

## CHURCH GARDENS

The gardening group meets on the second & fourth Fridays of each month between 8am & 10.30am  
At present the gardens are growing faster than can be maintained.  
The gardening group is desperately seeking more people who can assist with either mowing, watering, sweeping or weeding for any amount of time when we meet, If you can spare any time to assist in maintaining the church gardens we would certainly appreciate the extra help.  
Please bring a water bottle & gloves  
All equipment supplied  
Pls contact Kevin Redman 0402856114 for more details

## TODAYS READING

**Isaiah 52:7-10—All the ends of the earth shall see the saving power of our God.**  
**Hebrews 1:1-6— In our own time, God speaks to us through his Son.**  
**John 1:1-18—The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory.**

**Response to the psalm:** All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of our 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!

**Universal Prayer:** Fill us with peace, saving God.

### Counting Roster –2022

25/12/22– Hunt Team

1/1/23– Barclay Team

8/1/23–Morris Team

### Altar Society– 2022

25/12/22–McCauliffe Team

1/1-23–McCauliffe Team

8/1/23– Mockett Team

New rosters available from the Sacristy



**HARD OF HEARING?** Our Church has been equipped with a Powered Audio Induction Loop system for hearing aid wearers (T-Loop) - To obtain effective use of the loop sit in the main body of the church avoiding the very edge seats, turn hearing aid to T & adjust the volume to suit

**www.stpatsutherland.org.au** New Parish Website–



## 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](http://www.stpatsutherland.org.au)  
Fr Dan McCaughan (Parish Priest): [pp@stpatsutherland.org.au](mailto:pp@stpatsutherland.org.au)  
Kaylene Baumanis (Parish Secretary): [info@stpatsutherland.org.au](mailto:info@stpatsutherland.org.au)  
St Patrick's Primary School Principal: Mrs Leonie Burfield: [info@stpsutherland.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stpsutherland.catholic.edu.au)

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



## Christmas Day 2022

A light has shone on us this day, the Lord is born for us! This day reveals the baby Jesus, born in a stable and greeted by humble shepherds. The wonder of it fills our hearts with joy as we try to comprehend that this child is Emmanuel, God with us. He makes himself small and weak so that we can reach out to him with love and tenderness.

Dear Brother and Sisters,

Earlier this week I was able to go into St Mary's Cathedral in the city to see the lights of Christmas. This year's show is even more explicitly religious than in previous years. The incredible, moving images, projected onto the cathedral's façade, chart the story of salvation from the Garden of Eden to the Annunciation, to the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. The show is a stunning, visual catechesis that reminds Sydney of the true reason this is a season of joy.

This year, the cathedral doors have also been left open during the evening so that the thousands of people gathering to see the lights can come inside and visit Our Lord's earthly dwelling. People of all faiths and none are passing through St Mary's where everything around them tells of the Saviour's birth. I pray many people will look for God as a result.

As we celebrate the birth of Christ this year, we can't let this glorious reality remain distant. There is a real reason we say "*Christ is born*" and not "*Christ was born*." When we attend Christmas Mass, St Patrick's church will cease to be a piece of real estate in Sutherland but it will become the stable at Bethlehem and you and I will find ourselves at the moment of Jesus' birth. Our joy is the same joy as the angels, shepherds and wise men. Our wonder and contemplation is like Our Lady's and St Joseph's and the graces received by us are the same given to those men and women who saw Jesus with their own eyes. This Christmas we see again that love itself has entered the world, to save us, give us hope and open the way to Heaven. Our joy needs to be real because the consequences of Jesus' birth are real!

May God bless each and everyone of you and keep you safe!  
Merry Christmas!

Fr Dan McCaughan

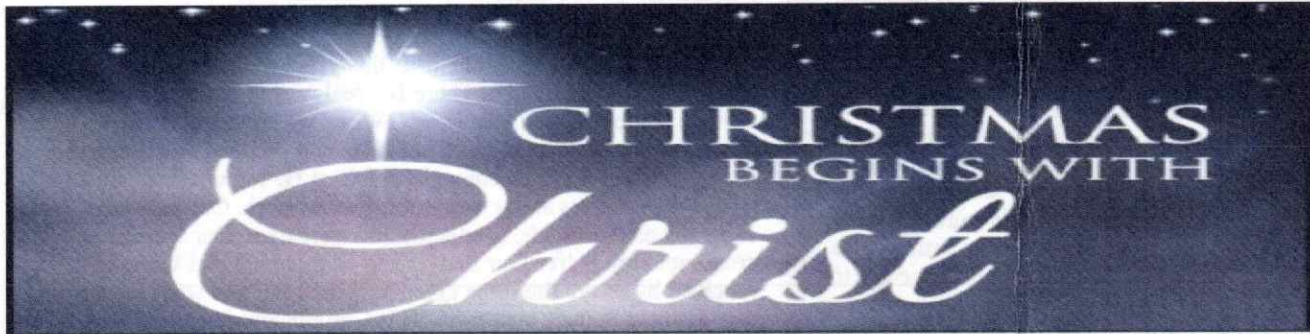


**Lumen Gentium Group**  
 Today we shared insights on Nos 10 & 11, about the sacraments, particularly the priesthood and how the laity exercise their priesthood in the Church and in the family. The sacrament of Reconciliation was seen as an important outward SIGN of our saying sorry and being forgiven, just as in the sacrament of Marriage the ring and the witnesses are an outward SIGN of the pledge of life-long love. Learn more about how the contemplative spirituality benefits us lay people at utube, Fr Chris Alar 'The Dark Night of the Soul.'

**Bible Study**  
 We will resume in 2023 on 12/01/2023.  
*The Word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.*  
 Please come and join us in looking at the Gospel of Luke; currently discussing Chapter 20  
 6pm Thursday evening for an hour at the Presbytery

**Parish volunteers**  
 As we gather here over this wonderful season of Christmas and enjoy our beautiful Church take a moment to think of all the work that goes into making it such a special place. We are very fortunate to have a few special parishioners that clean, garden and keep up the general maintenance of the Church. They would love some help so please if you can spare an hour a month please call Kaylene in the office 9521 2356 after the New Year to offer your help.

**ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH SUTHERLAND**  
 136 Flora Street, Sutherland  
 (Cnr Belmont & Flora Sts)  
 (Church located behind red brick residence)  
 Phone – 9521 2356  
 Email – admin@stpatsutherland.org.au  
**Mass Times**  
**Saturday 24 December:**  
 Carols from 4.30pm for  
 Vigil Mass 5pm  
 Vigil Mass 7pm  
 Carols from 11.30pm for  
 Midnight Mass - at 12.00am (Solemn Mass)  
**Sunday - Christmas Day 25 December:**  
 Morning Masses Only  
 8.00am & 10.00am  
**Feast of the Holy Family**  
 Friday 30 December 9am  
**Solemnity of Mary The Mother of God**  
 Sunday 1 January 2023- 8am & 10am  
*All Welcome!*



The Parish Piety Stall will close after the 10am Mass this Sunday December 18 and will re-open on Saturday and Sunday 21 & 22 January 2023.  
 Many thanks for your continued support in 2022.

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE SICK:** Judith Fraser, Maria Kramer, Fr Lawrie Beath, Sue Cassidy, Clifford Atkinson, Linda Dalton, Thiago Mazza Almeida, Terry & Pam Neenan, 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, Lena Mallet, Martine Benoit, Norma Miller, Ron Monro, Lorraine Davies, Bill Burke, John Bonadio, Marie Cameron, Patricia Holbrook, Maria & Luigi Altavilla, Maureen Fraser, Carol Drew, 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.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Kevin Sullivan, Catherine Vella, Denise Cividin, Joseph Obrien, Noreen Brickwood  
**ANNIVERSARY:** Kathleen Barclay, Madge Warham, Danny & Stephen Townsend, Cassian Menezes, Agustinus Huay, Johanna Jahja, Julia Kho

**DECEASED MEMBERS & FRIENDS:** Biber Family, Roger Minshull, Gwen Power, Molly McFarlane, Kevin Gore, Bill Morris, Joan Quinn, Frank Townsend, David Hoffmann, Menezes & Minshull Families, Mona McGovern, Veri Laarakkers, Helen Warham, David Dee, Dorothy Lynch, Reg Benson, Pat Bathurst, Gabrielle Scarra, All 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