

Wodonga Catholic Parish

..... Unto us a child is born

December 25th 2017 The Nativity of The Lord

A Christmas Message From Fr Dennis:

It is with mixed emotion that I present this Christmas message. As you know, this will be my last Christmas here as your Parish Priest, and whilst I am very much looking forward to next year, where I will spend the twelve months living quietly at Mitta, I will certainly miss the parish and all that it offers. For me, weekend masses are a highlight of my priesthood. In a parish as big as Wodonga and one which continues to grow, it is simply not possible to have a personal relationship with every parishioner, however, our weekend masses provide a wonderful opportunity for us all to gather as friends of God and of each other and to celebrate our faith as a community. These celebrations are ideal opportunities to meet each other and in a spiritual way become connected in the Lord. I love celebrating these masses both here in Wodonga and in our country churches. I hope that each of you realise how important your presence at our weekend masses is. Personally, the eucharistic celebration nourishes our faith and provides the opportunity for us to give this time to God. As a community, we support each other in life and faith. Your presence at mass is so important for others, even if people do not know each other personally, we form the Body of Christ and our gatherings give witness to our faith.

May I express gratitude to you all for making this parish such a happy, hospitable and vibrant one and to all involved in the various ministries, the jobs that are done quietly around the church and gardens, the office staff and to all of you. Your presence and efforts do not go unnoticed and are deeply appreciated.

Our schools, in providing quality education for our young, can justifiably be proud of what they offer. CEW Council members, our principals, leaders and students make our schools the wonderful places they are. We continue to grow and produce wonderful leaders for our country. Well done to all concerned with Catholic Education Wodonga.

One of the biggest changes in our parish of more recent times has been the welcoming of people from other cultures. Our African, Vietnamese, Sudanese and Bhutanese families, along with the many families from India, the Philippines and of course those migrants who have been with us for many years, add so much to our Catholic story and helps us realise that our God and our faith is Universal and that we are all brothers and sisters in the One Lord. God bless you all and thank you for being part of our faith family.

Fr Junjun is a fortunate priest to be appointed to this wonderful parish and with the great support of Fr Junray, I have no doubt his presence among you all will be enriching for him and for you. It has been my privilege to work alongside some great priests in Wodonga. They have all become good friends and I am ever grateful for their loving support and friendship. I have been blessed to have had newly ordained priests to support and mentor. It has been wonderful to see them grow into their priesthood and in understanding the great privilege of being called to serve God and God's people as priest. This has certainly been the case with Junray and I am very grateful for his support and friendship.

When preparing to leave a parish, there is always the regret at not having had the opportunity to meet and share time with all parishioners. I apologise if you feel I have neglected you in this way. It is never intentional. Whilst my time at Mitta will be generally quiet and without active ministry, I am not being sent into isolation. You are most welcome to drop in for a visit if up that way. The address is 606 Dartmouth Road, Mitta Mitta. Individuals, couples or small groups are most welcome to come for some quiet time or just a visit. There is comfortable accommodation with the usual facilities. It would be best to ring first as I could be off bush walking or fishing!!

Finally, I extend to you all my sincere gratitude and I wish you and your families the blessings of a happy, peaceful and safe Christmas and God's blessings for 2018. You will all remain in my prayers and thoughts. Happy and blessed Christmas. *Fr Dennis*



OUR LADY HELP OF
CHRISTIANS
TANGAMBALANGA

WODONGA PARISH CENTRE

283 Beechworth Road

Wodonga Vic 3690:

Phone: 02 6024 3366

Fax: 02 6056 1501

E-mail Address:

wodonga@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

www.wodongacatholicparish.com.au

OFFICE HOURS

9.30am - 5.00pm

Monday to Friday

PRESBYTERY

55 High Street Wodonga Vic

Phone: 02 6024 6088

PARISH PRIEST

Father Dennis Crameri

PH: 0419-539-566

ASSISTANT PRIEST

Father Junray Rayna

Ph: 0403-677-769

PASTORAL ASSISTANT

Sister Eileen Reardon

0458 327 554 (Mt Beauty)

WEEKEND MASSES

WODONGA

Sacred Heart Church

Saturday 6.00pm.

Sunday 8.30am 10.30am

TANGAMBALANGA

Our Lady Help of Christians

2nd, 4th Sunday 10.30am

BETHANGA

St Francis

2nd Sunday 12 noon

DEDERANG

St Joseph's

1st, 3rd Sunday 10.30am

5th Sunday 10.30am

Liturgy of The Word
and Communion

MT BEAUTY

St Joseph's

1st to 4th Sunday 8.30am

5th Sunday 8.30am

Liturgy of The Word
and Communion

WEEKDAY MASS:

Sacred Heart Church

9.15am

Monday - Liturgy of the Word

9.15am

Mass — Tuesday to Friday

RECONCILIATION:

Sacred Heart Church

Saturday 9.00 - 9.30 am

Country Churches

Before Masses

~Parish News ~

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries:

ALAN MCKENZIE, BOB, GENEVIEVE MAGGIE (MARGARET),
& JOE GLASBY, SUE & LISA MOORE, ANNE WILLCOX,
VINCE HARANGOZO, NEIL BROWN, FR TONY HICKS.

Sick:

Mary Shaddock, Mikaela Wilson, Peg Tye
Clive Randon, Nola Usher, Frank Usher, Ricky Ellul,
Pat Tait, Edna Duggan, Brian Harloff, L. O'Donoghue,
Robert Anderson, Eileen Duggan, Maryanne Henst,
parishioners who are ill, their families & carers.

Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament will be
available from 11:00 pm until 12:30 am followed
by a cuppa. on Sunday 31st December.
All Parishioners are most welcome.

Pope Francis on Christmas:

Dear brothers and sisters, ...on this day of joy, we are
all called to contemplate the Child Jesus, who gives
hope once again to every person on the face of the
earth. By his grace, let us with our voices and our
actions give witness to solidarity and peace.
Merry Christmas to all!

Readings Christmas Eve:

VIGIL MASS:

Isaiah 9:2-7
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14

Mass During the Evening 9pm:

Isaiah 62:11-12
Titus 3:4-7
Luke 1:15-20

Reading for Christmas Day:

Isaiah 52:7-10
Hebrews 1:1-6
John 1:1-18

Responsorial Psalm:

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

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!

Prayers of the Faithful: O' Come let us adore him!

Weekday Masses

Please Note:

There will be no Mass or Liturgy on December 26th -

Parish Centre Hours

Please Note:

The Parish Centre will open from 9: 30 to Midday on
December 27th , 28th, and 29th.

New Years Day Mass.

Please Note:

There will be Mass at 9:15 am on New Years Day,
at Sacred Heart Church.

Baptism Preparation Evening

Preparation evenings are held on the first Tuesday of
every second month. **Our next Preparation evening
is, Tuesday February 6th - 2018 at 7 pm.**

Parents of children to be baptised are required to
attend a Baptism Preparation Evening, as it is a
pre-requisite in our Parish. Godparents and other
family members are also welcome.

For information or to register **Contact: Sonni @**

The Parish Centre: Ph - 6024 3366 or

E - wodcath@bigpond.net.au

Pathways for Families

Please grab a copy of 'Pathways for Families'
in the foyer of the Church. This booklet is
produced by the Adult Faith Preparation
Sandhurst; it provides a variety of resources on
marriage & family life, prayer & spirituality along
with help and support for families.