

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

Feast of the holy Family
29th Dec 2019

Parish Safeguarding Officer:
Sandra Watkins: 0409492508

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Fr Sajan 0416 194825

Information for special parish events (BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS) Please contact Anne Beer on 5349 2168 or 0417 369 322

Today is **the feast** day of the **Holy Family**, Jesus of Nazareth, his mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and Saint Joseph, but it is also every family's **feast** day, since the **Holy Family** is the patron and model of all Christian families...

Anniversaries:

Liam Patrick Rice, Des Brennan, Sr Margaret Gustus, Michael Mahoney, Alice Howard, Eve Morgan, Kevin Flynn, Margaret Grundy, Hugh Briody, & Agnes Cocking.

Pray for all these friends of ours who are ill

Pat Byrne, Margaret MacDonald, Roger Molomby, Graeme Dawson, Blake Dridan, Fr Adrian McInerney, Shelagh Mulcahy, Valda Murphy, Michael Wise and all those in need of prayer.

ROSTERS

Introduction & Readings

Today: John Jess

Jan 5th: Gerrard Family

Prayers of the Faithful

Today: Bernadette Franc

Jan 5th: Gerrard Family

Assembly Leaders

Today: Anne Beer & Maurice Barwick

Jan 5th: Sue & Jim Mahony

Special Minister

Today: Gail Hall

Jan 5th: Anne Beer

Music

Jan 5th: Naomi Gerrard

Church Cleaning, Linen & Flowers

Jan 5th – 12th: Bernadette Franc & Therese Jess

Church Ground

Jan 5th – 12th: John Jess & Bill Franc

Newsletter:

January: Bernadette Franc 0427678830

Mass Times next Sunday:

SUNDAY JANUARY 5TH

Beaufort Mass 8.30

Smythesdale Mass 6.30 pm Saturday

Linton Mass 9.00 am

Weekday Mass Times:

9.30am Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Jan 12th: Cuppa and farewell to Fr Sajan after 8.30 Mass

Columban Calendars:

Please see Sue Mahony if you would like a Columban Calendar. \$10 ea.

Many thanks to all who donated goods to the Christmas hamper and **Thanks also** to all those who helped in any way with preparations for, and participation in, our Christmas Eve Mass

Plenary Council Delegates from the Diocese of Ballarat.

Bishop Paul is inviting us to nominate delegates from our diocese for the sessions of the Australian Plenary Council to be held in 2020 and 2021. Copies of Bishop Paul's letter are available through parishes, through the diocesan website at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au Nominations need to reach Bishop Paul by Friday, February 7, 2020

EXPLORING THE WORD

Again we see a communication from God, through a dream, and an angel leading Joseph into risky and dangerous behaviour. Such a journey in the first century—across the desert of Sinai—would have been a long and arduous trek. Again, Joseph's response to God's command is made with absolute trust and confidence. The parallels with the story of Moses are obvious.

- Read the opening three chapters of Exodus and trace the parallels. It was well established in the early church and from contemporary Roman sources that Jesus was known as a Nazarene, so Matthew uses the device of Archelaus, a son of Herod the Great and an inept and evil ruler, to explain how the Holy Family came to live in Nazareth. The protection Joseph offers to his fledgling family is paralleled with the protection God offers to this child who is God's Son. Mary and Joseph provide a positive model for all parents who selflessly risk all for their child.
- How is love, concern and protection expressed in your family?
- What are some of the sacrifices that you make as a parent or that have been made for you by your parents?

DID YOU KNOW?

- Matthew often presents Jesus as the new Moses. There are many parallels in this text: a threat of death at birth, an escape, being called out of Egypt and being under the special protection of God.
- After the death of Herod the Great, his kingdom was divided between three of his sons: Archelaus, Herod Antipas (who ruled Galilee and was the Herod mentioned at Jesus' death) and Philip. All these men ruled only as regents under Rome, which held the real power.
- In Matthew's Gospel, Mary and Joseph live in Bethlehem rather than at Nazareth in Galilee. Bethlehem is in Judaea, not far from Jerusalem, and thus comes under the rule of Archelaus.
- Archelaus proved to be an inept ruler and was stripped of his power by Rome. Judaea was instead placed under direct Roman rule through a Roman governor. Pontius Pilate was such a governor.