



First Reading

Is 7:10- 14

The maiden is with child

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23: 1- 6

R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

The Lord’s is the earth and its fullness,  
the world and all its peoples.  
It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the waters he made it firm. **R.**

He shall receive blessings from the Lord  
and reward from the God who saves him.  
Such are the men who seek him,  
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?  
Who shall stand in his holy place?  
The man with clean hands and pure heart,  
who desires not worthless things. **R.**

Second Reading

Rom 1:1-7

Our apostolic mission is to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! A virgin will give birth to a son; His name will be Emmanuel: God is with us. **Alleluia!**

Gospel

Mt 1:18-24

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph; being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, ‘Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.’ Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means ‘God-is-with-us.’ When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Memorial Acclamation

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death. O Lord, until you come again.

<b>NEW, RELOCATING or LEAVING THE PARISH?</b> New Parishioners – please register @ <a href="https://stthomasap.org.au/new-parishioner-registration/">https://stthomasap.org.au/new-parishioner-registration/</a> Relocating or Leaving Parishioners – please inform the parish office
<b>SAFEGUARDING – Please always supervise your children in the church and in the toilets.</b> Our parish is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all people with special concern for children, young people and adults at risk. Our Safeguarding Officer, Ann Rode, can be contacted via email: <a href="mailto:clydenorth.safety@cdsale.org.au">clydenorth.safety@cdsale.org.au</a> or call 5998 0947
<b>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT SERVICES:</b> In immediate danger CALL 000   Orange Door: 1800 319 354 (Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm)   Safesteps: 1800 015 188 or <a href="https://safesteps.org.au">safesteps.org.au</a> – any time   1800RESPECT: 1800 737 732 or <a href="https://1800respect.org.au">1800respect.org.au</a> - any time   MensLine: 1300 78 99 78 or <a href="https://mensline.org.au">mensline.org.au</a> – any time   Djirra: (Aboriginal Support Service): 1800 105 302 (Monday to Friday, 9am – 10pm) For more information head to <a href="https://safeandequal.org.au/">https://safeandequal.org.au/</a>
<b>CARPARK</b> – do note that <b>the entrance to the church carpark is the entrance farther from the church at Gate 2. Gate 1 is for exit only. Please observe ALL carpark signage and arrows especially the Keep Clear area for emergency vehicles.</b>
<b>BULLETIN ADVERTISEMENT to be submitted by Wednesday 1:00pm.</b>

<b>NOTICES</b>	
<b>MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST</b> - Dear Parishioners, As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, the Parish staff, Fr Jithin, Deacon Michael, and I wish you a Christmas filled with the profound tenderness and joy that only the Christ Child can bring. This year has held moments of deep sadness and shadow, particularly the sudden death of Sr Julie Ogbole SON early in the year, and the tragic loss of life at Bondi last Sunday. In the face of such losses and darkness, the Christmas light reminds us that God is intimately with us in our grief, offering a peace the world cannot give. This Sunday we celebrate in our parish, with Bishop Greg Bennet and visiting parishioners and priests from across the Sale Diocese, the conclusion of the <b>Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope</b> . This global celebration has renewed our faith and reminded us that we are a people of Joyful Hope, journeying toward a future held securely in God’s hands. On a personal note, this Christmas is bittersweet as I prepare to conclude my time with this wonderful community. In mid-January, I will be moving to my new appointment at Wonthaggi. I am deeply grateful for the years we have shared and for the kindness you have shown me. May the Holy Family bless your homes this season. Fr. Denis, Fr Jithin, Deacon Michael, and the Parish Staff, Christine, Fiona, Ann, Manni, and Alejandra.	
<b>CLERGY APPOINTMENTS –</b> Following the arrival of the new priests Bishop Greg has made the following <b>Assistant Priests Appointments Effective 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026.</b> St. Patrick’s Parish, Pakenham Fr. V Edward IVDei AP St. Mary’s Cathedral Parish, Sale Fr. Joy Muthappan IVDei AP	
<b>CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES</b> Wednesday 24th Dec: 6pm, 9pm & 12 midnight Thursday 25th Dec: 9am & 10.45am	<b>NEW YEAR MASS TIMES</b> Wednesday 31st Dec: 7pm Adoration followed by 8pm Mass Thursday 1st Jan: 10am

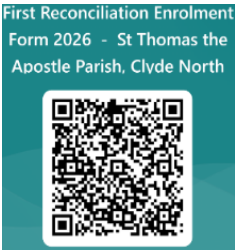
**BISHOP GREG MESSAGE** – Bishop Greg has issued a message regarding the shooting at Bondi. The copy of the message is available in the notice board.

**CONCLUDING JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS – PILGRIMS OF HOPE** - A Jubilee is an extraordinary moment of grace in the life of the Church - one that comes only once every 25 years. It is a sacred time of renewal, mercy and deep spiritual blessing. St Thomas the Apostle parish is honoured to invite all parishes across the diocese to gather as 'pilgrims of hope' to share in the concluding celebration. **Date: Sunday 21 December.** The celebration will begin with a Pilgrimage Walk at 4.00pm, departing from St Peter’s College and journeying to **St Thomas the Apostle, Clyde North**. This walk is a meaningful expression of our shared journey of faith, gratitude and hope throughout this year. The Jubilee Mass, celebrated by Bishop Greg, will follow at 5.00pm, after which we will gather for fellowship and refreshments. Be part of this rare and grace-filled celebration as we conclude the Jubilee Year together. Limited number of pilgrims passports available on the day. For more information, please contact the parish office on 59980947.

**OFFICE CLOSURE DATES** - The Parish Office will be closed for the Christmas and New Year period from 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025 and reopen on 6th Jan 2026. For last rite & funeral arrangements **ONLY** please call 5999 0059. For Mass Intention please send an email or drop your envelope (with your contact email or mobile number) in the Parish Office Box in the foyer.

**RCIA 2025-2026** - During this time of Advent, our catechumens and candidates continue their spiritual journey towards Christmas. May this Christmas be a special celebration of encountering Jesus with joy, humility and faithfulness. Our last session for the Christmas break will be on Wednesday 17 December 2025 and as a parish community may we share the hope and joy with them through our continued prayers and support. Merry Christmas to all!

**FIRST RECONCILIATION 2026 REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN** – Sacrament of Reconciliation enrolment 2026 NOW OPEN. please scan the QR Code to register. Enrolments CLOSE on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026.



**DIVINE AUSTRALIA RETREAT** – Fr. Antony Parankimalil will be at our parish for Healing Mass on the 7<sup>th</sup> of Jan 2026 @ 6.30 pm.

**ST VINCENT de PAUL CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL** - Our Conference will again be distributing Christmas presents to those most in need within the Cranbourne/Clyde area. We ask for your generous donation of toys for children 0-14 years of age. Please bring the toys unwrapped and they can be placed inside the double wheelie bin (near the kitchen area). It will be marked as "SVDP Christmas Toy Appeal". **This is the last weekend for your donations.**

**We kindly ask that you keep the house of God clean. NO Food & Drinks in the Church and check that you have not left any belongings behind before leaving Church.**