

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH - YEAR B

FIRST READING – Genesis 15: 1-6, 21: 1-3.

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great'.

'My Lord,' Abram replied 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless...' Then Abram said, 'See you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir'. And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood'. Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM – PS.104: 1-6, 8-9, .

R. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.
O sing to him, sing his praise;
tell all his wonderful works! R.

Be proud of his holy name,
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.
Consider the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face. R.

Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, the judgements he spoke.
O children of Abraham, his servant,
O sons of the Jacob he chose. R.

He remembers his covenant for ever,
his promise for a thousand generations,
the covenant he made with Abraham,
the oath he swore to Isaac. R.

SECOND READING – Hebrews 11: 8, 11-12, 17-19.

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be

counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets;
Now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL – Luke 2: 22-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace,
just as you promised;
because my eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared for all the nations to see,
a light to enlighten the pagans
and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked

ST. KEVIN'S PARISH HAMPTON PARK

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH (Year B)



26th & 27th December 2020

PARISH CENTRE

120 Hallam Road,
Hampton Park, Vic. 3976
Tel: 9799 2108
Email: HamptonPark@cam.org.au

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday (9.30am – 4:00pm)

PARISH PRIEST: Rev. Fr. Desmond Moloney

ASSISTANT PRIEST: Rev. Fr. Dong Tran

DEACON: Rev. Dr. Graeme Pender

PARISH SECRETARIES: Michelle Rimmelzwaan
Indrani Guinan

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

ST. KEVIN'S: Jason Micallef – 9709 8600

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES:

Christine White – 8773 6700

Parish Website

<https://stkevins.org.au/>

‘Support us’ page

<https://stkevins.org.au/support-us/>

YouTube Channel

<https://youtu.be/k-qBOvfy-I0>

(st kevins parish hampton park)

You can now follow us on Facebook too!

For New Year's Eve & New Year's Day

Thursday, 31st December – Mass at 9.15 am
Adoration at 7.30 pm followed

by Mass at 8 pm

Friday, 1st January 2021 – Mass at 10.00 am

No evening Mass

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Privacy legislation requires the **written permission of an authorized person** before any name can be printed. Any list of the sick in the parish bulletin will undergo renewal according to a four week cycle. After four weeks a person's name on the sick list will be removed. However, once again on the basis of written permission of an authorised person the name can be re-added to the list.

A Story from the Past

It was 1988, and the church was the old one in Somerville Road. The first church for our parish community was an “outpost” of St. Mary's, Dandenong. A priest came from St. Mary's to celebrate Sunday Mass. Since it was a very hot evening, it was decided to have the celebration of Mass outside the church. Just as Mass started, a strong wind blew everything off the altar. It was all picked up and taken inside. Everyone went back into the church again. As the chairs were left outside, the Mass continued with the congregation sitting on the floor of the church.

Let's Reflect.....

“...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive.” - *Colossians 3:13*

Forgiving is one of the hardest things for people to do. We can't give what we don't have. We need to receive God's mercy and forgiveness first before we can give it to others. Go to the sacrament of Reconciliation and receive God's mercy and forgiveness. Then, share give the gift of forgiveness with someone – a family member, a friend or a co-worker. Pick up the phone or text someone right now.

THIS SUNDAY WE PRAY

In Thanksgiving: Martin Family, Susan Hobkirk, Jun & Edna Sarmiento, Tony & Lizanne Sarmiento, Jojo & Adin Villanueva, Mayie Durano, Manuel Lava, Francis Cañaveral, Deborah & Nelson Cardozo

For the sick: John Britto

For those who have died recently: Freddie Santos

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Austin Peters, Oswald Hobkirk, Ivor Peters, Isabel Pereira, Joseph & Zita Rogers, Carlyle Neydorff, Hyacinth & Oscar Western, Rolando Bordon, Eugene, Yvonne & Cyril Rozario, , Arbina D'Souza, Indira Perera, Primal Fernando

Continued from page 2:

forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**