



THE SAVING WORD

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH / B

31 DECEMBER 2023

FIRST READING

Gen 15: 1-6; 21: 1-3

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Your own son shall be your heir.

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great'.

'My Lord,' Abram replied 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless . . .' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir'. And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood'. Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 104: 1-6, 8-9. R. vv. 7, 8

R. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

1. Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, / make known his deeds among the peoples. / O sing to him, sing his praise; / tell all his wonderful works! **R.**

2. Be proud of his holy name, / let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice. / Consider the Lord and his strength; / constantly seek his face. **R.**



3. Remember the wonders he has done, / his miracles, the judgements he spoke. / O children of Abraham, his servant, / O sons of the Jacob he chose. **R.**

4. He remembers his covenant for ever, / his promise for a thousand generations, / the covenant he made with Abraham, / the oath he swore to Isaac. **R.**

SECOND READING

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

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

The faith of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.



OUR LADY of MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph - 31 December 2023 - Year B

PARISH INFORMATION

Address: 82 Collick Street, Hilton, WA, 6163
Phone: (08) 9314 7733
Email: sec.hilton@perthcatholic.org.au
Website: <http://www.olmchilton.org.au/parish-bulletin/>

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 9am – 3pm
Thursday: 9am – 12.30pm

PARISH MINISTRY TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Separovich
Parish Secretary: Tereza Camacho
Safeguarding Officer: Brigette Liddelow - 0432 908 980
Avila Retirement Village Secretary: Judy Rowlands – 0448 205 283
OLMC Primary School RE: TBC
OLMC Primary School Principal: Jayson Peacock - 9269 2000
Seton Catholic College Website:
<http://www.seton.wa.edu.au/olmc-parish>

MASS INTENTIONS

31 December – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Saturday 6pm Mass for Joe & Leonor (Intentions)

Sunday 7.30am Mass for Andrew De Sousa (RIP)

+ Deceased Members Urbano Family

Sunday 9am Mass for Antonio & Cecilia Coelho

(RIP)



Monday 1 January 2024 – New Year + Mary, the Holy Mother of God

9am Mass for The People

Tuesday 2 January – Sts Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

9am Mass for Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday 3 January – The Most Holy Name of Jesus

NO 9am Mass

10am Rosary + Funeral Mass for Frances Minervini

5.30 – 6.30pm Eucharistic Adoration



Thursday 4 January

9am Mass for Jose & Conceicao De Sousa (RIP)

9am-4pm Church Open for Prayers



Friday 5 January

9am Mass for Joao & Quentaria Gomes (RIP)

9.30 – 10.30am Eucharistic Adoration



Saturday 6 January

9am Mass for Alfredo & Margarida Goncalves (RIP)

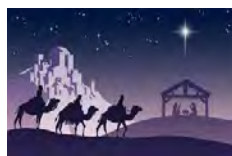
7 January – The Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday 6pm Mass for Conceicao Rebola (RIP)

Sunday 7.30am Mass for Elisabeth Glibota (RIP 1st Ann)

Sunday 9am Mass for Stephen Randall (RIP)

11am Baptism for Damon Day & Luca Peccia



Happy New Year

2024

WELCOME TO OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL PARISH

If you are a new parishioner, we extend a warm welcome to our Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and ask that you introduce yourself to Fr Michael.



PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS

Christine Rhow, Veronica, Maria, Consiglia Ciavatta, Irwin Beachell, Isabella Da Cunha, Martin, Norma Elliott, Rudi Tassell, Steven, Davina, Elisabetta Paddon, Dermot McKernon, Edward Fortune, Beatrice Fernandez, Lisa Bubb, Romilda Marinelli, Aaron LoCicero, Jacqueline Paul, Lou Collova, Edward Forster, Anne & Justine Tonti, Greenville Paul, Christine Schwarten Henry, Fr Joseph Angelo, Fr Augustine, Fr Anibal Da Cunha, Fr Wayne Davis, Peter Scanlan ...



7-9pm Holy Trinity Prayer Group
Resumes Monday 5 February 2024

RECONCILIATION

Saturday

9.30-10am and 5.15-5.45pm

Or by appointment.



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

7 January – The Epiphany of the Lord

1st: Is 60:1-6

2nd: Eph 3:2-3, 5-6

Gospel: Mt 2:1-12



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: The shepherds went in haste and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Our God has appeared on the earth and lived among us.



UNITY PRAYER: My Adorable Jesus, May our feet journey together. May our hands gather in unity. May our hearts beat in unison. May our souls be in harmony. May our thoughts be as one. May our ears listen to the silence together. May our glances profoundly penetrate each other. May our lips pray together to gain mercy from the Eternal Father. Amen.



OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN INSERT

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2023 HOLY FATHER MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTIONS: DECEMBER - For persons with disabilities.

“We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their active participation”.



WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK:

Parishioners, please be advised, the Authority will be Auditing our records of Working With Children. We are reminded again that all volunteers and those in active ministries in the parish must hold a current Working With Children Card. This is mandatory. If you have let your Working With Children Check lapse, please make immediate arrangements to have it renewed so to enable yourself to continue serving the parish community. Forms can be obtained from the local post office or from the parish office. Please remember when filling out the form to use only black ink pen. Again, I wish to add that the Authority has power to impose severe fines and possible imprisonment for non-compliance.



CANONICAL RECORDS – THE SACRAMENTS OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION:

The Church’s sacraments of Christian Initiation are Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. The record of those Baptised and who have been Confirmed in Faith have been kept universally for decades. In recent times, instruction had been given by the church to all Parishes that record of First Communicants are also to be recorded

in its Parish registers and maintained. Alas our Parish, records of First Communicants are very much incomplete. Our Parish School has been very helpful in forwarding to the Parish Office with as much data as their records hold. The responsibility of these records does not lie with our School but the Parish. Alas there are large periods, gaps of times of incomplete data. I again request your assistance, that any parishioner, catechist, parent, grand parent or now adult that has held onto a record of their or their First Communion year group would you be so kind as to forward that information onto our Parish Office. What is required is Full Name and Date, year receiving First Holy Communion. I am particularly requiring the details for the periods of the 1990’s through and including 2011, and 2017 to 2023. **Thank you – Fr Michael.**

RESIDENCY IN THE PRESBYTERY: Parishioners, some have kindly enquired of me had I settled into the presbytery? The response is “Alas, that has not been possible to date.” I wish to inform that upon my arrival to the Hilton Parish the priest’s home / presbytery was surveyed by the Church Authorities. Namely, Archdiocesan Senior Operations Officer, Manager of Wellness, Health and Safety Office, Acting Director (now Director), of Safeguarding and Manager, Archdiocesan Property Officer. It was assessed that much indispensable work on the building’s internal and external structure requires to be undertaken before residency could occur. At the same time, the parish office area was surveyed and works there also require urgent attention. Many may not be aware that the responsibility of the upkeep and maintenance of a Parish’s plant and assets falls upon itself, the Parish and not the Archbishop’s Office. I shall keep you all abreast as and when developments occur. **Fr Michael.**

ST VINCENT DE PAUL – THANK YOU:

On behalf of all the Families and individuals who benefited from your efforts in assisting with the delivery of Christmas Hampers and Presents this year, we wish to thank each and every one of you, for your time and effort. We applaud the generosity of the staff, students, and parents of both Seton College and OLMC Primary School for their donation of close to 70 Christmas Hampers. A special thank you to the students who put together those amazing packages





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for us! A big thank you to the Parishioners of the St Mary Star of the Sea, Cottesloe, and Corpus Christi, Mosman Park Churches for the 88 Household parcels of presents, containing 193 individually picked and dedicated presents for each family member, an amazing effort. From all the members and I of the Hilton Conference, God bless you all, and have a very Merry and Holy Christmas. **Ian Digney, President, SVDP Hilton Conference.**

GREETINGS PARISHIONERS. A Happy New Year to you ALL! A sincere thanks to all who participated and to those volunteers who worked so generously, yet silently behind the scenes in order to making the celebration of the Nativity of the Lord such a prayerful and joyous solemnity in our Parish. All of us require a rest period from our labours. Yes, even our volunteers need time to recharge their human and spiritual battery. You will notice that those involved in our parish music ministry will be absent from their familiar positions from this time and during the month of January. It is rightly a time for them to enjoy flexible family, holiday time. May they use the time wisely and we will await eagerly their return, refreshed and ready to prepare for the holy seasons of Lent and the Easter and another full liturgical year. Rest well good and faithful servants and return refreshed.

REFLECTION: Holy Family. What are you doing here? Some years before I was ordained, I was visiting a home of a young family. I often called upon this family and household. There were three little boys in that family, and I must admit my favourite was the youngest lad. He was bigger than his other brothers and yet he wore his heart on his shoulder. Even at the age of nine he would come home from school, get his afternoon tea then pick up his teddy bear, set on the lounge in the rumpus room with his faithful companion, "Ted, the teddy Bear". One day I turned up and the youngster said boldly "What are you doing here?" I was taken aback. His mother said sharply "Brett that is no way to speak to our visitor! Apologise!" He said he was sorry but there was an air of something that had been missed here for me. Something unspoken, incomplete. Brett went off sad with his teddy bear. Might I add he didn't even come in and say goodbye when I left. His caring mother told me later that she



asked him "Brett why did you ask our visitor "What he was doing here?" His reply was with a lump in his throat "I thought he had come to play with me. I wanted to show him what I did at school. I thought he might have stayed a while and have a cup of tea with us." Poor Brett and poor me. His enthusiasm came out wrongly to our sharp, judgemental adult over sensitive ears. Sadly, I missed the goodness of Brett's love in his question. If only I had heard it. Brett was only a child and as adults on this occasion we caused him grief by not understanding. Its too long ago now to rectify and assure him of the affection for him. Upon reflection everyone has a right to be heard and to be understood even though they may not put it well or looked in irritation or just bad manners. Why give anyone course for hurt however small when one could so easily no matter what the cost share that hurt, whether they deserve it or not. Jesus did! He heard; he didn't leave a trail of hurt. If we are asking for the grace, I know He will help us and the various 'Brett's' of this world that you and I come across will go to bed with a sorry not a tear. Yes, Brett has three sons and two daughters of his own now. And no bother for Brett, the dad when he comes home from work, no matter how tired he is, there is always time for a play, a time to listen and watch "the show and tell" provided by their children and share lots of hugs.

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR:

Christianstt.com. Heavenly Father, we thank You for the year that has passed and the many blessings You have showered us in time. We beg your pardon in our many failings and trespasses, and we pray that the coming year be a more fruitful one. We earnestly pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit, and we call upon our Lord Jesus Christ for His intercessions, His guidance and His light to shine our path.



FIRST COLLECTION DIRECT DEBIT INFORMATION

Supports the Archdiocesan Priests

Ac Name: Hilton Park Presbytery Account
BSB: 086 006
Ac Number: 928 370 105
Reference: Parishioner Name

SECOND COLLECTION DIRECT DEBIT INFORMATION

Supports the Parish

Ac Name: The RC AB of Perth Hilton Church (Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish)
BSB: 086 006
Ac Number: 695 605 996
Reference: Parishioner Name



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OUR LADY of MT CARMEL NOVENA: God our Father, prompted by Your Spirit the order of Carmel has from the beginning dedicated itself to the Mother of Your Son. As she unites her prayers with ours, look with favour upon us and bless our families, keep each of us from harm And bring us to the joy of heaven. We ask this through Jesus the Lord. **Amen.**



PRAYER FOR PEACE and JUSTICE: God of peace and justice, who change the hardened heart and break the power of violence, we entrust to you the people of Ukraine and all peoples' who suffer from injustice. Protect them all in this time of peril. Let them know not death but life, not slavery but freedom. You are the Father of all; we are brothers and sisters. Give us the strength to live that truth in love, choosing peace not war. Through Christ our Lord. Amen. Our Mother, Queen of Peace, Pray for us. **Amen.**

WEEK 1 30-31 Dec The Holy Family	COMMENTATOR	READER	ACOLYTE
Sat 6pm	Martha Kalat	Susie Poleschtschuk	Joe De Ornelas
Sun 7.30am	Michael Muller	Matthew Chiwariro	Gerry Miller
Sun 9am	Bridget Chamberlain	Helen Le Cordier	Ken Hla
WEEK 1 6-7 Jan The Epiphany of the Lord	COMMENTATOR	READERS	ACOLYTE
Sat 6pm	Martha Kalat	Susie Poleschtschuk	Joe De Ornelas
Sun 7.30am	Michael Muller	Matthew Chiwariro	Gerry Miller
Sun 9am	Bridget Chamberlain	Franca Kalat	Ken Hla



PRAYER TO OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS: Lord, you place deep in our hearts the love of Mary, help of Christians. Through her prayers grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our Citizens. Under her protection may Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Wednesday 5.30 – 6.30pm
Friday 9.30 – 10.30am
Come Visit Jesus
For One Hour
Jesus is Waiting for You





It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Heb 1: 1-2

Alleluia, alleluia! In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 2: 22, 39-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

The child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Longer form Lk 2: 22-40

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Breaking Open the Word

FAMILY TREASURE

What a treasured gift is a child, especially one longed for. In the story of Abram and Sarah we see how bereft they are to have no heir, no child, yet God gifts them Isaac. The Gospel tells us of another couple, Mary and Joseph, who also have a child gifted by God, Jesus. They "stood and wondered about the things that were said about him [Jesus]." While both of these sets of parents and their sons had a much larger role than many, let us not lose sight of the sacredness of family: the ability to bring a life into the world and to nurture that life to fullness.

The invitation on this feast of the Holy Family is to reflect on family – our own family, those around us and in our world. Families come in all shapes and sizes. The Holy Family is centred on Jesus and our families, centred on Christ, grow in holiness and love, face challenges together and are held in God's care. Parents and carers can identify with Mary and Joseph wondering and worrying about their son. A child raised in a loving environment has the opportunity to thrive and to grow into their full potential. The treasure of a family is not limited to the nuclear family but to the extended relationships through all of its members, centred on Christ, forming a community where all can thrive in faith and love whatever might come.

Dr Rosemary Canavan