



St Anthony & St Luke's Catholic Parish

Alexandra Hills and Capalaba

Weekly Newsletter - 24 December 2020

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve Mass)

Visit us at www.stanthonyandstluke.org.au to find out more about our parish

Sunday Scripture

The Nativity of the Lord
(Christmas Eve Mass)

First Reading

Isaiah 9:1-7

Psalm

95:1-3, 11-13

Second Reading

Titus 2:11-14

Gospel

Luke 2:1-14



Mass Times

Alexandra Hills

St Anthony Drive
Alexandra Hills QLD 4161

4:30pm

At the school hall
St Antonio Centre

8:30pm

At St Anthony's Church

Capalaba

45 Degen Road
Capalaba QLD 4157

6:00pm

At the school hall
Emmaus Hall



Dear Parishioners,

May I wish you the hope, peace, joy and love of Christmas and all the blessings in the New Year.

Fr. Emmanuel.

Please take a moment to pray for...

David Haley, Alfreda Rossouw, Norma Adams, Peter Maciejewski, Michelle Cashman, Ailsa Jensen, Niamh Hughes, John Gilbert, Wayne Harris, Sharon MacKenzie, Sonia Mendez, Mary Tucker and Samuel Tyler along with all those in our community who are ill, and those who seek healing in their lives and for all those who care for them.

We commend those who have recently died, Sr. Mauritia, John Britnell, Dinkha Gabriel to the loving embrace of God.

We pray for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time, Neeleen Rafter.

Note: All names for prayers will remain in the newsletter for one month. To request Masses to be offered for the sick, dying, deceased or for special intentions please contact the Parish Office.

"The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded by all. "



'Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility'





St Anthony & St Luke's Catholic Parish

Alexandra Hills and Capalaba

Weekly Newsletter - 25 December 2020

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)

Visit us at www.stanthonyandstluke.org.au to find out more about our parish

Sunday Scripture

The Nativity of the Lord
(Christmas Day)

First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalm

97:1-6

Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-6

Gospel

John 1:1-18



Mass Times

Alexandra Hills

St Anthony Drive
Alexandra Hills QLD 4161

9:00am

At the school hall
St Antonio Centre

Capalaba

45 Degen Road
Capalaba QLD 4157

7:00am

At the school hall
Emmaus Hall

Reflection for Adults by Greg Sunter

Scriptural context – Matthew v Luke

Ask a child (or even most adults) to describe the scene at the birth of Jesus and you will hear a confused combination of the two scriptural accounts with several non-scriptural additions. It is a shame that the two versions have merged into one as each is deserving of its own integrity.

The Matthew account emphasises Jesus as the fulfilment of prophecy and has Wise Men as the witnesses to his birth in a house. It is from Luke that we have the much humbler birth in a manger witnessed by the lowly shepherds. Each has something different and distinct to say about Jesus and his mission.

© Greg Sunter

Reflection for Young People by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

For people surrounded by department store decorations, commercials, Christmas carols, special foods, and the like, believing that today's Christmas celebration actually evolved from the humble story of a young woman giving birth in the straw is a stretch. It might help to focus on the characters involved.

What do you think went through Joseph's mind as he witnessed Mary giving birth to a baby? What do you think went through Mary's mind as she struggled with the birth experience?

The Christmas story is full of symbols. Jesus, who becomes our bread and wine – our nourishment – is laid in a manger, the feeding trough for the animals. Jesus, who is the champion of poor people, is born into a homeless family. Poor shepherds were the first to welcome the Messiah that the Jewish people had been awaiting for generations. The symbol of angels singing, praising God, and flying madly all over the sky was a good clue that something out of the ordinary was happening.

Modern Christmas stories use different symbols to make the same points: Rudolph, the 'poorest' reindeer, becomes the champion; and Frosty, a snowman, transforms children's lives.

What story from your own personal Christmas experiences has special meaning or symbolism?

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Children's Discussion Starters for Today's Gospel

- Can you name all the different people involved in the Christmas story? Apart from the baby Jesus, who is your favourite character? What makes them your favourite?
- The birth of Jesus was an extraordinary event – God becoming human. What are some of the things in the Christmas story that tell us something extraordinary is happening?
- The angels told the shepherds that the Saviour was born. What is a saviour? How can a little baby be our saviour?

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St Anthony & St Luke's Catholic Parish

Alexandra Hills and Capalaba

Weekly Newsletter - 27 December 2020

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Year B

Visit us at www.stanthonyandstluke.org.au to find out more about our parish

Sunday Scripture

The Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Year B

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3

Psalm

104:1-6, 8-9

Second Reading

Hebrews 11:8, 11-12,
17-19

Gospel

Luke 2:22-40



Mass Times

Alexandra Hills

St Anthony Drive
Alexandra Hills QLD 4161

9:00am

At St Anthony's Church

Capalaba

45 Degen Road
Capalaba QLD 4157

7:00am

At St Luke's Church



Reflection for Adults by Greg Sunter

Look at any newspaper, magazine, television current affairs program or social commentary and you will be bombarded with the notion that the institution of family is under attack. Rather, what appears to be under attack is a particular view of what it means to be 'family'. Society in general and governments in particular are recognising the reality that 'family' is a much more fluid term than it used to be. Rather than an attack on family, it might be argued that there is in fact an embracing of the concept of family by making its definition much broader.

In this feast we celebrate the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The model of family that we have in this Holy Family is a model that would not be entirely out of place in the 21st Century. Mary was a very young woman; possibly no more than 13 or 14 years old. Joseph was an older man; possibly on his second marriage. There was a degree of scandal about the conception of their child and Joseph seriously contemplated whether or not he would go ahead with the marriage. They were forced to flee their homeland and seek protection as refugees in Egypt. We see from today's passage that the parents are doing their best to be faithful to their religious and cultural traditions whilst worrying about what the future holds for their son. It is a picture that is not too different from the situation in which many families today find themselves. So while we celebrate today the feast of the Holy Family, it is very much a celebration of every family.

© Greg Sunter

Reflection for Young People by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

No doubt Mary and Joseph were surprised and pleased, and perhaps even a bit spooked, when these complete strangers approached them at the Temple to praise their baby.

Have your parents (step-parent, grandparent, guardian) ever been surprised and pleased, or even spooked, when someone else came and told them some wonderful thing about you? What was it? What do you do that your parents are proud of?

Just as parents love to hear good things about their sons and daughters, they also love to hear good things from their sons and daughters.

In what way can you affirm your parents (step-parent, grandparent, guardian) about their role in your life? Besides Mother's Day or Father's Day or a birthday, when do you take time to really express your love and appreciation for your parents as people, and for their sacrifices and their parenting? How might you improve in this area?

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Children's Discussion Starters for Today's Gospel

Where did Mary and Joseph take the baby Jesus?

Who were the people at the Temple who welcomed them?

Why were they Simeon and Anna so happy?

What kind of messages did Simeon and Anna tell the people who were there?

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St Anthony & St Luke's Catholic Parish

Alexandra Hills and Capalaba

Weekly Newsletter - 1 January 2021

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Visit us at www.stanthonyandstluke.org.au to find out more about our parish

Sunday Scripture

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

First Reading

Numbers 6:22-27

Psalm

66:2-3, 5, 6, 8.

Second Reading

Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel

Luke 2:16-21



Mass Times

Capalaba

45 Degen Road
Capalaba QLD 4157

9:00am

At St Luke's Church



Reflection for Adults by Greg Sunter

From the perspective of ... The Shepherds

What must the shepherds have made of the events surrounding the birth of Jesus? Shepherds occupied a very lowly status in Jewish society – they were generally regarded as thieves and cut-throats. Suddenly, these very lowly characters were thrust into great events: visions of angels; prophecies; the birth of the Messiah; and powerful experiences of the greatness of God. The gospel says they went back to their sheep glorifying and praising God. They must have been changed by this experience. Perhaps they never really made sense of what happened to them but more likely it was the beginning of a whole new life experience.

Have you thought? What a woman!

Luke's image of Mary is a very strong one. We must remember that Mary was no more than a girl – probably 14 or 15 years old. This was the usual age for young women to marry at that time. However, there wasn't much that was normal about the previous nine months of her life. In the midst of all the chaos involved in giving birth away from home and in less than ideal circumstances, she remains completely calm and 'treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart'. What an extraordinary young woman!

© Greg Sunter

Reflection for Young People by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

The beginning of a new year is a time when TV shows, radio shows and magazines look back at the year that has just passed. Mary, too, spent time reflecting upon all the happenings surrounding the birth of her son.

What events of the past year do you think were most significant in the political world? in the sports world? in the entertainment world? in your family life? in your personal life? in your spiritual life?

The first day of the year is also a time for making yearly predictions. Lots of celebrities like making predictions for the year ahead. What do you predict for the political world? for the sports world? for the entertainment world? in your family life? in your personal life? in your spiritual life?

Who has been a real blessing to you this past year?

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Children's Discussion Starters for Today's Gospel

Mary is Mother of God because of her faith in God.

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, celebrates Mary's faith and trust in God alone.

What did Mary say when God wanted her to be the mother of Jesus?

When did Jesus give us Mary to be our mother?

Do you know any prayers to Mary?

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St Anthony & St Luke's Catholic Parish

Alexandra Hills and Capalaba

Weekly Newsletter - 3 January 2021

The Epiphany of the Lord

Visit us at www.stanthonyandstluke.org.au to find out more about our parish

Sunday Scripture

The Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm

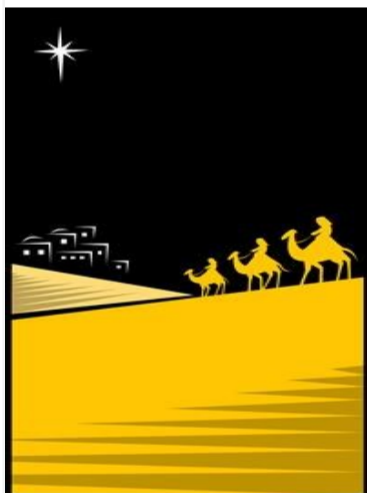
71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13

Second Reading

Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12



Mass Times

Alexandra Hills

St Anthony's Church
St Anthony Drive
Alexandra Hills QLD 4161

Saturday 2nd January

4:30pm

Sunday 3rd January

9:00am

Capalaba

St Luke's Church
45 Degen Road
Capalaba QLD 4157

Saturday 2nd January

6:00pm

Sunday 3rd January

7:00am

Reflection for Adults by Greg Sunter

Historical Context – The Magi

In some translations, the 'wise men' of this passage are referred to as 'Magi'. Magi was the name given to the Persian priestly caste. Persia (now, Iran) lies to the east of Israel. These wise men are also sometimes portrayed as astrologers, but that is largely because of the reference 'We saw his star as it rose'. It is interesting that the passage describes 'some' wise men; tradition has developed a specific number of three – based on the three gifts presented. These anonymous (and purely literary) figures have been given names and their 'relics' lie in honour beneath the Cathedral of Cologne.

Have you thought? – Epiphany

The feast of the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus to humankind. The wise men are the representatives of humanity bearing witness to this revelation. However, the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus as not only the Messiah of Israel but the Saviour of the whole world. Interestingly, in this gospel that emphasises the 'Jewish-ness' of Jesus, the witnesses to the birth are gentiles from a foreign land. Their inclusion is a powerful declaration that the revelation of Jesus is for all people. Regardless of the liturgical year, this reading is always used on the feast of the Epiphany to celebrate this pivotal moment.

© Greg Sunter

Reflection for Young People by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

The astrologers in the Magi story went through quite a journey in search of the baby Jesus. They obviously believed in him and had faith in the star.

Have you ever 'followed a star'? Have you ever gone after a dream or an ideal you believed in? Are you still going after it? What gives you the energy to keep going? How do you know it is worth it?

The gifts brought by the Magi have significance. Gold is a symbol of wealth and fidelity.

Frankincense is burned to purify the atmosphere by releasing an aromatic and pleasing smell. For centuries, indigenous people in many countries have burned smoke in order to bless and purify themselves, and monks have watched incense rise to the sky as a symbol of their prayers ascending to God.

Myrrh is a kind of resin or oil used for anointing and embalming. It is a symbol of comfort and soothing (who doesn't enjoy a rubdown?) but it is also a foreshadowing of death. How were these gifts symbolic for Jesus?

What three gifts would be symbolic of you and your life so far? Explain the symbolism.

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Children's Discussion Starters for Today's Gospel

The wise men searched for a king. What do you think they imagined Jesus would be like? What did they see when they found Jesus? How would you greet Jesus today?

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St Anthony & St Luke's Catholic Parish

Alexandra Hills and Capalaba

Parish Motto, Vision and Mission Statement

In 2013, the separate entities of St Anthony's and St Luke's formally amalgamated to create what we now know as St Anthony and St Luke's Catholic Parish, Alexandra Hills and Capalaba.

While the two former independent parishes had their own mottos and Mission Statements, these now no longer reflect our current parish. As such, Fr Emmanuel has coordinated a project team to discern a new motto, vision and mission statement for St Anthony and St Luke's Catholic Parish.

The project team would like to gather input from as many people within the parish as possible. To that end, you are invited to contribute by spending some time in prayer and reflecting before completing and submitting your feedback either electronically using the following link: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=9yCGN0qqrECQKi75E9jtaR9xfEdgLi9Gpq5czcFfgQtUNVRUR1BHQUIQODIQVUg2WERIOUFSTTBSC4u> or by collecting a hard copy of this form at weekend Masses (or from the Parish Office).

These submissions will be de-identified and you can submit as many times as you would like. For further information about this process, please feel free to contact Nick Tyler (ntyler@bne.catholic.edu.au or 0422 961 927).

Mass Times from 24/12/2020 - 3/01/2021

Christmas Eve Mass Times Thursday 24th December 2020

- 4:30pm St Anthony's School Hall (St Antonio Centre)
Fr Emmanuel to preside
- 6:00pm St Luke's School Hall (Emmaus Centre)
Fr Emmanuel to preside
- 8:30pm St Anthony's Church
Fr Paul Rooney to preside

Christmas Day Mass Times Friday 25th December 2020

- 7:00am St Luke's School Hall (Emmaus Centre)
Fr Emmanuel to preside
- 9:00am St Anthony's School Hall (St Antonio Centre)
Fr Emmanuel to preside

Saturday 26th December 2020 - NO MASS

Sunday 27th December 2020

- 7:00am Holy Family Mass - St Luke's Church
- 9:00am Holy Family Mass - St Anthony's Church

Friday 1st January 2020

- 9:00am Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God Mass
St Luke's Church

Saturday 2nd January 2020

- 4:30pm Mass - St Anthony's Church
- 6:00pm Mass - St Luke's Church

Sunday 3rd January 2020

- 7:00am Mass - St Luke's Church
- 9:00am Mass - St Anthony's Church

Mass Times from 2021

WEEKEND

St Anthony's Church, Alexandra Hills

Saturday 4.30pm
Sunday 9.00am

St Luke's Church, Capalaba

Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 7.00am

WEEKDAY

Monday NO MASS - Fr Emmanuel's day off
Tuesday 9:00am St Luke's Church
Wednesday 9:00am St Anthony's Church
Thursday 4:30pm Rosary followed by Mass
St Anthony's Church
Friday 9:00am St Luke's Church

WEEKDAY - School Masses (Refer to Weekly Newsletter for these as they are alternate weeks)

Reconciliation: Saturday 4:00-4:30pm St Anthony's Church or by appointment.

Anointing Mass: Fourth Thursday of every 2nd month at 5:00pm at St Anthony's Church.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: First Wednesday of the month at 7:45am at St Anthony's Church.

**BOOKINGS WON'T BE REQUIRED
SIGN ON SHEETS AT CHURCH**

Parish Office Details as of 2021

Office Hours as of:	Monday	CLOSED	Tuesday & Friday	9:00am to 2:00pm
			Wednesday & Thursday	9:00am to 4:00pm
Parish Office Phone:	(07) 3820 0100			
Website:	stanthonyandstluke.org.au			
Email Addresses:	Pastoral Associate		pa.alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au	
	Parish Secretary and Finance		alexhillscap@bne.catholic.net.au	

Today is born our Saviour



Draw a picture of the newly born Jesus lying in the manger.



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Year B

An Angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him to take Mary and Jesus to Egypt. Draw the angel speaking to Joseph in his dream.




Mother Mary





Mary, Mother of God, Year A, B and C




Mothers have the important job of bringing us into the living world by giving birth to us. What are some of the important things that we know about Mary?











Wise men came from the East

The Epiphany of the Lord

Help the three wise men find their way to Bethlehem - watch out for King Herod!

Draw yourself offering a gift to Jesus





St Anthony & St Luke's Catholic Parish

Alexandra Hills and Capalaba

Visit us at www.stanthonyandstluke.org.au to find out more about our parish

A message from Fr Emmanuel

Dear Parishioners,

"Glory to God in the highest and peace to people of good will". (Lk.2:14). Christmas invites us to experience the divine hope, peace, joy and love in our lives. I wish you all the blessings of Christmas...!

As we get ready for the new year we look forward to a brighter future. We hope in the Lord and keep our trust in him for a blessed new year.

Looking in to a deeper and fruitful celebration of our Christian faith in the year 2021 in our parish I would like to share with you few of my thoughts and plans. In the last two years I have made a number of initiatives to uplift our faith celebration and make it more effective and meaningful. To be honest my experience was a mixture of success and challenge. But I could see a renewed energy and enthusiasm growing up among the parishioners to become a more vibrant and celebrating community. There is a real hunger for spiritual food among the people.

To meet the spiritual needs of the people, in order become one community of faith and celebration I would like to set a few perspectives for the next year.

1. Eucharistic Centred Celebrative Community

Eucharist makes the Church. We as followers of Christ we draw life, love and energy for our spiritual life from the altar of the Lord. From this perspective we give more importance for the sacrament of the Eucharist in 2021. I would like to encourage you to the following considerations.

- a. Regular participation for weekend Masses and weekday Masses.
- c. Participation in the Holy hour.
- d. Visit to the Blessed Sacrament and prayer in silence.
- e. Children and youth involved and multicultural Masses.

2. Marian Devotion

Mary has played a very important role in the beginning and growth of the church and she is the mother of the Church. Through her powerful intercession she helps us in our life's journey. By praying to her and through her Jesus we express our filial devotion and reverence to her. So, I encourage you to deepen and strengthen your devotion to Mary by praying Rosary.

3. Sunday Catechism

Faith formation of our children is a very important responsibility of all of us. At present we have children's liturgy in our parish for the little children. I would like to organise catechism for the older children. For this purpose, I request the good will of parishioners by way of volunteering as catechism teachers

4. Charity

'Service in love' has to be the benchmark of Christians. Our faith and celebration is incomplete until it is expressed as help for the needy. So, there will be programmes organised by the parish to reach out the less fortunate. I request you to support any of such programmes wholeheartedly.

5. Social Programmes

'Together we grow'. Social programmes play a significant role in building up any community. The parish would like to organise cultural and sports events. I look forward to your cooperation, participation and support.

May Spirit of God through his gifts and fruits enable each of us become living witnesses of God's peace and love.

Wishing everyone a merry Christmas and a blessed New Year...!

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Fr Emmanuel