



OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA PARISH

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON



Prot: 24371:MMsp_1704

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

I send my Christmas greetings to all of you, and I pray that the peace of our Saviour be with each one of you.

My mind goes back to this time, two years ago when I visited the Holy Lands. The diocesan pilgrimage began in Jordan where we visited the Baptismal site of Jesus, climbed Mt Nebo where Moses glimpsed the Promised Land, travelled to Nazareth where the Angel announced to a young woman she was to bear a son, Bethlehem where the Prince of Peace was born and Jerusalem where the son of Mary, son of God, was crucified outside the walls. He was the hope of the Israelite people that he would bring peace.

My thoughts go out to the people of these lands and how they are faring. In Bethlehem itself and around the Holy Lands, Lebanon, Israel and Palestine, there is great unrest and war. So many innocent people are affected, communities destroyed, families devastated, thousands have been killed and millions lost livelihoods and homes. Similar is happening in places like Ukraine and Myanmar.

The message the readings of Christmas bring us are – “and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests ” and “For to us a child is born, ; . . . and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

This Christmas let us be thankful for the peace we enjoy. The freedom to live, to work, to attend our churches and celebrate Christmas. Be the peace we need in our lives and help bring peace to those around us. And I ask you to pray. Pray in thanks for Jesus coming into the world for us and the peace we enjoy. Pray for all those affected by war and conflict – that they too may enjoy peace in their lives and pray for peace across our world. It is so needed currently.

May we appreciate the peace that only Christ, the Prince of Peace, can bring.

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

With blessings on you and your families this Christmas.

Most Rev Michael McCarthy
Bishop of Rockhampton

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

“...he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.”

Every time we recite these words in the creed, we make a bow in reverence of the act by which God joined himself to humanity forever. And on Christmas day we give special reverence to this mystery by genuflecting. Today we rejoice that God has loved the world so much that he joined us in our joys and sorrows, our struggles and pain; today is the feast day of God becoming human, so that we might become divine.

As we sing joy to the world, may the joy of the Christ-child’s birth be yours as well. May your Christmas be holy and safe, and above all, full of wonder and awe because our salvation has dawned with Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem. Happy Christmas to you all!

Fr Andrew

Parish Information to 19 January 2025

P: 07 49721025

E: sosgladstone@rok.catholic.net.au

W: www.sosgladstone.org.au

Parish Office Hours: Mon 10:30am - 4pm, Tues, Thurs, Fri | 9am - 4pm, Wed | 9am -12pm
(Office will be closed from Friday 20 December and will reopen Monday 6 January)

Weekday Masses: Star of the Sea, Gladstone

***** Wednesday 1st January (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God): 9am**

All other days: Tuesday 5:30pm | Wednesday & Thursday 7:00am | Friday 9:00am

There will be No Mass on Thursday 26 December or Friday 27 December

Sunday Masses

Saturday 28 December

St Peter Chanel, Tannum - 5:00pm

Sunday 29 December

Star of the Sea, Gladstone - 8:00am & 6:00pm

St Agnes, Agnes Water - 11:00am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Saturday 4 January

St Peter Chanel, Tannum - 5:00pm

Sunday 5 January

Star of the Sea, Gladstone - 8:00am & 6:00pm

Our Lady of Mt Carmel, Mt Larcom - 11:00am

St Agnes, Agnes Water - 11:00am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Saturday 11 January

St Patrick's, Calliope - 5:00pm

Sunday 12 January

Star of the Sea, Gladstone - 8:00am and 6:00pm

St Peter Chanel, Tannum - 8:00am *Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion*

St Peter Chanel, Miriam Vale - 11:00am

Saturday 18 January

St Peter Chanel, Tannum - 5:00pm

Sunday 19 January

Star of the Sea, Gladstone - 8:00am and 6:00pm

St Peter Chanel, Tannum - 8:00am *Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion*

St Mary's, Ubobo - 11:00am

Reconciliation

Star of the Sea, Gladstone | 8:30 to 9:20am - Each Saturday

St Peter Chanel, Tannum | 4:15 to 4:45pm - Saturday 28 December & 4, 18 January

St Patrick's, Calliope | 4:15 to 4:45pm - Saturday 11 January

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Star of the Sea Church | 8.30 to 9.30am - Each Saturday

St Patrick's, Calliope | 4:15 to 4:45pm - 11 January