



*Embracing  
Villa Maria Centre  
and  
St Patrick's  
Fortitude Valley*



**Most Reverend  
Mark Coleridge**  
*Archbishop of Brisbane*

**Cathedral Office**  
07 3324 3030

**Cathedral Email**  
cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au

**Cathedral Website**  
cathedralofststephen.org.au

**Cathedral Staff**  
Fr Anthony Mellor (Dean)  
Fr Odinaka Nwadike  
(Associate Pastor)  
Fr Thomas Ismoyo  
Deacon Chad Hargrave

**Sacristan**  
Mr Hayden Kennedy

**Cathedral Office  
Co-Ordinator**  
Ms Carmel Devery

**Local Safeguarding  
Representative**  
Dr Barbara Reynolds-  
Hutchinson  
(ph: 0418 401 609)



*Joseph got up, took the child  
and his mother by night,  
and went to Egypt,  
and remained there until the  
death of Herod. When Herod  
died, an angel of the Lord  
suddenly appeared  
in a dream to Joseph in Egypt  
and said,  
"Get up, take the child and his  
mother to Israel."*

# THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

## Year A – 29th December, 2019

*The community of the Cathedral of St. Stephen acknowledges the traditional custodians  
of the land on which our parish stands.*

Dear friends,

Happy Christmas! Pope Francis has written an Apostolic Letter on the meaning and importance of the nativity scene. He signed the Letter during his recent visit to the Italian town of Greccio. Greccio is the mountain village where Saint Francis of Assisi created the first crib scene in 1223 to commemorate the birth of Jesus. Pope Francis returned to the town on Sunday to deliver his Apostolic Letter entitled, *Admirabile Signum*. Here is some of what Pope Francis writes in the letter:

*An enchanting image*

The Latin title of the Letter refers to the "enchanting image" of the Christmas crèche, one that "never ceases to arouse amazement and wonder. The depiction of Jesus' birth is itself a simple and joyful proclamation of the mystery of the Incarnation of the Son of God."

*A living Gospel*

"The nativity scene is like a living Gospel rising up from the pages of sacred Scripture", continues Pope Francis. Contemplating the Christmas story is like setting out on a spiritual journey, "drawn by the humility of the God who became man in order to encounter every man and woman." So great is His love for us, writes the Pope,

"that He became one of us, so that we in turn might become one with Him."

*A family tradition*

The Pope hopes this Letter will encourage the family tradition of preparing the nativity scene, "but also the custom of setting it up in the workplace, in schools, hospitals, prisons and town squares." Praising the imagination and creativity that goes into these small masterpieces, Pope Francis says he hopes this custom will never be lost "and that, wherever it has fallen into disuse, it can be rediscovered and revived."

*A sign of God's tender love*

Pope Francis explains that the crib moves us so deeply because it shows God's tender love. From the time of its Franciscan origins, "the nativity scene has invited us to 'feel' and 'touch' the poverty that God's Son took upon Himself in the Incarnation. It asks us to meet Him and serve Him by showing mercy to those of our brothers and sisters in greatest need."

May these reflections help us to see Christ's nativity in a new and radiant light.

*Fr. Anthony*



*Cathedral of  
St. Stephen  
249 Elizabeth St  
Brisbane*



*St. Patrick's  
58 Morgan St  
Fortitude Valley*



*Villa Maria Chapel  
171 St Pauls Tce  
Spring Hill*

**Cathedral Parish Mass Times this week**

**Monday & Tuesday:** 12.30pm Cathedral  
**Wednesday:** 10.00am Cathedral (New Years Day)  
**Thursday & Friday:** 8.00am Chapel; 12.30pm Cathedral  
**Saturday:** 9.30am Villa Maria; 11.30am Cathedral

**Sunday**

**Cathedral of St Stephen**  
**Saturday:** 6.00pm (Mass in anticipation of Sunday)  
**Sunday:** 8.00am; 10.00am (Solemn Mass); 12 noon; 7.30pm

**St Patrick's** 9.00am; 12 noon  
**Villa Maria** 9.30am

**Reconciliation:** **Monday & Tuesday; Thursday & Friday** – 1.00-1.30pm;  
**Saturday** 10.00-11.00am; 4.30-5.30pm

## PLENARY COUNCIL PRAYER

*Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.  
Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.*

*O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia  
and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.*

*Give us the grace to see your face in one another  
and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.*

*Give us the courage to tell our stories  
and to speak boldly of your truth.*

*Give us ears to listen humbly to each other  
and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.*

*Lead your Church into a hope-filled future,  
that we may live the joy of the Gospel.*

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
bread for the journey from age to age.*

*Amen*

*Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.  
St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.*



## CATHEDRAL GUIDES & WELCOMERS

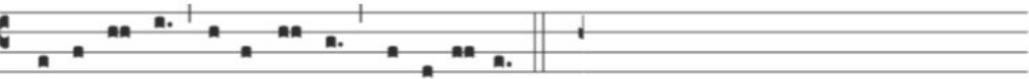
Cathedral Guides & Welcomers invite you to an information session on **Thursday 7 February 2020 at 10.30am** to discover the delights of volunteering with the Cathedral Guides & Welcomers. The meeting will be held in the Hanly Room of the Francis Rush Centre.

If you enjoy meeting people; love your Cathedral and revel in good art and juicy history, the rewards of becoming a volunteer with the Cathedral Guides and Welcomers is beyond measure. A comprehensive training program is offered.

If this ministry appeals to you, please contact the Cathedral email [cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au), or phone 3324 3030 by Friday 25 January 2020.

*The music is drawn from the Catholic Worship Book II for all Masses, available from our Welcomers at the entrances or on the pew seats. All Masses will be led by a Cantor.*

*The Cathedral Choirs are in recess.*

	<b>6:00pm (Sat) (Sun) 8:00am, 10:00am 12:00pm 7.30pm</b>
<b>Processional Hymn</b>	<b>CWB 269</b>
<b>Kyrie</b>	<b>CWB 22a</b>
<b>Gloria</b>	<b>CWB 22b</b>
<b>First Reading</b>	<i>Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14</i>
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<i>Ps 127:1-5</i>
 <p><b>R:</b> O blessed are those who fear the Lord.</p>	
<b>Second Reading</b>	<i>Colossians 3:12-21</i>
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	
 <p><b>R:</b> Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.</p>	
<b>Offertory Hymn (7.30 pm)</b>	<b>CWB 256</b>
<b>Gospel</b>	<i>Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23</i>
<b>Sanctus</b>	<b>CWB 22c</b>
<b>Agnus Dei</b>	<b>CWB 22h</b>
<b>Communion Hymn</b>	<b>CWB 273</b>
<b>Recessional Hymn</b>	<b>CWB 255</b>