

# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph (Year B) 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017**

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**Sunday Reflection** – “The Deep End” Searching for Jesus – In today’s Gospel we get a glimpse of Jesus as a young boy as he disappears for three days while the family are on pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Searching for a lost child for over twenty minutes is a most nerve wracking event for a parent. But to lose the Son of God for three days is something else. We should remember that ancient writers often included a scene from childhood of their hero in order to show the signs of great things to come. Jesus is eventually found sitting with the teachers in the Temple and is revealed as a very wise teacher. While this Gospel passage gives us a glimpse of the young boy Jesus, it is also a reminder of our own helplessness to do anything but let God’s dream be dreamed. Jesus knew this in a way that his parents could not fully grasp: ‘Why have you done this to us?’ Mary and Joseph experience the tension between the anxieties of our world and life centered on God. Today we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family, we pray for families everywhere, for parents and children and ask God to be with them, to guide them and protect them. “The attraction of the journey is stronger than the pull of all the picnics on the way”. (Intercom. Margaret Silf)

**Near Year Day:** The 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2018 is Tomorrow Monday. It is The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. On the first day of the New Year, the Church presents us with the Image of Mary as “the model of faith” for us all. “As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart”. In this New Year, let us resolve to follow the example of Mary. Mass will be at 10am on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018.

**Happy New Year:** We wish all parishioners and all who attend Mass in our Church a very Happy and Blessed New Year. This day is the World Day of Peace, so we pray for peace for those parts of our World ravaged by war and violence, we pray for peace in our homes and in our hearts. We wish you all a peaceful New Year. Traditionally we attempt New Year resolutions today. Let us try to do and change what is possible and what is for the better, so let us resolve to be faithful to attending Mass every Sunday and having some prayer time each day. That would certainly get the year off to a good start.

**Sincere Thanks** – The Servite Community wish to thank you all for your very generous offerings on Christmas Day. We are most grateful to you all. We thank you too for your kind greeting cards, gifts and best wishes at Christmas. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and assure you of a special place in our prayers during the coming year. It has been a hectic year, a great and demanding year with many changes, but with great work done in our Church and Parish. Thank you again for your faith, your prayers and support.

**Baptismal Course** – Will be on Tues 9<sup>th</sup> and Tues 16<sup>th</sup> of Jan 2018. Both Parents need to attend. Please obtain a registration form from the Parish Office.

**Confirmation Programme:** For our young Parishioners aged over 14yrs will begin on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7pm. Please get a Confirmation Registration Form from the Parish Office. Complete and return the form before Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Parents do encourage your children to prepare well to receive this important Sacrament.

*Happy and Holy Christmas to all and every Blessing for the  
New Year 2018 from the  
Servite Community OSM and the Parish Council*

## **Mass Times**

Vigil Mass: Sat 6.30pm  
Sunday 8.30am  
10am  
(Spanish) 11.15am  
12.15pm  
7pm  
Mon – Sat 10am

## **Sacrament of Confession**

Mon - Fri 6.15 – 6.30pm  
Saturday 10.45 – 11.15am  
6.00 – 6.30pm

## **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Mon – Fri 10.30 am – 11.15am

**Rosary** – Wednesdays 10.30am,  
followed by Tea/Coffee in the  
Founders Room.

**Legion of Mary** – Every Tuesday at  
7pm in the Library. New members  
are welcome!

**Charismatic Prayer Group:** Is on  
Thursdays at 11am in the Founders’  
Room.

## **Saints Days**

Mon 1<sup>st</sup> – Solemnity of Mary, The  
Holy Mother of God  
Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sts Basil the Great &  
Gregory Nazianzen



**Parish Office Hours:** During the  
holiday period, the office will not  
always have a Receptionist, so  
please keep calls to a minimum.  
We shall of course try to deal  
with urgent calls; the staff will be  
reduced, so try to be sensitive to  
the Circumstances. Have a good  
holiday.