

FIRST READING 2 Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14.16

The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

SALMO RESPONSORIALE

Il Signore e' fedele per sempre.

SECOND READING Romans 16:25-27

The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

GOSPEL Luke 1:26-38

You will conceive and bear a son.

THANKS TO THOSE WHO GAVE LAST WEEK

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| 1 st Collection | - Thanksgiving Offering..... | \$845.00 |
| | - Loose Money..... | \$272.00 |
| 2 nd Collection | - Presbytery/Priests..... | \$301.00 |

LECTORS - THIS WEEK 21/12/08

6.00pm (SAT) – B Nadenbousch & E Saliba
9.00am (SUN) – R Fato & C Brunetti
10.30am (SUN) – E Bartlett & D Lucato

LECTORS - NEXT WEEK 28/12/08

6.00pm (SAT) – L & M Dal Santo
9.00am (SUN) – G Barbaro & L Calafiore
10.30am (SUN) – T Fitzsimmons & J Vincitorio

CHURCH CLEANERS

27/12/08 R DeZan & A Natoili

MONEY COUNTERS

22/12/08 E Claridge, F Carabott & G Cananvan
29/12/08 D Herbert, C McMahon & P Cherubin

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING

RECENTLY DECEASED

Don McCONVILLE

ANNIVERSARIES

Maria ORLANDO (1 mth), Frank SPARANO, Nicola GIAMPIETRO, Carmelo & Santo RENNA, Jedi MARCHERITA, Vincenzo CILAURO, Margherita CANNIZZO, Antonio GELSUMINI, Sebastiano GIACCA, John GIACCA, Evelina SALVATORE, Caterina CURRA, Mario PANNUZIO, Famiglia LONGO, Franco, Michelina, Maria & Nicola SOCCIO, Antonio SOCCIO, Angela DICARLA, Lucia PARADISO, Giuseppe & Raffelina CALAFIORE, Giuseppe, Santina, Paolo, Pippo & Mario GERMANO, Carmela COTRONEO, Mariagrazia MURDICA, Pasquale TIMPANO, Francesco SANTOPIETRO, Giuseppina TIMPANO, Pasquale CAMPISI, Domenico MAMMONE, Vincenzo & Fidalma CIPOLLA

CANTO AL VANGELO

Alleluia, alleluia! .

Eccomi, sono la serva del Signore:
avvenga di me quello che hai detto.
Alleluia.

SPECIAL MINISTERS

S Dakin
T Forte, G Motisanti & R Mercuri
J & J Kearney & J Vincitorio

SPECIAL MINISTERS

E Saliba
F Pascuzzi, G Tempone & C Alberti
U Strangis, M Sernia & Joyce Broadbent

ST JOSEPH THE WORKER

NORTH RESERVOIR

79 Wilson Boulevard, North Reservoir 3073

Parish House/Office Tel: 9460 3013 Fax: 9460 8832 Mb: 0431 643 674

E-mail: stjtw@westnet.com.au

www.stjosephtheworker.org.au

School Tel: 9460 7506 Fax: 9462 2949

SUNDAY MASS TIMES:

Sat 6.00pm - English
Sun. 9.00am - Italian
Sun. 10.30am - English

Fr Emmanuel Bonello–Parish Priest

Sr Doreen Bentley-Pastoral Associate
Mr Peter Chowne -School Principal
Mrs Liz Pistoni – Parish Secretary

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Mon. 9.10am Comm. Service
Tue. 10.00am Italian
Wed. 9.10am - English
Thur. 9.10am - English
Fri. 9.10am - English
Sat. 8.30am - English

Maltese Mass

1st Saturday of the Month 6.00pm

Baptisms – Sunday 12.00pm

Marriages - By Appointment



Reconciliation: Sat. 10.30am

4th Sunday of Advent, Year B

21 December 2008



A Season of hospitality

The supermarkets and malls have been pressing Christmas on our attention for the past several weeks or even months. Meantime something equally pre-Christmas but quite non-commercial has been going on. There have been get-togethers of many kinds. Schools, sporting clubs, neighbourhood groups, have brought folk together for pre-Christmas gatherings. Firms and businesses have put on socials for staff and employees. There have been whole rounds of parties and barbecues, often involving people who never socialise together at any other time of the year. I live in a suburban residence for priests and brothers. A couple of years ago, two neighbours approached us and asked could our grounds be used for pre-Christmas get-together of the residents. Ours is a short one-entry-only street an ideal grouping of houses for a street party. We readily consented. Extremely successful annual gatherings have resulted. We have learnt that we must settle the date for our gathering months in advance, as otherwise all the desirable December dates are already booked out. Yes, Christmas is the year's prime time for social gatherings.

Such widespread getting together does not happen at any other time of the year. Nothing comparable takes place before Easter. None of our national days, be it Waitangi Day in New Zealand or Australia Day in the Commonwealth, are accompanied by social gatherings to this extent. They are unique to Christmas and they are very much part of our culture. On Christmas Eve last year, the editor of one of the national newspapers reflected on what could be the defining characteristic of Christmas in a secular world. He ended by summing it up in one word: "hospitality". The original Christmas story is definitely one of hospitality. The Gospel speaks of there being "no place for them in the inn". We could be getting it wrong to take that as meaning that they were refused entrance. We can speculate that the inn was most likely just one large open space, jammed with people cooking, eating, drinking, and gambling. No place for a quiet dignified birth. The neighbouring manger was free of all that. Perhaps the inn-keeper was doing his very best by the pregnant young woman and her husband when he gave them the sole occupancy of his manger. He was exercising true hospitality. Soon that manager would welcome the respectful presence of the shepherds, arriving with the notes of choirs of angels still ringing in their ears. We may at times wonder if the round of pre-Christmas parties distracts us from the true meaning of Christmas. Yet Christmas represents openness, friendship, generosity to others. Over these weeks, our national way of life happily reflects all of that. Let us, of course, not neglect Christ himself at this time. But let us be glad that even our quite secular culture echoes deeply the sentiments of this feast.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS

On this fourth Sunday of Advent our reflection can focus on “responding”. God does not always act in grand or expected ways, nor does God manipulate human response. God simply invites collaboration and like Mary, we seek to respond freely. We have responded to live our faith and our Christian commitment. As a community through our prayers and the celebration of Mass we are continually responding freely to grow in union with God and with one another. As we approach Christmas let us be grateful for all our parishioners and friends who respond by doing their best to see goodness in our community.

Thanks to the many people who respond through an active involvement in the Parish. Thanks to the Presbytery and Parish Office people (Secretary and Pastoral Associate), for their great work of coordination in the Parish. Thanks to the School Principal and Teachers, the School Board, the School Fund Raising Committee. Thanks to all the parish groups for their good work in the parish: the Parish Leadership Team, Liturgy Team, Finance Committee, Maintenance Committee, the Working Bee helpers, the Italian Ladies and Men’s Committees, the Italian Prayer Group, the Ministers of Communion at Mass, and to the sick, the Readers, those who welcome people, the Music people and the Singers at Mass, those at the overhead projector, the Money Collectors, the Counters, the Altar Servers, and those who prepare for Mass. Thanks to those who use the Hall regularly: the Italian Pensioners Club, the Acquaro Club, and the Maltese Stella Maris Club.

Thanks also to anyone else who has been involved in the parish ministry and activities during the year. Particular thanks go to those who were involved in the great celebration of welcoming and hosting pilgrims for the Days in the Diocese in preparation for the World Youth Day in July. Thank you all for your dedication and your great help in our Parish in living our motto:

“LET US WORK TOGETHER”

To everyone, Parishioners and Friends

Happy Christmas and Happy New Year

Buon Natale e Buon Anno Nuovo

II-Milied it-Tajjed u s-Sena t-Tajba

Manny Bonello



ITALIAN LADIES/MEN'S COMMITTEE

Un sincero ringraziamento al Comitato Femminile per la loro donazione quest'anno, alla parrocchia di \$4250. Un sincero ringraziamento al Comitato Italiano degli Uomini per la loro donazione alla parrocchia di \$3150 dopo le feste e le attività di questo anno.

MALTESE STELLA MARIS ASSOCIATION

Sincere thanks to the Maltese Stella Maris Association for their donation of \$1200 to the parish.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

Sincere thanks to the Charismatic Prayer Group for their donation of \$200 to the parish.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR TIMETABLE



WEDNESDAY 24 DECEMBER 2008 - CHRISTMAS EVE;

7.00pm Family Mass (Children are invited to dress as Christmas characters).

11.30pm Carols – Followed by MIDNIGHT MASS

THURSDAY 25 DECEMBER 2008 - CHRISTMAS DAY

9.00am - Mass in Italian

10.30am – Mass in English (Children are invited to dress as Christmas characters).

FRIDAY 26 DECEMBER 2008 - BOXING DAY, PUBLIC HOLIDAY

THERE WILL BE NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE CELEBRATED.
THE CHURCH WILL REMAIN CLOSED.

SUNDAY 28 DECEMBER 2008 - FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Mass times as normal weekend:
Saturday 6.00pm, Sunday 9.00am (Italian) 10.30am (English).



THURSDAY 1 JANUARY 2009; NEW YEAR'S DAY:

Mass Times - 10.00am in Italian, 11.00am in English.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES

There are Christmas offering envelopes in the seats. Please be generous to the parish during this Christmas season.

CONFESSIONS

Special times for individual Confessions during the week before Christmas.
Orario speciale per le Confessioni individuali durante la settimana prima del Natale

Tuesday (Martedì) 23/12/08 – 9.30am

Wednesday (Mercoledì) 24/12/08 – 9.30am & 6.00pm

FEASTS

Friday 26 December – St Stephen

Saturday 27 December – St John Apostle & Evangelist