

Parish Bulletin

St Carthage's Cathedral Parish, Lismore



SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF:

- St Carthage's Cathedral, Lismore
Sat Vigil 5:30pm, Sun 9am & 5:30pm
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
8.00am and Friday 12.05pm
- Carmelite Monastery Chapel,
Goonellabah *Sun 7am*
Mon - Fri 7am, Sat 8am
- St Dymphna's Church, Dunoon
Sun 8.30am

PARISH OFFICE

Business Manager: Paul Crouch
Adm. Officer: Christine Byrne
Adm. Assistant: Jenny Falls
Doyle House, 6 Leicester Street
Lismore, NSW 2480.
8.30am-4.00pm weekdays
P: 6626 0200
F: 6621 2301
E: admin@stcarthages.org.au
W: www.stcarthages.org.au
Postal Address
PO Box 2, Lismore, NSW 2480.

SCHOOLS

St Carthage's Primary School
Principal: Janelle Heffernan
Ph: 66215529

St John's College, Woodlawn
Principal: Chris Comerford
Ph: 6626 2600

Trinity Catholic College
Principal: Br John Hilet FMS
Ph: 6627 6600

COMMUNITY CARE

St Carthage's Community Care
Care Services Manager: Iris Ritt
P: 1300 761 833
W: www.stccc.org.au

Bishop Gregory Homeming OCD
Bishop of Lismore

Parish Clergy

Fr Bing Monteagudo
Acting Adm.

Fr Jim Griffin
Priest in Residence

Revd Mr Graeme Davis - **Deacon**



23rd December 2018 - Fourth Sunday of Advent Year C



BISHOP GREG'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

I remember growing up in a country town in Victoria. Life was simple, we never locked the front door of our house, neighbours dropped in and out, children played in the streets, mum and dad never worried about us. There were so many people that we looked up to and rightly or wrongly trusted. Doctors, teachers, police, members of the churches, bank managers, shop owners, the postman; they were all respected and our friends.

How different Australia is at the end of 2018. Who do we trust, who can we trust? Every institution is questioned. With the advent of "fake news", even the media is doubted. Realistically, I think that in the past we accorded an unthinking and irresponsible trust, yet I do think that we have lost something.

It seems to me that there is an attitude of mistrust and cynicism which could undermine the dynamic of a caring, loving society. This Christmas I would like to ponder with you, what the Christmas story says to this situation.

In preparation for Christmas, our churches and homes are being decorated and in a place of honour there is a crib with the baby Jesus lovingly attended by Mary and Joseph. Without Mary and Joseph we would not have Christmas. We know their stories. If Mary had not believed the angel Gabriel, if she had not said 'yes', Jesus would not have been born. If Joseph had not believed the angel and taken Mary home, the story would have been different. Without belief we would not have Christmas. The question for me is, why did they believe?

In the case of Mary, I think that it was her personal integrity and goodness which allowed her to recognise the truth of the angel's words. It was her love of the truth and of God which enabled her to say 'yes'.

Joseph's situation is different to Mary's. He does not see an angel, he dreams an angel. What man discovering that his fiancée is pregnant would believe a dream which said that she was pregnant through the Holy Spirit? Why does he believe? I think that he believes because he wants to believe the dream, and he wants to believe the dream because he believes in Mary and loves her.

Christmas would have been impossible if Mary and Joseph were cynical and untrusting. So, back to the mistrust and cynicism in contemporary Australia. I don't think that we should return to the unthinking credulity of the past, but I do fear that a society, which is so individualistic that it is without the cement of love and trust, will lose its cohesion and creativity.

Trust and love are two sides of the one coin. Love enables trust, and trust builds up love. This Christmas let's have the courage to trust each other and to love. Let's let love into our hearts and erode the crustiness of cynicism and mistrust.

With my prayers and Christmas wishes,

Bishop Greg

**The Bishop, Clergy and Parish Office
Staff wish you all the peace and joy of
the Christmas Season.**



Dear parishioners,

We would like to implement a Parish Pastoral Council, which Fr Jim was endeavouring to promote until he became quite ill. I now am asking you to think seriously about nominating either yourself or another person as there will be a number elected and a number appointed. Think about this over Christmas and New Year.

If you have already served on a pastoral council in the parish please try to promote someone else, so that we can see the nominees and then chose three of these as representatives. Others will be appointed by myself knowing their backgrounds, knowing their commitment, knowing their generosity and knowing their involvement across various entities in our Parish family,

With best wishes yours sincerely,

Fr Bing
Acting Administrator

CAROL SINGING

On Christmas Eve from 11:00pm there will be carol singing and choir music in the Cathedral prior to the Midnight Mass.



FEAST OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

Mass will be celebrated for the Feast of Mary, the Mother of God at 9am in the Cathedral on Tuesday the 1st of January 2019, New Year's day.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Carmelite Monastery - 7am daily and Saturday 8am.

Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral on Wednesday 2 and Thursday 3 January, 2019 at 8:00am and Friday 4 January at 12:05pm.

ADORATION

Adoration and Benediction will be celebrated on the first Friday of the month from 7:45am to 11am at the Carmelite Monastery.

Adoration in St Mary's Chapel will resume again on Friday 8th February 2019.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

Christmas Offering envelopes are available on the seats in the church. These can be placed on any of the collection plates over the Christmas period.

PRAYER FOR THE FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

Father, all powerful God, your eternal word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the services of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



CATHOLIC LIFE MAGAZINE

The Catholic Life magazine is available at the back of the Church this weekend.

Features:

Ordination of Anselm Okeke, Emmanuel Okparanaku and Wilber Tobe at St Carthage's Cathedral

Fr Paul Pidcock's Farewell

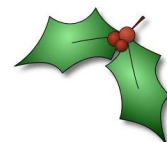
The Bale Out Appeal

"Catholic Life" is also on the diocesan website.

<http://www.lismorediocese.org>

"Catholic Life" is a free of charge publication and is due to the support of the advertisers, please support them.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



Cathedral Masses:

**Vigil 5.30pm, Midnight 12am,
9.00am Christmas Day**

Dunoon: Vigil 7.30pm

**Carmelite Monastery:
7am Christmas Day**



PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

The Parish Office will be closed from Monday 24th December 2018 and will reopen on Wednesday 2nd January 2019.

For sick & Hospital calls, please phone 66260200 and follow the prompts to contact the duty priest.



Please remember in your prayers;

THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Dawn Brohier, Claire Harvey, Fr Jack Soulsby SM, Loy Callaghan, Margaret Amos, Shari Rose, Barbi Osborn, Sarah Murphy, Esme May, Mary Mason, Tom O'Connor, Norma Quiblat, Roso Aboc, Paul Smith, Barb Smith, Merril Savage, Elvie Wallbank, Patrick Cree, Dianna Williams, Gloria Bills, Gerard Byrne & Theresa Furlong. (Please let us know if names should be removed from this list)

THOSE WHO ARE RECENTLY DECEASED: Sussan Deuchar, Eileen Buckley, Margaret Colmer, Felepe Galve, Kevin Power, Mary "Maureen" Jones, Barbara Di Costa, Keith Lavender.

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES ARE AT THIS TIME: Geoff Schmidt, Eduardo and Giovanni Poletto, Oscar Holwell, Terry Sims, Rita Smith, Clause Skimmings and Bob Hayward.

OTHER INTENTIONS FOR THE DECEASED: All Holy Souls



LISMORE SOUP KITCHEN

The Management of the Lismore Soup Kitchen at the Winsome would like to thank all Catholic volunteers and supporters who have contributed in so many ways over the past 12 months.



We wish all a Merry and Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We welcome those who are lonely or alone on Christmas Day to join with us for Christmas lunch at 12 noon and festivities beforehand from about 10am.

Paul Murphy, Centre Manager 0428 665 445

Catholic Book and Gift Shop

The shop has closed for the Christmas/New Year break.

Re-opens on 21st January, 2019.

Thank you for your patronage during 2018.

Want to volunteer!!! Call Ann on 0438230638.



COLLECTION TOTALS -

Weekend 16 December

First collection - \$ 1228.80

Second collection - \$ 974.00

Loose - \$ 396.10

THIS WEEK'S MASS TIMES

MON 24 Dec **7:00am:** Mass - Carmelite Monastery
9:00am: Mass - Mary's Grange

CHRISTMAS EVE

5:30pm: Christmas Vigil - Cathedral

7:30pm: Christmas Vigil - Dunoon

Midnight Mass - Cathedral

TUE 25 Dec

CHRISTMAS DAY

7:00am: Mass - Carmelite Monastery

9:00am: Mass - Cathedral

WED 26 Dec

St Stephen

7:00am: Mass - Carmelite Monastery

THURS 27 Dec

St John, Apostle and Evangelist

7:00am: Mass - Carmelite Monastery

FRI 28 Dec

The Holy Innocents

7:00am: Mass - Carmelite Monastery

SAT 29 Dec

8.00am: Mass - Carmelite Monastery

5:30pm: Vigil Mass - Cathedral

SUN 30 Dec

7:00am: Mass - Carmelite Monastery

8:30am: Mass - Dunoon

9:00am: Mass - Cathedral

5:30pm: Mass - Cathedral

CONFESSION

Saturdays 12-12:30pm - Cathedral

BAPTISM INTO CHRIST

Our Parish family welcomes into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week:

Eliza Elwyn Delaney

and

Zara Rose Delaney



LITURGY ROSTER – for 30 December - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

SATURDAY 5.30pm

Reader 1 Mary Mackney
Reader 2 Sylvia Harris
Extra Ordinary Minister: Pauline Celich
Servers: Annabel, Chloe L, Josie-Ana

SUNDAY 9.00am

Michael Behan
Luke Miller
Mary Ford
Michael M, Bryan

SUNDAY 5.30pm

Jack Sheridan
Diane Sheridan
Anne Ross
Lukas, Michael, William

FIRST READING

Micah 5:1-4

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
the least of the clans of Judah,
out of you will be born for me
the one who is to rule over Israel;
his origin goes back to the
distant past, to the days of old.
The Lord is therefore going to
abandon them till the time when
she who is to give birth gives
birth.

Then the remnant of his brothers
will come back to the sons
of Israel.

He will stand and feed his flock
with the power of the Lord, with
the majesty of the name of his
God.

They will live secure, for from
then on he will extend his power
to the ends of the land.

He himself will be peace.

The Word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19. R. v.4

**(R.) Lord, make us turn to you;
let us see your face and we shall
be saved.**

O Shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim
throne. O Lord, rouse up your
might, O Lord, come to our
help. *(R.)*

God of hosts, turn again, we
implore, look down from heaven
and see. Visit this vine and
protect it, the vine your right
hand has planted. *(R.)*

May your hand be on the man
you have chosen, the man you
have given your strength. And
we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call
upon your name. *(R.)*

SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on
coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or
oblation, prepared a body for me.
You took no pleasure in
holocausts or sacrifices for sin;
then I said, just as I was
commanded in the scroll of the
book, 'God, here I am! I am
coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did
not want what the Law lays
down as the things to be offered,
that is: the sacrifices, the
oblations, the holocausts and the
sacrifices for sin, and you took
no pleasure in them; and then he
says: Here I am! I am coming to
obey your will. He is abolishing
the first sort to replace it with the
second. And this will was for us
to be made holy by the offering
of his body made once and for all
by Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-45

Mary set out and went as quickly
as she could to a town in the hill
country of Judah. She went into
Zechariah's house and greeted
Elizabeth. Now as soon as
Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,
the child leapt in her womb and
Elizabeth was filled with the
Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry
and said, 'Of all women you are
the most blessed, and blessed is
the fruit of your womb. Why
should I be honoured with a visit
from the mother of my Lord? For
the moment your greeting
reached my ears, the child in my

womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed
is she who believed that the
promise made her by the Lord
would be fulfilled.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Response: Praise to you Lord
Jesus Christ.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Sirach 3:2-6. 12-14

Colossians 3:12-21

Luke 2:41-52




DIOCESAN INVESTMENT FUND

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Head office: 10 Orion St, Lismore,
1800 802 516.