

WELCOME TO SACRED HEART PARISH TATURA

Fr Michael Morley – Parish Priest

Sacred Heart – Tatura

Telephone Tatura – 03 – 5824 1049
Fax Tatura – 03 – 5824 2745
Email tatura@cdos.org.au
Web www.sacredheartparishtatura.com.au
<https://www.facebook.com/sacredheartparishtatura>

Presbytery – 65 Hogan Street

PO Box 110 TATURA 3616

Judith Steele – Secretary
Marli Kelly – Administration

We acknowledge the Yorta Yorta nation, the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet today, as they have occupied and cared for this country for many generations. We also celebrate their continuing contributions to the life of region.



**Sacred
Heart
Parish**
TATURA

Readings -
Year B
Mark
Weekday Year 2

*Parish Pastoral Council
In recess until March 2018*

As Christ's disciples our mission is:

- * to be inspired by Christ
- * to actively live out Christ's message and the Gospel values by respecting, celebrating and honouring our Catholic traditions
- * to provide welcome and sanctuary for all
- * to foster a sense of social justice and to protect, nurture and support our Catholic community and the wider community by respecting life, self, others and the environment.



Fourth Sunday of Advent 24 December 2017

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

I'd like to take this time to wish all our parishioners a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

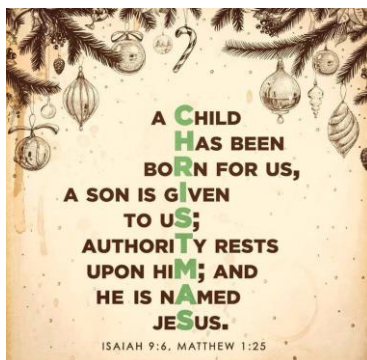
Your presence in our faith community is what makes Sacred Heart a wonderful parish.

We look forward to 2018 and celebrating with you all in our great Parish.

Bishop Les' Christmas message has been uploaded to YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gtqo78JfXka>

Alternatively you can view the Video on
www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Fr Michael and
the office staff



HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY LAURIE NOONAN

We wish our very special parishioner Laurie Noonan a very happy 90th Birthday for Thursday 28th December.



ACHIEVEMENTS 2017

- We continue to have excellent attendances at Children's Mass on the second 10am Mass of the month
- "Cuppa after Mass" on Children's Mass Sunday continues to be well attended.
- Weekday Liturgies and Mass are still well attended by a faithful group of older parishioners.
- We continue to have an Anointing Mass every month with strong attendance.
- We celebrated Mother's Day and Father's Day during the Sunday Liturgies. We presented flowers to the mothers and prayer coasters to the fathers. These are always lovely liturgies.
- The celebration of St. Donato's Feast Day each year for the Italian community is a major event in the parish. The office staff liaised with the Italian organisers - especially for the music.
- We continue to have very good responses to special collections for Project Compassion, Priest's Retirement Foundation, Seafarers Sunday, Mission Sunday, and Centre Care etc.
- The "In God's Family" Baptismal program (with 4 parishioners sending cards to the children on the anniversary of their baptism) has been running for 7 years now.
- Our Chaplaincy at the prison remains strong. Chaplains visit and celebrate Mass with Fr. Michael and the prisoners every Friday.

CONTINUED PAGE 3

We
pray for



Our recently deceased and those who are grieving	Fr Kevin Flanagan (Albury)
For those whose anniversary occurs	Vincenzo Salsone, Pellegrina De Angelis, Thomas Gregory Morley
Our sick and their carers	Eileen Ryan, Anne Heathman, John Harford, Terry White, Betty Curtis, Margot Kerrins

(Our practice is to leave the names on the sick list for a month. To extend the time, please contact the parish office.)

Date	Commentator	Reader	Gospel Procession	Presentation of the Gifts	Special Ministers	Counters
Sat 30 th Dec 6pm	Carol Coulston	Denise Woodman	Pat Baldwin	D Corrigan P Maroney	D Bourke D Turvey A Ciavarella	Trish Warnett
Sun 31 st Dec 9.30am	Steph Hicks	Rob Miller	Bernie Maher	M Sgammota T Palmeri	R Kelly E Worm J Webster	

MASSES FOR THE COMING WEEK:

DAY	DATE	
Monday	25 Dec	Christmas Day Mass 9am
Tuesday	26 Dec	No Mass
Wednesday	27 Dec	No Mass
Thursday	28 Dec	No Mass
Friday	29 Dec	No Mass
Saturday	30 Dec	6pm Mass
Sunday	31 Dec	9.30am Mass
Saturday Reconciliation		No Reconciliation
ROSARY	15 Minutes before weekday Mass	

DECEMBER / JANUARY DIARY DATES

Mon	25 Dec	Christmas Day Mass 9am
Tues	26 Dec	No Mass
Wed	27 Dec	No Mass
Thurs	28 Dec	No Mass
Fri	29 Dec	No Mass
Sat	30 Dec	6pm Mass
Sun	31 Dec	9.30am Mass
Mon	1 Jan	No Mass
Tues	2 Jan	No Mass
Wed	3 Jan	9.15am Mass
Thurs	4 Jan	9.15am Mass
Fri	5 Jan	9.15am Mass
Sat	6 Jan	6pm Mass
Sun	7 Jan	9.30am Mass

PASTORAL CARE

- Pauline Hindson 5824 1841; Marli Kelly 0457 772 869
- Anne Hutchison 5824 3460 Debbie Worm 5824 1841

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

December 24, 2017 - 4th Sunday of Advent

*"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" -
LUKE 1:28*

Faith is a gift from God. Take time in silence and thank Him for all the gifts He has given you. Try to set aside any anger or resentment you have and really open your heart to receive the gift of God's mercy and forgiveness. We can't give what we don't have. We need to receive God's mercy and forgiveness first before we can give it to others.

PATHWAYS FOR FAMILIES

Share in the Spirit of Christmas, by taking home our gift to families this Christmas. A free copy of the "Pathways for Families" booklet is available at all Masses in the Narthex.



ACHIEVEMENTS CONTINUED

- We continue to have a Pastoral Care and support plan for the wellbeing of our parishioners, in particular providing meals for families where illness, age. or tragedy has impacted them in the short term.
- We have a small funeral support team which works closely with the bereaved families. This support is invaluable and a great comfort to the families.
- CWL is still a real presence in the parish, catering for funerals and other parish events. However, like so many organisations, they are having difficulty filling the office bearer positions.
- Baptisms – we continue to have a lot of baptisms. Using the new registration form for baptism and collecting useful family data, we are adding many more families to our parish data base.
- First Friday Masses continue to be attended by the school children, parents, teachers and parishioner. This is always a well attended Mass and draws the parish and school even closer together.
- Grandparents' Day was a huge success – again - Church was full.
- Fr. Michael continues to attend our School Assemblies where the Gospel of the week is read and discussed with the students. This provides a firm structure for our Catholic Identity into the future
- We have changed our Mass times to 6.00pm on Saturday evening and 9.30am on Sunday morning. This seems to be working well. We have an average weekend attendance at Mass of 136.
- We have a roster now for drivers to bring the prisoners from Dhurringile Prison to Mass each Sunday. This is working very well and the prisoners, Chaplains and drivers socialise in the Presbytery after Mass.
- Monsignor Peter Jeffrey is now also a Chaplain and celebrates Mass at the prison on a regular basis. He visits the prison midweek on Wednesday which is a bonus for the prisoners.
- Planned giving continues to be 98% of the amount pledged – however, the total is reducing due to some parishioners reducing their commitments and the deaths of some elderly parishioners.
- The parish rolled over the planned giving for another 12 months. It may have another campaign in 2018.
- The parish hall was repaired and painted internally.

PLANS FOR THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS

- We are currently working on establishing a really strong Parish Pastoral Council (PPC). Fr. Michael is concerned that we will not have clear direction in the parish without a healthy, viable and vocal PPC. Again, we need the younger people in our parish to become involved and show a keen interest in the future of the parish. Included in this is an increase in the reach of our pastoral care program which we would like to see grow and be inclusive of all people in our parish.
- We are working hard towards utilizing the convent as an income stream for the future parish and maintaining our beautiful parish buildings as funding allows.
- We are continuing to protect all children, young people and vulnerable adults and children in our parish from physical, sexual and mental abuse using the resources provided by the Diocese and meeting frequently with the Child Safety Officer from the Chancery.
- Fr. Michael now has more time to visit the sick and elderly parishioners. This is a welcome activity and means a lot to the parishioners. It is just another way in which we can respond to the pastoral and spiritual needs of the parish.



Readings for
this week:

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16
Romans 16:25-17
Luke 1:26-38



Readings for
next Sunday:

Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3
Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19
Luke 2:22-40



Liturgical Jottings

Advent Calendars

The original purpose of the Advent calendar was counting down to Christmas and revealing a prayer, action or thought each day about welcoming the Saviour into the world. The commercial world has copied the concept but replaced the spiritual and social aspects with "Christmas treats" or more secular themes.



The Angel's Candle, the fourth candle of the wreath, announces the Babe of Bethlehem, whose birth the angels announced on Christmas Eve. Christ will come again with all his angels to bring us to his everlasting kingdom.

© Diocese of Sandhurst 2017

Looking at the Readings

The world in which we live and the events of which we are a part are the stage upon which the drama of salvation is enacted. God works through real flesh and blood people, those like David, who occupy the seats of power and influence as well as those like Mary and us, who are unseen and unknown. All can be agents of salvation. God's future is in our hands. Human history is really the history of salvation. Each turn of God's revealing causes us to wonder at what might come next. In this tension, mystery is revealed. What was hidden is now made known. Jesus establishes a people of covenant promise. Still, the mystery is unknown, for it continues to come to us from the future, revealing more and more of itself in the junctures of history.

The waiting of Advent is over. In the face of the impossible, God works the possible. During Advent, we have been waiting for the realisation of the promise made to David. We have been waiting for Mary's yes. With this yes, hope is enlivened, and history is changed. There is an unimaginable future for all people, a future that comes from God. Salvation is created among us, and the fate of history is altered by a godly presence. This salvation resides in the hearts of those who believe in the gift, and who stay awake eagerly to know its coming. With David we await it, with the nations we long for it, with Mary we behold it. © Dianne Bergant CSS

Pope Francis on Christmas

Peace to the children, on this special day on which God became a child, above all peace to those deprived of the joys of childhood because of hunger, wars or the selfishness of adults.

From Pope Francis' Christmas Message Urbi et Orbi 2016

Christmas Eve Prayer

Come quickly, we pray, Lord Jesus, and do not delay, that those who trust in your compassion may find solace and relief in your coming.

On the Lighter Side

I would always tell my children around Christmas that this is Jesus' birthday and he only received three things so do not expect too many things under the tree. When it came time for Mass on Christmas morning, I asked the children what they thought Jesus would think of Santa and all the hype. Would he ask Santa a question? My youngest daughter replied, "I think Jesus would ask how come I only got three things and none of them were toys?"

