

We acknowledge and respect the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand, the elders, past and present and all the Dharawal people. May we too be good stewards of this land.

25 December 2024

The Nativity of the Lord
(Christmas) Day
Year C



24 December
Nativity of the Lord:
7pm Vigil &
Midnight Mass

First: Isaiah 9:1-7

Resp Ps: Ps 95:1-3. 11-13

R. Lk 2:11

Second: Titus 2:11-14

Gospel: Luke 2:1-14

25 December
Nativity of the Lord:
9.30am Mass

First: Isaiah 52:7-10

Resp Ps: Ps 97:1-6. R. v.3

Second: Hebrews 1:1-6

Gospel: John 1:1-18

29 December
The Holy Family
of Jesus, Mary, Joseph:

First: Sir 3:2-6.12-14

Resp Ps: 127:1-5. R.v.1

Second: Col 3:12-21

Gospel: Lk 2:41-52

***May this Christmas be a time of grace
and peace for you and your loved ones.***

Dear sisters and brothers, dear friends,

I wish you and your families all a very happy Christmas with bountiful blessings in the New Year ahead. I pray that 2025 will present us all with many opportunities to grow and flourish as a community of faith.

It's going to be a bit of a struggle this year as we will have to contend with the main entrance to our church being closed off. But that's nothing compared to the way the first Christmas was celebrated – in a stable.

A warm welcome is extended to the many people joining us over this Christmas period who don't normally come to our Parish. It's an opportunity for us to reach out and welcome and assure them that they belong here too.

At this time, we celebrate in a special way the Good News that: "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son." [Jn 3:16] We gather together to celebrate God's great love taking human form. We welcome our brother Jesus, who came into the world as a small vulnerable baby, completely dependent on others for survival. This is a festival of love, and we are all invited to come and celebrate.

Once again, I wish you and your families all the joy and blessings of this Christmas season. Merry Christmas!

Fr Shane



Worship: Mass and Devotions

Sunday Mass	Weekday Mass	Devotions
Saturday Vigil: 6pm	Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri and Sat: Mass at 9am	Adoration with the Rosary: Saturday 9.30—10.30am
Sunday: 9.30 am and 5pm	Thursday - Mass at 7.30pm	Divine Mercy Devotion: Third Sunday at 3pm
Filipino Mass: Third Sunday at 11.15am		Alliance of the 2 Hearts Mass & Devotion: First Friday from 7.30pm
Samoa Mass: First Sunday at 12 noon	Healing Mass: First Sat at 9am	Reconciliation: Sat 11am

Prayer intentions

For the sick and homebound: Reg Bucknell, Mary Ponnappalam, Peter Presdee, Matthew Johnson, Myka Mangos, Kevin Cloran, Karen Browne, Amanda and John Meredith, Reg Gardner, Sr Heather Burke, Marie and Barry Atkins, Carol and Gabriel Gonzales, Amelia Jimenez, Susan Mella, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Doris Wahhib, John Kajdrys, Pat Stewart. Catherine, Elizabeth & Monika,
May they experience the saving power of the risen Lord amidst their pain and affliction.

For our recently dearly departed:

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Hilda Young;
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.



Contact us

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday
 9.30am-12.30pm
 Phone: 9603 7373 / 0434 705 176
 Email: varroville@dow.org.au
 Website: varroville.dow.org.au

Parish Priest:
 Fr. Shane Kelleher OCD

 Parish Associate:
 Sr "Jill" Girlie Sudario, CM

Please Note: The Parish office will be closed from 24 December 2024 and will re-open on Tuesday 7 January 2025. If you need to contact Fr Shane during this time please call 0434 705 176.

Parish and Community Notices

Sacramental Preparation including RCIA

First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation preparation dates will be available on the website early next year.

Baptism & Marriage by appointment;

Please contact the parish office for further details and bookings.



Young Adults Group for 18—40 year old meets at 6pm every Sunday evening. After the 5pm Mass.



Join a ministry: Choir, reading, altar serving, welcoming, Altar flowers & linen, cleaning & gardening, maintenance, fundraising/social.

Get Connected with what is on around the Diocese Every week, there are many great opportunities to be part of special events, courses, free resources and to nurture and encourage you and your family in your faith.

Stay informed by subscribing at dow.sh/stayingconnected or visit dow.sh/weeklybulletin to see a full list of notices sent to Parishes

Friendship Group meets every first Tuesday of the month after the 9am Mass. Everyone is welcome. Our first gathering in 2025 will be on 4 February.

Pastoral Care Team meets on the last Friday of every month after 9am Mass. If you are not able to attend Mass one of our Pastoral will be delighted to come and visit you.

Holy Family Fellowship meets on the 4th Saturday night at 7pm after the 6pm Mass.



Faith Circles, book club, bible study & discipleship courses meet during the week and throughout the year. Check on the website for more info.



Jubilee 2025: The Universal Church is looking eagerly toward the Jubilee Year 2025. "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire..." *Pope Francis*

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today the Christmas celebration gains a new depth of theological meaning. At midnight, the birth in history was proclaimed. At dawn, the initiative of God's gift was declared and the community's joyful gratitude was announced. In this third celebration, the identity of Christ and the new way of life that he brings is announced.



If our eyes are open and alert, we can see that God has won a victory for us, one that is tangible and realised in our midst. It is an overwhelming victory, one that permanently conquers the enemy. This victory has a profound impact on every place, every time and every people. The birth of the infant, the king in David's line, promises salvation to all who long for it. This salvation is a new vision of wisdom, one that has been realised in Christ, God's agent of grace in the world. It is a new world, one of inclusivity and of righteous honour. It is a new age, one that is ushered in by the child who is leading a victory procession.

Ultimately, only eyes of faith allow us to see the fullness of God's revelation. The glory of the infant king is the very presence of God made flesh. Jesus is the eternal incarnate Word who has pitched his tent among us. Ours is not a distant God; the incarnate wisdom of God is among us, and we are called to a change of heart that will allow us to see this wonder.



Our Lady
of Mount Carmel
CATHOLIC PARISH VARROVILLE

Children's Mass

29 December 2024

at 9.30am

Every 5th Sunday of the Month



"Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.'"

Matthew 9:14

