

Fr. Christopher Shorrock, OFM Conv., Parish Priest  
Fr. Leonides Mateo, OFM Conv., Associate Priest  
Deacon N Tan

Dear Parishioners,  
Congratulations to our Year 6 students from St. Angela's and OLOR who celebrated their graduation Masses during the past week We wish them well as they continue their educational journey into High School. We wish all the school children well as they begin the summer break. Our next Advent Taize prayer time will be on Wednesday 20th from 7pm to 8pm. Let us continue to pray for one another and our parish

Fr. Christopher Shorrock, OFM Conv.

**Working bee** to do an extra special clean of the Church and make final preparations in the Church for Christmas, will be on Friday 22 December from 10am to 12 Noon. **Many hands make light work. Please come along to offer support.** We are also asking for volunteers to help out once a month to: vacuum the Church, help clean the candle stands and replace candles and sweep the outside leaves off the Church premises.

**Rosary Gem:**  
The rosary is a sort of machine gun and atomic bomb, namely, a weapon that is far superior to all the weapons of modern warfare in overcoming the enemy of God.  
Servant of God (Fr.) Joseph Kentenich

Thank you for your donations towards the **David's Place Christmas Appeal** last week. The sum of \$8,855 was collected.

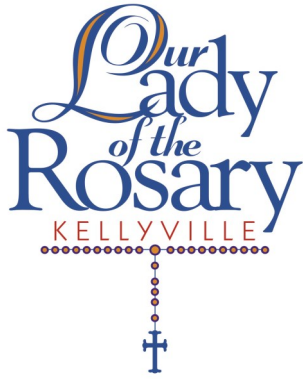
**Farewell get-together for Fr. Leo** Please join us on Sunday 31 December after 11am Mass in the OLOR air-conditioned school hall, to celebrate and thank Fr. Leo, with a farewell party. Hope you can join us for something to eat. Please bring a plate to share.

**TAIZE prayer on Wednesday 20 December** from 7pm to 8pm (Exposition, Taize chants, time for silent prayer). If there is a desire for this it can be offered once a month.

**Let's Pray for the Sick** Romeo Susi, Eugene, Maureen, Aureen, Helen, Frankie Fernandez, Pravani, Janice Larsen, Teodora Postaski, Michelle Nickols, Andrew Lack, Prylani, Franca Masciotra, Lynette Mary Crowley, Michael Sampedro, Michael Bright and all those who are suffering illness in our community. Please write to us [here](#), to let us know the name of someone who is ill and we will include their names on our list for Prayer.

**FRANCISCAN SHRINE OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS**  
Come visit and pray in quiet beauty.  
The Chapel is open every day from 6am - 6pm.  
Br. Bernard Fonkalsrud OFM Conv., *Director*  
For booking inquiries please visit our website [here](#)  
(franciscanfriarsaustralia.org/shrineoftheholynnoccents)

**Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Office** Tel.: 9629-2595  
Open 9am-4pm, Tuesday - Friday  
8 Diana Ave (PO Box 21), Kellyville, NSW 2155  
Parish Website: [olorparishkellyville.org.au](#)  
Parish Email: [admin@olorparishkellyville.org.au](#)



Under the Pastoral Care of the Conventual Franciscans

Br. Bernard Fonkalsrud, OFM Conv., Shrine director  
Fr. David Blowey OFM Conv., Delegate to Australia  
Br. Louis Schmid, OFM Conv., Friary Assistant

**Youth Group Christmas Party: Amazing Race Edition** is next Sunday, 17 December! All youth in Years 6-12 are invited to join us after the 6pm Youth Mass for fast-paced, festive and fun fellowship in the Old Hall until 8:45pm.

**Young Adults** (18-35) are experiencing the lights of Christmas at the Cathedral Friday, 15 December! Meet us at Kellyville Metro Station at 6:30pm or alternatively meet us at the forecourt of St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney at 7:30pm.

Thank you for last week's donation to the parish of **\$2,996.75**.  
Online donations are accepted through the parish website [here](#).

## OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

**Fulfilling your Sunday obligation on Christmas Eve.**  
Please be aware that on Sunday 24 December we will have the usual Sunday Morning Masses of 7am, 9am and 11am  
**Sunday Mass is obligatory and is separate from Christmas**

**Christmas Eve Masses will be as follows on the same day Sunday 24th:**

**5.30pm** Children's Mass (Children are invited to dress up as Nativity figures and process in with Fr. Chris);



**8pm** Family Mass

**11.30pm** Christmas Carols sung by Youth Choir  
**Midnight Mass begins at Midnight**

**Individual Confessions** on 23 December from 10am until 12 Noon. Regular Reconciliation times also apply on Monday nights at 7.30pm and Saturday mornings at 10am

**CHRISTMAS DAY, MONDAY 25 DECEMBER**  
**7am, 9am and 11am Masses**  
(PLEASE NOTE: There is **no** Evening Mass on CHRISTMAS DAY)

**BOXING DAY - Tuesday. 26 DECEMBER**  
**8am Mass in the Parish only**

**MASS OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS - Thursday, 28 December**  
**6.45am and 11am**

**Please bring a plate to share lunch after 11am Mass**

**MARY MOTHER OF GOD, MASS SCHEDULE:**  
**Sunday, 31 Dec. - usual Mass times**

**Monday, 1 Jan. - 8am only**

**Unmarked days have regular schedules**

Office Manager and Secretary: *Angela Barlow*  
Finance and Assistant Secretary: *Catherine Bareham*  
Sacramental Coordinator: *Angela Rosero*  
Sacraments: [sacraments@olorparishkellyville.org.au](#)  
Parish Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/OLOR.Parish.Kellyville](#)

**Are you looking to donate to the Church in a special way this Christmas?**

### Planned Giving Form

Please accept my monthly / once-off donation to the parish as follows:

1st Collection (Church) \$..... per month

2nd Collection (Friary) \$..... per month

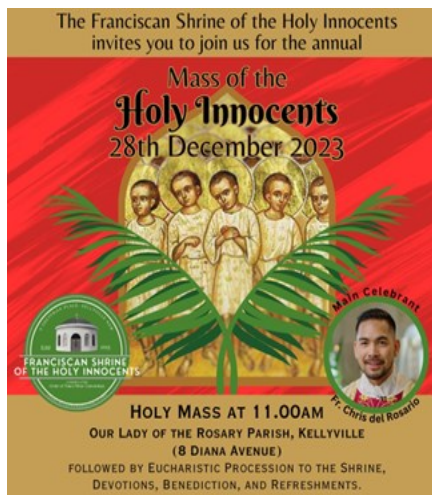
Card Number .....

Expiry date: ..... Tel. ....

Name: .....

Signature: .....

*If you would like to support the parish and/or friary, please send this form to the parish office or mail it to us. Alternatively, please call the office to leave your details. Thank you.*



**Liturgical Ministry Courses return in 2024**  
The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses recommence in February 2024 for anyone interested in serving as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or [mary.gale@parracatholic.org](#) or visit our website to download an enrolment form [here](#) (or [https://officeforworship.org.au/](#))

**800th Anniversary** St Francis and the First Nativity Scene

The Franciscan Shrine of the Holy Innocents invites you to join us for the inaugural Commemoration of the Blessed Nativity. 6.30pm Friday, 22 December. We will process from OLOR Church to the Shrine Creche where we will reenact the Nativity as St. Francis did 800 years ago. Children are invited to dress up as shepherds, angels, animals, etc. Blessing of Straw and Infant Jesus statues following Devotions. Light refreshments available.



**Shout out** to our youth and young adults who brought some Christmas Cheer to the residents at Bella Vista Gardens Nursing Home last Saturday! Following a wonderful Carols sing-a-long, they brightened the morning of the residents with some companionship and conversation.

**For Holy Communion to the Sick** please call **Br. Louis** on 0422 028 647.

For emergencies only, call 9629-2595 and select 4 to leave a message and a Priest will return your call.

**Our Lady of the Rosary Primary**  
8 Diana Ave, Kellyville NSW 2155  
Tel: 8664 7800  
[olorkellyville.catholic.edu.au](#)

**St Angela's Primary**  
40 Harrington Ave, Castle Hill 2154  
Tel: 9407 6400  
[stangelaschill.catholic.edu.au](#)

**MASS & MINISTRIES: 16/17 DEC. 2023**

6pm Vigil	EM	Ruth Hyland and Natalie Guerlin
7am	EM	Sandra Huber and Tony Weinman
9am	EM	Margaret S. and Rachel Calisura
11am	EM	Annette Tan and Princy Benny
6pm	EM	Br. Louis and Joseph Lumapas

**MASS & MINISTRIES: 23 24 DEC. 2023**

6pm Vigil	EM	Natalie Guerlin and Ruth Hyland
7am	EM	Sandra Huber and Norma Evans
9am	EM	Grace Trzcinski and Margaret S.
11am	EM	Annette Tan and Princy Benny
6pm	EM	Br. Louis and Joseph Lumapas

**Please note**  
**there is NO 6pm Mass on Christmas Day, Monday 25 December 2023**

#### REGULAR PARISH MASS TIMES

**Saturdays: 9:30am and 6pm Sunday Vigil**  
**Sundays: 7am, 9am, 11am and 6pm**  
**Mondays and Tuesdays: 6.45am and 7pm**  
**Wednesdays, Thursdays : 6.45am and 9.30am**  
**Fridays: 6.45am, 9.30am**  
**(and 7pm on First Friday of each month)**

#### CONFESSION TIMES

**10am-10.30am on Saturdays**  
**and 7.30pm - 8pm on Mondays**

**MASS INTENTIONS: 16 - 23 DEC. 2023**

Sat. 16	9.30am 6pm	Edward Jones Maximino Calangi
Sun. 17	7am 9am  11am 6pm	<b>PRO POPULO</b> Salvatore, Giovanna Maria Frasca and Teresa Crucitti Josephine Cecilia Margaret Chow
Mon 18	6.45am 7pm	Joseph Mizzi Andy Zahra, Wayne Holland & Sam Bugeja
Tues. 19	6.45am 7pm	Giuseppe and Erminia Vumbaca Roy and Rose Fimmano
Wed. 20	6.45am 9.30am	Maria Polito Tomaso Manca, Caterina Satta and Michele Mellino
Thurs. 21	6.45am 9.30am	Ron O'Donahue and family Francis Xavier Fernandes
Fri. 22	6.45am 9.30am	Alberti family Intention of donor
Sat. 23	30am 6pm	Susana Cunanan Jaden Selvan

#### Shrine of the Holy Innocents

Tel: 0429 441 955  
8 Greyfriar Place, PO Box 21, Kellyville, NSW, 2155  
[kellyville.shrine@franciscanfriarsaustralia.org](#)



only declared, but he declared quite openly, ‘I am not the Christ.’ ‘Well then,’ they asked ‘are you Elijah?’ ‘I am not’ he said. ‘Are you the Prophet?’ He answered, ‘No.’ So they said to him, ‘Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?’ So John said, ‘I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:  
Make a straight way for the Lord.’

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, ‘Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?’ John replied, ‘I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.’ This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

HOMILY

**PROFESSION OF FAITH** **APOSTLES’ CREED**  
*Or the Nicene Creed may be said.*  
**I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:*

**R. Blessed be God for ever.**  
P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.  
**R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray,  
be offered to you unceasingly,  
to complete what was begun in sacred mystery and powerfully accomplish for us your saving work.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**R. Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.  
**R. And with your spirit.**  
P. Lift up your hearts.  
**R. We lift them up to the Lord.**  
P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**R. It is right and just.**

PREFACE I OF ADVENT

*After the Preface, we sing or say:*

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.  
**All: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and resurrection you have set us free.**

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour’s command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:  
**All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...**  
P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray ...  
**All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.**  
P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said ...  
**R. Amen.**  
P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**R. And with your spirit.**  
P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.  
*All exchange a sign of peace*

LAMB OF GOD

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.  
**R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON cf. Isa 35:4

**Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. We implore your mercy, Lord, that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults and prepare us for the coming feasts.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**R. Amen.**

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.  
**R. And with your spirit.**  
P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.  
**R. Amen.**  
P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.  
**R. Thanks be to God.**

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

SHEER JOY

What brings joy to you? What makes your heart sing? Joy is infectious. Joy rings out today from the beginning of our prayer with the Entrance Antiphon “Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.” (Phil 4:4-5). Isaiah proclaims, “I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God” (Isa 61:10). The psalm, drawn from the Magnificat in Luke, invites us to respond: “My soul rejoices in my God” (Luke 1:46), and we hear “My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my saviour” (vv. 46-47). Paul’s final exhortation from his First Letter to the Thessalonians begins “Rejoice always” (1 Thess 5:16). What is the cause of all this rejoicing? It is the story of the Good News unfolding from the prophet Isaiah, becoming flesh through Mary’s faithful response; it is God’s gift of God’s son, Jesus, born among us who has been raised. We draw near to the celebration of Jesus’ birth but we live in the light of resurrection, so we have reason to rejoice. Today’s Gospel reveals the witness to the coming of Jesus, “a man sent from God” (John 1:6). We hear emphatic repetition of the truth with both “witness” and “light” repeated three times. John is the voice in the wilderness confirming “the one who is coming after” (1:27).

Today our hearts lift with joy amid all that might distress us. We are faithful believers in God’s saving grace. Take a moment to hear: “Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks to God” (1 Thess 5:16-17).

DR ROSEMARY CANAVAN

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / B

17 DECEMBER 2023

REJOICING IN GOD, OUR SAVIOUR. Christmas is a feast of joy and light. We celebrate God who comes to dwell among us and save us. With the prophet Isaiah, we exult for joy in the Lord. With Mary, our spirits rejoice in God our saviour. We do not deny the pain and evil that exist in the world, but we rejoice in the knowledge that nothing can come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** Phil 4: 4-5  
**Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.**  
**Indeed, the Lord is near.**

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**R. Amen.**  
P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**R. And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.  
  
P. Have mercy on us, O Lord.  
**R. For we have sinned against you.**  
P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy.  
**R. And grant us your salvation.**  
P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**R. Amen.**

V. Lord, have mercy.  
**R. Lord, have mercy.**  
V. Christ, have mercy.  
**R. Christ, have mercy.**  
V. Lord, have mercy.  
**R. Lord, have mercy.**

*The Gloria is not said during Advent.*

COLLECT

P. O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord’s Nativity,  
enable us, we pray,  
to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever  
**R. Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

**FIRST READING** Isa 61:1-2, 10-11  
**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**  
*I exult for joy in the Lord.*  
The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,  
to bind up hearts that are broken;  
to proclaim liberty to captives,  
freedom to those in prison;  
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

‘I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels.  
‘For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of nations.’  
The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Lk 1:46-50, 53-54  
**R. My soul rejoices in my God.**  
1. My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour. He looks on his servant in her nothingness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **R.**  
2. The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him. **R.**

3. He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty. He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy. **R.**

**SECOND READING** 1 Thess 5:16-24  
**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians**  
*May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.



Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord.  
**R. Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Isa 61: 1 (Lk 4: 18)  
**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**The spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL** Jn 1:6-8,19-28  
P. The Lord be with you.  
**R. And with your spirit**  
P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.  
**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**  
*There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.*  
A man came, sent by God. His name was John.

He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ he not