



# WELCOME TO SACRED HEART PARISH TATURA



Telephone - 03 5824 1049, Fax - 03 5824 2745  
Email - [tatura@cdos.org.au](mailto:tatura@cdos.org.au)  
Web - [www.sacredheartparishtatura.com.au](http://www.sacredheartparishtatura.com.au)  
<https://www.facebook.com/sacredheartparishtatura>

*Merry  
Christmas*



Presbytery – 65 Hogan Street, PO Box 110, Tatura 3616  
Fr John Paul Pasala – Parish Priest  
Mary Connelly-Gale – Secretary, Colleen Catanese - Administration

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**22 December 2019**



*Readings for  
this week:*

Isaiah 7:10-14  
Romans 1:1-7  
Matthew 1:18-24



*Readings for  
next Sunday:*

Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6,12-14  
Colossians 3:12-21  
Matthew 2:13-15,19-23



## Midnight Mass

Egeria, a pilgrim to Jerusalem from 380 AD, recorded the first evidence of Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. From there the tradition reached Rome; Pope Sixtus III celebrated Midnight Mass in the chapel of the Nativity in the Basilica of St Mary Major in 430; By the 12<sup>th</sup> century the tradition became more popular as priests were given permission to celebrate three Christmas Masses.

In 2009 Pope Benedict celebrated the Mass at 10pm. The new 2011 Roman Missal now names this Mass "Mass during the night". This year, Pope Francis will celebrate the Mass at 9.30pm in St Peter's Basilica. This Christmas eve Bishop Shane will celebrate Mass in the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo at 12 midnight.

## Looking at the Readings

The readings today look like those for the feast of the Annunciation and Incarnation: the prophet Isaiah foretells of a maiden with child; St Paul speaks of the Son of God who took on human nature and the Gospel according to Matthew relates the annunciation to Joseph of the birth of Jesus. Unlike the readings over the first three Sundays of Advent that prepare for the second coming of Christ or the message of John the Baptist, This Sunday's readings focus on the imminent birth of Christ and those who are instrumental in his coming: David, Joseph and Mary.

There is a deeper layer to the annunciation of the birth, that is the meaning of God-with-us: Isaiah introduces the title Emmanuel "God is with us" Paul speaks of the grace and mission to proclaim the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord and in Matthew's Gospel that Jesus will save us and take away our sins.

We celebrate this day with memory of the benefits from long ago, thanksgiving for the gifts of today and the hope and promises for tomorrow. And we have the blessing of Paul from his letter to the Romans: "May God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

## Quote of the Week

We must not seek the child Jesus in the pretty figures of our Christmas cribs. We must seek him among the undernourished children who have gone to bed at night with nothing to eat.  
St Oscar Romero 24/12/1979

## Prayer for the Week

Eternal God,  
in the psalms of David,  
in the words of the prophets,  
in the dream of Joseph  
your promise is spoken.

At last, in the womb of the Virgin Mary your Word takes flesh. Teach us to welcome Jesus, the promised Emmanuel, and to preach the good news of his coming, that every age may know him as the source of redemption and grace. (1998 ICEL Missal)



## On The Lighter Side

What's a mathematician's favourite Christmas snack?

A: mince  $\pi$ .

Why won't Donald Trump go to midnight Mass this year?

A. Because of the fake pews



## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE 2019

### Christmas Eve

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December Carols 6.00pm

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December Mass 6.30pm

### Christmas Day

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December Mass 9.00am

Advent Wreath  
Signs of Faith



### LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

On this Fourth Sunday of Advent we light the Mary Candle on our Advent Wreath. Mary is the bearer of Christ into the world. May we be like Mary and be Christ-bearers too.

### THANK YOU FROM ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Members of the St Vincent de Paul Conference in Tatura would like to thank all those parishioners who gave gifts for the Christmas Tree Appeal or volunteered to hand out presents to the prisoners. Your generosity is always very much appreciated and we would not be able to carry out this important outreach work without your valuable contributions. Your efforts represent the true spirit of the season.



### MASSES FOR THE COMING WEEK

<b>Monday</b>	23 Dec	
<b>Tuesday</b>	24 Dec	6:30 pm Mass
<b>Wednesday</b>	25 Dec	9:00 am Mass
<b>Thursday</b>	26 Dec	No Mass
<b>Friday</b>	27 Dec	No Mass
<b>Saturday</b>	28 Dec	<b>6:00 pm Mass</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	29 Dec	<b>9:30 am Mass</b>
<b>Saturday Reconciliation</b>		11:30 am

### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM FR JOHN PAUL PASALA

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas.

May joys of the season fill your heart with good will and cheer.

May the chimes of Christmas Glory add up more shine and spread smiles across the miles, today and in the New Year 2020.



**Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving**

Aurelio Iuliano (Italy)

**For those whose anniversary occurs at this time**

Thomas Gregory Morley

**Our sick and their carers**

Sean Raymond, Filomena Villani, Gail Pollerd, Cecilia Bannan, Harry McCullagh, Peter Anderson, Harley Jones, Brendan Steele

Date	Commentator	Reader	Gospel Procession	Presentation of the Gifts	Special Ministers
Christmas Eve 24 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 6.30 pm	Carol Coulston	Maria Spedding	Evert Worm	S Gregg A Ciavarella	D Worm G Ranson K Gaffy
Christmas Day 25 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 9.00am	Denise Woodman	Debbie Turvey	Bernie Maher	C Serra M Normington	E Worm D Bourke A Ciavarella
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 6 pm	Carol Coulston	Sheila Gregg	Trish Warnett	D Corrigan P Newman	E Worm K Gaffy C Coulston
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 9.30 am	Denise Woodman	Kay Gaffy	Bernie Maher	M Normington C Serra	D Worm D Bourke D Turvey