



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF IVANHOE

*St Bernadette's Church, 89 Bond St, Ivanhoe West
Mary Immaculate Church, 4 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe
Mother of God Church, 56 Wilfred Rd, Ivanhoe East*

Parish Priest:	Fr. Thang Vu	63 Wilfred Rd, Ivanhoe East	9499 5440
Priest in Residence:	Fr. Thanh Tran	Parish Secretary: Mrs Ruth Villani	
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Parish Website:	www.ivanhoecatholics.com	Email: catholicparishofivanhoe@bigpond.com	

Masses:

Weekend: Saturday: 6.30pm St Bernadette's **Sunday:** 9am Mary Immaculate; 10.30am Mother of God
Weekday: 9.15am **Tuesday:** Mother of God **Wednesday:** Mary Immaculate **Friday:** St Bernadette's

No. 52

28 – 29 December 2013

THE HOLY FAMILY: YEAR A

THE WORD

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

- V. 1. 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.**
- V. 2. Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house;
Your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. **R.**
- V. 3. 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.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you. Alleluia!

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: Loving God: Hear our prayer

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY:

We remember all in need of prayer at this time including Merle Howe, Nora Brown, Nancy Gibb, Nita Meagher, Raffaella Danza, Sheila Ryan and Mary Bezzina. We remember all who provide care and support for those in need.

We remember Sheila Mullane who died recently. We also remember Patrick Jordan whose anniversary occurs at this time.

MASSES for the NEW YEAR 2014

New Year's Day	Wednesday 1st January 2014:
	9.15am Mary Immaculate (normal Mass time)
	11.00am St Bernadette's – Korean
	7.30pm Mother of God

PLEASE NOTE:

- **No 9.15am Mass** St Bernadette's Church, Friday 3 January since there will be a Funeral Mass at 10.30am
- **First Friday Devotions** will resume in February 2014



New Year Greetings from the Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe:

We wish all parishioners, friends and visitors a very happy New Year.

- Fr Thang, Fr Thanh, Leadership Teams & Parish Office Staff

INCLUSIVENESS

HOSPITALITY

SERVICE

MISSION

Reflection: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - Year A

For some years now family therapists have used an exercise called 'the genogram' to help families understand their internal dynamics.

Each spouse sits down and writes out their family tree. Usually it stretches back at least three generations. Next to each name they write a letter indicating any 'careers' this relative may have picked up in his or her lifetime. It is not just the person's occupation that interests a family therapist, though it's interesting to see the way doctors, farmers, musicians and civil servants pop up in some families.

A career in the genogram has more to do with personal or social dispositions like using alcohol, drugs, work and gambling in a destructive way; like having a propensity to violence or holding a criminal record; like 'having to get married' or whether one's relatives are hetero or homosexual. When people start to dig, they find all sorts of family secrets, especially in older generations. Most families have an 'Aunty Lizzie' who, sixty years on, is still spoken of in hushed tones. They eventually discover she had an abortion. Then sometimes there is an Uncle James 'who never married'.

What family therapists notice is that certain careers are passed down the generations. This exercise can be very helpful when families are struggling to understand why a child is an early victim of alcoholism, gambling addiction, or given to violence. While behaviour can be thought to 'come out of nowhere', this exercise shows that, whether by nature or nurture, destructive behaviour has been on one or both sides of a family system for generations.

The point of the genogram is that knowing our pedigree for good or for ill enables us to build on our strengths while breaking the cycle of our families' negative careers.

Today's feast tells that Jesus, Mary and Joseph had a career in holiness. I suspect there are not many of us would write Saviour or Saints on the people in our family trees! But there is every reason to believe that holiness is handed down from one generation to the next.

The problem with holiness is that we often equate it with perfection. To be a holy person does not mean one is perfect. Perfection rests only in God. Jesus enjoyed perfection in his humanity, but we must allow Mary and Joseph to be less than perfect, else we make them truly divine as well. As a family, they were not perfect, they were holy. They struggled together to understand the best way they could bring God's reign to bear in our world.

Their destinies were vastly different, but intimately connected. They needed each other.

And so to us. If we allow the Holy Family to be too removed from our experience, they have little to say to the fights, misunderstandings and problems that can sometimes characterise our families. If on the other hand we concede that Jesus, Mary and Joseph, as a family, were not perfect, they can be a model of the very thing we want in our own homes: love, justice, fidelity and kindness that reveal a life of holiness. They can show us a mutual respect that allows each family member to find his or her own path to revealing God's creative and saving love for our world. And they can provide us with the assurance of knowing that as a result of their holiness we have all been welcomed into the family of God.

When any of us do the genogram we can rightly and proudly put Jesus, Mary and Joseph at the top of our tree and mark them as Saviour and first among the Saints.

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ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND: 4 – 5 January 2014

ST. BERNADETTE'S:

Saturday 6.30pm

Lector

J. Murphy

Special Ministers

A. Pellizzari, T. Nibali

MARY IMMACULATE: Leader

Sunday 9.00am

As available

Reader

As available

Mass Coordinators

S. & P. Kelly

Counters

H. & P. Nguyen

MOTHER OF GOD:

Sunday 10.30am

Sacristan

As available

Lector

As available

Special Ministers

As available

Altar Society:

As available

Choir Coordinator: School Holidays

First Collection – Thanksgiving:	Envelopes: \$1,901.00	Loose cash: \$563.35	Total:	\$2,464.35
Second Collection – Presbytery:				\$1,025.55