

will be destroyed: the Saviour of the world will be our king.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 1:18-25
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Mary will give birth to a son and you will name him Jesus.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The Virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord told him to do: he took his wife to his home and, though he had not had intercourse with her, she gave birth to a son; and he named him Jesus.

Communion Antiphon Cf. Is 40:5
The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all flesh will see the salvation of our God.



Prayer against Coronavirus

O God, Healer of all our ills, to Whom we turn in this time of distress, grant we pray, in the power of faith, eternal rest to the dead and comfort to those who mourn, health to the sick and peace to the dying, strength to medical workers, wisdom to our leaders and a spirit of kindness to us all. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St Edmund, patron saint of pandemics, *pray for us.*

St Sebastian, patron saint of plague sufferers, *pray for us.*

St Roch, invoked against the plague *pray for us.*

St Godeberta, invoked against drought & epidemics, *pray for us.*

St Luke, patron saint of doctors, *pray for us.*

St Agatha, patron saint of nurses, *pray for us.*

St Damien, patron saint of chemists, *pray for us.*

St Anthony of Egypt, patron saint of gravediggers, *pray for us.*

Our Lady of Lourdes, *pray for us.*

Prayer for Renewal

Blessed are You, Father, who, in Your infinite love sent us your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, that we may have life, and have it in abundance.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, renew our Eucharistic communities. May they be places of encounter with the living Christ, centres of evangelisation and outreach to our community in love and mercy. Grant us the gifts of faith, hope and love to be faithful disciples of Jesus and radiant witnesses to the people of Sydney. Amen

Our Lady, Help of Christians, *pray for us.*

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the New Evangelisation, *pray for us.*

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, *pray for us*

Catholic Parish of Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Enmore

Archdiocese of Sydney

Serving the suburbs of Enmore, St Peters, Sydenham & Tempe

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) Vigil – Year C 25 December 2021

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ex 16:6-7
Today you will know that the Lord will come, and he will save us, and in the morning you will see his glory.

First Reading Is 62:1-5
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
The Lord takes delight in you.

About Zion I will not be silent, about Jerusalem I will not grow weary, until her integrity shines out like the dawn and her salvation flames like a torch. The nations then will see your integrity, all the kings your glory, and you will be called by a new name, one which the mouth of the Lord will confer. You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord, a princely diadem in the hand of your God; no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken', nor your land 'Abandoned', but you shall be called 'My Delight' and your land 'The Wedded'; for the Lord takes delight in you and your land will have its wedding. Like a young man marrying a virgin, so will the one who built you wed you, and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 88:4-5
16-17. 27. 29 R. see v.2

R/ For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your dynasty for ever and set up your throne through all ages.' R/

2. Happy the people who acclaim such a king, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face, who find their joy every day in your name, who make your justice the source of their bliss. R/

3. 'He will say to me: "You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me." I will keep my love for him always; for him my covenant shall endure.' R/



Second Reading Acts 13:16-17. 22-25
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Paul spoke of Christ, the son of David.
When Paul reached Antioch in Pisidia, he stood up in the synagogue, held up a hand for silence and began to speak: 'Men of Israel, and fearers of God, listen! The God of our nation Israel chose our ancestors, and made our people great when they were living as foreigners in Egypt; then by divine power he led them out.

Then he made David their king, of whom he approved in these words, "I have selected David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart, who will carry out my whole purpose". To keep his promise, God has raised up for Israel one of David's descendants, Jesus, as Saviour, whose coming was heralded by John when he proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the whole people of Israel. Before John ended his career he said, "I am not the one you imagine me to be; that one is coming after me and I am not fit to undo his sandal".'

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth



Parish Administrator—Reverend Father Christopher Higgins
(available Tuesday to Sunday)
 Parish Permanent Deacon – Alfredo Bouroncle
 Parish Secretary—Bernadette Hickey
(Hours—Tuesday 8-3pm & Thursday 8-5pm)

Parish Office Address—209A Edgeware Rd, Enmore 2042
 Parish Church Address—St Pius V Church, 256 Edgeware Rd, Enmore 2042
 Postal Address—PO Box 3266, Marrickville Metro 2204
 Telephone: 9557 1815 | Email: admin@enmoreparish.org.au
 Parish website: www.enmoreparish.org.au

St Pius V Catholic Primary School, Enmore
 209 Edgeware Rd Enmore 2042

Principal: Mrs Caroline Boulis
 Telephone: 9557 4027 | Email: info@stpenmore.catholic.edu.au

MASSES AND SACRAMENTS

Masses	Tuesday to Friday—9:15am Saturday—5:00pm Sunday—9:30am – (12:00 noon - Indonesian)
<i>There will be no mid-week Masses during the month of January.</i>	
Confessions	Saturday 4:15—4:45pm or by appointment
Exposition	Thursday – 8:00 -9:00am
Adoration	Sunday 9:00—9:25am
Baptisms	By appointment—about 1 month’s notice required
Marriages	By appointment—about 6 months’ notice required

COLLECTION for the weekends 4/5 & 11/12 December 2021

1st collection	2nd collection	Envelopes	Candle offerings
\$789.80	\$563.20	\$375.00	\$105.65
(supports the expenses of priest)	(for day-to-day running of parish)	(part of 2nd collection)	(part of 2nd collection)

Masses were offered for: pro populo, Colleen Meane (RIP), Joe & Josie Farah, Wendy Lamb, Ted Jones, Jose Andrade (RIP), Louise Smithan, T.B. Lynch, Maria McLaughlan (RIP), Aleksa Canadi (RIP).

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney: Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. *(Archdiocesan permanent notice)*

COVID restrictions (from nsw.gov.au site). We are currently in STAGE 3:

Anyone can attend a wedding, funeral or place of worship. You are not required to be fully vaccinated or carry vaccination evidence. Face masks are not required. [COVID-19 Safe Check-in](#) is required at places of worship, funerals, memorial services, or gatherings afterwards. Density limits no longer apply to weddings, funerals or memorials.

Archbishop Anthony has formally advised that from now on all Catholics within the Archdiocese should participate in Sunday Mass whenever this is reasonably possible. With the greater majority of people vaccinated and the numbers permitted in churches substantially increased, it is no longer difficult for people to attend Mass or receive other Sacraments.

Gathering for the Eucharist on a Sunday, the First Day of the Week, the Day of Resurrection, is the most ancient Christian celebration and the minimum expression of one’s Catholic faith. (Of course, those who are unwell or particularly anxious about their health should continue to remain at home, and try to follow a televised or streamed Mass online.)

Christmas Mass schedule Day (Saturday) 9:30am. *Please note:* due to Christmas being on Saturday there is no Vigil Mass on 25th December.

We thank Di for putting solar lights on the white cross in the church garden.

Vinnies Appeal \$524 was raised for the Vinnies Christmas Appeal last weekend. As always we are thankful for the generosity of the Parish.

Father’s Retreat & Holidays Father will be on retreat from Tuesday 28 December till his holidays start on 1 January. This means there will be no mid-week Masses from Tuesday 28 until Father returns from holidays on Tuesday 1 February. Please welcome Fr Davoren next Sunday

The Archdiocesan Mission, Vision & Values Statement had been published on their website and can be found on our noticeboard.

ACU Liturgical History postgrad course See noticeboard for details

Lights of Christmas 2021, St Mary’s Cathedral forecourt, 9-25 December Join in Sydney’s favourite free Christmas tradition, uniting families, locals and tourists with a display of digital storytelling projected onto St Mary’s Cathedral. Find out more: <https://lightsofchristmas.com.au/>

Please keep a respectful atmosphere after Mass by going outside to chat.

Become a Catechist or Helper in 2022 Half of Catholic children in Sydney are in public primary and high schools. Share the hope and joy that Jesus brings with them and become a catechist or helper, ready to start in Term 1, 2022. Starting off as a helper, you'll receive easy step-by-step lessons and hand out activity books in primary schools. Find out more at : <https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/> "Being a catechist is the most spiritually fulfilling thing I've done" - Rose.

EthicsFinder is a free, global, digital resource which will be of immense value to interested parishioners. Wish you could easily find Church teaching and the best articles, books and videos on bioethics, business ethics, cancel culture, human rights, marriage, subsidiarity, and 100+ other topics? Try ACU’s free digital tool www.ethicsfinder.com.

Enrich your Marriage with The Marriage Kit For married couples wanting a lasting, passionate relationship as God intended. Accessed from the privacy of your home on your own timetable, this online course will energise your relationship, revitalise your passion and equip you with practical tools for every day. To find out more visit: smartloving.org/marriage-kit Get 50% off with the coupon code: Advent