



Welcome to

Noarlunga/Seaford Catholic Parish

St Luke's, Noarlunga and SCC, Seaford

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

Vol 12 : 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

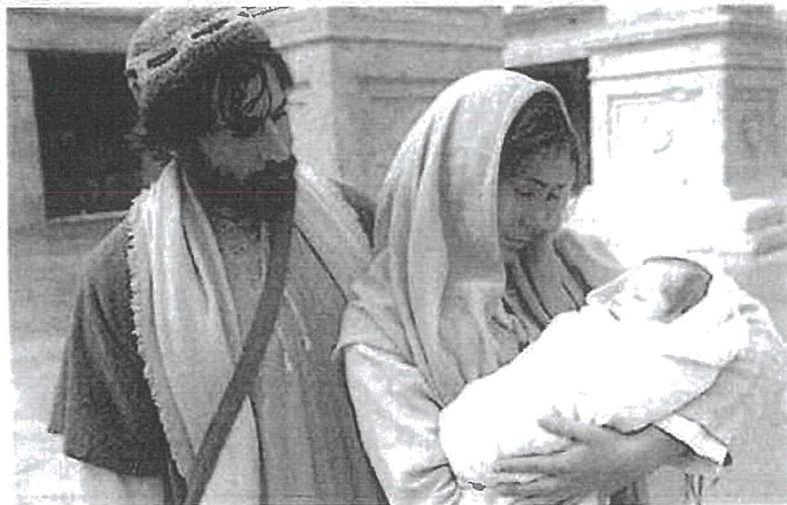
• SUNDAYS

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



FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3

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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 104:1-6, 8-9

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

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.

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**COMPLIANCE WITH
COVID-19 REGULATIONS**
(Current from 29/12/23)



- If you have tested positive for COVID-19 please stay home until you have fully recovered.
- Sick and high risk/vulnerable people are also requested to stay home.
- Hand sanitiser is available at Church entrances.
- Communion is given only in hands.

GOSPEL BACKGROUND

Mary, Joseph, and Jesus are presented in today's Gospel as a faithful Jewish family. They are participating in the annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, an event shared each year with family and friends. When Jesus is found, Luke describes him as seated in the Temple in the midst of the Jewish teachers. Although he is young, Jesus seems not to need teaching about his Jewish tradition. In his dialogue with these learned teachers, Jesus astounds them with his insight and understanding. Jesus is a child of Israel. His Father is God.

The dialogue between Mary and Jesus contains many references to family relationships. In fact, in this Gospel reading Mary and Joseph are never identified by name. Instead they are referred to by their relationship to Jesus. Ultimately, this emphasizes Luke's point about the identity of Jesus. When Mary and Joseph find Jesus in the Temple, they question Jesus and express their anxiety. Jesus replies in words that many have thought to be disrespectful. Jesus says that he was never lost; he was at home. Jesus is God's Son, and he is in his Father's house. Luke will continue to suggest that faith in Jesus establishes new family relationships as he describes Jesus' public ministry.

In Luke's Gospel, Mary's importance is even greater than her role as Jesus' mother. Mary is the first disciple and will be present with Jesus' disciples after his Resurrection at Pentecost to work through her so that salvation might come to everyone. Because of this, Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan for

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Heb 1:1-2

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

"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 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.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(1 - 7 January)

- **Monday, 1:** MARY, the Holy MOTHER OF GOD (Num 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21)
- **Tuesday, 2:** Sts Basil the Great and Gregory (1Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28)
- **Wednesday, 3:** Wednesday, before Epiphany (1Jn 2:29-3:6; Jn 1:29-34)
- **Thursday, 4:** Thursday before the Epiphany (1Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42)
- **Friday, 5:** Friday before the Epiphany (1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51)
- **Saturday, 6:** Saturday before the Epiphany (1Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:6-11)
- **Sunday 7:** 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.