

Catholic Parish of the Nambucca Valley

Corpus Christi, Bowraville

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Nambucca Heads

St. Patrick's Macksville

Christ the King, Taylors Arm

THE HOLY FAMILY
YEAR A
28TH DEC 2025



Administrator: Fr. Peter Rebello OCD

PARISH OFFICE: 78 Wallace St(PO Box 38) Macksville 2447 Phone: 0265681107

Office Hours: Tue, Wed & Thursday's 8:30 am to 4:00pm. Email: nvparish@lismore.catholic.org.au

Website: www.nvparish.org.au

Nambucca Presbytery: 0265686642. Urgent Matters: 0481703122



FirstReading

Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6,12-14

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons.

Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune. Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own,

he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father,

he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord. My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life. Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 127(128):1-5

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands, you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper.

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house;

your children like shoots of the olive, around your table.

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Indeed, thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.

May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life!

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Second Reading

Colossians 3:12-21

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful. Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

Gospel Acclamation

Col 3:15a,16a

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

After the wise men had left, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, because Herod intends to search for the child and do away with him.' So, Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, left that night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod was dead. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: I called my son out of Egypt. After Herod's death, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you and go back to the land of Israel, for those who wanted to kill the child are dead.' So, Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, went back to the land of Israel. But when he learnt that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as ruler of Judaea he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he left for the region of Galilee. There he settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way the words spoken through the prophets were to be fulfilled: 'He will be called a Nazarene.'

The Catholic Church has many great feasts and celebrations one of those great celebrations is the Feast of the Holy Family. It signifies the special bond shared between Mary and Joseph and their child Jesus. It honours the values of love and unity which culminates in the significance of family life. The message behind this ancient feast provides significant learnings and is profoundly relevant for today as holy families have the potential to transform our world. Today’s feast serves as a reminder that holy families which are modelled upon The Holy Family stands as an exemplar of strength amidst adversity. Their journey was marked by challenges—seeking refuge in Egypt, poverty, uncertainties of life, and their son being murdered... Despite the trials, they modelled faith, resilience, and unconditional love portraying the power of unity and the strength derived from familial support. Just as the Holy Family participated in the salvation of the world our families are the seed bed of thriving societies. They have the power to foster positive change shaping individuals and influencing communities. Within the walls of a home, values are imparted, love is nurtured, and character is moulded. It’s within this sacred space that seeds of compassion, empathy, kindness, and faith are sown, which ultimately has a ripple effect. The living testimony of the Holy Family highlights the importance of unity, understanding, and mutual respect—a blueprint for modern families. In a time where division and disharmony seem common, the Holy Family leaves us with the message of fostering unity and support within our families. Moreover, families serve as beacons of hope for others. Through families’ collective efforts, they can initiate change, whether by advocating for social justice, extending a helping hand to the marginalized, fostering inclusivity within communities and parishes, or inviting someone over for a meal. Small acts within families have the power to create a ripple effect that sparks a positive change far beyond their immediate circles of influence. Furthermore, as alluded to earlier, the Feast of the Holy Family invites us to reflect on the roles we play within our own families. It urges us to prioritize moments of togetherness, fostering open communication, offering support, and teaching faith and love of God. In doing so, families not only fortify internal bonds but external bonds as well as they contribute to the betterment of the world. As we commemorate this feast, let us acknowledge the immense potential families hold. Let us strive to imitate and embody the virtues of love, unity, and resilience that are on display by the Holy Family. Each family has the power to incite positive change influencing the world through their actions which is ultimately carrying on the mission of The Holy Family. In conclusion, the Feast of the Holy Family is not just an ancient celebration but a call to modern day mission. It is a reminder of the transformative power rooted deep within families. As we celebrate this feast, let us reaffirm our commitment to nurturing strong, loving, and compassionate families, recognizing their potential to be agents of change in our world. May the spirit of love, unity, resilience, and faith which are depicted by the Holy Family inspire and guide our families everywhere to shape a world that mirrors these virtues. Fr. Isaac Falzon.

Wish you all Blessed Christmas and Prosperous New Year 2026
Parish office will be closed from 23rd December to 2nd January 2026

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Nate Doolan, Tony May Richards , Agnes Lilies, and Geoffrey Wilson, ,
Tammy Metz, Louise Allan

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES
OCCUR AT THIS TIME**

John Clough, Gwenda freeman
Edward and Shayne Aldridge, Gregory Jones
Dorrie Clough, Jim Hallam, Lionel Smith , Adam William shephered

WE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED

Anna Dietrich, Robert Moore, Shirley Gabriel, Sr. Monica
Hogan. Norma Merry, Dianne Wills, Micheal Patrick
Birmingham, Moya Summerville.

****Mass Intention envelopes are located at the back of the Church****

TUE 30th Dec	9:30 Mass Macksville
WED 31st Dec	No Mass
THU 1 st Jan	9:30 Mass at Macksville
FRI 2 nd Jan	Adoration at 9am Mass at 9:30 Nambucca
SAT 3 rd Jan	4:30 Pm Reconciliation 5pm , Nambucca
SUN 4th Jan	8 am Mass, Macksville 9:30 am Mass Bowraville