The Partnered Parishes of St Brendan's and Holy Rosary Administration: 103 Wellington Street Flemington 3031

Administration: 103 Wellington Street, Flemington 3031 Phone: 03 9412 8495 Mobile: 0451 237 577 E: flemken@cam.org.au Web: flemkencatholic.com

Office hours: Tuesday - Friday 9.30am-3pm

After Hours: You can Leave a message on mobile, will be returned next business day.

PARISH BULLETIN 24th December 2023

PARISHES PASTORAL TEAM

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS Tel: 0451 237 577

Parish Priest: Fr. Thang Vu Parishes Secretary: Liz Fair (Tue Thurs Fri)

Parishes Assistant: Mary Nguyen (Thurs Friday) Pastoral Carer: Sr. Pat Dimeck (Tuesday & Wednesday)

PARISH WEEKLY CALANDER

Sunday 24th December **FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT**

Monday 25th December The NATIVITY of the LORD (Christmas)

Tuesday 26th December

St Stephen, the first martyr Mass of the Feast, Gloria

Wednesday 27th December St John, apostle, evangelist

Mass of the Feast, Gloria

Thursday 28th December

The Holy Innocents, martyr Mass of the Feast, Gloria

Friday 29th December

5th day in the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Mass of the day, Gloria

Saturday 30th December

6th day in the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Mass of the day, Gloria

Sunday 31st December

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Mass of the Feast, Gloria, creed

SAT 30th Dec - No Mass at Holy

Supporting the Community 'Canteen of Welcome'

Closed 23rd Dec & all of January

We will see you back when we **REOPEN** on 3rd February 2024

Saturdays - From 8am-10am

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

22 Gower Street, Kensington Vic 3031 Saturday: 5.30pm - see time table

Mass 2024 Jan 6th & 20th

Sunday: 9am

Wednesday & Friday 9:15am

School: 03 9376 9455 (Christine Shaw) https://www.hrkensington.catholic.edu.au/

ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH

103 Wellington St, Flemington 3031 Saturday: **5.30pm** - see time table Mass Dec 30th / 2024 Jan 13th & 27th

Sunday: 10.30am

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9.30am - 3pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 9:15am

School: 03 9376 0249 (Kellie Noonan) https:/www.sbflemington.catholic.edu.au/

*** Please note - New Sat Evening Mass Times from Nov 23 *** Mass will alternate between 2 churches each Sat at the same time 5.30pm

Christmas Masses

Reconciliation Saturday 23rd St Brendan's 10am - 11am

Sunday 24th Dec Christmas Eve -Holy Rosary

— 6.00pm Carols

6.30pm Mass

Sunday 24th Dec Christmas Eve -St Brendan's

6.30pm Mass

— 9.30pm Carols **10.00pm** Mass

- 6.00pm Carols - 9am Mass

Monday 25th Dec Monday 25th Dec Christmas Day -Christmas Day -St Brendan's Holy Rosary

- 10.30am Mass

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Recent Deaths: Brother Christian James Moe FSC RIP Anniversaries: Anna Maria Nguyen, Stephen Fair

For the Sick: Ivy & Jim Fair and for those who care for the sick



Important Notice - Roster Volunteer Roster

There is no Volunteer Roster during January for January READERS please volunteer before Mass on the day For February we will send out the roster via email

Ten Ton News

\$4,000 was raised for Holy Rosary this year. A heartfelt thank you to all who were involved in 2023. As we thank Maureen Tracey for the years of service we welcome Sharon O'Neill who will help organize TEN TON in 2024.

The Big Draw was last Sunday and the winner were -

1st Prize of \$1,000 Fr. Thang 2nd prize \$350 Michael L & 3rd prize \$150 Frances Haber

Congratulations!!!!

TEN TON costs \$5 per week or \$100 for 20 weeks followed by a Big Draw. If you wish to withdraw from TEN TON please contact the Parish Office Secretary and if you wish to join TEN TON for 2024 please leave your details with the Parish Office.

Next MORNING TEA at Holy Rosary Now - 4th Sunday of every month Sunday 25th February 25

Next MORNING TEA at St Brendan's Sunday 18th February 24 After 9.00am SUNDAY MASS

Christmas Message 2023 from Fr Thang:

Dear friends,

As I prepared 2023 Christmas reflection for the Staff at St Aloysius a few weeks ago. With what has been happening in the Holy Land and Ukraine, **Leunig's Away in the Manger** can give us some pointers for thoughts and reflection.



Back to Flemken, I would like to thanks the parish staff, Sr Pat Dimeck, all volunteers in varied ministries at St. Brendan's and Holy Rosary. Thanks for your commitment and dedication, and to your families for their support.

My prayer is that 2024 we, together, will begin a journey of discernment for the future of St Brendan's and Holy Rosary – Parishes in Partnership.

For all that has been in our parishes, we say 'thanks,'

For those who have gone ahead of us, for their faith and their care, and the spirit they have left with us.

For all that will be in Flemington and Kensington, we courageously say 'yes,' For the possibilities that will present themselves, for the potential that will reveal itself.

I wish each of you, those you love and those who visit our parishes the joy and peace of this Christmas.

Saturday Night Mass 5.30pm		
DAY	DATE	CHURCH
Sat	6/01/2024	Holy Rosary
Sat	13/01/2024	St Brendans
Sat	20/01/2024	Holy Rosary
Sat	27/01/2024	St Brendans
Sat	3/02/2024	Holy Rosary
Sat	10/02/2024	St Brendans
Sat	17/02/2024	Holy Rosary
Sat	24/02/2024	St Brendans
Sat	2/03/2024	Holy Rosary
Sat	9/03/2024	St Brendans
Sat	16/03/2024	Holy Rosary
Sat	23/03/2024	St Brendans
Sat	30/03/2024	Holy Rosary
Sat	6/04/2024	Holy Rosary
Sat	13/04/2024	St Brendans
Sat	20/04/2024	Holy Rosary
Sat	27/04/2024	St Brendans
Sat	4/05/2024	Holy Rosary

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

'Spirit Hovering'

St Luke's account of the Annunciation draws on the Jewish tradition describing creation: 'There was darkness over the deep and *God's Spirit hovered over the water*. God said: "Let there be light", and there was light.' (Genesis 1:2-3) St Luke depicts Mary hearing in the depths of her soul: 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow.'

The Holy Spirit hovers over this young Jewish woman so that the most stupendously creative act in human history can take place. With her consent, God assumes human nature to be gradually enfleshed, embodied, in Mary's womb. A naturally bewildered young woman was able to respond to God's will because she understood the imagery and the symbolism of the Genesis Story. We, in turn, need to read the Gospels in all their Jewishness so that we can understand when God's Holy Spirit hovers over our lives, asking us to fulfil some particular role in the Divine Plan.

We could pause for a moment to ask whether *now* is the time for a Marian response: 'Be it done unto me according to your word.'





May the star of Bethlehem which shone brightly over the first crib stand guard over our homes, our families and our friends filling them and all the earth with light and peace.

We thank you **O Christ**, and we bless you because by your holy birth you give hope to all the world. **Amen**