

He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. John appears as his witness, He proclaims: 'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.' Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

**Communion Antiphon** **Cf Psalm 97:3**  
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**Big Fisherman**  
A very upset priest walked into the fish market. "I want you to throw me four big fish," he said to the clerk. "Just toss 'em to me."  
"But why toss them to you?" the fishmonger asked. "Can't I just wrap them and give them to you like everyone else?"  
"No sir!" yelled the preacher. "Do just as I say. So if anyone asks me if I caught any fish today, I can truthfully say, 'Sure did. Caught four big ones!'"  
*World's Greatest Collection of Church Jokes, compiled by Paul Miller*



**Prayer for the Year of Hope Jubilee 2025**  
*(Year of Jubilee of Hope officially ends on 28 December at 7pm)*

*Father in Heaven, may the **Faith** you have given us in Your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of **Charity** enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of Your kingdom.*

*May Your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within, both humanity and the whole cosmos, in the sure expectation of a new Heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, Your glory will shine eternally.*

*May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, **Pilgrims of Hope**, a yearning for the treasures of Heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To You our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen*



**Prayer for Ukraine**  
*O Lord our God, look down with mercy on the Ukrainian people. Protect and save them from the unjust aggressors who seek to subdue them. Grant them steadfast trust in your mercy and protection. O Mother of God, who gave them your miraculous icon at Zarvanytsia, intercede for the Ukrainian people, who run to the shelter of your mercy in their times of need. O Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on them. Give them strength and courage to defend what is good, right and holy. Keep them safe from harm and provide for all their needs, both temporal and spiritual. Amen*

**Catholic Parish of Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Enmore**  
Archdiocese of Sydney  
*Serving the suburbs of Enmore, St Peters, Sydenham & Tempe*

**The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) Day** **25 December 2025**

**Entrance Antiphon** **Cf Isaiah 9:5**  
A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

**First Reading** **Isaiah 52:7-10**  
A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
*All the ends of the earth shall see the saving power of our God.*  
How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!' Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion. Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem. The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

**Responsorial Psalm** **Ps 97:1-6. R. v.3**  
**R/** All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.  
1.Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **R/**  
2.The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **R/**  
3.All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. **R/**  
4.Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music. With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. **R/**

**Second Reading** **Hebrews 1:1-6**  
A reading from the letter to the Hebrews  
*In our own time, God speaks to us through his Son.*  
At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the



angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name.  
God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father, or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

**Gospel Acclamation**  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel** **John 1:1-18**  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
*The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory.*  
In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower. A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world.





Parish Administrator—Reverend Father Christopher Higgins  
(available Tuesday to Sunday)  
Parish Permanent Deacon – Reverend Mister Alfredo Bouroncle  
Parish Secretary—Bernadette Hickey  
(Office hours—Tuesday 8-3pm & Thursday 8-5pm)



**Our Parish respectfully acknowledges the Gadigal people of Eora nation  
as traditional caretakers of the land.**

Parish Office Address—209A Edgeware Rd, Enmore 2042  
Parish Church Address—St Pius V Church, 256 Edgeware Rd, Enmore 2042  
Postal Address—PO Box 3266, Marrickville Metro 2204  
Telephone: 9557 1815 | Email: [admin@enmoreparish.org.au](mailto:admin@enmoreparish.org.au)  
Parish website: [www.enmoreparish.org.au](http://www.enmoreparish.org.au)

**St Pius V Catholic Primary School, Enmore**

209 Edgeware Rd Enmore 2042  
Principal: Mrs Caroline Boulis  
Telephone: 9557 4027 | Email: [info@stpenmore.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stpenmore.catholic.edu.au)

**MASSES AND SACRAMENTS**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Masses</b>   | Thursday 1 January—9:15am + see notices<br>Saturday—5:00pm – (6:30pm – Portuguese)<br>Sunday—9:30am – (12:00 noon - Indonesian) |
| <b>Confessions</b>  | Saturday 4:15—4:45pm <i>or</i> by appointment   |
| <b>Adoration &amp; Benediction</b>                            | Mon 3:00 – 3:50pm, Tues to Fri 8:00 – 9:00am & Sun 9:00—9:25am  |
| <b>Baptisms (2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)</b> | By appointment—about 1 month's notice required  |
| <b>Marriages</b>  | By appointment—about 6 months' notice required  |

**COLLECTIONS for weekends of 29/30 November & 6/7 December 2025**

| 1st collection                   | 2nd collection          | Envelopes                | Candle offerings         |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>\$747.75</b>                  | <b>\$724.20</b>         | <b>\$190.00</b>          | <b>\$122.40</b>          |
| (supports the priest's expenses) | (for running of parish) | (part of 2nd collection) | (part of 2nd collection) |

**Masses for:** Amy (in WA), Blackie (sentenced in Court), Alfred Khouri, Connie Marques' deceased November intentions, Connie Ribeiro's deceased November intentions, Roasria & Orazio Salvo, Santa, West Bank Palestinians being terrorised and/or murdered by illegal Israeli settlers.

**A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney:** Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. (Archdiocesan permanent notice)  
**Safeguarding Children information can be found in folder at the back of the church.**

**Lord Jesus,** Strengthen and guide us as we strive to make our Catholic communities a safe place for all, especially the children and vulnerable adults you entrust to our care. We also pray for those who have been harmed. We ask this through Christ, our Lord, Amen

**Church grounds** We thank Sera for cleaning up the leaves.

**Christmas catalogue** *That Catholic Shop* catalogues available at the back of the church. Purchasing these items helps Aid to the Church in Need assist persecuted Christians around the world.

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Christmas Mass Times</b> | <b>Christmas Eve:</b> 5:15-5:45pm – Confessions   6:00pm - Christmas Vigil Mass<br><b>Christmas Day:</b> 9:30am - Christmas Day Mass<br><b>Boxing Day:</b> No Mass |
|-----------------------------|--|

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Fr Chris' Jan/Feb Roster</b> | <b>Retreat</b> Tues 6 Jan – Sun 11 Jan (Father will say Mass on Sat 10 Jan)<br><b>Holidays</b> Tues 13 Jan – Wed 11 Feb <i>There will be no mid-week Masses from Fri 2 Jan – Thurs 12 Feb.</i><br><b>Back in parish</b> Thurs 12 Feb (Whole school Mass Fri 13 Feb 1:50pm – all welcome) |
|---------------------------------|--|

**Adoremus at St Benedict's, Broadway** You are invited to join us for an evening of adoration, formation, vespers, and fellowship. **Every Wednesday from 5:30pm to 7:00pm** at St Benedict's Church, Broadway. Everyone is welcome.

**Caritas Australia: Be a light in the darkness for families facing adversity this Christmas.** This Christmas, we are inviting Australians to "be a light in the darkness" for families who are living through the trauma of war, displacement, and poverty. The intensity of the conflict in Ukraine has increased and more people are experiencing displacement and poverty. Our partner, Caritas Ukraine are on the ground working hard to prepare food kits, emergency shelter kits and psychosocial assistance to families facing adversity. Donate today at <https://www.caritas.org.au/christmas-appeal/be-the-light-in-darkness/>

**The Marian Movement of Priests | Annual New Year's Eve Prayer Vigil St Dominic's Catholic Church Flemington**  
Schedule: 8:00pm Exposition until Mass at midnight | 8:30pm Cenacle | 9:30pm Cenacle | 10:30pm Cenacle | 11:45pm Benediction | 12:00 midnight: Mass with Fr Andrew Grace | 1:00am Supper in parish hall (please bring a plate). Confessions all evening. Our Lady has requested prayer & reparation in the messages for New Year's Eve in her book *To The Priests Our Lady's Beloved Sons*. Email: [info@mmp-oceania.net](mailto:info@mmp-oceania.net) | Website: [www.mmp-oceania.net](http://www.mmp-oceania.net)

**Christopher West's Theology of the Body: Head and Heart Immersion Course** From **18–23 January 2026**, world-renowned speaker Christopher West will lead the TOB 1: This 5-day experience includes daily Mass, Adoration, and 30 hours of engaging teaching. Places are limited. DETAILS: Date: Sunday 18 January - Friday 23 January 2026 Time: 3 pm Sunday to 1 pm Friday Venue: Benedict XVI Retreat Centre, Grose Vale, NSW Who: Adults only event (18+) For more information and to register, visit <https://tobi.sydneycatholic.org/tob-1-immersion-course/> For enquiries, contact [TOBI@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:TOBI@sydneycatholic.org).

**Sapientia - Dominican Retreat Single adults**, ages 18-35, are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters for a weekend retreat at St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park, NSW from **13-15 February 2026**. The retreat will consist of talks, discussion, silence, Eucharistic Adoration, the Sacrament of Confession, Mass, and time for fellowship. Places limited. Fee: \$300 per person. <https://www.trybooking.com/DHJBL>

**Everlasting Love Marriage Preparation Courses 2026** 'Everlasting Love' is a marriage preparation course that gives special emphasis to the sacramental, spiritual, and relational dimensions of marriage. Couples are only required to attend one session. So when booking, book only one session that suits you. Session dates and locations are as follows: - **Session 1: Friday 13 – Saturday 14 February 2026** - St Catherine Laboure Parish Gympie - **Session 2: Friday 5 – Saturday 6 June 2026** - St Joachim's Parish Lidcombe - **Session 3: Friday 20 – Saturday 21 November 2026** - St Joseph's Parish Moorebank \*Please note that the course is split across 2 days (no overnight stay). Day 1 takes place on Friday evening from 6pm to 10pm. Day 2 begins at 9am and ends at 5pm. Cost: \$350.00 per couple To book, visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/DGPMC>

**Finding Solace and Support with Heartfelt** In times of grief, finding a compassionate and understanding community can make all the difference. Heartfelt is based on Catholic teachings and offers online gatherings, support groups, and events, accessible to anyone navigating their grief journey. For more information, visit <https://heartfelt.community>

**Catholic Bushwalking Club** The Catholic Bushwalking Club holds at least one walk each weekend, with other activities including abseiling, cross-country skiing, caving, canyoning and cycling. For more information, go to [www.cbcsnw.org.au](http://www.cbcsnw.org.au) or phone Robert on 0478919427.