Today's Readings

NEHEMIAH 8:2-6. 8-10—They read from the book of Law and they understood what was read.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-30—Together you are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

LUKE 1:1-4 — The scriptures were fulfilled on this day.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM-

Your words, Lord are spirit and life.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION-

Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to the prisoners. Alleluia!

UNIVERSAL PRAYER-Hear our prayer, gracious God.

> <u>Counting Roster -2021.</u> 23/12/22-30/01/22-Elliott Team 6/2/22– Barclay Team

Altar Society- 2021 23/1/22-Elliott Team 30/01/22– Fsadni Team

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Parish Website- www.stpatssutherland.org.au

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ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

136 Flora Street, Sutherland NSW 2232 (PO Box 57 Sutherland 1499) Ph. 9521 2356 Fax 9521 7252 www.stpatsutherland.org.au Fr Dan McCaughan (Parish Priest): pp@stpatssutherland.org.au Kaylene Baumanis (Parish Secretary): info@stpatssutherland.org.au St Patrick's Primary School Principal: Mr. Phillip Tax: info@stpstutherland.catholic.edu.au

THE TO COVID-19, LIMITED NUMBERS PERMITTED, PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

St Patrick's Parish acknowledges and honours the Gweagal People of the Dharawal Nation as the original custodians of this land

St Patrick's Sutherland is a Parish that strives to safeguard children at all times.



Third Sunday Year C 23th January 2022

Today we read the beginning of Luke's gospel, followed by Jesus' announcement of his mission in the synagogue of his home town. Nazareth. He chooses to read words from Isaiah's prophecy and makes them his own. He has been anointed and sent by God to bring good news to the poor, proclaiming the Lord's year of favour. This prophecy is being fulfilled today as it was in Nazareth.

Last Friday, the Church celebrated the martyrdom of St Agnes – an early Roman martyr who was executed at the age of twelve for her Christian faith.

The actions of a martyr can be very distant from the experience of modern Christians in our comfortable lives and relatively peaceful society. But it has not always been so and the tolerance that we experience balances on the fact our society is mostly comprised of Christians who share our worldview.

We must remember that in many parts of the world tolerance and peace is not a reality and over 200 million Christians live in areas where the faith is explicitly oppressed, with a further 340 million living in with discrimination from the state and society.

To quote the NGO 'Open Doors' on how many Christians live under persecution – "one in 8 worldwide, 1 in 6 in Africa, 2 out of 5 in Asia, and 1 in 12 in Latin America." Meaning in 2021, 4,761 Christians were killed for their faith, 4,488 Churches or Christian buildings were attacked, 4,277 Christians were unjustly arrested, detained, or imprisoned, and 1,710 Christians were abducted for faith-related reasons. On average, every day, 13 Christians are killed for their faith, 12 churches or Christian buildings are attacked, 12 Christians are unjustly arrested, detained or imprisoned, and 5 Christians are abducted for faith-related reasons."

With these statistics in mind, we must acknowledge the many Christians who like St Agnes bear witness to the greatness of God and the saving action of Christ with their blood. Let us pray for those who persecute our brothers and sisters in Christ, while we ensure that such darkness, in any form, never takes hold of Australia.

Additionally, we should reflect on the importance of living life for Christ completely. St Agnes willingly died because as beautiful life is, it is nothing compared to eternal life with Christ. In the words of a Catholic Priest during the reign of terror "there is no loss in giving up that which one can not long keep, for that which never ends".

St Agnes and the many unknown martyrs, pray for us.

CHURCH GARDENS

At present the gardens are growing faster than can be maintained. The gardening group is desperately seeking more people to assist. If you can spare any time we would certainly appreciate the extra help. Please bring a water bottle & gloves All equipment supplied. Contact Kevin Redman 0402856114 for more details

<u>St Patrick's Catechists</u> Catechist News.

Our first meeting for 2022 will be on Thursday 3rd February starting at 4pm at the Parish meeting room. Please bring your teacher's manual with you.

Catechist Sunday is the following Sunday, 6th February. We kindly ask the parishioners to keep us in their prayers as always.

Bertha



Australia Day we celebrate, Together as a nation. Acknowledging the past, In Reconciliation. From the land of red dust, To the salt of the sea. From the rainforest peaks, To the flowering gum tree. Together we stand, Together we say... Happy, Happy Australia Day!

Lisa Van Der Wielen

COFFEE AND TEA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 11am, 31st January at Marlene Rodgers' house, 12 Araluen Place, Sutherland.

Coffee, tea and sandwiches provided. Please bring a small plate of goodies and lots of suggestions for a successful 2022. Please phone Marlene 0430128885, Marie 0425380873 or Veronica 0409812475

NSW HEALTH:

If you are attending a place of worship, it's important to stay COVID safe.

Remember to:

- Always register your details when attending a service.

- Try to attend outdoor services or those in wellventilated spaces that are not crowded.

- Maintain physical distancing from those you don't live with.

- Wear a face mask in indoor settings, or if you are singing outdoors (and over 12 years of age).

Avoid participating in singing or chanting indoors.
Remain seated throughout the service.

- Objects should not be passed around.

- No food should be shared.

- Practise good hand hygiene by using hand sanitiser or washing your hands.

Please do not attend a place of worship if you have even mild COVID-19 symptoms. Stay home and get tested immediately and self-isolate until you receive a negative test result.

There are more than 350 COVID-19 testing locations across NSW, many of which are open seven days a week. To find your nearest clinic visit <u>https://</u>www.nsw.gov.au/.../how-to-protect-yourself-an.../ clinics or contact your GP.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE SICK: Margaret McKenzie, Mary Tuite, Gloria Klein, Graham Lamberti, Elizabeth Kinsella, Eileen Kenny, Ted Cramsie, Joanne Dideta, Eileen Talbot, Adam Henson, Wendy Fell, Kristy Bugeja, Elizabeth Pemberton, Arnanoud Lemerie, Solange La Douce Jean Fabien, Steve Smith, Lloyd Handley, Bruce Kent, Anne Cassidy, Rafael Monserrat, Lena Mallet, Martine Benoit, Norma Miller, Lucy Gault, Ron Monro, Lorraine Davies, Bill Burke, John Bonadio, Marie Cameron, Patricia Holbrook, Maria & Luigi Altavilla, Marlene Visage, Anne Cook, Valerie O'Brien, Leonie Coleman, Bill Nicholls, Maureen Fraser, Carol Drew, Bill Morris, Ron Strauss, Patti Gore. All the residents in Nagle Apartments. All the residents in Bupa. All residents in Lark Ellen. All residents in the Palms.

<u>RECENTLY DECEASED</u>: Janice Jukes, Rochelle Hasten

ANNIVERSARY: Panfilo Antonio Mangkikis

DECEASED MEMBERS & FRIENDS: Bill Morris, Joan Quinn, Frank Townsend, David Hofffman, Menezes & Minshull Families, Mona McGovern, Veri Laarakkers, Helen Warham, David Dee, Dorothy Lynch, Reg Benson, Pat Bathurst, Gabrielle Scarra, Dec'd PBVM Sisters, Robertson Family, Claude Press, John Press, Peter Rendell, Barry Scott, Margaret Stokes, Paul Fraser, Karen Westnidge, McMullen & Brown Families, Philip Struthers, Jim Walsh, Shirley Dent, Thomas O'Brien, Tyran Sharman, Gregory & Eileen Dodd, Sr Mary Julian, Larkin Family, Mullins Family, Fr. L. Cruikshank, members of McNamara, Torrington, Preston, Dent, Barrett, Mahoney, Lollback, Mason & O'Leary families, Terry McNamara, Griggs, Nunan, Farrell families, Jack Ethers, Mrs Hills, Mr & Mrs English, Aunt Nora and Aunt Thelma, Irene Mason, Monica & John Robinson, Don Barrett. Miller family & friends, Holy Souls in Purgatory

Thanks to Everyone for supporting your Parish Piety Stall during 2021. We will reopen before and after the 5pm Holy Mass on Saturday 29th January 2022. Wishing Everyone a very Holy Christmas and Happy New Year.

From Janice and Sylvia

Eucharist Adoration

Held in the Chapel from 8am on Tuesday to Saturday

"As a man must be born before he can begin to lead his physical life, so he must be born to lead a Divine Life. That birth occurs in the Sacrament of Baptism. To survive, he must be nourished by Divine Life; that is done in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist."