

Catechist: Bev Lamaro 0409 710 703; Choir: Line Collet 0410 568 103;
 Friendship Group: Bev Lamaro 0409 710 703; Youth : Alison De Sousa 0421 660 187;
 Pastoral Council: John Sarkis 0400 606 297; St Vincent de Paul: John Ashe 9796 1055;
 Childrens Liturgy: Marie El-Chaar 9709 3451; Cemetery Committee: Maureen Vincent 9790 4217;
 Sacramental co-ordinator: Gloria Booby 9708 2871; Polish Priests: 8783 0533;
 De La Salle Brothers: 9708 2692; St. Felix Primary School: 9796 7875 Lisa Wahab- Principal;
 LaSalle Catholic College: 9793 5600 Mr Michael Egan - Principal;
 Archdiocesan Website: www.sydney.catholic.org.au

Lights of Christmas 8 Dec-25 Dec.

Once again, St Mary's Cathedral will light up this Christmas with inspiring and reflective projections of the Christmas season. FREE EVENT! St Mary's Cathedral Forecourt 8-25 Dec each night from 7.30pm-12.00am www.lightsofchristmas.com.au.

SVDP Piety Stall

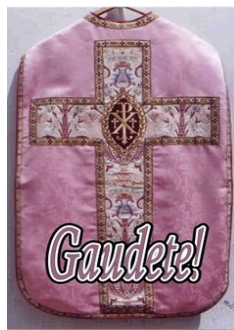
Now selling - 2017 Columban Calendars at \$9 each and Christmas Cards, packet of 10 for \$7.

Parish 2020

'Parish 2020' is a response to the call for a New Evangelisation; a call to mission. 'Parish 2020' aims to renew and strengthen parishes for our future, and provide the best possible support to clergy and parish communities in living out our missionary call in ever more vibrant and creative ways. Refer to the Parish 2020 Q&A document (**at the back of the Church**) to view more information and a timeline for taking Parish 2020 forward in the Archdiocese of Sydney. Please ensure that you take a copy home and have a good read of it. There is also a Parish 2020 prayer card for you.

Gaudete Sunday

Did you know that this *Third Sunday of Advent* is also traditionally known as the Gaudete Sunday? "Gaudete" is a Latin word which means to "Rejoice". Like Lent, Advent is a penitential season, so the priest normally wears purple vestments. But on this Sunday, having passed the midpoint of Advent, the Church lightens the mood a little, and the priest may wear rose vestments. For this same reason, the third candle of the Advent wreath, first lit on Gaudete Sunday, is rose-coloured; the colour for joy. The change in colour provides us with encouragement to continue our spiritual preparation - especially prayer and fasting - for Christmas.



God loves us beyond measure

How would you demonstrate to another that you loved them? How could you convince them of how significant they are in your life? When someone truly matters to us, we are willing to sacrifice so much for them: our time, our possessions, our energies. And if someone truly matters to us, if we love them with our whole heart, we are even prepared to lay down our very life. At Advent, at Christmas, God reveals the full measure of Divine love, bestowing on our world his only beloved son. God gives his very self, vulnerable and needy, born as a human to express his deep and perfect desire for all humanity to be honoured and raised up. Therefore, you are more precious to God than the stars in the heavens and all the other wonders of the earth.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM REQUEST FORM

Would you like to become a regular contributor to the Parish?

If so, please fill in this slip and return it to the Parish Office. Otherwise send an e-mail with your details to Marie at admin@stfelixparish.org.au

Name..... Telephone No.:

Address:.....

Email :



St Felix deValois Parish

550 Chapel Road, Bankstown, NSW 2200, Australia

Fr. Dominic Van Trung Dinh
 Rev Mr Richard Ddumba
 Marie Caldereri, Secretary (Tues, Wed, Thurs)

Tel: 9790 1933 Fax 9796 3962

E-mail: admin@stfelixparish.org.au Website: www.stfelixparish.org.au

Mass times: Saturday 6pm (Vigil), Sunday 8am, 10am (Children's Liturgy), 6pm, 12noon (Polish).
 Vietnamese Mass: 7 pm 1st Thurs of each month. **Saturday Morning Benediction - 7.00am.**
 Reconciliation: Saturday 4.30 - 5.30 pm. Or by appointment Rosary: Saturday 8.25am
This week - Tuesday, Friday, Saturday - 8.00am. Wednesday - 9.00am & Thursday - 11:30am
 Tuesday 10.30am - Yagoona Nursing Home. Friday 11.00am - Bupa Greenacre

BAPTISMS: Baptism preparations are held on the 1st Sunday of each month after 10am mass in the presbytery. Baptisms by appointment.

MARRIAGES: Please contact priest at least 6 months prior to wedding date.

SICK CALLS: Anytime. If you know of anyone who needs anointing please ring the presbytery.

Christmas Schedule

Saturday 24 December Christmas Vigil

All children are invited to dress as Shepherds and Angels for the Vigil Mass

Christmas Vigil Mass - 6.00pm, Polish Mass - 10.00pm, Christmas Carols & Mass - 11.30pm.

Sunday 25 December Christmas Day

Masses 8.00am, 10.00am & 6pm, Polish Mass - 12.00pm.

Monday 26 December St Stephen

Mass - 8.00am. Polish Mass - 12.00pm



Third Sunday of Advent - A - 11th December 2016



Faith & Trust

The minister of aged care went to visit a nursing home. He walked up to a lady in a wheel chair and said, "Madam, do you know who I am?" she answered, pointing toward the enquiry desk, "No sir, I do not know who you are but if you go to that desk they can tell you".

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist while in prison, sent his disciples to ask Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?" John was imprisoned for speaking out against the king's adulterous act. While suffering in prison he probably wondered why the Messiah did nothing to get rid of the injustice, or punishing the cruel and evil king. John's notion of the Messiah was similar to the Jews at the time. He comes as a Judge who will reward the good and punish the bad. We often have the same idea about God. Let us reflect on what Jesus has to say. "The blind see again and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, the dead are brought back to life and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.happy is the one who does not lose faith in me." Such are the actions that Jesus undertakes! His identity is clear for all who have eyes and ears to see it. We often get discouraged when our prayers to God go seemingly unanswered or at least not happening the way we expected, if we reflect on what Jesus was about then we should experience more hope, joy, peace in whatever situation we are in.

Let us pray that 'we do not lose faith' but continue to deepen our faith and trust in Jesus, so that we can show his face to the world as we prepare for Christmas.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

719 John the Baptist is 'more than a prophet'. In him, the Holy Spirit concludes his speaking through the prophets. John completes the cycle of prophets begun by Elijah. He proclaims the imminence of the consolation of Israel; he is the 'voice' of the Consoler who is coming. As the Spirit of truth will also do, John "came to bear witness to the light". In John's sight, the Spirit thus brings to completion the careful search of the prophets and fulfils the longing of the angels. 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptises with the Holy Spirit. And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God....Behold, the Lamb of God.'

This week's Readings - Isaiah 35:1-6, 10; James 5:7-10; Gospel - Matthew 11:2-11

Baptism:

This week, we welcome into the Catholic faith:

Amaziah Zion Azhar

May he always know the love of God and feel His guiding hand throughout his life.



St Felix de Valois Bankstown Parish and School

present

Carols by the Grotto

—550 Chapel Rd, Bankstown—

Wednesday 14th December, 2016

Bring a **blanket, candle & nibbles** to share from 6.30pm
& **grab a free sausage sizzle.**

A night of your **favourite carols** and a special visit from **Santa!**

Mass Intentions:



Recently Deceased: Morris Trad; Hellena Bojada
Anniversary: Mario Tassini; Sipietro Ha Van Thien; Joseph Truong Nguyen; John Field; Francis Dang; Giuse Kevin Pham; Louise Descombes
Sick: Jason Timbs & Bart Hennely, Dau (Xuan); Kim Do; Henriette Tam Tinh Lam; Gerard Go; Theresa Tinh Thi Doan; Christine Formosa; Maria Tuu Nguyen; Fatima; Catherine & Lourdes Raspanti; Tim Logue; Jeanette Chong; baby Alan Dien Quan Nguyen; Monina Rodriguez Pineda; Tenshi Asriel Magdaleno Arcenas

Next Weekend - Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year A

Readings: Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Gospel - Matthew 1:18-24.

Feasts of the Week

13 December - St Lucy, virgin, martyr. Memorial.

Died at Syracuse in Sicily, probably in the persecution of the emperor Diocletian in 304. Widely venerated from the earliest times, her memorial has long been kept on this day. Probably because her name is suggestive of light, her intercession has been sought for eyesight problems. Named in Eucharistic Prayer I (The Roman Canon) and remembered as a youth, radiant with Christian faith and courage.

14 December - St John of the Cross, priest, doctor. Memorial.

Born in 1542 at Fontiveros (Spain). Died on this day in Ubeda. A Carmelite priest who joined Saint Teresa of Jesus (15 October) in the work of Carmelite reform and, despite opposition and imprisonment, organised the disalced Carmelites. Remembered for his mystical writings, which combine theology and poetry to describe the spiritual journey through darkness to union with God.

Wedding Congratulations

Pablo Martin Gioia & Quynh Mai Chu

are married at St Felix this weekend. Please keep them in your prayers.



Liturgy Committee

The next Liturgy Committee meeting is next Tuesday 13th December commencing at 7:00pm in the Presbytery.

Altar Society: 18/12/16 Group 3: Youth Group, Samoan Divine Mercy Group, Tram Vu (*Florist*)

St Vincent de Paul: 18/12/16 John Ashe 25/12/16 D Rodrigues

Church Cleaners: 16/12/16: Vinh Nguyen **Children's Liturgy:** 18th Dec - Holidays

Weekend Choir: Saturday 6pm - St Anne's Choir
Sunday 8am - Singing Servants of God Sun 10am - Samoan Divine Mercy Group

Readers & Ministers

	Sat 6pm	11 DECEMBER	8am	10am	6pm
C	Stephen Hoang	Philip Castillo	Jennifer Nguyen	Elias Eltarraf	
R	Patrick Abourizk	Ligaya Castillo	Thu Ha Kim	Anthony Eltarraf	
A	Joseph Bui (A)	Joseph Cao (A)	Thong Tran (A)	Thanh Vu (A)	
M	Emmanuel Icard	Mesake Mar	Tu Nguyen	Amelia Mezentsef	
M	Tuyen Tran	Madelyn Nicole	Bev Lamaro	Loreto Eduardo	
18 DECEMBER					
C	Gloria Booby	Kiara Asuzu	Anthony Rowe	Kathleen Mezentsef	
R	Stephen Hoang	Maxwell Asuzu	Emanuela Viner	Lucia Mezentsef	
A	Tuyen Tran (A)	Joseph Cao (A)	Anthony Joseph (A)	Thanh Vu (A)	
M	Gloria Booby	Maria Huong	Jessie Kovacevic	Paul Ngoc	
M	Emmanuel Icard	Robyn Molloy	Helen Vujevic	Phu Nguyen	