

of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness; Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

**Communion Antiphon** **Baruch 5:5; 4:36**

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

**For whom the bell...**

To make it possible for everyone to attend church next Sunday, we are going to have a special "No Excuse Sunday".

Cots will be placed in the foyer for those who say "Sunday is my only day to sleep in".

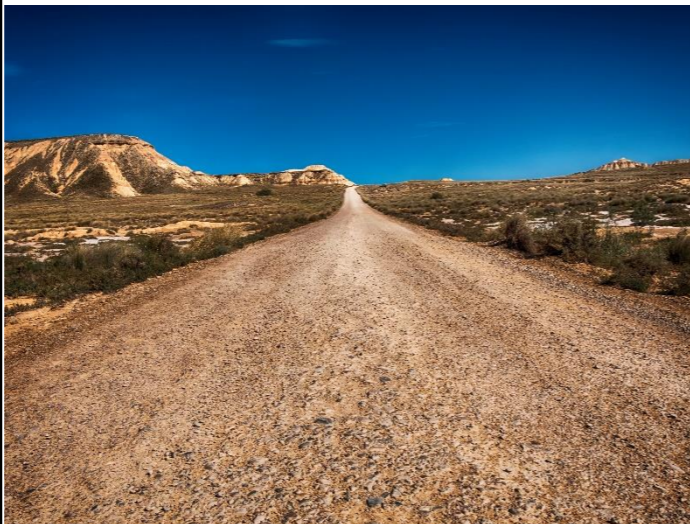
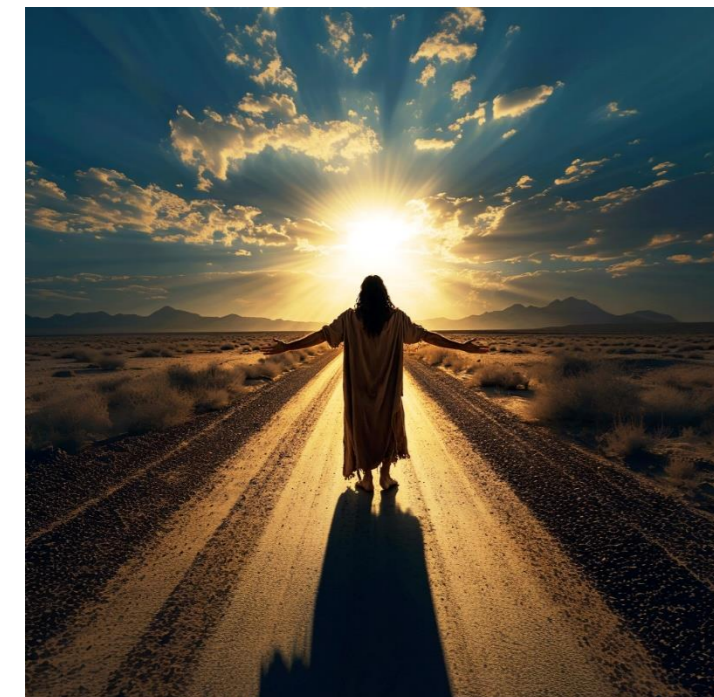
There will be a special section with lounge chairs for those who feel that our pews are too hard.

We will have steel helmets for those who say, "The roof would cave in if I ever came to church".

Relatives and friends will be in attendance for those who can't go to church and cook dinner too.

Doctors and nurses will be in attendance for those who plan to be sick on Sunday.

The sanctuary will be decorated with both Christmas poinsettias and Easter lillie for those who have never seen the church without them.



**Prayer for Renewal**

*Blessed are You, Father, who, in Your infinite love sent us your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, that we may have life, and have it in abundance.*

*By the power of the Holy Spirit, renew our Eucharistic communities. May they be places of encounter with the living Christ, centres of evangelisation and outreach to our community in love and mercy. Grant us the gifts of faith, hope and love to be faithful disciples of Jesus and radiant witnesses to the people of Sydney. Amen*

**Our Lady, Help of Christians,** *pray for us.*  
**Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the New Evangelisation,** *pray for us.*  
**St Mary of the Cross MacKillop,** *pray for us*

**Prayer for Ukraine**

*O Lord our God, look down with mercy on the Ukrainian people. Protect and save them from the unjust aggressors who seek to subdue them. Grant them steadfast trust in your mercy and protection.*

*O Mother of God, who gave them your miraculous icon at Zarvanytsia, intercede for the Ukrainian people, who run to the shelter of your mercy in their times of need.*

*O Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on them. Give them strength and courage to defend what is good, right and holy. Keep them safe from harm and provide for all their needs, both temporal and spiritual. Amen*

**Catholic Parish of Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Enmore**

Archdiocese of Sydney

*Serving the suburbs of Enmore, St Peters, Sydenham & Tempe*

**Second Sunday of Advent – Year C**

**8 December 2024**

**Entrance Antiphon** **Cf Isaiah 30:19,30**

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

**First Reading** **Baruch 5:1-9**

A reading from the prophet Baruch  
*Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.*

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

**Responsorial Psalm** **Ps 125. R. v.3**

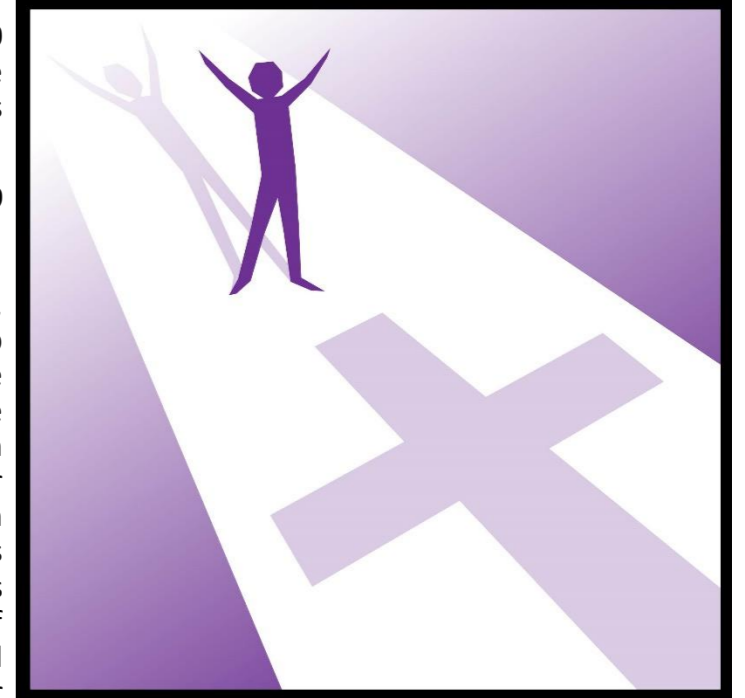
**R/** The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. **R/**

2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. **R/**

3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. **R/**

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. **R/**



**Second Reading** **Philippians 1:3-6. 8-11**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians  
*Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.*

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

**Gospel Acclamation** **Luke 3:4. 6**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.  
 Alleluia!

**Gospel** **Luke 3:1-6**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke  
*All people shall see the salvation of God.*  
 In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch



Parish Administrator—Reverend Father Christopher Higgins  
*(available Tuesday to Sunday)*  
 Parish Permanent Deacon – Reverend Mister Alfredo Bouroncle  
 Parish Secretary—Bernadette Hickey  
*(Office hours—Tuesday 8-3pm & Thursday 8-5pm)*



*Our Parish respectfully acknowledges the Gadigal people of Eora nation as traditional caretakers of the land.*

Parish Office Address—209A Edgeware Rd, Enmore 2042  
 Parish Church Address—St Pius V Church, 256 Edgeware Rd, Enmore 2042  
 Postal Address—PO Box 3266, Marrickville Metro 2204  
 Telephone: 9557 1815 | Email: [admin@enmoreparish.org.au](mailto:admin@enmoreparish.org.au)  
 Parish website: [www.enmoreparish.org.au](http://www.enmoreparish.org.au)

**St Pius V Catholic Primary School, Enmore**

209 Edgeware Rd Enmore 2042  
 Principal: Mrs Caroline Boulis  
 Telephone: 9557 4027 | Email: [info@stpenmore.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stpenmore.catholic.edu.au)

**MASSES AND SACRAMENTS**

*Tuesday 10 December 5pm - year 6 Graduation Mass (all welcome)*  
*Friday 13 December 9:15am - whole school Thanksgiving Mass (all welcome)*

<b>Masses</b>	Thursday—9:15am <b>(Thursday 12 Dec cancelled)</b> Saturday—5:00pm – (6:30pm – Portuguese) Sunday—9:30am – (12:00 noon - Indonesian)
<b>Church Open</b>	Mondays & Fridays – 3:00-5:00pm
<b>Confessions</b>	Saturday 4:15—4:45pm <i>or by appointment</i>
<b>Adoration &amp; Benediction</b>	Mon 3:00 – 3:50pm, Tues to Fri 8:00 – 8:50am & Sun 9:00—9:25am
<b>Baptisms</b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays)	By appointment—about 1 month's notice required
<b>Marriages</b>	By appointment—about 6 months' notice required

**COLLECTIONS for weekends of 23/24/30 November & 1 December 2024**

1st collection	2nd collection	Envelopes	Candle offerings
<b>\$904.75</b> (supports the priest's expenses)	<b>\$736.70</b> (for running of parish)	<b>\$230.00</b> (part of 2nd collection)	<b>\$226.65</b> (part of 2nd collection)

**Masses for:** Semi Poitaha (RIP)

**A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney:** Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. *(Archdiocesan permanent notice)*  
*Safeguarding Children information can be found in folder at the back of the church.*

**Thank you to Senya, Sophia & Jean** for helping Father to put up the nativity & Christmas decorations.

**Billings Ovulation Method Bulletin of WOOMB International, November issue available at back of church**

**Sydney to Host the International Eucharistic Congress in 2028** At the recent 53rd International Eucharistic Congress in Quito, Ecuador, we heard the announcement that the Church of Sydney had been hoping for: that we will host the 54th International Eucharistic Congress in 2028, 100 years since Sydney last hosted this great event and twenty years since it hosted World Youth Day. To find out more about IEC 2028, visit <http://iec2028.org> and join our mailing list to receive future updates.

**Caritas Australia's Lebanon Crisis Appeal** Lebanon is currently facing a dire crisis, and the need for your support has never been greater. Communities are being devastated by conflict and economic instability, leaving countless families without access to basic needs like food, water, and medical care. Our Caritas Australia partners on the ground are doing everything they can, but they desperately need your help. Please show your *love for Lebanon* and donate today to help supply essential items such as food, shelter, and medical aid, as well as long-term support to rebuild communities. Donate today: [www.caritas.org.au/lebanon](http://www.caritas.org.au/lebanon) **"We are in continual crisis. When we think we get to the bottom, it sinks again and gets worse."** – These are the sobering words of Gilbert Zouein, Executive Director of Caritas Lebanon.

**Christmas at the Cathedral 12-25 December, 5:30-10:30pm.** Market stalls, live music, activities, joyous & spectacular light show based on *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens.

**'Be Open to the Word' Advent Retreat** is a time to prepare our hearts and minds for the birth of Jesus at Christmas. Join the Advent retreat hosted by Carlton parish and lead by Tania Rimac from the Parish Renewal Team, with the theme Be Open to the Word This retreat will be an opportunity to pause and reflect on the witness of Mary, our Mother, and contemplate her role in Salvation History for all mankind, and what it means for us today. DATE: **Tuesday 10 December 2024** TIME: 6pm – 9pm VENUE: St Bernadette Parish, 10 Argyle St, Carlton COST: Free All are welcome to attend, and are encouraged to bring a friend. Light refreshments will be available before and after the retreat.

**Vinnies Good Samaritan Christmas Appeal** Vinnies urgently need gifts suitable for older children and teens. This appeal is being organized by Sydney City South Parish & Redfern Vinnies. Please put your donations in the basket at the back of the church. Ideas for gifts: movie vouchers, zoo passes, gift cards, chocolate stockings, Christmas bonbons, food treats, toiletries. The box will be collected **Friday 13 December**.

**'Writings of St John Paul II on Gender, Marriage and Family' Immersion Course. OPEN FOR REGISTRATIONS!**  
**DATES: Sunday, 19 January to Friday, 24 January 2025** VENUE: Benedict XVI Retreat Centre in Grose Vale, NSW To register and learn more about the course, please visit: [tobi.sydneycatholic.org](http://tobi.sydneycatholic.org) For further questions, contact Simon Yeak at [simon.yeak@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:simon.yeak@sydneycatholic.org) or 0427 536 356

**That Catholic Shop catalogue** available at the back of the church for **Christmas** purchases.

**Divine Mercy catalogue** can be found at the back of the church

**Christmas Gifts from Palms!** Are you looking to give something really special this year? Something that makes a tangible difference? Palms has the shop for you! Whether it be a GIFT directly supporting our overseas development program, or some unique Timorese GIFTS for your loved one's home, you'll find that perfect GIFT here! Just scan the QR or go to [palms.org.au/donate/palms-gift-shop](http://palms.org.au/donate/palms-gift-shop) Happy shopping! And yes, your purchase assists the amazing communities overseas. **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



**Happy Flame Christmas Beeswax Candles** [https://www.happyflame.com.au/PRESTIGE\\_ELEGANCE](https://www.happyflame.com.au/PRESTIGE_ELEGANCE) 10% discount available on all purchases.

**Divine Mercy Publications** have prayer cards, key rings, books, pamphlets, one of the largest ranges of religious pictures, Divine Mercy Calendars, Divine Mercy Pocket Calendars, and so much more to add as Sacrament and **Christmas** gifts. <https://invi.tt/R3W>

**New Year's Eve Prayer Vigil** The Marian Movement of Priests, St Dominic's Church, Homebush West, 8pm to after midnight: Confession, Exposition, Cenacle, Benediction, Mass, Supper. Email: [info@mmp-oceania.net](mailto:info@mmp-oceania.net). Website: [www.mmp-oceania.net](http://www.mmp-oceania.net) See noticeboard