



# St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Parish

26-38 Macarthy Road, Marsden, PO Box 545, Marsden Qld 4132

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## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

**Parish Office is closed from 24 December 2022 to 2nd January 2023**

*In the spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today, acknowledging their continuing connection to land, water and community.*

## Parish Contacts

### Parish Priest

Fr. Mikhael Loke SVD 38030862

### Asst. Parish Priest

Fr. Long Xuan Nguyen SVD  
38030862

### Parish Secretary

Ronet D'Mello

### Pastoral Council Chairperson

Noel Swindells

### Finance Committee Chairperson

Tom Kalaja

### Care and Concern Co-ordinator

Sue Barrett

### Youth Leaders

Shanna and Danny

### Liturgy Committee Co-ordinator

Buxton Thomas

### Parish Safeguarding Children Rep.

Ron Klerks (0411 057 611)

STOP line: 1300 304 550

### Sacramental Team Leader

Helen Swindells (0400 014 042)

### R.C.I.A. Coordinator

Adeline Barncastle (0406 675 758)

### St. Francis College

Mr. John Marinucci (Principal)  
3489 4800

### St. Clare's Primary School

Mr. Michael McInerney (Principal)  
5549 8000

### San Damiano College

Mr. Peter Edwards (Principal)  
5670 7000

### Weekday Mass Times

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	9.00am
Wednesday	9.00am
Thursday	9.00am
Friday	9.00am
Saturday	8.00am

### Weekend Mass Times

Saturday 31 Dec.

Adoration: 5.30pm Mass: 6pm

Sunday Mass: 8.00am & 9.30am

## The Nativity of the Lord – Sunday, 25 December 2022



*This year many people are approaching Christmas Day both with longing and a little hesitation. For two years the things that we take for granted at Christmas have been under threat. Family gatherings and reunions have been limited by restrictions. So have the buying of gifts, travel over holiday time, and gatherings at the beach. This year it is easy to feel the pull between going back with greater enthusiasm to what we did before and the desire, fueled by the discoveries we have made during the lockdowns, to find new and perhaps more simple ways of celebrating Christmas.*

*We all have our memories of past Christmases - some of joy, of conviviality, of generous excess, and others of sadness, disappointment and rancor. They reflect the joys and sorrows, the generosity and the meanness, the simplicity and the complexity of our lives. The original Christmas stories, too, are marked by human simplicity in the face of imposed complexity. In the Gospels of Luke and Matthew, we find stories of Jesus' birth that are marked by a human simplicity enforced by inhuman complexity. Because King Herod sees the child as a threat to his throne he sends soldiers to kill all children of the baby's age. Joseph and Mary have to leave their home abruptly and make their way to Egypt as refugees. In this story, Joseph's and Mary's lives are stripped to their bare necessities of love, faithfulness, trust that they will find a way, while waiting for the instructions of angels.*

*Like the journeys of Mary and Joseph our lives were shaped by the instructions of our lords and masters, by the tightening or loosening of restrictions, and by the effects that these had on travel, on employment, on study and on health. The relative isolation of our lives also offered space to reflect on what matters most to us. At its best it offered the opportunity, as it did to Mary and Joseph, to attend to the detail of their daily lives with all their attendant anxieties and moments of contentment, and to find in the rhythms and texture of life in restriction an invitation to reflect. Certainly, the simplicity which allows us to attend to our world and people, is worth building into our celebration of Christmas. We listen deeply in conversation. We take time when eating and drinking to appreciate the meal and be grateful for it. We measure the value of the presents we receive by the feeling behind them and not by the price tag.*

*We also keep in our minds and hearts the faces of the people whom we may not meet this Christmas: people in aged homes, in prisons, homeless on the streets, seeking protection from persecution. These are the people for whom Christ came and whose company he shared as a baby at the first Christmas. They are also the people who are part of our own Parish and of the wider multi-cultural community we live amongst. The stories of Christmas are central to Christian faith, but they are a gift to everyone, which is to be lived out each in our own way.*

*Excerpts taken from reflection by Fr. Andrew Hamilton SJ for Jesuit Social Services.*

## Dear Parishioners & Guests,

As we celebrate the Divine birth of our Lord Jesus Christ during this season, what we will really be celebrating is the Hope, Peace, Love and Joy that these past weeks of Advent have been preparing us to receive. We pray that all four of these would fill your lives in every way this Christmas and beyond! We remain ever grateful to God for every blessing He has poured out to all of us in this Parish family. This Christmas, as in all previous years, we celebrate "Emmanuel" (God with us). Without Christ's presence among us we would be lost. Through God's presence working within us we are being healed, transformed, reconciled and made whole.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you to all our Parishioners and Volunteers. We are deeply grateful for how you have served so sacrificially this past year. Whether it's leading groups; shepherding children; serving coffee; setting up for worship; playing music; serving on one of our many ministries, or any one of the countless other (usually unseen) tasks that keep our community running, we are humbled to serve our living God alongside you in this Parish! Thank you so much for all you do!

*Wishing all of you a Blessed Christmas!*  
*Fr. Mikhael & Fr. Long*



**The Nativity of the Lord— Vigil Mass at 6.00pm**

**24 December 2022**

**First Reading: Isaiah 62: 1-5**

*The Lord takes delight in you.*

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 88: 4-5, 16-17, 27, 29**

*For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.*

**Second Reading: Acts 13: 16-17, 22-25**

*Paul spoke of Christ, the son of David.*

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed:  
the Saviour of the world will be our king.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel: Matthew 1: 1-25**

*A genealogy of Jesus Christ, son of David.*

**The Nativity of the Lord— Mass at 10.00pm**

**24 December 2022**

**First Reading: Isaiah 9: 1-7**

*A son is given to us.*

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 95: 1-3, 11-13**

*Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.*

**Second Reading: Titus 2: 11-14**

*God's grace has been revealed to all people.*

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Good News and great joy to all the world:  
Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel: Luke 2: 1-14**

*Today a saviour has been born for you.*

**The Nativity of the Lord— Morning Mass at 9.00am**

**25 December 2022**

**First Reading: Isaiah 52: 7-10**

*All the ends of the earth shall see the saving power of our God.*

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 97: 1-6**

*All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.*

**Second Reading: Hebrews 1: 1-6**

*In our own time, God speaks to us through his Son.*

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

A holy day has dawned upon us.  
Come, you nations and adore the Lord  
Today a great light has come upon the earth.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel: John 1:1-18**

*The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory.*



**YARRABILBA MASS CENTRE**

**Weekend Community Mass**  
will be held at 5.00pm on:

**1 Jan 2023**

**No Mass on Sun. 25 Dec**

**Note: We will have a Fellowship Meal after  
Mass on 1st Jan 2023; all are welcome;  
please bring a plate to share, Thank you!**

**Centre Location:**

St. Clare's Primary School, 2 Combs St, Yarrabilba

**NEW YEAR'S EVE  
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

**Saturday, 31 Dec 2022**

**Adoration: 5.30pm**

**Weekend Vigil Mass: 6.00pm**



**Roster for the weekend of 31 Dec. 2022 – 1 Jan 2023**

**Mass Coordinators:**

31 Dec. 5.30pm - Adeline Barncastle  
01 Jan. 8.00am - Orlando Diente  
01 Jan. 9.30am - Kelemete Tito

**Readers**

31 Dec. 5.30pm - William B/Sarah Wizz  
01 Jan. 8.00am - Nimfa Brookes/Lele F.  
01 Jan. 9.30am - Tamate T/ Ron Klerks

**Communion Ministers:**

31 Dec. 5.30pm - Sue McKeown/Rosemary Ordonez  
01 Jan. 8.00am - Eseta Alosio/Korina Laban.  
01 Jan. 9.30am - Winnie Kepu/Filomena T.

**Choir:**

31 Dec. 5.30pm - Saturday Night Choir  
01 Jan. 8.00am - Congregation Singing  
01 Jan. 9.30am - Ekalesia Choir

**Altar Servers**

Saneth  
Salvius/Parfait  
Malachi/Talalei

**Flowers:**

Suli/Litia

**CHRISTMAS THANKSGIVING  
PRAYER**

Dear Lord in Heaven,

Thank you for this ultimate sacrifice.  
Thank you for remembering a sinner like  
me. Thank you that you have saved me  
from eternal damnation. Thank you for all  
the blessings we received this year.  
Thank you for your divine protection.  
Thank you for your endless mercies.  
Thank you for everything that happened  
this year. Thank you for the joy, sorrow,  
happiness, and anger. Thank you for our  
finances, for our children, and for  
everyone in this family.

We are grateful for your faithfulness. We  
are thankful for your favor even though  
we didn't deserve it. You are wonderful  
and our rock forever and ever.

Thank you for this year. We bless your  
name, we praise you, we lift you up and  
we honor you

*Amen*

THE GRACEFUL CHAPTER