parish

#### Parish Priest:

Fr Sebastian Savarimuthu  
E: [pp@allhallows.org.au](mailto:pp@allhallows.org.au)

#### Assistant Priest:

Fr Richard Ddumba  
E: [ap@allhallows.org.au](mailto:ap@allhallows.org.au)

#### Parish Secretary:

Elsa Waldie  
E: [admin@allhallows.org.au](mailto:admin@allhallows.org.au)

#### Parish Bookkeeper:

Janelle Buckley

#### Safeguarding Officer:

Ray Pozzato - 0438 860 168

#### Parish Office:

Monday - Thursday  
9am - 4pm

2 Halley Street,  
Five Dock NSW 2046  
Ph: 9713 7960

E: [admin@allhallows.org.au](mailto:admin@allhallows.org.au)

W: [www.allhallows.org.au](http://www.allhallows.org.au)



### All Hallows Parish School:

#### School Principal:

Mrs Helen Elliott

Ph: 9713 4469  
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## A Reflection by Fr Richard



Dear parishioners,

*"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests!"*

We are all rejoicing in the great light of abundant joy along with the masses of believers throughout the earth. Nothing brings so many people together to celebrate peace and joy as does the birth of the Christ child.

Christmas means the coming of God's light into the darkness of our world. How dark the world would be if the light of Christ had never shone. Can we really grasp the good news of great joy that comes to us and all people in the birth of Christ the Lord? Can we grasp the power of that light?

Christ's light comes as a friend. It brings healing not hurt, freedom not oppression, life not death. Just like Mary and Joseph, faithful acceptance is asked from each of us, when Christ comes into our lives, as "God-with-us".

We might not be in control. But God is. Christmas presents an alternate view, trust in God. Life may get in the way of our plans, but we will have the strength to survive and thrive because we trust the One who is really in control.

What situations, relationships, or events do you feel are out of your control? Present them to God and pray for his will and his blessing. Those who follow him will always have the light of life. That light illuminates the glory of the Lord, what the Lord can do for us, and what we can do in response.

Christmas greetings to you all!

With best wishes -  
Fr Richard



Wishing you a blessed and  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

## Sacramental Life

### Holy Mass:

**Saturday:** 8am & 5.30pm Vigil

**Sunday:** 8.30am, 10am and 5pm

**Monday - Friday:** 8am

**Wednesday:** Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration - 3pm

### Reconciliation:

**Saturday:**  
8:30am-9am / 4:45pm - 5:15pm  
Or any time by appointment.

### Sick Calls:

Any time -  
day/night.



### Baptisms:

Every Sunday at 11am.

### Weddings:

Contact the parish office.



### A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney:

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime 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 (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto: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 legal obligation to report crimes to the police.



## Archbishops Flood Appeal



Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP has announced that Christmas at the Cathedral, which got underway on Thursday 8 December, will be raising funds this year to provide much needed relief and recovery for the victims of the NSW floods.

Large parts of regional NSW have been hit by severe flooding since September, with thousands of people left homeless and many businesses forced to close.

Online donations are welcome for the Archbishop's Flood Appeal via the Our Faith, Our Works website here: <https://www.ourfaithourworks.org/flood-appeal/>



As Archbishop Fisher has emphasised "Christmas is very much a time when we open our hearts to those in need, inspired by the unfailing love Christ shows for each of us".

May this appeal offer comfort and hope to flood-affected communities as they start to rebuild their lives.

## 16 Day Pilgrimage to Europe



Fr Sebastian, together with Fr Timothy Raj, is organising a 16 day pilgrimage to Europe in May 2023.

The pilgrimage will be visiting Paris, Lisieux, Lourdes, Fatima, Venice, Assisi, Lanciano, S.G. Rotondo and Rome. It departs on the 1st May, returning on the 17th May and the cost is \$8,590 per person.

If you are interested and would like more information, please contact the parish office.

## 'Made for More' events by Theology of the Body Institute

The Sydney Centre for Evangelisation is proud to host Dr Christopher West and his team for their Australian tour of 'Made for More' events in Sydney and Melbourne. Please join us on Friday, 20 January at St Mary's Cathedral College Hall or on Saturday, 21 January at All Saints Liverpool Parish Hall.



'Made for More' weaves dynamic presentations with live music, media and sacred art bringing an evening of beauty and reflection on the meaning of life, love, and human destiny. An event not to be missed!

For tickets and more information, visit [www.sydneycatholic.org/TOB](http://www.sydneycatholic.org/TOB).

## Divine Renovation Conference with Fr James Mallon



On 10-12 February 2023, Divine Renovation will be hosting their 2023 Divine Renovation Australasia Conference in Sydney, Australia, with the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney as a Supporting Partner.

This conference will be a unique experience for active parishioners and clergy who want to help lead the parish from maintenance to mission. The conference will feature talks and workshops from speakers including Fr. James Mallon, Fr. Chris Ryan MGL and Daniel Ang among many others, on the topics of evangelisation and creating an invitational and missionary church.

This is also an opportunity to connect with other parish leaders and hear inspiring stories of parishes that have seen transformation by prioritising mission. For registration and more information, visit <https://divinerenovation.org/events/>

## Please remember in your Prayers:

Bernadette Gallagher  
Gina Iacono  
Sr Mary of Christ  
Wayne Smith  
Anne Fidler  
James McCabe  
John Foster  
Sam Stella  
Bernard Fonti  
Lorenzo Bocconi

\*names will remain on the list for 1 month unless notified

## Recently Deceased:

Helen Therese Dougall  
Colin Fisher  
Vincenzo Falcone  
Raymond McHannan  
Carmela Parisi  
Gerardo Di Giacomo  
Rocco Lo Surdo  
Joe Iacono  
Erin McCabe  
Claudio Compagnoni  
Denise Fatseas

## Anniversaries:

Fr Kevin O'Grady  
Giuseppe Nicotina  
Herbert Edar  
Lorrie Koglowski  
Mario Coco  
Onagh Batten  
Molly Daley  
Pat Harrison

## For the Souls of the Faithful Departed:

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





# Parish Notices



## All Hallows Childcare Centre



Archbishop Anthony Fisher has given approval for a childcare centre to be built at All Hallows. The centre will be built by Sydney Catholic Early Childcare Services (SCECS).

## Christmas Pageant

A big THANK YOU to Frances Cordaro and all those who assisted her in organising the wonderful Christmas Pageant. Thank you also to all of the beautiful children who participated, and the parents who supported them, to make the family Christmas mass so special!




Christmas Pageant



**New Years Eve Masses:**  
8am and 5:30pm

**New Years Day masses:**  
8:30am, 10am and 5pm

## Christmas Prayer

  
*Loving Father,*  
 help us remember  
 the **birth of Jesus**  
 that we may share in  
 the *song of the angels,*  
 the gladness of the shepherds  
 and the *worship of the wise men.*  
 Close the door of hate and  
*open the door of love* all over the  
 world. Let kindness come with every gift and  
 good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from  
 evil by the *blessing which Christ brings,* and teach us  
 to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning  
 make us happy to be *Thy children,* and the Christmas  
 evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts,  
*forgiving and forgiven,*  
 for Jesus' sake.  
 Amen.

## Baptisms



We welcome

**Ellis Bongiorno Weston**

**Grey Bongiorno Weston**

who were baptised into our parish community of All Hallows last weekend.



*"Anyone who welcomes this little child in my name welcomes Me." - Luke 9:48.*

## Purpose Retreat 2023

Inviting all young adults and youth leaders (18-35) to come along to a new archdiocesan retreat centered on the theme KNOW, LOVE, SERVE.

**Dates: 22-25 January**

**Location: Benedict XVI Retreat Centre**

Speakers include: Bishop Richard Umbers, Fr. Ben Saliba, Kristin Barlow, Sr Kathryn Kingsley MGL, Kevin and Helen Wagner, Fr Chris Desousa and Fr Dan McCaughan. The retreat will offer fellowship, social time, free time, food, sacraments, prayer, and more, all at the beautiful Benedict XVI Retreat Centre near Richmond.

Places are limited so register today for an incredible experience <https://www.trybooking.com/CDXCV>. For more information contact [info@sydneycatholicyouth.org](mailto:info@sydneycatholicyouth.org).

## Caritas Australia Ukraine Appeal



The continuing violence in Ukraine is a humanitarian crisis. Over three million people have been displaced and thousands of civilians have lost their lives.

Our longstanding partner, Caritas Ukraine, is on the ground to provide support for those forced from their homes. Donate today at [www.caritas.org.au/ukraine](http://www.caritas.org.au/ukraine) or call 1800 024 413 toll free.




## Children's Corner

Joy to the world! The Saviour is born

Q S N Q W F T H I I Q V I H X D L  
 R O P N Q I P Q A P L U D A Z J P  
 M I F U I M R Q X M B F E I V U D  
 N R C C S N S K Q M C Z G Z R O E  
 B Q R O K C A T U X X Z A E L E L  
 R H Y N K B Q Z H P A E G O O C E  
 I W A N L V M V A A Q N N A D A V  
 C V A P L V A D S R A B E S Q E A  
 S B K R P F G R Y M E G O U C P R  
 D D E N Z Y I S O P P T N S H C T  
 Z J S A Z Q S L E G N A H E D Y G  
 N O D M M F C T S I R H C J I S O  
 P S S H E E P K U J V S P M X N T  
 L E W C U E O I T V Z L Q C H L I  
 T P Z P W Q T Q X U D E M T U V L  
 H H C B W A R V F G H V S W J Y Q

Try to find these words:

- Christ
- Jesus
- Joseph
- Nazareth
- angels
- engaged
- happy
- inn
- manger
- peace
- sheep
- traveled

First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p><b>Is 52:7-10</b> A reading from the prophet Isaiah <b>All the ends of the earth shall see the saving power of our God.</b></p> <p>How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!' Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion. Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem. The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.</p> 	<p><b>(R.) All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. (R.)</li> <li>2. The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. (R.)</li> <li>3. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. (R.)</li> <li>4. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music. With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. (R.)</li> </ol> 	<p><b>Heb 1:1-6</b> A reading from the letter to the Hebrews <b>In our own time, God speaks to us through his Son.</b></p> <p>At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name. God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father, or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.</p>
	<p><b>Next Week's Readings</b></p> <p><b>Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God</b>  <b>1st Reading:</b> Num 6:22-27  <b>2nd Reading:</b> Gal 4:4-7  <b>Gospel:</b> Lk 2:16-21</p>	<p><b>Gospel Acclamation</b></p> <p>Alleluia, alleluia! A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth. Alleluia!</p> 

**Gospel**

**Jn 1:1-5. 9-14**  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
**The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory.**

In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us. And we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

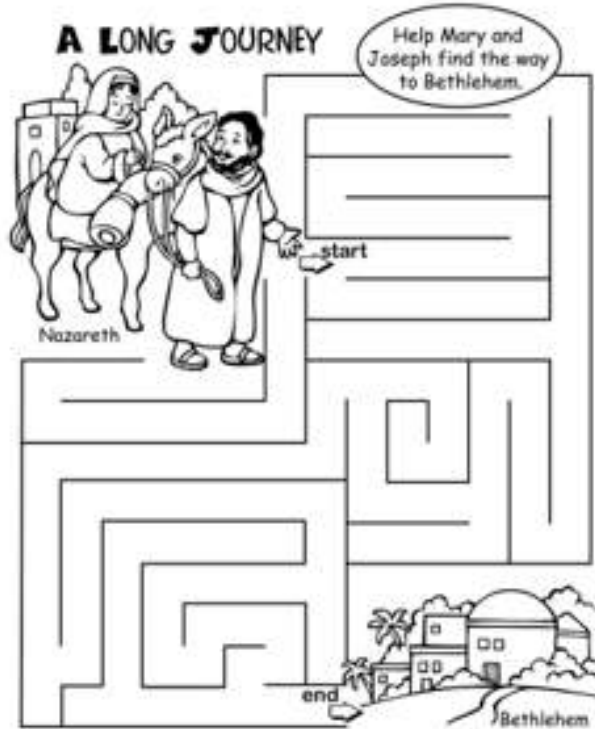


**Historical Context - The Nativity Scene**

St Francis of Assisi is credited with setting up the first nativity scene and thus establishing a tradition that is carried on today in homes, churches and public spaces in Christian communities everywhere. In 1223, in the town of Greccio he created a life size tableau of the nativity scene to heighten the awareness of the celebration of the birth of Christ. It included statues of the holy family and a live ox and donkey. The inclusion of the livestock has no scriptural support and it is to Francis that we owe the array of sheep, oxen and donkeys that have become standard inclusions in our nativity scenes.



# The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas Day



C A N O I T A V L A S D N S H S  
 O S H E P H E R D S R F A L L U  
 R A T S A M T S I R H C T E J S  
 N E M E S I W S H E E P I G O E  
 J G N I K M A R Y G I U V N S J  
 M O S Y I H X Q U R Q W I A E T  
 D O N K E Y R E G N A M T D P M  
 Z I L I N K E E P E R Y O H F



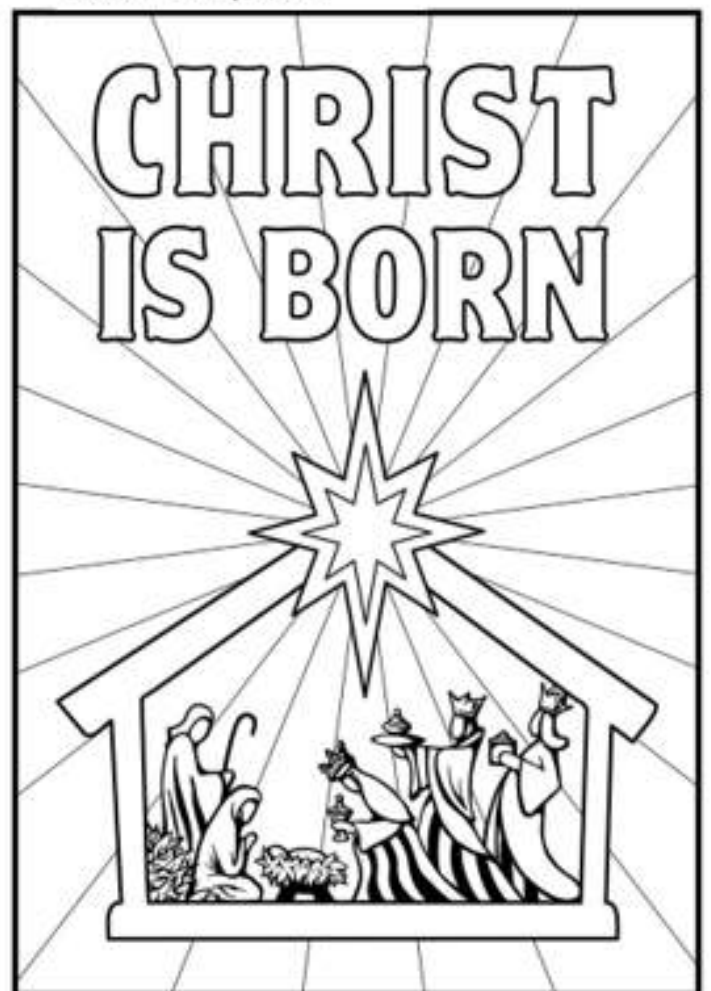
angels  
 Christmas  
 donkey  
 innkeeper  
 Jesus  
 Joseph  
 king  
 manger  
 Mary  
 nativity  
 salvation  
 sheep  
 shepherds  
 star  
 wisemen

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you spot the 10 differences between these 2 pictures of Mary & Joseph going to Bethlehem?



Colour this picture



# Today is born our Saviour



Draw a picture of the newly born Jesus lying in the manger.



God gives us all that we have. What are some of the gifts you have received from God?

