

# WELCOME TO SACRED HEART PARISH TATURA

Fr Michael Morley – Parish Priest

## Sacred Heart – Tatura

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Mary Connelly-Gale – Secretary

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 this region.



**Sacred  
Heart  
Parish**  
TATURA

Readings

Year C

Luke

Weekday Year 1



## Parish Pastoral Council

In recess until further notice 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.

## THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD – 25 DECEMBER 2018



## Mary's Christmas Dream

I had a dream Joseph. I don't understand it, not really, but I think it was about a birthday celebration of Our Son. I think that was what it was all about. The people had been preparing for it for about six weeks.

They had decorated the house and bought new clothes. They'd gone shopping many times and bought elaborate gifts. It was peculiar though, because the presents were not for Our Son.

They wrapped them in beautiful paper and tied them with lovely bows, and stacked them under a tree. Yes, a tree Joseph, right in their house. They decorated the tree also. The branches were full of glowing Balls and sparkling ornaments. There was a figure on the top of the tree. It looked like an angel to me. Oh, it was so beautiful. Everyone was laughing and they were very happy. They were all excited about the gifts. They gave the gifts to each other, Joseph, not to Our Son. I don't think they even knew Him. They never mentioned His name. Doesn't it seem odd for people to go to all that trouble to celebrate someone's birthday if they don't know Him? I had the strangest feeling that if Our Son had gone to this celebration, He would have been intruding. Everything was so beautiful Joseph, and

everyone was so happy, but it made me want to cry. How sad for Jesus not to be wanted at His own birthday party. I'm glad it was only a dream. How terrible Joseph, if it had been real!

**"Let's put Christ back into Christmas"**

**For then there will be Peace on Earth for all.**

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Readings  
for the  
Night:

Isaiah 9:1-7  
Titus 2:11-14  
Luke 2:1-14



Readings  
for the  
Dawn:

Isaiah 62:11-12  
Titus 3:4-7  
Luke 2:15-20



Reading  
for the  
Day

Isaiah 52:7-10  
Hebrews 1:1-6  
John 1:1-18



## Liturgical Jottings

### Christmas Creed

At the Christmas Eve/Day Masses the assembly sings or recites the creed, "I believe in God the Father ..." It is our statement of belief as formulated in the earliest Christian period. It is the basis of our baptismal promises. It is recited on Sundays and Solemnities (major feast days). On Christmas Day we add a simple ritual to acknowledge the coming of Christ among us by a genuflection at the words "and became man" (Nicene Creed) or "who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary" Apostles' Creed.

## Drummer Boy Carol



The carol composed by Katherine Davis in 1941 relates how a poor young boy was summoned by the Wise Men to the birth of Jesus. Without a gift for the infant the little drummer boy played his drum with Jesus' mother, Mary's approval; recalling, "I played my best for him ... he smiled at me."

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## Looking at the Feast of Christmas

Today the Christmas celebration gains a new depth of theological meaning. At midnight, the birth in history was proclaimed. At dawn, the initiative of God's gift was declared and the community's joyful gratitude was announced. In this third celebration, the identity of Christ and the new way of life that he brings is announced.

If our eyes are open and alert, we can see that God has won a victory for us, one that is tangible and realised in our midst. It is an overwhelming victory, one that permanently conquers the enemy. This victory has a profound impact on every place, every time and every people. The birth of the infant, the king in David's line, promises salvation to all who long for it. This salvation is a new vision of wisdom, one that has been realised in Christ, God's agent of grace in the world. It is a new world, one of inclusivity and of righteous honour. It is a new age, one that is ushered in by the child who is leading a victory procession.

Ultimately, only eyes of faith allow us to see the fullness of God's revelation. The glory of the infant king is the very presence of God made flesh. Jesus is the eternal incarnate Word who has pitched his tent among us. Ours is not a distant God; the incarnate wisdom of God is among us, and we are called to a change of heart that will allow us to see this wonder.  
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## Prayer for Christmas

Lord, in this holy season of prayer and song and laughter, we praise you for the great wonders you have sent us: for shining star and angel's song, for infant's cry in lowly manger. We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child. We behold his glory, and are bathed in its radiance. We kneel before you as shepherds, innkeepers, wise men. Help us to rise bigger than we are. Amen.

## Pope Francis on Christmas

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Happy Christmas! In Bethlehem, Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary. This event is renewed today for the faith of the Christian people relives in the Christmas liturgy the mystery of the God who comes, who assumes our mortal human flesh, and who becomes lowly and poor in order to save us. Great is the tenderness of our Father. Christmas invites us to focus on the sign of the Child and to recognise him in the faces of little children, especially those for whom, like Jesus, "there is no place in the inn" *From Pope Francis' Christmas Message 2017*

## On the Lighter Side

On Christmas Eve, in which direction does Santa start? South. Everywhere is south from the north pole. How much did Santa pay for his sleigh? Nothing, it was on the house!

