



Welcome to

Noarlunga/Seaford Catholic Parish

St Luke's, Noarlunga and SCC, Seaford

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD - YEAR A

Vol 11 : No 06

NOARLUNGA/SEAFORD CATHOLIC PARISH CENTRE

Cnr Goldsmith Drive and Honeypot Rd, (PO Box 406) NOARLUNGA, SA 5168 Phone: 8382 1717

(Please leave a message outside office hours and we will get back to you as soon as we can)

Email: nswcp@tpg.com.au

Web: www.noarlunga-seafordparish.org.au

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday
10.00am - 3.00pm

PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

• PARISH PRIEST

Fr Josy Sebastian - (8382 1717;
in an emergency 0452 524 169;
jponnambal@gmail.com)

• ASSISTANT PRIEST

Fr Dominick Okwadha
(8382 1717; okwadha@yahoo.com)

• PARISH MANAGER NEWSLETTER

Mrs Toni Fishlock - 0417 801 241;
fishlock11@tpg.com.au

(Please submit newsletter items to the Parish Office by 11.30am each Wednesday)

• SEAFORD

Sr Bernie Sontrop SGS – SCC
(Catholic Community Coordinator
- 0400 035 462)

CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection Unit 8210 8159

REGULAR WEEKEND MASSES

• SATURDAY EVENING

6.00pm - St Luke's, Noarlunga

• SUNDAYS

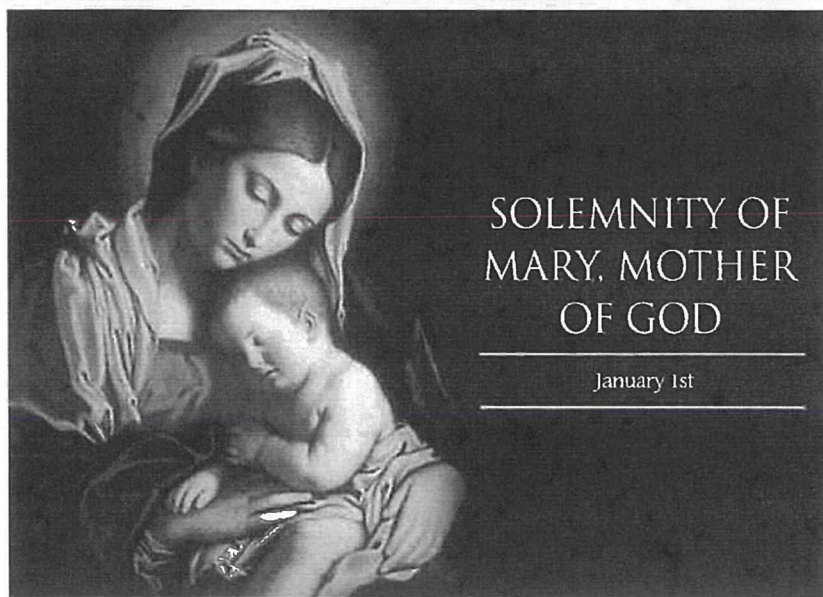
9.00am - St Luke's, Noarlunga

10.45am - SCC, Seaford

11.00am - 1st Sun - St Luke's: Spanish

2.00pm - 2nd Sun - St Luke's: Filipino

5.30pm - St Luke's: Youth Mass



SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

January 1st

FIRST READING

Numbers 6:22-27

The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'Say this to Aaron and his sons: "This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them:

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord uncover his face and bring you peace."

This is how they are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 66:2-3, 5, 6, 8

May God bless us in his mercy.

SECOND READING

Galatians 4:4-7

When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons. The proof that you are sons is that God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts: the Spirit that cries, 'Abba, Father', and it is this that makes you a son, you

are not a slave any more; and if God has made you son, then he has made you heir.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Heb 1:1-2

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 2:16-21

The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.

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**COMPLIANCE WITH
COVID-19 REGULATIONS**
(Current from 28/12/22)



- If you have tested positive for COVID-19 please follow the instructions as per SA Health in terms of contact tracing and isolating yourself as per government health protocols. Please stay home and do not attend church services until you have fully recovered.
- Wearing of face-masks in Church is strongly recommended.
- Sick and high risk/vulnerable people are requested to stay home and not attend services.
- Hand sanitiser is available at church entrances.
- Communion is given only in hands. Precious Blood will not be distributed.
- Holy Water is not available at the doors of churches.
- Procession of gifts has resumed.
- Collection plates are to be passed around with minimum contact

**SMILING CHILD
AND HIS MOTHER**

There is a beautiful little story about a long, tedious train journey, made one Christmas day by some elderly residents of a nursing home who were on their way to a vacation spot.

At one station, a young mother with a small child entered the train. The child smiled at all the grim faces around him and began moving from one lap to another talking, shouting with joy and chatting with every one. Instantly, the grim and silent atmosphere in the train was changed to one of joy and happiness.

Today we remember with joy and gratitude how Mary and her Divine Son Jesus transformed a hopeless, joyless and sinful world into a place of joy and happiness.

(Continued from page 1)

EVERY LIFE

Every life is a wonderful story worthy of being told.

Every life is a work of art, and if it does not seem so, perhaps it is only necessary to illuminate the room that contains it.

The secret is never to lose faith, to have confidence in God's plan for us, revealed in the signs with which [we are shown] the way.

If you learn to listen you will find that each life speaks to us of love, Because love is the key to everything, the engine of the world.

Love is the secret energy behind every note I sing.

Never forget that there's no such thing as happenstance.

That is an illusion lawless and arrogant [people] invented so that they can sacrifice the truth of our world to the laws of reason.

*Andrea Bocelli (2017)
"The music of silence"
A film by Michael Radford*

**WHY DID JESUS GIVE
US HIS MOTHER?**

Jesus gave us his Mother so that she would be the Mother of all humanity. After having considered the role of the Virgin Mary in the mystery of Christ and the Spirit, we should think about her role in the mystery of the Church. We know that the Virgin Mary is the Mother of Jesus Christ and, consequently, the Mother of God. But she is also the Mother of the Church, which is the Body of Christ. Because of this, the mission of Mary is totally inseparable from the mission of the Church. And it should be clearly stated that the role of Mary, as Mother of all humanity, in no way eclipses or diminishes Christ. On the contrary, her role can only help to clarify Christ's role. This is one of the reasons God decided to share his Mother with us.

Many non-Catholic Christians really don't pay much attention at all to the Blessed Virgin Mary. We Catholics, on the other hand, recognise her as the Queen of Heaven and Earth. We know that Jesus took her up to Heaven, body and soul, as soon as her earthly

mission was over. This is the Dogma of the Assumption, defined by the Church with an infallible papal definition. It makes sense that the woman who bore God in her womb should be borne by God into Heaven and not left in a grave to turn back into dust. In fact, in the Old Testament, the Queen of the Kingdom of Israel was always the Queen Mother. One of King Solomon's first acts when his father David gave him the throne was to raise his mother Bathsheba to his side, to be the royal Queen - a mini-Assumption. There was a practical reason for this tradition: Old Testament Kings used to marry more than one wife, but the King had only one Mother, so she became Queen. But there was also a deeper, prophetic meaning at work. God was already planning to send the Messiah through a Virgin, to involve a Mother intimately in the Redemption, just as a mother (Eve) had been involved intimately in the Fall (original sin). God did it that way on purpose. God gives his Mother a special place in the ongoing history of salvation because He wants to tell us something about His love for us. His love is faithful, strong and indestructible, because He is our Father. But it is also gentle, patient, and ever-present, always watching over us - like a Mother. Mary, our heavenly Queen and spiritual Mother, reminds us of this. (E-Priest)

WEEKDAY READINGS

(02 - 08 January)

- **Monday, 02:** Sts Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen (1 Jn 2:22-28 ; Jn 1:19-28)
- **Tuesday, 03:** Tuesday before Epiphany (1 Jn 2:29 - 3:6; Jn 1:29-34)
- **Wednesday, 04:** Wednesday before Epiphany (1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42)
- **Thursday, 05:** Thursday before Epiphany (1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51)
- **Friday, 06:** Friday before Epiphany (1 Jn 5:5-13 ; Mk 1:6-11)
- **Saturday, 07:** Saturday before Epiphany (1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 2:1-11)
- **Sunday 08:** The EPIPHANY of the LORD (Is 60:1-6 ; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12)

PASTORAL CARE

If you need a priest for anointing prior to medical treatment or if you are ill (not necessarily life-threatening) or for last rites please contact: (08) 8382 1717; or in an emergency 0452 524 169.