

“Our baptism is both a gift and a responsibility. As a gift, we became children of God. We call him our father and we are heirs of the kingdom. As a responsibility, we live a Christian life, a life which is patterned after his son Jesus. I am God’s beloved. That’s who I am. I live it, that’s who I become.”



Jesuits are restless to evangelize, Pope says ...Celebrating Mass on January 3 at the Gesu, the Jesuit church in the heart of Rome, Pope Francis said that the Jesuit order is marked by a “restless” spirit—“a restlessness that is also apostolic, so that we never tire of proclaiming the kerygma, of evangelizing with courage.” “Without restlessness we are sterile”. The Mass was celebrated to mark the canonization of St. Peter Faber, the first companion of St. Ignatius in the Jesuit order... The Pope asked: “Are we consumed by zeal? Or are we mediocre and satisfied with our theoretical apostolic plans? Let us always remember that the strength of the Church does not reside in herself or in her organizational capacity, but is instead concealed in the deep waters of God.” Repeatedly identifying himself as a Jesuit, the Pope said: “We are men who live in tension. We are also contradictory and inconsistent men—sinners all, but men who want to walk under the gaze of Jesus.” He cited the words of St. Peter Faber: “never in this life may we seek a name that does not bring us back to that of Jesus.”

St Michael’s Catholic Church

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12th Jan 2014 (A) BAPTISM

1ST READING: Isaiah 42:1-4. 6-7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

2ND READING: Apostles 10:34-38

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened and the Father’s voice was heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13-17

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

This is he of whom John said: I have seen and have given witness that this is the Son of God.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

Sat. Vigil: 5pm

Sunday: 8am, 9:30am & 5pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Mon, Tues & Thurs: 7:30am

Wed: 6pm

Fri: 9:15am

Sat: 9:15am (Sthn Cross Apts)

HOLY HOUR: Wed: 5pm

RECONCILIATION:

Wed: 5:15 – 5:45pm

Sat: 4:15 – 4:45pm

BAPTISMS:

Sundays 9:30am Mass

BAPTISMAL PROGRAMME &

WEDDINGS:

By appointment

ANOINTING MASS:

Quarterly: 1st weekend

1ST SAT OF EACH MONTH:

11am Mass in honour of Our Lady.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME:

100% tax deductible. Please join by contacting parish office.

FAITH FORMATION:

Sundays 3:30pm (in presbytery)

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon, Wed & Fri 9am to 2:30pm

MASS INTENTIONS: Sat Vigil: John Filtcroft (sick)

OUR SICK: Marie Busuttill, Pat Raby, Maria De Andrade, Mollie Burgess, Patricia Flannery, Alan Sargeant, Josephine Helback, Carmella Cicciari Joy Williams, Moira Butler, Domenico Cirillo and John Heaney...

Accommodation still available in Foley Gardens. Please call Fr. Jerzy on 93491292 or 0411125357 and you will be referred for further details to Mr. Robert O'Shea, the manager.

Happy Birthdays to: Bob Campbell (16th) and Alexandra Wojciechowski (18th).



Congratulations and God's blessings to Mark and Myrna Sarmiento on the birth of their 3rd child, (a daughter) Amélie Emmanuelle, who arrived safely on Christmas Day. A new sister to Dolby and Keziah and another grand-daughter to Ollie Sarmiento.

Note of thanks: Anne Slattery, President of St Vincent de Paul (SVdP) Daceyville Conference extends her grateful thanks to Richard Smolenski who greatly assisted her in the delivery of the SVdP Christmas hampers to the needy in our area recently.

- The next course for new **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** will be held on **Wed 5th, 12th & 19th Feb. from 7 – 9pm at All Saints, Liverpool.** To register, you will need your Baptism Certificate, completed registration form and endorsement from Fr. Jerzy.
- The next course for new **Acolytes** will be held on **Sat 15th, 22nd & 29th March from 9:30am to 1pm at All Saints, Liverpool.** To register, you will need a completed registration form and a letter of support from Fr. Jerzy. You will also need to complete the above course for Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. *Please contact the Parish Office for more details on either of these courses.*



Greetings from Fr Jerzy who is enjoying a well-earned rest somewhere...

This weekend: Vigil: J Haggar (A) R Williams, V Hage (R) G Hage, Volunteer (C) Thomas W (M)
8:00am: G Diab (A) M Marshiella, T Long (R) M Alimario, G Gates (C) P Low (M)
9.30am: A Varghese (A) I Tjahjadi, D Tjahjadi (R) M Tjokrowidjaja (C) A Burton (M)
5.00pm: R Yang (A), Volunteers **Counters:** G Hage, V Hage

Next weekend: Vigil: J Haggar (A) A Wojciechowski, T Haglund (R) S Kim, J Yong (C)
8:00am: G Diab (A) V Meyer, R Wijaya (R) A Burke, Sr Betty (C) P Low (M)
9.30am: A Varghese (A) E Widjaja, H Widjaja (R) I Tjahajdi (C) A Burton (M)
5.00pm: R Yang (A), Volunteers please **Counter:** G Hogan

The Baptism of the Lord is the name of a distinct feast day observed in the Roman Catholic Church, the Anglican or Episcopalian Church, as well as the Eastern Orthodox Church. This occasion memorializes the baptism of Jesus Christ in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. The Baptism of Christ was originally celebrated on Epiphany, which commemorated three events: the arrival of the Magi (the wise men), Jesus' baptism and the wedding in Cana, where Jesus turned the water into wine. Over time, the Baptism of the Lord feast was separated from the other events of Epiphany. In the Eastern Orthodox Church, January 6 is the day designated to celebrate the baptism of Jesus. It is also called Theophany, meaning manifestation of God, especially by the Eastern Orthodox Christians, who believe that at the time of Jesus' baptism, God revealed Himself as the Holy Trinity, that is, God the Father spoke from the heavens, the Son of God was baptized, and the Holy Spirit descended in a form like a dove. For the Roman Catholic Church and the churches in the Anglican Communion, the Baptism of the Lord feast is observed on the first Sunday after Epiphany. In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, the baptism of Jesus is recorded. In these three narratives, John is preaching repentance and baptizing at the Jordan for the forgiveness of sins. Jesus comes to John, who at first is reluctant to baptize Him. However, according to the passages written by Matthew, Jesus persuades John to do so "to fulfill all righteousness." John immerses Jesus and when He comes up out of the water, "the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, 'This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.'" (Matthew 3:15-17) has given all things into His hand." (John 3:31-35)



Pope Francis called for a reassessment of the way the Church deals with the children of gay couples ..., saying that an effort should be made to not push them away. "On an educational level, gay unions raise challenges for us today, which for us are sometimes difficult to understand," Francis acknowledged that a growing number of kids today have divorced parents, while others are part of non-traditional families." I remember a case in which a sad little girl confessed to her teacher: 'my mother's girlfriend doesn't love me', he was quoted as saying... Due to the Church's opposition to homosexuality, same-sex marriage and divorce, these children may feel unwelcome, the pontiff -- who has garnered a reputation for his efforts toward greater inclusion -- indicated. "We must be careful not to administer a vaccine against faith to them," Francis added.

