

beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower. A man came, sent by God. His name was John.

He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. John appears as his witness, He proclaims: 'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.' Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Communion Antiphon Cf. Ps 97:3
All the ends of the earth have seen 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) Day – Year C 25 December 2021

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 9:5

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

First Reading

Is 52:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
All the ends of the earth shall see the saving power of our God.

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!' Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion. Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem. The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 97:1-6. R. v.3

R/ All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

1. Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **R/**

2. The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **R/**

3. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. **R/**

4. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music. With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. **R/**

Second Reading

Heb 1:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

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



At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name.

God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father, or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

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

Jn 1:1-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory. In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the



Parish Administrator—Reverend Father Christopher Higgins
(available Tuesday to Sunday)
 Parish Permanent Deacon – Alfredo Bouroncle
 Parish Secretary—Bernadette Hickey
(Term 4 office 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)

There will be no mid-week Masses during the month of January.

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 Please note: due to Christmas being on Saturday there is no Vigil Mass on 25th December.

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.

We thank Sophia for organising the Parish Christmas Dinner.

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