



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

Liturgy Times

SUNDAY:

8:30am, 10:00am.

Children's Liturgy during school term

TUESDAY: 8:30am Adoration, 9.15am Mass

WEDNESDAY: 7:00am

THURSDAY: 9:15am

FRIDAY: 8:30am Adoration, 9.15am Mass

SATURDAY: 9:00am

(Adoration and Reconciliation after Mass)

5:00pm (Vigil Mass)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 9:30-10:00am; 4:25-4:50pm



Pastoral Team:

Fr Peter Kwak PP

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Christmas 25 December 2021



Merry Christmas

From Regina Coeli

A few days before Christmas I went to Roselands Shopping Centre, like a man on a mission, after having decided that I did not want to find out what shopping might be like any closer to Christmas. I might have been projecting but it seemed that 'rush' was the name of the game: rush, rush, Christmas rush! Then I wondered how we the shoppers might have looked from the perspective of those who were serving us from the other side of the counter. Could they tell what kind of Christmas we were getting ready for? For whom we were buying the gifts or for how many we were cooking? Whether gladly or reluctantly? With or without hope? Behind every rush there is a story - a story deserving of patient reflection free of any rush. As I sat down to rest awhile with a drink called 'Red Rush' in my hand, I thought of the following wishes for all of us:

- * May our own meaningful stories be treasured and perceived more deeply, without being overtaken by the noisy stories incessantly told by the "attention-thieves" of this world.
- * May we remember to be grateful for all the ways in which we are able to celebrate and benefit from the blessed season of Christmas.
- * Finally, may we learn to look at things from the other side of the counter - from the perspective of the One who, by lying in a manger and becoming food for us, clearly indicated that he would give anything, everything to be at the service of our eternal happiness. Merry Christmas everyone!

- Fr Peter -

The Week Ahead

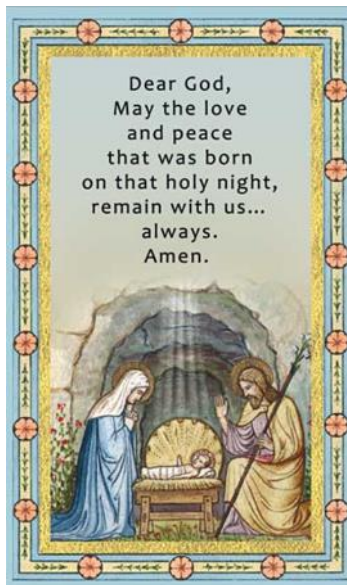
Sun 26 December Holy Family	8.30am 10.00am	No Saturday 5pm Mass Mass Mass
Mon 27 December		No Mass
Tue 28 December	9.15am	Mass
Wed 29 December	7am	Mass
Thu 30 December	9.15am	Mass
Fri 31 December	9.15am	Mass
Sat 1 January 2022 Mary Mother of God	9.00am 9:25- 9:55am 4:15- 4:45pm 5pm	Mass Adoration & Reconciliation Reconciliation Vigil Mass
Sun 2 January Epiphany	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass

Safety rules regarding Mass attendance

The latest rules:

- Please sign in for contact tracing
- Mask-wearing is (again) required.
- Practise social distancing where possible
- Max. capacity is 260 according to the 2 square metre rule
- There is no need to make a booking
- Congregational singing is discouraged

PS: Some might not feel ready to return to Mass yet due to health concerns. Holy Communion can be brought to you (please contact the parish office). Alternatively, you could start gradually by attending one or more of the weekday Masses where social distancing is never an issue.



Nativity 2021 style



Recently Deceased

Dorothy Browne, Kathleen Coleman, Gabriel Stanghieri, David Brown, Bill Gately, June Roebuck, Bradley Murphy, Bernie Langtry, Peter Peters, Frank Capra

In Loving Memory

Peter Pezzutti, Valerie Zacka, Lena Xuereb, Josephine & Spiro Bajada, Giuseppe Grani-ero, Garry Langridge

Please remember those who are in ill

health especially: Josephina Algozzina, Mildred Petit, James Ybasco, Josh Venture, Carmen Bajada, Anne Kensey, Monica Costa, Quang Vo, Matt Nugent, Ann McDowell, Damiano Serravalle, George Dagher, Mrs Saba, Pat Mortimer, Mrs Donald Burch, Mary Daniels, Geoff McDowell, Elena Mura, Mr TD (Terry) Wall, Kim Delaney, Lauren Sotano, Sam Hy, Georgia Brown, Luke Compton, Paul Camelotti.

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A few of "Santa's little helpers" had prepared for them a small gift package each, for which the children expressed impressive amounts of gratitude. I wondered in hindsight if the essence of a party could be defined as *preserving that which we used to be able to enjoy as children*.

The foods were handled by masked volunteers who showed professionalism all throughout. A few even came out of the woodwork to help out - what legends! I made a comment on the night which, I believe, is worth repeating: 'It is amazing how a whole community can benefit when a small group of volunteers decide to make a sacrifice of loving service!' My hope is that more small groups of volunteers will emerge over time in our community such that the divinely-inspired-life-giving-force at Regina Coeli will surprise everyone with its gentle growth. Given our complicated situation to do with the virus, the organisers and I had aimed for a simpler version of Parish Christmas Party this year. But in the end there were more participants than we had tables and chairs for and their satisfaction seemed no less profound. My own gratitude only increased when, a few hours after the party had concluded, ferocious gusts of wind and rain made me spring to attention, fortunately, with everyone safely in their own homes by then. Come to think of it, Parish Christmas Party 2021 might have been much more than a modest success! - Fr Peter -

Rosary Statue

Mr & Mrs B. Murray
4 Leon Ave.
Ph: 02 9750 0776



Parish Secretary
TBC
9554 8155
Tues 11am-4pm
&
Fri 11am-4pm

Sacramental Coordinator/ PSSO
Mrs Elizabeth Gooley
9554 8155
reginasacramental@gmail.com
Tuesday and Thursday from
11.30am - 3.30pm

School Principal
Mr Chris Egan
Asst. Principal
Mr Peter Busch
REC
Mrs Elizabeth
Webster



Christmas Party 2021

Parish Christmas Party 2021 was a modest success. It was a hot day which probably felt extra intolerable due to what has been quite a cool summer thus far. Just after the tables and chairs had been set up around 3pm - one of the hottest hours of the day - a volunteer pointed out that, according to popular weather forecasts, there was a 80% chance of rain by the time of the actual party. Given the whimsical weather patterns of late, it seemed plausible that the scorching temperature could rapidly decline and be followed by merciless rain. So, should we preemptively move the entire setup to the hall or take our chances with the preferred option of having it outdoors? Fortunately, another volunteer with access to a more professional weather forecast assured us that rain was unlikely and, from then on, there was no looking back as far as I was concerned!

Parish Christmas parties used to be preceded by large congregations at the 5pm Vigil Mass. Not this time, not quite. Even the Mass was modestly attended. Afterward there was no great overflow of people who were unable to squeeze in under the overarching school tent. There was calm, almost serenity, not to mention sufficient social distancing, amongst those who were awaiting the start of the party. To be honest, I thought that there was a touch of nervousness in the air. After all, everyone was aware of the main reason why Parish Christmas Party was cancelled in 2020 and noticeably different in 2021 - a difference of which had been made more pronounced by contrast to the larger gathering in May 2021. No one was oblivious to the news about the rising case numbers or the vociferous calls for the pendulum to swing back toward the state of lockdown. But I imagine that those who had gathered were quietly confident and mostly at peace with the choice they had made.

But the children! Even without a jumping castle (which had been booked and then cancelled for more reasons than one), they seemed to know how to enjoy themselves, as naturally as they knew how to breathe. It did not take long before they were freely mixing and immersing themselves in spontaneous activities the rules of which only they knew. Their smaller than usual numbers appeared to be compensated by the fact that they were now socialising dynamically across all age groups. It was as though they had found in one another new brothers, sisters and cousins.

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Christmas Vigil

Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

How Jesus Christ came to be born

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph; being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us.' When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home and, though he had not had intercourse with her, she gave birth to a son; and he named him Jesus.

Midnight Mass

Gospel

Luke 2:1-14

'In the town of David a saviour has been born to you'

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn.

In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'



Christmas Day

Gospel

John 1:1-18

The Word was made flesh, and lived among us

In the beginning was the Word:

and 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.

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness,

as a witness to speak for the light,

so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light,

only a witness to speak for the light.

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.

John appears as his witness. He proclaims:

'This is the one of whom I said:

He who comes after me ranks before me

because he existed before me.'

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received –

yes, grace in return for grace,

since, though the Law was given through Moses,

grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ.

No one has ever seen God;

it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart,

who has made him known.

