



Our Lady of Victories Horsley Park

Under the Pastoral Care of the Congregation of St Michael the Archangel
Celebrating Community



**Our Lady Of Victories
Catholic Parish**
1788 The Horsley Drive, Horsley Park

Our Lady Queen of Peace
215 Western Road, Kemps Creek

We pay our respects and acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land. May we walk gently and respectfully upon the land.

Parish Priest
Fr Dominik Karnas CSMA

Administrator
Fr Marek Okarma CSMA

**Pastoral Associate / Parish
Safeguarding Support Officer:**
Mary Farrell

Parish Pastoral Council
Chairperson: Martin O'Connell
Deputy: Michelle Favotto

Parish Secretaries: Lauren Favretti,
Julie Menon, Edda Santucci

Parish Office
Monday-Friday 9.30am to 2.30pm
PO Box 56 Horsley Park 2175
☎ 9620 1242 Fax: 9620 2101
✉ parish@ourladyofvictories.org.au
🌐 ourladyofvictories.org.au



Mass Times
Horsley Park:
Mon-Fri: 8.30am Rosary,
9.00am Morning Mass
Saturday: 6.00pm
Sunday: 8.00am, 10.00am, 6.00pm

Kemps Creek: SUSPENDED

Reconciliation:
Mon, Wed - Fri: 8.30am-8.50am
Saturday 5.15pm-5.45pm
At other times by appointment.

Enquiries regarding other Sacraments:
Please ring during office hours.

Marion Catholic Primary School
1788 The Horsley Drive, Horsley Park
Ph: 9620 2045 Fax: 9620 1012
Principal: Therese Gaunt

An induction loop for the hearing impaired is fitted in the centre aisle of the church.

25 December 2021

CHRISTMAS 2021 - YEAR C

INTRODUCTION: As Christians, the feast that we celebrate today is the most important birth in world history. The promise made by God was finally fulfilled with the birth of Jesus. We are assured today that the Lord is really with us: He smiles on us through a little child lying newborn in a manger. God has come to us in his humble way. The star of his coming has come to rest on this church, on this community. For the gift of our Saviour King, we once again give thanks this Christmas season.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

RESPONSE:

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Good news and great joy to all the world:
today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord
Alleluia!





GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven; and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP ANTHONY FISHER AND FAMILY PRAYER FOR OUR CHRISTMAS MEAL

“Christmas is the story of God-made man holding out his hand in friendship to humanity. The offer is real, tangible, personal, even physical. After two years of isolation, we need it more than ever. In such dark times, Christmas is a ray of light, a sliver of hope. May the Christmas Babe find a home in the manger of our hearts!”

His prayer for our Christmas meal is on the back page.
Let us all remember to give thanks this Christmas for all our blessings.

The Blessings Of
Christmas
PEACE★HOPE★JOY★LOVE

*Wishing all parishioners, friends and visitors
all the best this wonderful Holy season has to offer.*

*May this time of giving and being with family
bring you joy that lasts throughout the new year.*

Prayer to St Michael the Archangel

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil; may God rebuke him, we humbly pray and do you, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

DATES TO NOTE

Sat 25:

CHRISTMAS DAY



Sun 26: Holy Family—
Renewal of Vows,
Boxing Day

Mon 27 & Tues 28:
Public Holidays for
Christmas and Boxing
Day

Fri 31: New Year's Eve

Sat 01 Jan: New Year's
Day



PARISH OFFICE WILL
BE CLOSED FOR THE
CHRISTMAS & NEW
YEAR PERIOD.
RE-OPEN ON
MONDAY
10 JANUARY 2022.



SAFEGUARDING - A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office at 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to police.

Christmas Message from the Parish Priest

Dear parishioners and friends,

As we gather to celebrate Christmas, another year has passed with many events, public and private, touching our lives in different ways. No doubt this year has brought joys and sadness in different measure to each person, all colouring our memories of 2021. It's been a tough year for many. The year will always be remembered for the COVID-19 pandemic. Even though it has been a most unusual year, there have also been so many blessings for which I thank God.

I truly believe that God is ultimately in charge of every situation. I pray constantly that His will be done. I do not claim that I know every detail of His plan and what lies ahead. But, in imitation of the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary, I attempt imperfectly to echo her profound trust and consent to the will of God: "May it be done to me according to your word." (Luke 1:38)

Traditionally, we see Christmas as a time of peace and joy, a time to celebrate with family, with friends and loved ones. I do hope that your Christmas will have something of that peace, joy and celebration. Such joyful celebrations may not be possible for some. You may have lost a loved one since last Christmas, or you may be overburdened by money worries, family problems or for many other reasons.

This year, I am writing my Christmas letter to you from Poland. As you know, last month I went to my homeland to say goodbye to my dad, Józef. I had the grace to meet him and pray for him next to his death bed. I was really blessed to give him the Last Rights and be with my mother and my family during this difficult and sad time.

I asked him to pray for my intentions, my ministry among you and for our parish. I hope that he enjoys heaven and will support us from there. I would like to thank you all for your condolences and your prayers for my father and my family.

Maybe the Christmas message this year is a challenge for all of us to become more involved. It is not so much a question of giving more; it is a question of giving more of ourselves. After all, that's what God was doing when he got involved with us and our world at the first Christmas. Christmas belongs to believers, to those who believe that Jesus Christ, Son of God, was born of the Virgin Mary to reconcile us to one another and to the Father.

This is why he came. God will fill us with his peace if there is room in our lives for him.

As we adore the Christ Child in the manger at Christmas, may we be moved by the great love and humility that God showed to us in the birth of His Son! God emptied Himself and became one of us. Our faith also professes that He will come again.

O come let us adore Him!



As the birth of Christ brought hope and confidence, we too face the new year with hope and confidence and with gratitude to those who worked hard to protect health, save lives. Somewhere, amid that huge effort, in those who used their skills and talents, protected life and kept us safe, there is the presence of God. Perhaps like the first Christmas, there is, for us too, the challenge of recognition!

I would sincerely like to thank our parishioners for your commitment to our parish this past year. The giving of your time, talent and treasure to the Lord continues to bear much fruit for the kingdom of God. I would also like to extend my gratitude to all who worked hard to make our Christmas celebrations truly meaningful.

And a special thank you to the devoted members of the various ministries in our parish and to those who work quietly. As we celebrate Christmas, I would like to thank you for your presence and prayers with our parish family of Our Lady of Victories. May God bless you for your goodness!

May your Christmas be holy and joyful and may the new year bring hope and happiness, a renewal of friendships and social contacts, and the freedom to worship joyfully and safely. I do not know what will be in store for us in 2022, but I trust that God knows what is truly best for us all. Know that I pray for you, your loved ones and your intentions.

Dear Friends in Christ, on behalf of our Assistant Priest, Fr Marek and our Staff, I sincerely hope that the remembrance of Christ's birth brings you much peace and hope. Just as the shepherds were led to a humble stable in Bethlehem to worship the infant Jesus, so have we been led to be together at this time and in this place to sing with the angels: *Glory to God in the highest and peace to all people on earth!* I hope that God's presence will be made known to you not only today but every day. May you have the grace to find happiness and joy this Christmas and throughout the New Year 2022.

I hope to see you soon!

Fr Dominik Karnas CSMA, PP

GRACE AT CHRISTMAS DINNER

*Don't forget to say grace before your Christmas dinner.
Here's one from Archbishop Anthony you might use:*

Christmas Lord, after this difficult year we thank you for the doctors, nurses and officials, teachers, priests and loved ones who have worked so hard to keep us safe. Above all, we thank you, our God, for bringing us through this together – to gather around this table and celebrate your birth and our salvation.

We continue to pray for all those affected by COVID and lockdowns. Lord, you were born amidst poverty and stress, and your family had to flee as refugees. You know what we experience and come close when we are anxious. Keep our family safe in 2022 and bring this pandemic to an end.

Bless those gathered here and all those we love. Bless our food, gifts and company. Help us, like the shepherds and wise men, to see what really matters and to respond with faith and love. Make of our home and hearts a crib for Baby Jesus. *Amen.*

+Anthony Fisher, OP

