

Saint Michael's War Memorial Catholic Church

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Admin: Rev. Fr. Phan Nguyen

Secretary: Grace Guerrero (Thurs, Fri)

Parish Support: Myrna Sarmiento

Bookkeeper: Patricia Low



*"Come to worship
Go to proclaim"*

School: St Michael's Catholic Primary School | Web: www.stmdaceyville.catholic.edu.au

Tel: 02 9344 8512 | Principal: Geoffrey Carey



31st December, 2023

Holy Family—Year B

**Mon 1st Jan Mary, Holy Mother of God
(Solemnity) Mass at 7.30am**



FIRST READING:

Your own Son shall be your heir

Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Ps 104:1-6, 8-9, R. vv. 7, 8

SECOND READING:

The faith of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac.

Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia

*In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;
now he speaks to us through his Son.*

Alleluia.

Heb 1:1-2

GOSPEL:

The child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom.

Luke 2:22-40

St. Michael's Parish Notice

Sick: Vince Buchan, Sylvia Newman, David Low, Jimmy Chandra, Sr Monica RMS

Mass Intentions Sat 5pm † Lucy Chong & Bev Kuschert

Mon 7.30am † James Donnellan

We acknowledge the Gweagal People, the traditional Custodians of this land.

New Year's Traditions from around the world.

On New Year's Eve, it's traditional for **British** households to gather waiting for the bells of Big Ben, the clock tower at the Houses of Parliament, to ring in the New Year as midnight strikes," says *Glamour* executive editor Natasha Pearlman. "As the bells toll, don't be surprised if a huge circle forms, people link hands, and start singing a traditional song called 'Auld Lang Syne.'"

On New Year's Eve, you'll find a variety of round shapes all over the **Philippines**, representing coins, they are said to symbolise prosperity in the coming year. Wearing polka dots on December 31 and displaying piles of rounded fruit on their dining tables, increases the chances for good luck in the new year. In **Spain**, it is believed that if you eat one grape in time with each chime of the clock at midnight, then you will be rewarded with luck and happiness in the coming year.

People in **Japan** kick off the New Year by eating a warm bowl of soba noodles. The tradition dates back to the Kamakura period and is tied to a Buddhist temple giving out the noodles to the poor.

Because the long thin noodles are firm yet easy to bite, it is believed eating them symbolizes a literal break away from the old year. In a hope for a year filled with travel and adventure, it is a tradition for **Colombian** residents to walk around the block on New Year's Eve with an empty suitcase. It is customary for residents of **Denmark** to celebrate New Year's Eve by throwing old plates and glasses against the doors of their family and friends to banish bad spirits. They also stand on chairs and jump off them at midnight to 'leap' into January in hopes of good luck. It is tradition for residents in **Johannesburg** to party hard by throwing old appliances and equipment out of the window, literally representing 'out with the old and in with the new.'

In **Brazil**, because it is Summer, they go to the Beach immediately after midnight, and supposed to jump seven waves while making seven wishes. The tradition is rooted in paying homage to Yemanja, the goddess of water. Before you get in the water, you're supposed to wear all white, as it symbolizes purity. In **Italy & Central and South American countries like Ecuador, Bolivia and Venezuela**, it is thought to be lucky to wear special underwear on New Year's Eve. The most popular colour to wear is red, thought to bring love in the New Year, while wearing yellow is believed to bring people money. In **Turkey**, pomegranates are symbols of abundance. Eating them is great, but if you really want a good 2024, you'll smash the fruit on your doorstep. The more pieces there are and the farther they spread, the more prosperous you'll be. For a little extra luck, try sprinkling salt in front of your door to bring peace. The **Irish** believe that if you put a sprig of mistletoe (or holly or ivy) under your pillow on December 31, you'll dream of your future partner. To Greeks, onions are a symbol of good luck and fertility. On New Year's Eve, families in **Greece** hang bundles of onions above their doors as a means of inviting prosperity into the home.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office

Child sexual abuse is a crime. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Or contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial integrity office at (02) 9390-5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org

*Please observe silence in God's house.
Please turn your mobile off or put it on silent.*



Christmas Prayer for Families

Loving God,

During this holy season of Christmas, we ask for your blessing on all families.

Let Mary's openness to your wondrous ways be an inspiration to place all trust in you.

Let Joseph's courage provide hope during times of anxiety and uncertainty.

Let Jesus' life ignite all families with a spirit of light and love.

May the grace that encircled the Holy Family widen to embrace all families.

For this we pray.

Amen.

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Happy New Year 2024

As we approach 2024, we thank God for the blessings and memories of 2023.

Wishing you and your families a Happy New Year and blessed year ahead. May God's light guide your way in 2024.

Lord, I have no idea what's going to happen in this New Year. I pray that you will guide me. Please help me to look to you always, and through everything that I do, may I bring praise and glory to Your name. I thank you Lord for another year. Amen. .

JANUS

ROMANS DEDICATED NEW YEARS DAY TO JANUS, GOD OF BEGINNINGS AND TRANSITIONS. JANUS WAS USUALLY DEPICTED WITH TWO HEADS, ONE LOOKING AT THE PAST, THE OTHER TO THE FUTURE.



**Collection w/e 24/12/23
(Includes four Christmas Masses)**

**1st Collection: \$832.85,
2nd Collection: \$709.55,
Planned Giving \$195.00**

Thank You for your generous support.

Electronic Donations

If anyone wishes to donate electronically, please click on the QR code and you will be directed to our donation page on our website.

THANK YOU for your generous support. It is very much appreciated.



Mass Times: **Saturday Vigil:** 5:00pm
Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am
Weekday: **Monday:**
Tuesday: 7:30am
Wednesday: 7:00pm
Thursday: 7:30am
Friday: 9:15am

Reconciliation

Wednesday: 6:15pm – 6:45pm
Saturday: 4:15pm – 4:45pm



Contact The Presbytery

Parish Office Hours: Thurs & Fri 9:00am to 2:30pm

Holy Hour: Wednesday, 6:00pm

Baptisms & Weddings: by appointment.

Baptisms: Sundays after the 10am Mass

Volunteers Roster:

This weekend - 31st December, 2023 Holy Family

<u>Vigil:</u> (A) Hartanto, A Yap	(R) S & R Williams	(M) Thomas W
<u>8am:</u> (A) Andy H	(R) A Burke, G Guerrero	(M) Patricia L
<u>10am:</u> (A) N Jenner	(R) K Wong, Volunteer	(M) M Sarmiento

Piety Stall: (Vigil) F Wu (Sun, 8am) I Koeswanto (Sun, 10am) L Jenner

Next weekend—7th January, 2024 Epiphany of the Lord

<u>Vigil:</u> (A) Hartanto, A Yap	(R) G Metternicht, Br Robert	(M) Thomas W
<u>8am:</u> (A) Andy H	(R) Justine, G Guerrero	(M) Patricia L
<u>10am:</u> (A) N Jenner	(R) D Sarmiento, Jordan	(M) M Sarmiento

Piety Stall: (Vigil) C Lan Kam (Sun, 8am) I Koeswanto (Sun, 10am) L Jenner

Parishioners wishing to apply for any of the Ministries, please contact the Parish Office.
 Thank you!