



STS PETER & PAUL'S CATHOLIC PARISH SOUTH MELBOURNE

Under the Pastoral care of the Capuchin Friars

29th Dec 2019

Feast of the Holy Family

Underlying the wisdom offered in today's Liturgy is the mystery of the family in God's divine plan.

The Lord has set father in honor over his children and mother in authority over her sons, we hear in today's First Reading. As we sing in today's Psalm, the blessings of the family flow from Zion, the heavenly mother of the royal people of God (see Isaiah 66:7, 10–13; Galatians 4:26).

And in the drama of today's Gospel, we see the nucleus of the new people of God—the Holy Family—facing persecution from those who would seek to destroy the child and His Kingdom.

Moses, called to save God's first born son, the people of Israel (see Exodus 4:22; Sirach 36:11), was also threatened at birth by a mad and jealous tyrant (see Exodus 1:15–16). And as Moses was saved by his mother and sister (see Exodus 2:1–10; 4:19), in God's plan Jesus too is rescued by His family.

As once God took the family of Jacob down to Egypt to make them the great nation Israel (see Genesis 46:2–4), God leads the Holy Family to Egypt to prepare the coming of the new Israel of God—the Church (see Galatians 6:16).

At the beginning of the world, God established the family in the “marriage” of Adam and Eve, the two becoming one body (see Genesis 2:22–24). Now in the new creation, Christ is made “one body” with His bride, the Church, as today's Epistle indicates (see Ephesians 5:21–32).

By this union we are made God's chosen ones, holy and beloved. And our families are to radiate the perfect love that binds us to Christ in the Church.

As we approach the altar on this feast, let us renew our commitment to our God-given duties as spouses, children and parents. Mindful of the promises of today's First Reading, let us offer our quiet performance of these duties for the atonement of our sins.

Scott Hahn



FEAST OF THE WEEK

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God 1st of January

The feast is a celebration of Mary's motherhood of Jesus. The title “Mother of God” is a western derivation from the Greek term ‘Theotokos’, which means ‘God-bearer’. On this day, we are reminded of the role that the Blessed Virgin played in the plan of our salvation. Through the Holy Spirit, God the Father prepared Mary to be the dwelling place where His Son and His Spirit could dwell among humanity. Christ's birth was made possible by Mary's *fiat*, or sanctioning of God's plan with her words, “Be it done to me according to thy Word”. Calling Mary “Mother of God” is the highest honour we can give to her. The honouring of Mary as the Mother of God can be traced back to the Council of Ephesus in A.D. 431.

MASS TIMES

Sunday 10am, Saturday 6pm (Vigil)

Mon - Thurs: 8am, Friday: 10am, Saturday: 10am

Confession Times: Sat 10:30am, 5:30pm

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:

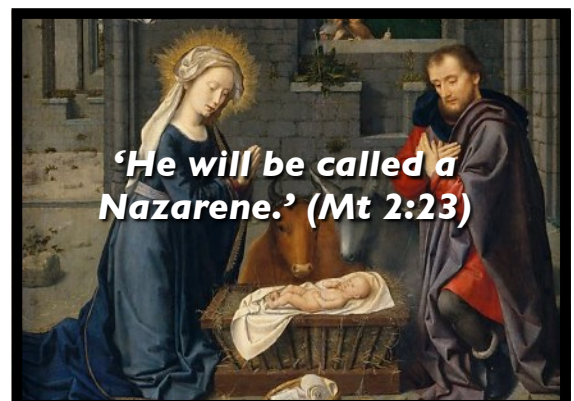
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Emerald Hill Mission: 0409 417 412

Secretary Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9:30am - 3pm



Please remember in your prayers and Masses the following people who are ill: Sr Annunciata, Valda Hogan, Flo O'Hara, Sr Joyce Stewart, Peter Wood, Vandersman Family, Joanne Kilmer, Liliana Bobadilla, Ruby Roxa, Eunice Costa, Richard Fennessy, Giovanna Santarossa, James Burnes, James Atkins, Bonnie Breen, Jeff Martin, Naomi McSweeney, Alison Fraser, Steven Wallace, Elaine Wallace, Richard, Miles Buntleski, Lachlan Fahy, Colin Crawford.

Feast of the Holy Family

Entrance Antiphon: The Shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

1st Reading – Sirach 3:2-7, 12-14

Honour to one parents will be rewarded.

Responsorial Psalm

Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk I his ways.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper.

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table.

Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life!

Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk I his ways.

2nd Reading – Colossians 3:12-17

Concerning the Christian life in the world.

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you. Alleluia!

Gospel – Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt.

Next week's readings:	1	Isaiah 60:1-6
	2	Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6
	Gospel	Matthew 2:1-12

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray together:

Lord, we pray for the Church family throughout the world, especially Pope Francis, his bishops and Priests.

Lord, we pray for families. May God lead them to grow in wisdom and grace to come to the maturity He promises.

Lord, we pray for a strengthening of family life in our world and for those who work to build up family life.

Lord, we pray for our parish life. May our community service strengthen the life and grace in all of us.

Lord, we remember with compassion our family and friends who have gone before us. Hold them in your keeping, especially those who have died recently Barry Noonan, Gary Withers and those whose anniversaries occur about this time Julie Miller, Murray Lerisha, Hetty Kear, Peter Kerr, Colleen Peters, Sr Myrene Erdmann, Barry Noonan, Gary Withers.

Collections: Dec 14/15, 2019

1st Collection: \$1106

2nd Collection: \$1029

Online per week (Nov): \$350

1st Collection goes to the Friars, and the 2nd collection goes to the running costs of the Parish.

EFT Donations:

Account Name: Parish SS Peter & Paul

BSB: 083 155

Account number: 515577466

	READERS	E.M.E	HOSPITALITY	FLOWERS
Sat 28	Ann M			Doris
Sun 29	Geraldine & Merlyn	Mario & Geraldine F	Margaret & Nancy	
Sat 04	Adrien			Ann & Priska
Sun 05	Janet & Ann T	Doris & Geraldine F	Colin & Geraldine	