

**OUR PARISH MISSION:**

"All the Church, all the Gospel, all the people, all the time"

**OUR PARISH VISION:**

All the Church - we will **WORSHIP** with an open heart.

All the Gospel - we will celebrate the **WORD** with joy.

All the People - we will care for the **WELFARE** of all.

All the Time - we will **WITNESS** His love in all we do.

**OUR PARISH SCRIPTURE**

"Refresh my heart in Christ" - Philemon 1:20b

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH** CS = Communion Service  
**PSALTER WEEK 4**

**WEEKDAY MASSES:** Monday: 10am Mass, Tuesday: CS 5.30pm, Wednesday & Thursday: CS 8.30am; Friday: Requiem Mass time *tba*; Exposition and Adoration 5.30-6.00pm Friday

**WEEKEND MASSES:**

**Saturday Vigil:** 6pm **Sunday:** 8.30am, 10.00am  
Mass will be celebrated at Goodwin Village for residents on the last Saturday of the month at 9.30am.

**RECONCILIATION (Confession):**

*For month of January by appointment only.*

**BAPTISMS:** The next information session will be held on **Tuesday 13 February 2018, 7.00pm** in the Parish Hall. Please register through the Office.

**Baptisms are celebrated in Mass or at 1130am on the 2nd & 3rd Sundays of the month. Please register for the info night.**

**WEDDINGS:** By appointment, at least 6 months notice, please! Phone Father Richard for details.

The **BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL** is open daylight hours each day for Adoration and quiet prayer.

*Please do not leave cut flowers or candles in the Chapel.*

**Parish Office Hours** As the Parish Office is closed over the Christmas break, the bulletin for 25 Dec and 30/31 Dec have already been printed. If you wish to send in any notices/Mass intentions, etc, we will include them in the weekend of 6/7 January. Please leave them in the after hours box at the front door of the Presbytery. Thank you. Please note the office will be on restricted hours over the school holiday period. Thank you.

**Pls note there will be Requiem Mass Friday 29th for Sandra Tilley, time to be advised. No 9.30am Mass**

**Thank you on behalf on the Mary Help of Christians St Vincent de Paul Conference** for your generous support of their Christmas Hamper appeal.



**Mary Help of Christians Parish  
South Woden, PEARCE ACT**

**Parish Priest: Father Richard Thompson** VF CSM ChLJ RAN Rtd

**Deacon:** Matt Ransom (part time)

**Youth Minister:** Rossen de Ramos [rossenderamos@gmail.com](mailto:rossenderamos@gmail.com)

**Presbytery/Parish Office:** 35 Murphy Cres, PEARCE ACT 2607 Ph: 02 6286 1908

**Parish Secretary:** Megan Loughlin **Office Hours:** 9am – 3pm Tuesday - Friday

**Parish email address:** [wodensouth@cg.org.au](mailto:wodensouth@cg.org.au) **WEBSITE address:** [www.mhoc.org.au](http://www.mhoc.org.au)



*Our parish acknowledges and celebrates the original custodians of this sacred land, the Ngunnawal people.*



**Christmas Mass times & Parish happenings:**

- **Sat 23rd Dec 6.00pm Vigil**
- **Sun 24th Dec Christmas Eve 8.30am & 10am Mass** (pls note inclusion of 8.30am)
- **Sun 24th Dec Christmas Vigil & Children's Mass 7.00pm only**
- **Mon 25th Dec Christmas Day Mass 10am**
- **Tues - Thurs 26-28th Dec Communion Services**
- **Wed 3rd January Parish Office reopens**—still in Presbytery (pls note we will have intermittent email & phone access until Fri 12th Jan due to computer installation in new office)



**This year, the Archbishop's Christmas Appeal will be used to support:**

- Our support will continue for the ecumenical Christmas Bowl appeal and its work in Australia & beyond.
- Contributions will be made to support

Diocesan projects locally, within Wilcannia Forbes Diocese as well as the Wilcannia Hub project, and globally, within the Dioceses of Otukpo, Nigeria and Tagbilaran, Cebu, Philippines for their Diocesan Seminary.

- Other endeavours will include support towards: Providing a school bus to transport young children to school from poor surrounding villages within the La Salette Matha Province in India and student assistance for those in need at Bethlehem University in the Holy Land.

**Thank you for your generous support this Christmas. Donations can also be made via our Qkr App.**

**Prayer for blessing of the Advent wreath** (said by all)



Heavenly Father,  
look upon us with love,  
and fill us with the Spirit of Jesus.  
Help us to love you,  
and protect us during this week  
as we await the coming of our Lord.  
We ask this grace  
in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen

**"Christmas is a special time** when we remember God's closeness to us and *our* responsibility to become peacemakers. In this season of peace and goodwill we see our God, the maker of all things visible and invisible, reduced to the most vulnerable of creatures; *another* little Middle Eastern boy caught up in homelessness, poverty and a cruel cycle of violence. Yes, our God gave up *everything* in order to become one with us. You cannot get closer than that! He comes to us, and stays with us, especially in times of difficulty and loneliness.

We might say that Christmas is the feast of "closeness". It is the time when family and friends who are separated – by geography, by hurt or anger, or simply by the distances created by time – come together again to celebrate this joyous feast and to renew their bonds with one another and, we hope, with Christ.

Christmas reunions can be wonderful. They can also open old wounds and bring back painful memories. To make Christmas joyful we must be able to forgive one another and let go of past injuries – real and imagined.

My prayer for you and for all, therefore, is that you will feel God's closeness this Christmas and become instruments of peace in the New Year ahead! Let us keep the lost and abandoned close to our hearts." ~ *Archbishop Denis J. Hart, President, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference* This message is from: ACBC Communications

**Remembering our faithful departed family and friends.** Eternal rest grant unto Gordana Jelic

who died recently and Zygmunt Tomaszewski whose anniversary occurs at this time.

**May they rest in peace.**



**MHoC Parish uses Qkr! with Masterpass App** to contribute to the Church collections without the necessity of carrying cash.

Please download from your App Store or contact Parish Office for more information. Please note during trial period, parishioners are referenced as 'students'. This does not replace your current Direct Debit or Credit Card donations (it can if you wish) but it can be used in conjunction with them.

**ROSTERS FOR PARISH MINISTRIES FOR CHRISTMAS DAY 2017**

**Commentators and Lectors**

10.00am *Please see sign up sheets*

**Extra-ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist**

10.00am *Please see sign up sheets*

**Acolytes**

10.00am F. Loyman

**Music Ministry**

10.00am D. Tantri

**Altar Servers**

10.00am *Please see sign up sheets*

**Welcome Ministry**

10.00am C. Kelly

**ROSTERS FOR PARISH MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEKEND OF 30/31 DECEMBER 2017**

**Commentators and Lectors**

6.00pm *Please see sign up sheets*

8.30am *Please see sign up sheets*

10.00am *Please see sign up sheets*

**Extra-ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist**

6.00pm *Please see sign up sheets*

8.30am *Please see sign up sheets*

10.00am *Please see sign up sheets*

**Acolytes:**

6.00pm P. Verdon

8.30am G. Joseph

10.00am M. Doherty

**Music Ministry**

6.00pm Volunteer pls

8.30am Volunteer pls

10.00am Volunteer pls

**Altar Servers**

6.00pm *Please see sign up sheets*

8.30am *Please see sign up sheets*

10.00am *Please see sign up sheets*

**Welcome Ministry**

6.00pm M. Blackmore, D. McLellan

8.30am N. Toscan, M. Louis

10.00am J. Bourke

**Altar Care (25 December):** Bepp Simpson

**Rosary Crusade (24 December):**

Ephraums Family, 10 Pedred St, Pearce. Ph 6286 1068

**Church Linen for DECEMBER**

Marianne Forshaw

**Lectors, Altar Servers and Extraordinary Ministers' Rosters for the Christmas break** – We need your help over the Christmas/January break. Please put your name on the Roster sheet, located at the back of the church to assist. Thank you.



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**Thank you to all those who have volunteered in faithful service to the Lord in a Parish group or Ministry in 2017.** We look forward to welcoming new members to stand along side such wonderful volunteers in 2018.