

**ST PATRICK'S PARISH MORTLAKE**  
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 ✉ [parish@stpatsmortlake.org.au](mailto:parish@stpatsmortlake.org.au) 🌐 [stpatsmortlake.org.au](http://stpatsmortlake.org.au)

**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Fr. Tom Stevens**  
**MASSES: Saturday 9:00 am Communion Service and Vigil 6.00 pm**  
**Sunday 9.00 am and 6.00 pm Monday: 8.00 am Communion**  
*Service*  
**Tuesday to Friday: 8.00 am Mass**  
**Rosary after Morning Mass - Tuesday to Saturday**  
**RECONCILIATION: Saturday 5.30 pm to 5.45pm**  
**PARISH ADMIN.: Tuesday and Friday 9.00am to 3.00pm – Brenda**

**ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL**  
 12 Herbert Street Mortlake 2137 ☎ (02) 9736 1797  
 ✉ [info@stpmortlake.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stpmortlake.catholic.edu.au)

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL ONLY BE**  
**COMMUNION SERVICES ON**  
**MONDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER THROUGH TO SATURDAY**  
**MORNING 4 JANUARY 2020**



**BREAD, FOOD, LIFE –**  
**BETHLEHEM & CHRISTMAS**

I find the advertising for food products over the Christmas period astounding. In between supermarket chains, Nigella Lawson and Jamie Oliver cooking shows advising us how to cook ‘the perfect’ turkey, one could easily think that 25 December was a Michelin Stars Food Festival!!

Of course, we know Christmas is much, much deeper than that. Christmas goes to the meaning of my human dignity. God becomes human, giving humanity a profound status that no social or political system or regime can ever take away from us. Each human being, and all of Creation, has a dignity.

And so, Mary gives birth to a son in the ancient royal city of Bethlehem. The name Bethlehem literally means *house of bread*. From this city of Bethlehem, a city that offers food and life, will come the child that offers hope over depression, joy over suffering, love over war.

My prayers and friendship to each of you this Christmas 2019. May it be a time of peace, a time when we can truly give thanks for the bread of life in our lives, the living bread of Jesus Christ and of loving relationships in our charitable St. Patrick’s community. **Fr. Tom**

**SINCERE THANKS**

*To each individual Parishioner of St. Patrick’s as we stand in union with Our Lord, especially on Christmas Day.*

*We say “**THANK YOU AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS**”.*

*Special thanks goes to Monsignor John for celebrating the 8pm Mass, Choirs and Musicians, The Altar Society, Acolytes, Servers, Special Ministers, Wardens, Counters, Children’s Liturgy leaders, Readers, and members of our various ministry teams including Pastoral Care; Finance; Social; Liturgy; Faith Education; Youth; Communications; and Stewardship.*

***THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HAS MADE OUR 2019 CHRISTMAS VERY SPECIAL***

**CHRISTMAS DRINKS AFTER 8pm and MIDNIGHT MASSES:** All are welcome to pop into the hall after both the 8pm and Midnight Christmas Eve Masses for a festive drink - soft drinks, tea, coffee, wine, beer will be available. All visitors and parishioners are most welcome.

**CHRISTMAS ENVELOPES: WHAT ARE THESE FOR?** – The money from these envelopes goes to a Central Fund that attends to the needs of the priests of the Archdiocese. These include: sick priests, priests in special works, migrant chaplains and priests undertaking further studies. Some of these priests are often “*out of sight, out of mind*” but they do need to be supported. ***Please give them some thought especially at this time.***



“Christianity is not simply a matter of following commandments; it is living a new life, being in Christ, thinking and acting like Christ, and being transformed by the love of Christ!”

**Pope Francis**