

All Hallows' Five Dock



The Holy Family Of Jesus, Mary and Joseph | Year B | Sunday 31st December 2023

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

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Monday - Thursday
9am - 4pm

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Scan the QR code to donate to support the Ministry and Mission of our Parish.



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A Reflection by Fr Sebastian



Gospel Reading Luke 2:22-40 (or shorter form: Luke 2:22,39-40)

Mary and Joseph present Jesus at the Temple in accordance with the Law of Moses.

Today's celebration of the Feast of the Holy Family highlights the importance of family in our religious life. We know that Mary and Joseph's faithfulness to God enabled them to cooperate in God's plan for our salvation by accepting the responsibility to raise God's Son, Jesus. From his parents, Jesus learned how to be a faithful believer in his Jewish tradition. Simeon's prophecy about Mary's sorrow alerts us to the importance of a family's commitment to one another, a commitment that is expressed in both good times and bad.

Gather as a family and recall times when your family showed its commitment to one another in good times and in bad. Recall times when your immediate family was supported by members of your extended family. Note that today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, and we see in the family of Jesus an example for our own family life. Read together today's Gospel, Luke 2:22-40. Joseph and Mary expressed their faithfulness to God through their observance of the Law of Moses. Simeon prophesied the grief that Mary would experience at the foot of Jesus' cross. One of the blessings of family life is our commitment to one another, sharing good times and supporting one another through difficult times. Conclude in prayer together thanking God for the grace expressed in your family's commitment to another. Write a prayer together, thanking God for your family life and asking God to strengthen your family's commitment to one another. Pray this prayer together.

With best wishes -
Fr Sebastian



Sacramental Life

Holy Mass:

Saturday: 8am & 5.30pm Vigil

Sunday: 8.30am (1st Sunday of the month - Italian mass), 10am and 5pm

Monday - Friday: 8am

Wednesday: Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration - 12pm - 4pm

- Start: Exposition at 12 noon
- Divine Mercy prayers: 3:00pm
- Reconciliation: 3pm - 3:40pm
- Benediction: 3:45pm • Finish: 4:00pm

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. To read the Archdiocese Child Safeguarding policy, please visit the parish website (<https://www.allhallows.org.au/safeguarding>).

| First Reading | Responsorial Psalm | Second Reading |
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| <p>Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3 A reading from the book of Genesis <i>Your own son shall be your heir.</i></p> <p>The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great'. 'My Lord', Abram replied, 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless...' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir.' And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be one of your own flesh and blood.' Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants,' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.</p>  | <p>(R.) The Lord remembers his covenant forever.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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.) 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.) 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.) 4. He remembers his covenant forever, his promise for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. (R.)  | <p>Hebrews 11:8, 11-12; 17-19 A reading from the letter to the Hebrews</p> <p>It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore. It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.</p>  |
| | <p>Next Week's Readings</p> | <p>Gospel Acclamation</p> |
| | <p>The Epiphany Of The Lord 1st Reading: Isa 60:1-6 2nd Reading: Eph 3:2-3, 5-6 Gospel: Matt 2:1-12</p> | <p>Alleluia, alleluia! In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son. Alleluia!</p>  |

Gospel

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| <p>Luke 2:22, 39-40 (Shorter Form) 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.</p> <p>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> |  |
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Living the Gospel – Faithful

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.

LOOK

Sunday 31 December 2023
 The Holy Family of Jesus,
 Mary and Joseph
 Luke 2:22-40

In the GOSPEL TODAY

A HOLY FAMILY!

Spot the difference

Can you spot five differences in this family photograph? Draw your own family's portrait on the back of this sheet.



Mary and Joseph take Jesus to be presented to God, just like every other Jewish baby boy. In the Temple the Holy Family meet Simeon and Anna, two wise and holy people. They both praise God when they see Jesus as they know he is no ordinary baby. This baby is the light of the world!

Maze Mary and Joseph took baby Jesus to the Temple.

Can you find which route they took?



Light of the world

Jesus is the light of the world. How can you be a light for people?



Write, or draw, inside the candle some of the ways you can help someone today.

A special baby

Simeon knew that baby Jesus would grow up to be very special. Circle the words which say what Simeon knew about Jesus.



A PRAYER TO SAY

Loving Father, help me to always see and understand how important Jesus is in my life. Help me to shine with Jesus' love so that other people can recognise him too. Amen.

Answers: Spot the difference: dad's glasses, top colour, child's hair clip, grandma's walking stick and grandpa's jumper.