

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Sandy Watkins: 0409 492 508
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Fr Marcello Colasante: 0416 194 825
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Special Parish Events (Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals) Phone: Bernadette Franc 0427678830

Parish Support - *If you need help with anything, please phone one of our members:*
Gail Hall: 0412 311 586 Bernadette Franc: 0427 678 830

SUNDAY – 1st January 2023

The Solemnity of Mary / The Holy Mother of God - Year A

RECENT DEATHS:

Pope Benadict XVI

ANNIVERSARIES:

Eva Morgan, Kevin Flynn, Margaret Grundy,
Hugh Briody, Agnes Hocking, Mick Mulcahy, Anne
Pearce,
Louis Franc, Terry Ryan, Michael Huska, Gary Hall,
Richard Stevens

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Pat Byrne, Margaret MacDonald, Graeme Dawson,
Blake Dridan, Shelagh Mulcahy, Fr Adrian McInerney,
Graeme Trethowan, Bernie Duffy
and all those in need of prayer.

ROSTER:

Introduction & Reading

Today: Jim Mahony
Jan 8th: John Jess

Prayers of the Faithful

Today: John Jess
Jan 8th: Charlie Franc

Assembly Leader

Today: Sue Mahony & Carita Clancy
Jan 15th: Angela Gerrard & Carita Clancy

Special Minister

Jan 1st: Clarrie Johnston
Jan 15th: Clarrie Johnston

Music

Today: Sue Mahony
Jan 8th: Sue Mahony

Church Cleaning, Linen, Flowers

Dec 8th -15th: Chandler Family

Church Grounds

Dec 8th -15th: Chandler Family

Newsletter

January: Carmel Milenkovic 0407 320 759

MASS TIMES NEXT WEEK

January 8th 2023 - Mass at 8.30am

Columban Calendars

Available now from Sue Mahony for \$8



Thank you

Thank you all for your wonderful support throughout the year. Everyone in the Beaufort Parish does a brilliant job with all that is needed to keep the church going and support our church community.

A special thank you to Fr Marcello for his continued ministry to us in Beaufort.

Special thank you to all who have contributed in any way too the Christmas Celebrations: to Anne Beer for the refurbished Nativity characters, for those who have done the flowers, decorations, lights, cleaning and prepared the church, for those people rostered for readers and prayers of faithful and the newsletter, and for our congregation.

Thank you, also to Bernadette Franc and all members of Parish Council for all your tireless work for the church.

New Year's Prayer

Dear Lord,

We pray that this New Year will bring us closer to You. May we take the time to get to know You.

Help us to truly celebrate the gifts You have graciously given us and use them to serve You and spread Your word,

May we also see and love you in all the people we meet, so that in turn, they can see You in us.

We know that all human relations take time if they are to grow and deepen.

This is also true of our relations with You, the Father and the Holy Spirit, which must grow over the course of our lives.

In this new year,

let us realise that every action of ours no matter how great or small enables us to be in touch with You.

Let us accept You in our lives, in the way it pleases You,

as Truth, to be spoken,

as Life, to be lived,

as Light, to be lighted,

as Love, to be followed,

as Joy, to be given,

as Peace, to be spread about,

as Sacrifice, to be offered among our relatives, friends, neighbours and all people.

Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Heb 1: 1-2

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

GOSPEL

Lk 2: 16-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Luke.

*The shepherds found Mary and Joseph, and the
infant lying in the crib . . . When the eighth day
came, they gave him the name of Jesus.*

The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD / A

1 JANUARY 2023

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

The Octave of Christmas concludes by honouring Mary as the Mother of God continuing the long and rich tradition that goes back to the Council of Ephesus in 431. The formula that Levites and priests were instructed to use when blessing the people of Israel has a special resonance when applied to Mary. She could surely say that she had been blessed in the gift of Jesus, that God's face had shone upon her, and that God had been gracious to her in ways that she could never have anticipated or imagined. Her positive response to the words of the angel Gabriel opened a pathway for all humanity.

In the letter to the Galatians, we get a glimpse into Paul's wonder at the mysterious ways of God knowing that our ability to cry out in the Spirit 'Abba, Father' would not have come about if Jesus had not been born of Mary. He describes this birth as taking place in the fullness of God's time. Jesus was born as a member of the people of Israel, but this is only a part of his identity and role in God's saving plan that extends to all creation.

The first witnesses to the birth of Jesus in Luke's Gospel were the shepherds who were informed that a Saviour had been born in Bethlehem, the city of David whose own career as king started humbly as a shepherd. In a similar way, Jesus' humble beginnings in a manger will lead to blessings for all of us. Like Mary, we are called to treasure all this in our hearts.

FIRST READING

Num 6: 22-27

A reading from the book of Numbers.

They will call down my name on the children of Israel and I will bless them.

The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'Say this to Aaron and his sons: "This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them:

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord uncover his face and bring you peace."

This is how they are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 66: 2-3, 5, 6, 8. R. v. 2

R. May God bless us in his mercy.

1. God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. **R.**

2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. **R.**

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. **R.**

SECOND READING

Gal 4: 4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Galatians.

*When the appointed time came, God sent his son,
born of a woman.*

When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons. The proof that you are sons is that God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts: the Spirit that cries, 'Abba, Father', and it is this that makes you a son, you are not a slave anymore; and if God has made you son, then he has made you heir.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

