

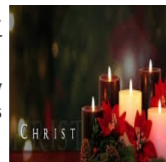


**“Christmas reveals the immense love of God for Humanity”**

*Pope Francis*

This weekend heralds the end of our Advent season and the beginning of the **Christmastide**. This special season begins on Christmas Eve and ends on the Sunday after January 6, the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, January 9 2023.

**Today** we light the fifth candle, the “Christ Candle”. The colour of white stands for purity—because Christ is our sinless, pure Saviour. The Christ candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day reminding Christians of Jesus’ life and a symbol that Jesus is the light of the world.



May the Christ Candle we light, symbolize our desire to bring light into a world of darkness and hope into a world of despair. We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

***Pondering the Birth of Christ - The Nativity of the Lord Christmas Day***

So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. [Luke 2:16-19](#)

***Merry Christmas!***

Our Advent preparations have been completed, and we are now invited by our Lord to enter into the glorious celebration of His birth! How well do you understand the awe-inspiring mystery of Christmas? How fully do you comprehend the significance of God becoming a human, born of a virgin? Though many are quite familiar with the beautiful and humble story of the birth of the Savior of the World, that familiarity can have the surprising negative effect of keeping our intellect from deeply probing the depths of the meaning of what we celebrate. Notice the last line of the Gospel passage quoted above: “And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.” What a beautiful line to ponder this Christmas day. Mother Mary was the one person who would have understood the mystery of the birth of her Son, the Son of God, the Savior of the World, far more deeply than anyone else. It was to her that the Archangel Gabriel appeared, announcing her pregnancy and His birth. It was her who carried her Son, the Son of God, in her Immaculate womb for nine months. It was to her that Elizabeth, her cousin, cried out, “Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb” ([Luke 1:42](#)). It was Mary who was the Immaculate Conception, the one who was preserved from all sin throughout her life. And it was her who gave birth to this Child, carried Him in her arms and nursed Him at her breast. Our Blessed Mother, more than any other, understood the incredible event that had taken place in her life. But, again, the Gospel above says that “Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.” One thing this tells us is that even Mary, the Mother of Jesus and the Mother of God, needed time to ponder, reflect and savor this most holy mystery. She never doubted, but her faith continually deepened, and her heart pondered the unfathomable and incomprehensible mystery of the Incarnation. Another thing this tells us is that there is no end to the depth of the “pondering” to which we must commit ourselves if we want to enter more deeply into the mystery of the birth of the Son of God. Reading the story, setting up a nativity scene, sharing Christmas cards, attending Mass and the like are central to a holy celebration of Christmas. But “pondering” and “reflecting,” especially during prayer and especially at the Christmas Mass, will have the effect of drawing us ever deeper into this Mystery of our Faith. Reflect, today, with our Blessed Mother. Ponder the Incarnation. Place yourself into the scene that first Christmas. Hear the sounds of the town. Smell the smells of the stable. Watch as the shepherds come forth in adoration. And enter the mystery more fully, acknowledging that the more you know about the mystery of Christmas, the more you know how little you actually know and understand. But that humble realization is the first step to a deeper understanding of what we celebrate this day.

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The **December** edition of the Southern Cross will be free this month and is now available to parishioners at the back of the Church / Church Foyer.



***A Christmas Prayer***

*Glory to God in the highest!  
My precious Lord, Jesus,  
I adore You with profound love and rejoice in the celebration of Your birth.  
Your love for us is unfathomable,  
it is glorious, transforming,  
awe-inspiring, and deeply personal.  
You chose to come and dwell among us,  
being born into poverty, rejection and humility.  
Yet Your mother knew whom she bore,  
Her heart was filled with the tenderest love  
as she adored her Child and her God.  
Help me, dear Lord,  
to come to love You with the heart of Your mother.  
Invite me to adore You with St. Joseph  
and the poor shepherds.  
Reveal to me the glorious power of Your birth  
and change my life on account of this  
perfect gift of Yourself.  
I love You, dear Lord Jesus.  
Help me to love You with all my heart.  
Newborn Savior of the World,  
I trust in You.  
Mother Mary and St. Joseph,  
Pray for me and for all.  
Amen.*

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***Quote of the week***

***It's Christmas everytime you let God love others.....through You.  
St Mother Teresa of Calcutta***



**WELCOME TO SACRED HEART PARISH  
HINDMARSH-FINDON**

Website: [www.sacredheartparishhindmarsh.com.au](http://www.sacredheartparishhindmarsh.com.au)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/sacredheartfindonparish](https://www.facebook.com/sacredheartfindonparish)

IN THE CHARISM OF THE HEART OF CHRIST  
**‘May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved’**



**YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR MASS**

◇ Tuesday	27 Dec	<b>No Masses today at Sacred Heart Church, (SHC) Hindmarsh</b>
◇ Wednesday	28 Dec	6:00 pm Mass and Adoration at Our Lady of the Manger Church, (OLM) Findon
◇ Friday	30 Dec	9:15 am Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church, (OLM) Findon
◇ Saturday	31 Dec	<b>6:00 pm New Year's Eve &amp; Feast of the Solemnity of Mary OLM Findon</b>
<b>JANUARY 2023</b>		
◇ Sunday	01 Jan	<b>9:00 am Mass at Sacred Heart Church (SHC) Hindmarsh, Feast of the Solemnity of Mary</b>
◇ Sunday	01 Jan	11am Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church, (OLM) Findon
◇ Sunday	01 Jan	5:00pm Latin Mass at Sacred Heart Church (SHC) Hindmarsh
◇ Tuesday	03 Jan	<b>No Masses today at Sacred Heart Church, (SHC) Hindmarsh</b>
◇ Wednesday	04 Jan	6:00 pm Mass and Adoration at Our Lady of the Manger Church, (OLM) Findon
◇ Friday	06 Jan	9:15 am Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church, (OLM) Findon
◇ Saturday	07 Jan	<b>6:00pm Feast of the Epiphany, Our Lady of the Manger Church, (OLM) Findon</b>
◇ Sunday	08 Jan	<b>9:00 am Mass at Sacred Heart Church (SHC) Hindmarsh, Feast of the Epiphany</b>
◇ Sunday	08 Jan	11am Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church, (OLM) Findon, Feast of the Epiphany
◇ Sunday	08 Jan	5:00pm Latin Mass at Sacred Heart Church (SHC) Hindmarsh, Feast of the Epiphany
◇ Tuesday	10 Jan	12:15 pm Mass at Sacred Heart Church (SHC) Hindmarsh
◇ Wednesday	11 Jan	6:00 pm Mass and Adoration at Our Lady of the Manger Church, (OLM) Findon
◇ Friday	13 Jan	9:15 am Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church, (OLM) Findon

**25 December 2022**



***Nativity of our Lord***

**Year A**  
**Responsorial Psalm (Vigil)**  
***For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord***

**Responsorial Psalm (Night)**  
***Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.***

**Responsorial Psalm (Day)**  
***All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.***

**Gospel Acclamation**  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
***Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.***

**Alleluia!**  
**Today's Readings:**  
**Isaiah 9:1-7**  
**Ps: 95: 1-3, 11-13**  
**Titus 2:11-14**  
**Luke 2:1-14**

**Mass Intentions**

**6.00pm Vigil**  
Rosina Perri  
**9.00am SHC**  
Josephine Catherine Mary O'Flynn  
Doug Ainsworth  
**11:00am OLM**  
Parish

**OUR CHURCHES**

**Sacred Heart Church (SHC)**  
252 Port Road, Hindmarsh  
**Our Lady of the Manger (OLM)**  
176 Crittenden Road, Findon



***A Christmas Message***

May the blessings of the coming of the Christ child cover you and your family in this joyful moment in our lifetime.

It is with a sense of gratitude as I reflect on the year 2022. My deep regard and prayers are with all of you as each one of you are a gift. The smallest conversation, a passing smile, a short note, a generous offering has afforded me with a humble gratitude and appreciation of the love that has been shown to me over the past years here at Hindmarsh-Findon.

Let us reflect on how God has been with us every step of the way. We thank God for his gentle, loving presence – and pray that in the New Year, we will be more alert to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, leading us through Jesus into even deeper union with our loving God. We particularly pray for those who have lost loved ones and for all our parishioners who are dealing with health issues.

May the peace of God descend on us at Christmas and strengthen us to bring the mission of Jesus alive in the hearts of all.

***Have a happy and peaceful Christmas***

**Fr Lancy D'Silva CSC**

**On behalf of Fr Santhosh Nazareth CSC, Mary Hemmings, Kath, Anne-Marie, and the Parish team.**

**PARISH OFFICE | PHONE 08 846 901**

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday | 10:00am–2:00pm  
**Please Note:** If the office is unattended, please leave a message and we will return your call ASAP  
29 Grange Rd., West Hindmarsh | Mailing address: PO Box 34, Welland 5007  
Email: [shparish@shphf.com.au](mailto:shparish@shphf.com.au)  
Parish Priest - Father Lancy D'Silva CSC  
Assistant Priest - Father Santhosh Nazareth CSC



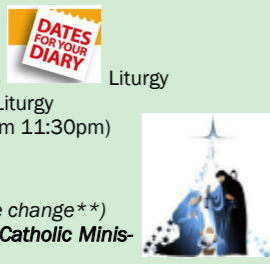
**December 2022**

**24 Dec Christmas Eve**  
 6pm Mass at OLM Children's Liturgy  
 7:15pm Mass at SHC Children's Liturgy  
 Midnight Mass at SHC (Carols from 11:30pm)

**25 Dec Christmas Day**  
 9am Mass at SHC (English)  
 10am Mass at OLM (\*\*Note time change\*\*)  
**Christmas Collection—Aboriginal Catholic Ministry / Vinnies**

26 Dec St Steven, First Martyr  
 27 Dec St John, Apostle and Evangelist  
 28 Dec Holy Innocents, Martyrs  
 30 Dec Feast of the Holy Family Mass at 9:15am OLM Findon

**31 Dec Feast of the Solemnity of Mary**  
 Mass at 6pm OLM Findon New Year's Eve



**January 2023**

**01 Jan Feast of the Solemnity of Mary**  
 9am Mass at SHC Hindmarsh  
 11am Mass at OLM Findon

**07 Jan Feast of the Epiphany**  
 6pm Mass at OLM Findon (Vigil)  
 9am Mass at SHC Hindmarsh  
 11 am Mass at OLM Findon

**09 Jan Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**  
 Tuesday in the 1st Week of Ordinary Time

10 Jan St Hilary, bishop and Doctor of the Church  
 13 Jan St Anthony, abbot  
 17 Jan St Fabian, pope and martyr, St Sebastian martyr  
 21 Jan St Agnes, virgin and martyr  
 23 Jan St Timothy and St Titus, bishops  
 24 Jan St Francis de Sales, bishop and doctor of the Church  
 26 Jan Australia Day

**February 2023**

02—04 Feb St Eufemia Tridium of Masses at 7pm SHC Hindmarsh  
**05 Feb St Eufemia Festa** 10:30am Flinders Park Football Club

**From the Archdiocese**

**Mary MacKillop Museum Gift Shop** Special Christmas gift stall during December. Handcrafted cards for Christmas, birthdays, anniversaries, bereavements, sacraments (Baptism, Confirmation, First Reconciliation, Communion and Marriage) Most of the above items are also available online: [www.marymackillopdeladeide.org.au](http://www.marymackillopdeladeide.org.au). Click and collect available.

**Adelaide Diocesan Centre - Closure Over Christmas/New Year Period** The Diocesan Centre will be closed from 5pm on Tuesday December 20, 2022 and will recommence normal business hours on Tuesday January 3, 2023. Town Hall. Bookings at aso.com.au

**Damascus Spiritual Leaders Program** Part-time in Feb-Nov 2023 - either in person or online - through Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Designed for people in various positions of leadership, spiritual formation and parish or outreach ministries. It will equip individuals to lead with integrity, vulnerability and resilience, and will focus on the inner spiritual journey in order to create fully-formed leaders who listen, learn and accompany others with strength and sensitivity. 'Damascus' can be studied as a Graduate Certificate in Divinity through the University of Divinity (Yarra Theological Union/Catholic Theological College), or as an audit student to receive a Certificate in Spiritual Leadership from Heart of Life. Attendance on Monday mornings and some Saturdays. Read more about the program on the [Heart of Life website](http://Heart of Life website) or contact us on (03) 9890 1101. Applications close on 6/1/23.

**The Southern Cross - No January Edition** As usual, there will be no edition of *The Southern Cross* published in January. Our first issue for 2023 will be available in parishes on the weekend of February 4/5 and online from February 6.

**Synodality and Mission: Sr Nathalie Becquart in Adelaide**  
**February 1, 2023, Grange Golf Course 5:30pm (dinner) 6:30-8:30pm** Program  
 Sr Nathalie Becquart is the Undersecretary for the General Synod in the Vatican which is responsible for the organisation of the 2023-24 Global Synod on Synodality. Sr Nathalie will be in Adelaide on Feb 1, 2023, as part of a visit to Australia. All are invited to the Sr Nathalie's presentation on synodality and mission: Grange Golf Course. RSVP & register [www.trybooking.com/CEUOA](http://www.trybooking.com/CEUOA) by January 27, 2023. [www.adelaidediocesanassembly.org](http://www.adelaidediocesanassembly.org)

**A child's smile. A mother's joy. Yours to give this Christmas.** Christmas is a time of miracles - of hope and renewal. Throughout rural Vietnam, children and families living with disabilities, like Mrs Lan and her children Quan and Loah, are less likely to be employed, and children are less likely to go to school. Mrs Lan's dreams for her children are simple. She wants them to "live like every other child, going to school, playing, having a happy life, and growing and learning like other children". Through the generosity of our supporters, Quan and Loah joined a community-based classroom and learned to socialise with other children and found confidence in themselves. This Christmas, you can help create opportunities for children and adults with disabilities and to enable more families like Mrs Lan's to access resources to improve their income and living status.  
**Please join Caritas Australia's wonderful community of generous supporters this Christmas in giving loving parents of children with disabilities the incredible gift of seeing their children smile.** Visit [www.caritas.org.au/christmas](http://www.caritas.org.au/christmas) this Christmas or call 1800 024 413 toll free.

**Parish Fundraising Committee**  
 Do you have 2 hours to spare once a month? The Parish community is putting together a Fundraising committee to help plan functions to raise funds towards our building project. If you are keen to support this project please contact Sandra Bahlij 0402894613 with your email address or sms. Thank you to those who have volunteered already, and we would always love more!

**Can you Help with Carparking during Soccer Matches ?**  
 Soccer matches at Coopers Stadium are opportunities for the parish to raise funds by allowing visitors to park in the parish carpark at Sacred Heart Church. If you can spare **an hour before** matches begin by helping to usher cars into the carpark and collecting money, that would be very much appreciated. **No need to stay for the whole match!** The next double header will be on: 27th Dec Adelaide United vs Wellington Phoenix and Adelaide United vs Newcastle Jets. Please contact Sandra Bahlij if you are able to assist 0402894613. Thank you!

**Thank you!**  
 Thank you to all our parishioners from Sacred Heart Parish Hindmarsh and Findon for your love and support in assisting Vinnies for 2022.

A special thanks to our 5 local schools Our Lady of La Vang, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Nazareth junior, St. Michaels junior and St. Josephs for all your donations of food, clothing and other help. We could not have done it without the goods being sorted out by Annette, Gabby and Aly. Thanks Shirley for looking after the Christmas cake raffle as well as visiting the needy in their home. Thankyou to the team that delivered the hampers on Saturday which was supervised by Rose. Each basket was full of food and other goodies and there was also a homemade cake for each hamper made by Mary Palazzo. Thankyou to James and Austin for sorting the mountain of toys that went out with each hamper. A big thankyou also to Maureen who is so efficient with sending out the minutes of our meetings before I get home as well as going to the Vinnies Warehouse to collect toys.

Thank you to Ronnie who has devoted 35 years of service to Vinnies in various roles. She has taught me a lot during these years and has now decided to retire from this Ministry. You have left a wonderful legacy behind you .  
 If I have omitted anyone who has worked behind the scenes, please forgive me! We could not have done it without the 'A' team Brandon, Ryan, Jai, David and Rueben who sorted food in the shed and lifted so much food you are such great kids, congratulations of your results from year 12.

God bless you all & stay safe, Sandra.

**Christmas Day Our Lady of the Manger Findon!**  
**Please Note Mass time.** Parishioners are reminded that Mass on Christmas Day at Our Lady of the Manger Findon will be at the earlier time of **10.00am** (not at the regular time of 11am).

**Christmas Collection:** The Otherway Centre is the home of the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry (ACM) and the cultural hub of Centacare. Money raised from the Christmas Day Appeal helps fund activities that bring the community together and provide vital healing and yarning opportunities to strengthen cultural and spiritual connections. **Funds from this collection will also help support the valuable and much needed work of Vinnies.** Catholic Mission, on behalf of our missionaries around the world, would like to thank you for your support this year. Your generosity has made a difference in the lives of many by giving them tangible support, but more importantly by giving them hope.

**New Year's Day** Parishioners are asked to note that there will be two Masses in the parish on New Year's Day, Sunday 1st January 2023. This will be at Sacred Heart Church Hindmarsh commencing at 9:00am and at Our Lady of the Manger Findon at 11:00am.

**Mass & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**  
 Please note that there will be **no 6:30pm Mass and Adoration** at SHC Hindmarsh, during the month of **January**. There will also be **no Tuesday Masses** the week of Christmas and New Year, 27th Dec & 3rd Jan

If you would like to make a Christmas Offering, please note that envelopes are now available in the foyer / back of the church. Thank you!

**St Eufemia Society Festa**  
 The St Eufemia Tridium of Masses will begin on the 2nd of February 2023. Masses will run each evening, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Feb from 7pm at SHC Hindmarsh. The St Eufemia Festa will be held on February 5th 2023 at Flinders Park Football Club, Hartley Road, beginning with a Procession from 10:30am and concluding at 9pm. **All are welcome!**

*I've So much to be THANKFUL for*

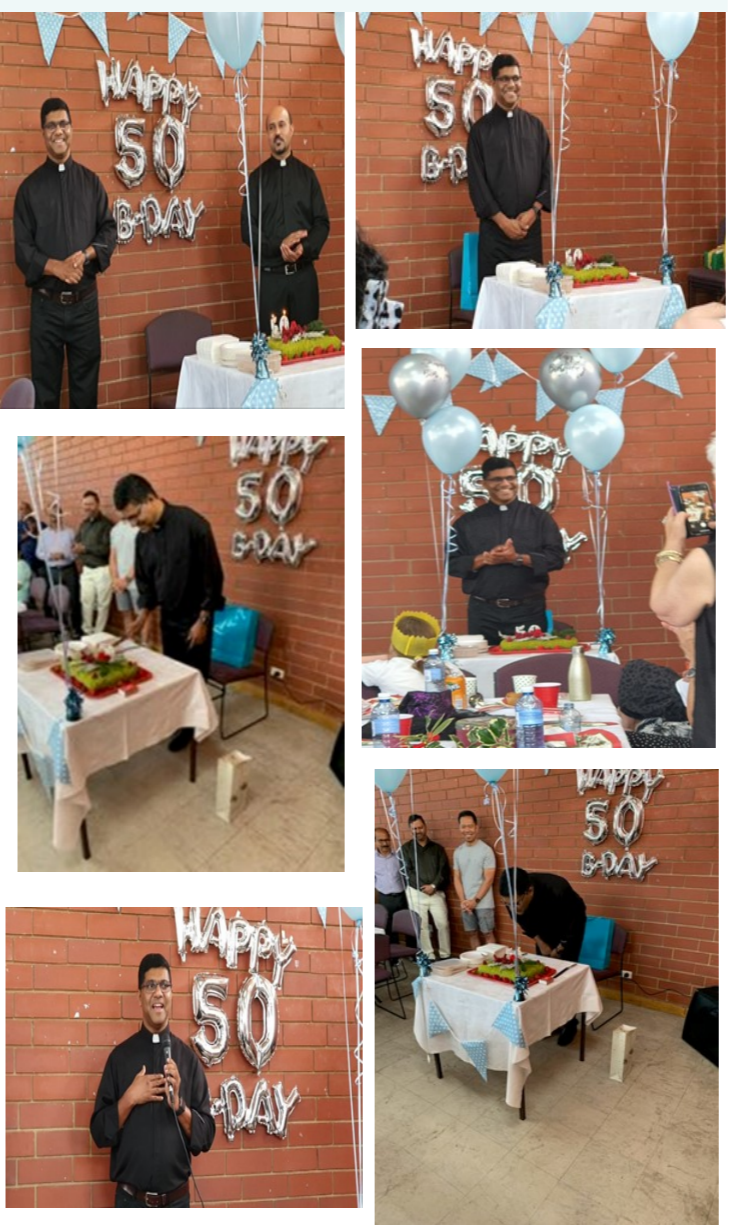
My 50th birthday and 20<sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary was amazing, not just because of the milestones I reached, but because you made it special by helping arrange the party with great food, entertainment and ensuring that all were involved and present.

How could I ever feel sad about getting old when I know that I have such wonderful community of Hindmarsh-Findon and friends around me? Thank you for always making me feel special and for showering me with kind words and generous gifts at my special party!

**I am so appreciative of you all.** The birthday wishes prayers from my community of Hindmarsh-Findon makes me feel so much gratitude. You all made my big day so special. You brought me so much joy on my special day. I'm overwhelmed with love and gratitude for all that you are, and I am so blessed to have you all.

As I prayerfully celebrate my ordination anniversary, my heart is filled with gratitude for the many people who have graced my life through priestly ministry. The Lord has been so good, and through His grace and blessings, He has guided me to where I am today.

*With love and prayers,*  
**Father Lancy D'Silva CSC**



**Congratulations to Bill McKeough** who is the very lucky winner of the Christmas Cake Raffle. A big thank you to Mary Palazzo for making the beautiful Christmas Cake again this year!



**Sacred Heart Parish Hindmarsh-Findon**

Sacred Heart Church 252 Port Road, Hindmarsh  
 Our Lady of the Manger 176 Crittenden Road, Findon

**Christmas Celebrations 2022**

**Christmas Eve**

Saturday	24 December	6.00pm	OLM Findon (Children's Liturgy)**
		7.15pm	SHC Hindmarsh (Children's Liturgy)**
		Midnight	SHC Hindmarsh (Carols at 11.30pm followed by Mass)

\*\*Families attending the children's Christmas Liturgies are encouraged to dress their children in costumes appropriate to the season e.g. Angels, shepherds, wise men/women etc.

**Christmas Day**

Sunday	25 December	9.00am	SHC Hindmarsh (English)
		10.00am	OLM Findon - Note time change
Friday	30 December	9.15am	OLM Findon - Feast of Holy Family

**New Year's Day Mass - Feast of the Solemnity of Mary**

Saturday	31 December	6.00pm	OLM - Findon (Vigil Mass - New Year's Eve)
Sunday	1 January	9.00am	SHC - Hindmarsh
		11.00am	OLM - Findon

**Feast of the Epiphany**

Saturday	7 January	6.00pm	OLM - Findon (Vigil Mass)
Sunday	8 January	9.00am	SHC - Hindmarsh
		11.00am	OLM - Findon

\*\*The Parish Office will close on Friday 23rd December 2022 and re-open on Tuesday 3 January 2023

The Parish Office Team wish you and your loved ones a

Happy and Holy Blessings for



Christmas and the New Year.