

All Hallows' Five Dock



Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God | Year A | Sunday 1st January

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:

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Parish Office:

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A Reflection by Fr Sebastian

Luke 2:16-21

The shepherds find Jesus in a manger in Bethlehem.

In today's Gospel, we learn that Mary honoured her commitment to God by naming her child Jesus, the name given to him by the angel Gabriel. In Matthew's Gospel, Joseph is told to name the child Jesus because he will save the people. The name Jesus means "God saves." Even in his name, Jesus announces the mission he came to accomplish.

Your family might use today's feast as an opportunity to talk about names. Reflect together on the name of each member of the family. What does each name mean? Why was each person so named?

Read together today's Gospel, Luke 2:16-21. Recall that the name Jesus means "God saves." Think about how Jesus fulfilled the mission that his name suggests. Pray as a family that each family member will fulfill their mission to be faithful followers of Jesus, in whom we find our salvation. Pray for Mary's help by praying together the Hail Mary or singing together, "Sing of Mary, Pure and Lowly."

With best wishes -
Fr Sebastian



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. 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.



First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p>Nm 6:22-27 A reading from the book of Numbers <i>They will call down my name on the children of Israel and I will bless them.</i></p> <p>The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ‘Say this to Aaron and his sons: “This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace.” This is how they are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.’</p> 	<p>(R.) May God bless us in his mercy.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. (R.) 2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. (R.) 3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.) 	<p>Gal 4:4-7 A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians <i>When the appointed time came, God sent his son, born of a woman.</i></p> <p>When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons. The proof that you are sons is that God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts: the Spirit that cries, ‘Abba, Father’, and it is this that makes you a son, you are not a slave any more; and if God has made you son, then he has made you heir.</p>
	<p>Next Week’s Readings</p> <p>The Epiphany of the Lord 1st Reading: Is 60:1-6 2nd Reading: Eph 3:2-3,5-6 Gospel: Mt 2:1-12</p> 	<p>Gospel Acclamation</p> <p>Alleluia, alleluia! In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son. Alleluia!</p> 

Gospel
<p>Lk 2:16-21 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke <i>The shepherds found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the crib... When the eighth day came they gave him the name of Jesus.</i></p> <p>The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told. When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.</p> 

Living the Gospel – A Peaceful New Year?
 <p>It is traditional around New Year’s Day to make resolutions for the upcoming year: changes that affect the way you live; the way you treat others; setting goals to aim for and work towards. In this context, it is interesting that the Church marks this day as a World Day of Peace. Perhaps, in amongst the self-promises to give up smoking, get a bit more fit, work and study harder and treat little sisters better, we might find time to consider ways in which we can bring about a more peaceful world – even just my little bit of it.</p>

From the perspective of ... The Shepherds
<p>What must the shepherds have made of the events surrounding the birth of Jesus? Shepherds occupied a very lowly status in Jewish society – they were generally regarded as thieves and cut-throats. Suddenly, these very lowly characters were thrust into great events: visions of angels; prophecies; the birth of the Messiah; and powerful experiences of the greatness of God. The gospel says they went back to their sheep glorifying and praising God. They must have been changed by this experience. Perhaps they never really made sense of what happened to them but more likely it was the beginning of a whole new life experience.</p> 

LOOK

Sunday 1 January 2023
 Luke 2:16-21
 Mary, the Holy Mother of God

In the
GOSPEL TODAY

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD!

When the shepherds find the baby in the manger, they repeat what the angels said - he is the Messiah! Mary thinks deeply about all they say. Jesus is a very, very special baby.

Mary and Jesus

Jesus needed a mother to look after him and help him grow up.

Colour this picture of Jesus and Mary.



Maze!

The shepherds ran to Bethlehem to find Jesus. Can you help them find him?



What is Mary's treasure?

Mary treasured all things the shepherds said. When we treasure something we look after it and keep it safe. We know the things that we treasure are special. Mary pondered all these things in her heart. When we "ponder" something we think deeply about it.

Can you find out what Mary treasured in her heart?

Add these missing letters to find out: a i s e h o s e r p



Thank you, God!

The shepherds were very excited when they had seen Jesus. They went away praising God. What wonderful things can you praise and thank God for? Here are some ideas for you to colour. Can you add your own ideas?

Help me, Jesus, to just get on with doing what you ask. Help me to be loving and kind with everyone I meet. I know you will be with me and you will help me. Amen.



tree



water



fruit



family



your idea

Answer: Jesus is the saviour. He is very special.