



Historic Parish of St Augustine, Yass

Established: 1838

Bowning, Breadalbane, Dalton, Gunning, Gurrundah, Murrumbateman, Wee Jasper and Yass

Meehan Street, PO Box 24, YASS NSW 2582

Tel: (02) 6226 1086 Fax: (02) 6226 2220 Mob: 0448 414 541

E-mail: yass@cg.org.au Website: www.staug-yass.org.au

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD – YEAR C

24th & 25th December 2018



MASS DURING THE NIGHT

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Good News and great joy to all the world:
Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.
Alleluia!

MASS DURING THE DAY

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: 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!



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In wishing you all a Happy and Holy Christmas, I also express gratitude to those parishioners who share generosity of their time and talents for the running of our community of communities. It is a privilege to serve as your priest, at the same time, I am acutely aware of my own weaknesses and ask forgiveness when I have hurt anyone.

It has been a memorable year, the highlight being the weekend to celebrate the 180 years since the establishment of the Yass Mission. We have concluded the year with a successful survey in preparation for the Plenary Council 2020. There have been countless events, only possible because of the hard work and commitment of many extraordinary people.

The Church has been described as the 'barque of Peter', and we are in turbulent waters. Only those with faith and a personal commitment and relationship with Jesus remain on board. Too many people fail to derive the benefits from the Mystical Body of Christ, the Church, and increase their sorrows (PS15). There is an urgent need to remove the barnacles from the barque to ensure smoother sailing in the future.

Blessings on everyone who come to contemplate the mysterious love of our God who enters our world as a helpless baby. This is the one who saves us and desires to share our lives eternally.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

Mick Burke



CHRISTMAS PRAYER

God, our Creator, we offer this humble prayer on Christmas Day. We come to worship with a song of thanks in our hearts--a song of redemption, a song of hope and renewal.

We pray for joy in our hearts, hope in our God, love to forgive, and peace upon the earth.

We ask for the salvation of all our family members and friends, and we pray your blessings on all people.

May there be bread for the hungry, love for the unlovable, healing for the sick, protection for our children, and wisdom for our youth.

We pray for the forgiveness of sinners and abundant life in Christ.

Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with your love and power.

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Rev. Lia Icaza Willetts



Catholic Archdiocese of
Canberra and Goulburn

Christmas Message December 2018

CHRISTMAS JOY

In his Christmas message this year, Archbishop Christopher Prowse emphasised that giving love is the greatest love there is.

"It is certainly true to say at Christmas – 'Isn't it great to be loved!,' the Archbishop of the Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn said.

"But it is even greater to say 'Isn't it great to love!.'

"Jesus is always found in the latter. Jesus is forever the guiding and saving light that scatters the darkness of sin.

"If this is what Jesus does, so must we do the same this Christmas."

Archbishop Christopher drew upon the symbolism of light and darkness at Christmas Time.

"It seems that Jesus was born in the middle of the night. People were sleeping," Archbishop Christopher said.

"Yet, it was not simply the absence of the sun that caused this midnight. Another type of "darkness" was at play: inhospitality.

"The Holy Family, at least at this crucial moment of salvation history, were homeless due to the absence of hospitality in Bethlehem."

Reinforcing that the giving of love and the shining of light are not simply an academic or a sentimental exercise, Archbishop Christopher highlighted the practical charity done by groups such as St Vincent de Paul and others in the Canberra community. They help relieve homelessness, hunger and anguish for "the lost, the least and the last," especially at Christmas Time.

"Darkness will not have the last word," he said.

"There is hope. There is light. For Christians that LIGHT IS JESUS, our hope, and glory. This is our Christmas joy!"

*Archbishop Christopher Prowse
Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn
December 2018*

ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2018

The Archbishop's Christmas Appeal for 2018 is conducted at all Christmas Masses throughout the Archdiocese and will again have the funds raised split.

- Our support will continue for the ecumenical Christmas Bowl appeal and its work in bringing hope and opportunity to those in need in Vanuatu, Myanmar, Zimbabwe, Syria and Pakistan.
- Contributions will be made to support Diocesan projects locally, within Wilcannia Forbes Diocese and Broome Diocese, and globally, within the Dioceses of Otukpo, Nigeria.
- Other endeavours will include support towards: helping the rural parish of St. Joseph's, Battambang in Cambodia provide improved and extended education opportunities to students beyond their infant years to primary, secondary and tertiary levels whilst also seeking to improve the self-sufficiency of the parish and their community is envisaged, projects focused on helping the poor within the La Salette Matha Province in India and student assistance for those in need at Bethlehem University in the Holy Land.

Parishes may have received the *Christmas Bowl Appeal 2018 Promotional Kits* from the National Council of Churches in Australia (NCCA).

Boasfesta do natal no ksolok tinan Foun



These are some of the people who work for Yass/Gunning Belun in Timor Leste, at our office in Tasitulo, Dili.



Domingas, a nurse who works for us in Usi Tasai; Jose, the Yass/Gunning Belun boss in Timor Leste; two civil engineers who employ Timorese in road construction; Benny, who was slim before we educated him in Indonesia and now runs a very successful business employing many people; Jamito, who has six months to complete his engineering degree and will be employed in the petroleum industry; Sabino, our driver. They have all been educated by our sponsorship program.