



Parish of Baulkham Hills

Third Sunday of Advent - 15th December 2024

Baulkham Hills parish is committed to being a community of safeguarding, with zero-tolerance to abuse of any form.

For details on safeguarding, please visit the diocesan safeguarding website: <https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding>



St Michael's

OLOL

PARISH NOTES

Dear Friends,

Traditionally, the third Sunday of advent is also called the "Gaudete Sunday", a name taken from the entrance antiphon of the Mass: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." Taken up into the Christological realm, this passage points to the **joy (Gaudete)** of those God redeems through Jesus from their sins and the deliverance and spiritual homeland that he provides.

Last Saturday, the joy was visible and felt by more than 450 parishioners who had contributed and participated at our parish Christmas carols. Despite all the challenges with the weather and very late change of venue, it was a beautiful and gratifying evening **bringing our parish community together** to celebrate this very special time of the year. As you can imagine, the organization of such an event requires a high degree of teamwork. Here, I would like to thank Maria, Steve, Leonie, Danny, Erich, Patricia, Zali, Virginia, Michelle, Cathy, Jude, Denise and David and the many "invisible" helpers for your contribution and support. This kind of teamwork just demonstrates the importance of unity and the capability of our wonderful and supportive parish community. **We can only grow by embracing what brings us together.** Hence, our call is "common-union" as we read in Acts 2:44: "And all who believed were together..." I am very proud to be part of our parish.

Our unity refines us. In this context, a verse from John's gospel comes to my mind: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another." (John 13:34) Jesus was envisioning a cruciform community of Christians whose sacrificial love for one another frequently required them to take "the form of a servant," pick up their cross, and "count others more significant than [themselves]" (Philippians 2:3, 7).

Since my arrival, I have met many parishioners who are willing to contribute to the thriving of our parish community. We not only have new committees, such as the parish finance committee or the pastoral committee. Unexpectedly, 21 parishioners (divided into 5 groups) have taken on the responsibility of church's cleaning. Others have been taking care of the flowers and sacristan duties for years.

In the future I would like to form a liturgy committee that would assist and advise me on issues of worship. The rhythm of faith, shaped by **intentional** liturgy, can become the heartbeat of a vibrant, growing parish community. Within this context, we also need a group that focusses on the maintenance of the parish buildings and facilities. A well-maintained church building can help people feel closer to God, connect with other Christians, and experience a sense of awe and reverence.

The flourishing of our parish also depends on the stability of our finances. Financial stability enables our parish to focus on the core mission of serving the community and spreading the

message of God. With a solid financial foundation, we can invest in outreach evangelizing programs and initiatives to support those in need. The best way to achieve financial stability is through planned or direct giving programs by which you can set up a recurring donation to a parish. In doing so, it reduces administration and paperwork. It saves time for those who count the money from plate collections. As you know having cash on premises is also risky.

Thank you for all your efforts and dedication to our parish. I am sure that we will emerge stronger from our current situation.

Have a wonderful and JOYFUL week.

God bless
Fr Joe

MASS LINK FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Year C

The Mass link for the Third Sunday in Advent is <https://youtube.com/live/wnrY9wvFRqQ>. Please copy the link into browser if it does not immediately work.

Mass is usually live streamed on Saturday evening at 6pm from Our Lady of Lourdes and available for viewing afterwards via the link. We are also using FACEBOOK links via the Parish of Baulkham Hills FACEBOOK page.

SUPPORT DONATIONS

We really appreciate your continued support. To assist with the proper recording for the second collection, please include your envelope number if you have one.

For EFT to the First Collection - supporting the priests

BSB 067 950
Account No 000004265
Account Name Diocesan Clergy
Reference 6001 your name

For EFT to the second (envelope and loose) Collection – for support of the Parish

BSB 067 950
Account No 000000214
Account Name St Michael's Baulkham Hills
Reference Envelope Number or Your Name

For EFT to the St Michael's Special Account

BSB 067 950
Acct No 100005310
Acct Name Special Purposes
Reference Your name and please email details to admin@parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au

If you wish to pay by credit card, please use this link <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/stmichaelsparishbaulkhamhills>

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Readings: Zeph 3:14-18; Phil 4:47; Lk 3:10-18

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.

Response to the Psalm:

Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the great and
Holy One of Israel



Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Next Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent
Micah 5:1-4; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-44

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE –
PARISH OF BAULKHAM HILLS**

Christmas Eve - Tuesday 24 December

- ✠ 5.30pm Family Mass St Michael's
- ✠ 6.00pm Family Mass Our Lady of Lourdes
(live streamed)
- ✠ 8.00pm Mass St Michael's
- ✠ 8.00pm Mass Our Lady of Lourdes

Christmas Day - Wednesday 25 December

- ✠ Midnight Mass St Michael's
- ✠ 8.00am Mass St Michael's
- ✠ 9.30am Mass Our Lady of Lourdes
- ✠ 10.00am Mass St Michael's

Communal Rite of Reconciliation

**Wednesday 18 December at 7.30pm St Michael's
Church**

INDIVIDUAL RITE OF RECONCILIATION

St Michael's

Sat 15 December
- 9.30am to 11am; 4.00pm to 5.15pm
Wed 18, Thu 19, Fri 20
- after the 9.15am Mass to 10.15am

Our Lady of Lourdes

Sat 15 December
- 4.30pm to 5.30pm
Thu 19, Fri 20
- after the 9.30am Mass to 10.30am

**HELP
WAN + ED**

*Your parish
needs you!*

**Masses - Christmas Eve &
Christmas Day**

Ministers Needed

We are looking for

- ◆ Acolytes | Altar Servers
- ◆ Extraordinary Ministers of Communion
- ◆ Lectors | Projectionists
- ◆ Welcomer/Collector

for the Masses on Christmas Eve and
Christmas Day.

If you are able to help, please fill out the form in the
sacristy or contact the office on 9639 0598 or email
admin@parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au

Mass times at St Michael's:

24 Dec Tuesday : 5.30pm, 8pm
25 Dec Wednesday : midnight, 8am and 10am



ALTAR SERVER
TRAINING

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST ALTAR
SERVER TRAINING

If your son or daughter has made their first holy communion
and is interested in training to become an altar server, please
complete the following form using this [link](#) or email the parish
office admin@parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au

Christmas is a time for giving ...
not just of presents to our families
and friends.



Have you thought of giving to your
parish as well? Our parish relies on your generosity to
sustain our liturgical sacramental, pastoral care, and
charitable works.

Please consider a monetary gift to your parish during the
Christmas time. Thank you for your donation.

To donate, please refer to the banking details below:
BSB 067 950

Acct No 100005310

Acct Name Special Purposes

Reference Your name and please email details to

admin@parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au

If you wish to pay by credit card, please use this link

<https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/>

stmichaelsparishbaulkhamhills

Baptism

Congratulations to

- Roman Langdon



who was baptised at St. Michael's Church last week

We pray that his faith may be an important and integral part of his life.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR CATHOLIC CARE'S HOUSES TO HOMES

Fr Fernando Montano, Parramatta Catholic Foundation, and Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains thank you for your generous support of homeless mothers and children. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/appeal or scan this QR code to give your gift of a new beginning to. Thank you.



Please also remember those for whom prayers have been requested, especially for:

Recently deceased: Froilan Alunan

Anniversaries: Michael McKenna, Juanita Uy, Merryn Bertus, Cheryl Todd

Remembrance: Ruby Gaudencio

Sick: Peter Maguire, Bill Rowan, Natasha Leitao, Felix Melinz, Arlene D'Cruz, Jacqui Sneesby, Jo Khong, Rebecca Grech, Monera Obeid, Judy Poon, Cathy Vella, Margaret White, Tony Biddle, Connie Rivas, Joey & Noah, Greg Hopwood, Garry Eldersley, Katherine Izzo, Mimi Yeung, Nicholas Tadros, Debra Price, Mary Burns, Kong Su Chong, Jamal Kairouz, Frank Jacobs, Marie Bolton, Cynthia Gomes, Judy Taylor, Jacinta Hollins, Baby Carter McGhie, Florgina Henry, Richard Miranda, Bridgette & Gabriella Boldt, Jane Gibson, Mabel Yabsley, Joseph MacDermid, Catherine Hemmings, Young William Merhi, Rev Dr. Richard Waugh QSM, Greg Brown, Violet Nehme, Khyla Meighan, Benett Perera, Lisa Middleton, Charlie Howell, Frankie Fernandez, Leonie Turner, Rod Johnson, Maria Roche, Joel Uvero, Melba Oki, Peter Dawson, Harry & Pam Williams, Peter Campbell, Philippa Ford, Honor Rosario, Lavinia Costello, Pablo Herrera, Anne Torina Wayman, Evan Garcia, Brian Roche, Warren Moses, Carmel Willis, Matthew Burke, Julie Bracks, Roumanos Nehme, Deba Beani, Edward Beani, Jenny Francis and all who are ill.

LOL NEWS

Monthly Morning Tea at OLOL

All are welcome to share a cuppa after 9.30am Mass this Sunday (15 December).

Thanks to Lyn Keane for organising the morning tea.

Farewell to Steven Haskins

We thank Steven, Principal of OLOL school, for his leadership and service to OLOL school community.

As Steve will retire at the end of this school year, we wish him and his family many blessings and happiness for his new phase of life.

God bless

Fr Joe



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works



Our Lady of Lourdes Christmas Hampers and Christmas Appeal

Our Christmas hamper drive at Our Lady of Lourdes is nearing its conclusion. All donations of gifts and food are due back this weekend so that our hampers can be assembled this coming week ready for delivery on 23rd December.

If for any reason you have been unable to return your donation to the Church and need to have it picked up, then call or send a text message to Larry on 0409 347 309 and we will endeavour to fulfill your wish.

Our Conference members are on hand after mass at Our Lady of Lourdes to receive any last minute monetary donations and to answer any questions you may have. A Tap-N-Go machine is available outside the Church for donations. Our fundraising page is available to make donations and can be accessed by the QR code displayed on our table outside the Church, or on the posters at the entrance to the Church.

For those unable to get to the weekend masses, our OLOL Vinnies fundraising page is available at: <https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/fundraise-your-way-conference/baulkham-hills-south-conference-christmas-appeal-2024> or by using the QR code:



God Bless you and keep you safe

Our Lady of Lourdes St Vincent de Paul Conference



Francis Alphonse at Chrysalis Law Group provides a range of legal services.

Home visits for the elderly and infirm at no extra charge in selected areas.

Ph 02 8046 7666

francis@chrysalislegal.com.au



Parish of Baulkham Hills



PARISH STAFF

Parish Priest Father Joseph Lam
 Assistant Priest Father Thomas Bui
 Assistant Deacons Deacon Roque Dias

The Parish of Baulkham Hills - St Michael's Parish (02) 9639 0598
 Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm
 Office Administrator Monica O'Callaghan
 Assistant Secretary Betty Cheung

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

1 Chapel Lane, Baulkham Hills, NSW 2153

OUR LADY OF LOURDES MASS CENTRE

1 Canyon Rd, Baulkham Hills, NSW 2153

PO Box 702, Baulkham Hills 1755
 Email: admin@parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au
 Homepage: www.parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au

CURRENT LITURGY SCHEDULE

ST MICHAEL'S WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm
 Sunday: 8.00am, 10.00am and 6.00pm
 Mon - Fri: 9.15am Sat: 9.00am

ROSARY: Mon - Fri 8.50am, Sat 8.45am

ADORATION OF BLESSED EUCHARIST

Tuesday 9.45am - 10.45am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 9.30am - 10.30am, 4.45 - 5.15pm

OUR LADY OF LOURDES WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm

Sunday: 9.30am

Wed - Fri: 9.30am

ADORATION OF BLESSED EUCHARIST

Friday 8.50am prior to 9.30am Mass

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.00 - 5.30pm

St Michael's Church			Our Lady of Lourdes Mass Centre	
Mass Times	LECTORS 14/15 DECEMBER 2024	LECTORS 21/22 DECEMBER 2024	14/15 December 2024	
Saturday 5.30 pm	E. Riches, P. Sladen	N. Donnelly, L. Gonsalves, C. Ryan	ACOLYTE	
Sunday 8.00 am	A. Mendes, N. D'Lima, J. Kerr	M. McLoughlin, V. Diago, A. Sullivan	Saturday 6 pm	J. Vassett
Sunday 10.00 am	C. Burton, A. Mantaring, S. Mantaring	S. Anderson, L. Tedesco, B. Fabri	Sunday 9 am	I. Starkey
Sunday 6.00 pm	N. Redden, G. Tamayo, R. Borg	A. Goonan, A. Hay, I. Lazar	LECTORS	
Mass Times	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS 14/15 DECEMBER 2024	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS 21/22 DECEMBER 2024	Saturday 6 pm	L. Subijano, C. Rajan
Saturday 5.30 pm	K. McElduff, R. Gosper, A. Mascari, W. Ng	G. Rodrigues, D. Rodrigues, R. Gosper, E. Hanrahan	Sunday 9 am	J. Starkey, B. Ryall
Sunday 8.00 am	T. Barnes, M. Cameron, R. McGuinness, L. Byrne	B. Boguradzki, A. Lockwood, B. Smith	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	
Sunday 10.00 am	D. Warren, C. Malinis, S. Malinis	J. Banayos, S. Malinis, N. Redden	Saturday 6 pm	M. Steele
Sunday 6.00 pm	N. Redden, R. Santos, R. Borg, S. Turner	J. Macey, R. Macey, S. Haskins, A. Rodrigues	Sunday 9 am	M. Murrow, L. Ryall
ROSTERS:	WEEK BEGINNING 015.12.24	WEEK BEGINNING 22.12.24	21/22 December 2024	
COUNTERS	Counters 15.12.24 Team 4 : J. Gorman	Counters 22.12.24 Team 5 : P. Waite	ACOLYTE	
FLOWER MINISTRY	Saturday 21.12.24 : M. Mifsud, L. Laksana	Saturday 28.12.24 : M. Medvidovic, R O'Donnell	Saturday 6 pm	R. Barros
CHURCH CLEANING	Team 3: A. Sullivan, V. Duffy, C. McDonald, J & J Harrison, L. Azares	Team 4: M. Dsouza, Y. Franco, V. Fernandes, G. Fernandes	Sunday 9 am	I. Starkey
PROJECTOR	Weekend 21st/22nd Dec 2024 - Masses: Sat 5:30pm: L. Fernandes Sun 8am: R. Baker 10am: M. Almeida 6pm: S. Menezes		LECTORS	
			Saturday 6 pm	Z. Booth, M. Leslie
			Sunday 9 am	M. Guillema, M. Guillema
			EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	
			Saturday 6 pm	R. Muscat
			Sunday 9 am	J. Starkey, L. Ryall