

Featurettes

Ferials and Feasts this week

Sunday—Fourth Sunday of Advent
Monday—Monday of the Fourth week of Advent
Tuesday—Tuesday of the Fourth week of Advent
Wednesday—The Nativity of the Lord, *Solemnity*
Thursday—St Stephen, The First Martyr, *Feast*
Friday—St John Apostle and Evangelist, *Feast*
Saturday—The Holy Innocents of Martyrs, *Feast*

Advertising in the Parish Directory 2020

We are seeking businesses or people who wish to place an advertisement in our parish directory for 2020. The cost of an advertisement is \$200 for a half page (A6 size) and \$400 for a full page (A5 size). Please spread the word around to those businesses or individuals who would be happy to support our parish and in turn we support them. Please notify the parish office by 10th January 2020!

Novena Masses Wednesdays

There will be no Novena Mass until the first Wednesday in February 2020. Please adjust your calendars.

ACYF Thanks

We have received three letters from participants of the ACYF who were very pleased with your donations to the ACYF fund. These letters are displayed in the narthex on the pin board!

Youth



Alpha is a personal encounter with Jesus

Christmas 2019

Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24 December

5:30pm—Carols followed by
 6:00pm—Vigil Mass
 11:30pm—Carols followed by
 Mass During the Night 12:00am

Christmas Day, Wednesday 25 December

8:00am—Morning Mass
 9:30am—Solemn Mass
 11:15am—Mass in Italian

New Year's Day, Wednesday 1 January

9:00am—Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Message from the Parish Office

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas. May this beautiful season of the liturgical year be a joyous one for you and for your families. We also remember those people in our prayers who may find celebrating Christmas difficult, as their loved ones may be celebrating Christmas elsewhere. Personally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the parish staff, volunteers and all those who carry out liturgical ministries in the parish for your outstanding contribution for the smooth running of our parish community. In the silence of that Christmas night in Bethlehem, Jesus was born and lovingly welcomed. And now, at this Christmas season, when the joyful news of his saving birth continues to resound, let us open the doors of our hearts to the holy Child wrapped in swaddling clothes. God bless you all, your families and friends.

Fr Andrew McCarter, Fr Patrick Bradford and Parish staff.

Prayer for Vocations

O God, who chose the apostles to make disciples of all nations, and who by Baptism and Confirmation has called us to build up your Holy Church, we implore you to choose from us, your children, many priests and religious who will love you with their whole hearts and will gladly spend their lives to make you better known and loved by all.

Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

St. Peter's Parish is committed to the safety, well being and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults. If you see something that concerns you, say something. Need advice? Call the office of *Professional Standards and Ethics* for assistance on 9926 5677, or call the *Department of Health and Human Services* on 131 278.



DETAILS

PARISH
Address: 258 Clayton Road, Clayton, 3168
Phone: 9544 1516
Fax: 9544 1089
Email: clayton@cam.org.au
Website: www.stpetersclayton.com
Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Andrew McCarter
Assistant Priest: Rev. Fr Patrick Bradford
Deacon: Rev. Dcn Hubert Fernando
Domestic Support: Seda Peters

Office Hours:
Monday, Wednesday—Friday: 9:30am—4:30pm
Tuesday: Closed

PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL
Address: 16 Mary St, Clayton, 3168
Phone: 9544 3032
Email: principal@spclayton.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Sharon Daujat
Secretaries: Margaret Nahon and Rebecca Burt

CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL
Sacred Heart College, Oakleigh: 9568 5488
Mazenod College, Mulgrave: 9560 0911
Salesian College, Chadstone: 9807 2644
Killester College, Springvale: 9547 5000

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday (Vigil)	6:00pm
Sunday	8:00am
	9:30am
	11:15am (English & Italian)
	4:30pm (Malayalam 2nd and 4th Sundays)

Weekday Masses

Monday	9:00am
	7:00pm (Malayalam)
Tuesday	9:00am
Wednesday	9:00am
	7:00pm (Mass & Novena)
Thursday	9:00am
Friday	9:00am
	2:30pm (Divine Mercy)
Saturday	9:00am

Other Sacraments

Reconciliation: Saturday 9:30am (or by appointment)
Marriages and Baptism: By appointment and at least 6 months notice
Anointing of the Sick: Please call parish office

Fourth Sunday of Advent—Year A

22nd December 2019

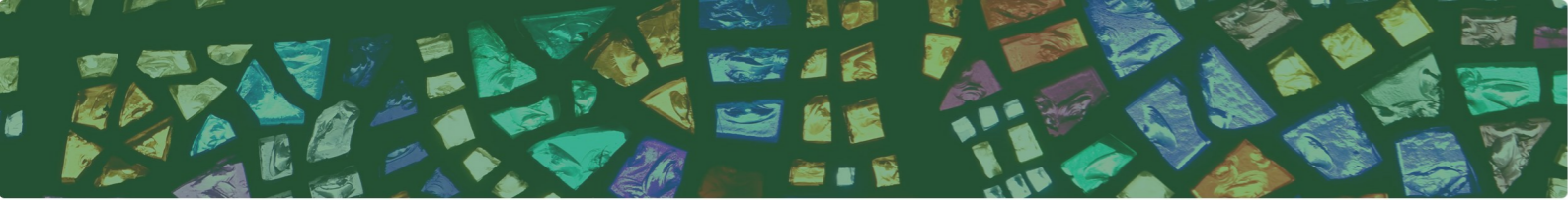
Mary's Child: The Emmanuel—God's choice rested on the House of David which was to bring forth the Emmanuel, the God-with-us. But Mary's Child was to belong to all the nations. We are one of those nations who, by God's call, belong to Jesus Christ.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 7:10-14
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.
SECOND READING: Romans 1:1-7
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, Alleluia!
 A virgin will give birth to a son;
 His name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.
 Alleluia!
GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-24

NEXT WEEK'S READING:

The Holy Family—Year A

FIRST READING: Sirach 3:2-6
SECOND READING: Col 3:12-21
GOSPEL: Mt 2:13-15, 19-23



House of Prayer

Rev. Fr James Mallon

Pope Benedict XVI (cont...)

Again, hear the *Lineamenta* document: “People are able to evangelise only when they have been evangelised and allow themselves to be evangelised, that is, renewed spiritually through a personal encounter and lived communion with Jesus Christ.” (no. 22)

Perhaps our reticence to use such language is rooted in our suspicion of the individualism that is rife in our culture. However, while this term maybe foreign to our spiritual tradition, the notion of an individual having an encounter with the living God is most certainly nor foreign, and is at the heart of our Catholic mystical tradition. Is mysticism or mystical union the same as personal relationship with Christ? Surely it is: if someone has a mystical experience with God, it is likely personal. That is what the mystics in our tradition speak about when they describe a deeply intimate and personal encounter with God. While it is true that we do not hear the term “personal Lord and Saviour” in Scripture, the concept of Jesus as Saviour who speaks to every human heart does exist. We must remember that the whole concept of the individual, as we now understand it, is relatively new in our culture. It’s less than a hundred years old, and it is not invincible when it comes to criticism. Rampant individualism has wreaked havoc in our culture, and the ascent of the rights of the individual over that of the community has not necessary led to a healthier Church or society. Nevertheless, that is the culture we have to work with, and it is the requirement of evangelisers to speak to the culture. And then there was Francis.

Pope Francis

Point number 4 of his handwritten notes from his speech to the conclave on March 9, 2013, four days before he was elected pope, reads as follows:

Thinking of the next Pope: a man who, through the contemplation of Jesus Christ and the adoration of Jesus Christ, may help the Church to go out from itself toward the existential peripheries, that may help it of to be the fecund mother who lives “by the sweet and comforting joy of evangelising.”

Cardinal Bergoglio began his speech with a quote from Pope Paul VI, and all four points of his speech were about evangelisation and the necessity for the Church to overcome a crippling self-referential tendency. This all-

too-present inclination induces illness and evil within the Church, he claimed. Since his election, he has embodied this call for the Church to go out, to rediscover her essential missionary identity through his own actions first, and also through his words. In doing so, he probably is the first pope in history to command a mess to be made:

I would like to say something. What do I expect as a consequence of the Youth Day? I expect a mess. There will be one. There will be a mess here in Rio? There will be! But I want a mess in the dioceses! I want people to go out! I want the Church to go out to the street! I want us to defend ourselves against everything that is worldliness, that is installation, that is comfortableness, that is clericalism, that is being shut-in in ourselves. The parishes, the schools, the institutions, exist to go out! If they don’t go out, they become NGOs, and the Church can’t be an NGO. (Address to Argentinian Youth at World Youth Day. Rio de Janeiro).

Pope Francis would deliver the same message three days later, in an only slightly more subtle way, when he spoke to the leadership of CELAM, the Latin American and Caribbean Bishops’ Conference. In this address, which we will visit in later chapters, he names in a provocative manner the “temptations” that prevent or hinder the Church from doing what it is supposed to do: to create “missionary disciples.” To credit the term “missionary disciple” to Pope Francis is only partly accurate, because it is a term that appears from one end to the other of what is known as the Aparecida document, published in 2008, one year after the gathering of the bishops of Latin America and the Caribbean at the famous Brazilian shrine in the town of Aparecida. The theme for that conference was “Disciples and Missionaries of Jesus Christ, so that our peoples will have life in him.” The extensive document that would emerge from this gathering, and be the inspiration for a new “Continental Mission” throughout the region, was very much guided by the hand and heart of Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio of Buenos Aires. In spite of the fact that Pope Francis published the Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* in the first year of his pontificate, I believe that neither he nor his papal exhortation can be understood without knowledge of the Aparecida document.

We remember in our prayers

Recently deceased:

Anniversaries: Simon and Jessy D’Silva, Sam and Josie Putrino

Sick & their carers: Roy Hayman, Tracey Baynosa, Letty Lozano, Phil Hickey, Andrea Cinque, Marina Hanz, Margaret Iringan, Bernie Perabo, Rodrigo Bugtai, Ron Grinter, Dawn Francis, Samantha Kolakidis, Francisca Supan, Francisca Silverio, Kevin Hickey, Kateri Byrnes, Carlito Dimar,

Parish Notices

Collections Last Week—Thank you for your support!

Weekly Pledge Amount: \$1991.75 (99/250 envelopes returned)

Church Envelope: \$1153.75 **Church Loose:** \$508.40

Presbytery Envelopes: \$521.25 **Presbytery Loose:** \$656.40

Shepherds & Angels—Children are invited to dress as angels and shepherd and form part of the entrance procession at the 6:00pm vigil mass on Christmas eve.

Rosters for the Christmas Masses—Please complete the blank roster in the Narthex of the Church.

The New Tap Machine—There is a new tap machine located on the bench of the kiosk in the Narthex for those who would like to contribute to the Church via tapping. Place your card on the tap area, and please wait for the green tick and the accepted beep!

Bake Sale—Thank you to our bakers and supporters. Your efforts are much appreciated by all as we raised over \$1600.00.

New Years Eve Dance—St Peter’s Parish Hall, 16 Mary Street, Clayton from 7:00pm to 1:00am. Tickets on sale after all the masses in the Narthex for Adults \$35.00, Children \$25.00 and a Family \$80.00!

Christmas Lunch—We need your financial support to assist with the cost of holding this encounter. Please take an envelope, place your donation in the envelope and take it to the sacristy.



Parish Vision

Saint Peter’s Parish is a **healthy and growing faith community that brings people to Christ, forms disciples and sends them out to transform the world. Our members commit to worship, to grow, to serve, to connect and to give.**

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK | 29 DECEMBER 2019—Sunday Year C

	6:00pm	8:00am	9:30am
Reader	1 Jackie Hayman	Luan Viegas	Neil Daly
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion	1 Maria Paiva	Lee Calma	Sr Monica Tuohey
	2 Doreen Hickey	Jovy Calma	Betty Hold
	3 N/A	N/A	Leaane Smith
Hospitality	(Team 4) St Peter’s Choir		
Monash Medical Centre	(Team 1) Denise Riordan, Lester De Souza, Mildred De Souza		
Counters	(Team 1) Laeta Tabak, Neil Daly		
Church Cleaners	(Team 5) Mila and Wilfred Satore (Friday - 03/01/20)		
Linen	Domenica Cosma		