



SACRED HEART PARISH

LUDDENHAM-WARRAGAMBA

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

YEAR B

17 DECEMBER 2023



Holy Family Church - Luddenham



St Mary Church - Mulgoa



Sacred Heart Church - Warragamba



St Francis Xavier Church - Greendale

PARISH TEAM

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Giovanni Presiga
DEACON: Deacon Charles Abela
PARISH SECRETARY: Bernadette Morton
ADMIN ASSISTANT: Colleen Nicholas
SACRAMENTAL COORDINATOR: Janet Borg
PASTORAL PLACEMENT: Menard Gaspi

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday: 9.00 am - 3.30pm

CONTACT US

02 4773 4321
www.warragambaparish.org.au
admin@warragambaparish.org.au
32 Willowdene Avenue, Luddenham
PO Box 56, Luddenham NSW 2745

PARISH BARGAIN CENTRE

16/18 Weir Road, Warragamba
Tuesday & Thursday: 9:30am - 4:00pm

HOLY FAMILY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Ms Donna Mc Fadzean
Assistant Principal: Ms Jodie Van As
Contact Number: 02 4773 7100

HOLY MASS TIMES AND SACRAMENTS

Saturday: 6.00 pm (Vigil) at Luddenham
Youth Mass - 1st Saturday of the month.
Children's Liturgy - 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month

Sunday: 7.30 am at Luddenham
9.30 am at Warragamba

Italian Mass: 11.00 am at Luddenham (3rd Sunday of the month)
Spanish Mass: 7.30 pm at Luddenham (4th Saturday of the month)

Weekday Mass: 9.00 am at Warragamba - Wednesday
7.00 am at Mulgoa - Thursday
9.30 am at Luddenham - Friday
9.00 am at Luddenham - Saturday (except 3rd Saturday)
9.00 am at Greendale - 3rd Saturday of the month

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

8.30 am at Luddenham - Friday

BAPTISMS AND MARRIAGES

Baptisms are held 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month by appointment only.
Marriages by appointment only at least 6 months prior to marriage.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday after 9.00am Mass & from 5.00pm till Vigil Mass

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

By appointment. Please contact the Parish Office.



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve

Vigil Family Mass 6.00pm
Holy Family Church, Luddenham

Vigil Mass 8.00pm
Holy Family Church, Luddenham

11.30pm Carols followed by Midnight Mass
Holy Family Church, Luddenham

Christmas Morning

8.00am – Sacred Heart Church, Warragamba

10.00am – Holy Family Church, Luddenham

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased:

Monty Sultana, Maria Zammit.

Please Remember:

Diane Gillogly (10th ann),
Salvatore Lia, Theresa Lia,
Mario Lia, Elizabeth Lia, Angelo Lia,
Mary Lia, Horace Azzopardi,
Carmen Azzopardi, Grace Tedesco,
Gillian Attard, Giovanna Attard,
Charles Attard, Mark Lia.

Sick:

Jane Attard, Lynne Clarke,
Gaetano Mandarano, Mary Attard,
Marcia Marmulla, Elia Muscat,
Paul Attard, Josephine Bartolo,
Therese Felli, Emmanuel Bauso,
Lee Casaselli, Charlie Cutajar,
Monica Muscat, David Allison Huerta,
Guillermo Delcastillo.

Our Parish Bargain

Centre will be closed from Thursday 21st December and will reopen on Thursday 1st February

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

St Vincent de Paul Warragamba would like to thank all those who donated gifts and food to this year's Christmas Hamper Appeal.

We were able to help 22 families and provide gifts to over 50 children in the area.

We hope you will continue to be generous when we collect for our Annual Christmas Appeal at the end of each Christmas Mass.

Thank you once again for your overwhelming support!

Have a very happy and blessed Christmas and New Year.

	16/17 DECEMBER			23/24 DECEMBER		
	Vigil	7.30 am	9.30 am	Vigil	7.30 am	9.30 am
Minister of the Altar	Br Joe Vassallo	Paul Rohan	David Egan	Michael Tolentino	Grace Buda	Colleen Nicholas
Ministers of the Word	Janet Borg Silvia Genovese	Benedetta Terry	Yasmin Carla	Angela Georgia	Marta Jennings Christian Pervan	Br Jeff Regan
Data Projector	Mel Elmer	Lily Attard	James Cutajar	Schoenstatt Choir	Lily Attard	Theresa Lia
Housekeepers	18-22 December: Karen & John			25-29 December: Melinda & Vanessa		
Flowers	18-22 December: Carla			25-29 December: Melinda & Vanessa		

Thank You to our Knitting Group

Our Parish Knitting Group held a luncheon. They raised \$550 for Mama Lana's Community Foundation in Penrith.

And thanks to Menard for singing Christmas Carols at the lunch.

2023 Diocese of Parramatta Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Mass and Reconciliation Times from parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are available now on our Diocesan website (www.parracatholic.org) and on Catholic Outlook (www.catholicoutlook.org).

The Diocese of Parramatta wishes you, your families and faith communities a Merry Christmas.

Advent and Christmas Summer 2023

Catholic Outlook Magazine out now!

The Advent and Christmas | Summer 2023 edition of the Catholic Outlook Magazine is out now! This edition features reflections on Mary's journey into the dark night, how our communities celebrate Christmas, our four new leaders in the Diocese, a handy Christmas Mass Times guide, plus so much more.

Pick up your free copy from parishes and offices across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains today or read it online via catholicoutlook.org/magazine

NEW Diocesan website launched

The new parracatholic.org website is now here with exciting new features and functionality including a comprehensive 'Find a Mass' function which includes Daily and Weekend Masses, Reconciliation and Adoration times; a centralised event calendar; Daily Mass readings and different ways you can contribute to the Church in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Check it out today!

Gospel Reflection

A key to our enduring happiness is an unconditional openness to where God leads us and a readiness to speak out and act boldly in his name.

In this we have the example of John the Baptist, who is the focus of the Gospel passage from the Prologue of John's Gospel:

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

We have here a clear assertion of the relationship between John the Baptist and Jesus. Jesus is the light and John is a witness to the light. It might be helpful for us to re-read those opening verses of today's Gospel and replace the name of John with our own name. What it says should be just as true of every baptised person as it is of John.

For each one of us, by our baptism and our membership in Christ's family, has been sent not, obviously, to be the original Light but to give witness to the Light. The Sermon on the Mount speaks of us as "the light of the world". We are to be the light in the same way as the moon is in its reflection of the sun.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas and the coming of God into our lives through Jesus, we need also to remind ourselves that we have been called to be the means to bring Jesus into other people's lives.

From sacredspace.com



Piety Shop

2024 CALENDARS
(COLUMBAN & MARY MACKILLOP)

CHRISTMAS CARDS

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

NATIVITY CRIBS

ROSARY BEADS, MISSALS

& MANY OTHER GIFT IDEAS

Come & See

First Reading **Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11**

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord. 'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels. 'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

R. *My soul rejoices in my God.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her
nothingness; henceforth all ages will call
me blessed. **R.**

The almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him. **R.**

He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy. **R.**

Second Reading
Thessalonians 5:16-24

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

Gospel **John 1:6-8, 19-20**

A man came, sent by God.
His name was John.
He came as a witness,
as a witness to speak for the light,
so that everyone might believe through him.
He was not the light,
only a witness to speak for the light.
This is how John appeared as a witness.
When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.' Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.'
This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

We Remember At This Time...

We pray for peace in our world; we especially pray for peace in the Middle East. As we pray, we remember those who have lost their lives and those who live in fear for their lives.

May compassion and understanding triumph over hatred and violence.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

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