

ST PAUL'S

ST CLARE'S

Bulletin Highlights

Third Sunday of Advent

15th December 2019



Another great Gospel this week about John the Baptist



Welcome to Father Joseph Pothanparimpil

Fr Joseph, belonging to the Missionary Society of St. Thomas the Apostle (MST) has been serving in Australia since 2009 in various parishes within the Diocese of Sandhurst up until his move to the Diocese of Wollongong in 2019.

Fr Joseph was born on 8 May 1963 in Kerala, India to a traditional, agricultural family of Catholic faith. He is the youngest of three children. His siblings and Mother live in India. Mum is in her 80s and visited Australia in 2017.

After his Priestly Ordination on 30 April 1992, Fr Joseph served mainly in the suburbs of one of the busiest cities in India, Mumbai.

He was instrumental in acquiring lands for building five churches by organising various communities while there. His last project was building and developing Santhome School at Mira Road for his missionary society (MST) where he served as the project manager and administrator before his move to Australia. During his 11 years of service in the Diocese of Sandhurst, Fr Joseph was parish priest at St. Mary's, Mooroopna, St. Michael's and Sacred Heart parishes of Tallangatta and Corryong respectively. He was also the Canonical Administrator of St Michael's School, Tallangatta and Sacred Heart School, Corryong.

Fr. Joseph longed for the hustle and bustle of an urban parish after working in regional/rural Victoria for a long time and hence decided to move up here. Camden, with its busy public places and large congregation, brings back nostalgic memories of his busy Mumbai life in India. Father Joseph is looking forward to starting at Camden and getting to know everyone.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE PROGRAMME

Families are asked to return the enrolment forms this weekend along with \$20 to meet the costs of the programme. If not at Mass over the past fortnight, please see one of the attendants for assistance.



NATIVITY PLAY ~ 5:00 PM VIGIL CHRISTMAS EVE.

Parents with children from about K-3 are welcome to include their little cherubs in the Christmas Nativity play after Holy Communion. This little dramatic presentation of the Christmas story is always a wonderful few minutes for the children. A rehearsal and distribution of costumes is planned for 21 December in the Church at 2:00 PM. If interested, please be on time.



2nd Rite of Reconciliation

Making a sincere confession within the Sacrament of Penance is a time-honoured way for people of the Catholic faith to prepare spiritually for Christmas. Please be mindful that such an opportunity will be available in our own parish this coming Thursday evening 19th December at 7:00 PM. There will be at least six priests present, and possibly even a seventh. From both a pastoral and spiritual perspective, this Sacrament is highly recommended. It's also preferable to overloading the priest next Saturday morning.



Christmas Mass Times

A full table will be presented in next week's Parish Community News containing the details of all the Masses including celebrants, vocalists, choristers and musicians.

The Vigils at **Camden** will be 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm. There's also a Midnight Mass and a 9:00 am Mass on Christmas morning.