



# *Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish*

38 Herbert Street Gladstone Qld 4680

*The Nativity of the Lord, 25 December 2021*

## **2021 Christmas Message from** **Bishop Michael McCarthy – Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

I write this message at the beginning of December and the summer rains are with us. It is beautiful driving around and seeing the deep colours of green, the land transformed and knowing that our land folk will have a good season. It is the hope that one from the land holds in one's heart. This is similar to the hope of Christmas, a time of anticipation, hope, love and family.

As we approach each season of the land with both anticipation and some nervousness, we are hopeful that the planned opening of borders will unveil the arrival of loved ones we possibly haven't seen in person for almost two years and family reunions. However, the opening of the borders will also bring COVID into our communities, something from which we have been quite protected from to date.

While we should not become complacent of what is going on around us, the Christmas message provides us with great hope and peace. The Responsorial Psalm for the Christmas Mass during the night proclaims that "Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord." Christ came into the world – a world of hurt, and pain and uncertainty. But also, a world of love and bringing with him the greatest hope and message of peace.

I pray this year that you and your families find that peace and hope in Christ at Christmas time, and know the love of the Father and those dear to us that we can all share. We do face some unknown times. I urge you all to stay safe and do your utmost to be protected.

Most Rev Michael McCarthy  
Bishop of Rockhampton

### **STAR OF THE SEA MEN'S NETWORK**

SOS Parish Men's Network is gathering on Friday January 7<sup>th</sup> at 5pm for our monthly Holy Hour and reflection time. Catch-up afterwards in Parish Centre with shared platters \$10.

Gold coin donation for St Vincent de Paul. Activities for 2022 to be discussed.

Come along and bring a mate. Queries: Josh 0408 443 419

### **A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE**

As we celebrate today the birth of our Saviour – the God who is *with us* – I want to simply offer you my heartfelt prayers for a truly happy and holy Christmas season. It has been another challenging year, and yet time and time again I have seen the true spirit of the gospel being lived among the people of our parish. As this year draws to a close, let us give thanks to God for the blessings of the year, let us offer to him the difficulties we might have experienced, and let us entrust ourselves to him once again for what lies ahead. The birth of Jesus in that poor stable in Bethlehem more than 2000 years ago continues to transform the world and the hearts of God's people. May your hearts be stirred with love for God and for each other as you contemplate that wonderful event which ushered in our salvation.

May God bless you and your family this Christmas and hold you safe as we move into a new year.

Fr Andrew

**Our Lady Star of the Sea**  
**Parish Information January 2022**

**P:** 49721025      **E:** sosgladstone@rok.catholic.net.au      **W:** www.sosgladstone.org.au

**Parish Office hours:** Mon 10:30am—4pm, Tues, Thurs, Friday 9am—4pm, Wed 9am—1:30pm

*(Office will be closed after Christmas and will reopen Thursday 6th January)*

**Weekday Masses: Star of the Sea, Gladstone**

Tuesday 5:30pm

Wednesday & Thursday 7am

Friday 9am

**Sunday Masses**

**Sunday 26 December**

Star of the Sea, Gladstone—8am & 6pm

**Saturday 1 January**

St Peter Chanel, Tannum—6:00pm

**Sunday 2 January**

Star of the Sea, Gladstone—8am & 6pm

Our Lady of Mt Carmel, Mt Larcom—11am

**Saturday 8 January**

St Patrick's Calliope—6:00pm

**Sunday 9 January**

Star of the Sea, Gladstone—8:00am and 6:00pm

*St Peter Chanel, Tannum—8:00am Liturgy of the Word with Communion*

St Peter Chanel, Miriam Vale—11:00am

*St Agnes, Agnes Water—12 noon Liturgy of the Word with Communion*

**Saturday 15 January**

St Peter Chanel, Tannum—6:00pm

**Sunday 16 January**

Star of the Sea, Gladstone—8:00am and 6:00pm

St Mary's, Ubobo—11:00am

*St Agnes, Agnes Water—12 noon Liturgy of the Word with Communion*

**Saturday 22 January**

St Patrick's Calliope—6:00pm

**Sunday 23 January**

Star of the Sea, Gladstone—8:00am and 6:00pm

*St Peter Chanel, Tannum—8:00am Liturgy of the Word with Communion*

St Agnes, Agnes Water—12:00 noon (St. Agnes Feast Day Mass)

**Reconciliation**

Star of the Sea, Gladstone— Each Saturday from 8:30am to 9:20am

Tannum (1st & 15th January) & Calliope (8th and 22nd January) - Saturday 5.15—5.45

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

Star of the Sea Church 8.30am—9.30am each Saturday

**Special Mass for the  
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> January 10am  
Star of the Sea Church