



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land our parish encompasses, the Awabakal and Darkinjung People, who, long before us lived, loved, educated and raised their children on this Country. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and we recognise the young people who are our future. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in our communities. We respect their deep physical and spiritual connections to Country through their stories, traditions and living cultures.

**CHRISTMAS DAY YEAR A THURSDAY 25 DECEMBER 2025**

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**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:**

Uta France, John France, Mal Melvey, Pam Melvey, Kerry Lendon, Rod Hay.

**PARISH ADMINISTRATION:**

Rosanna Suckling, Maryanne Barry, Vimal Valiyaveetil, Bridget Voigt.

**OUR CHURCHES:**

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**Instagram:** [https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish\\_morisset/](https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish_morisset/)

(Please submit all Bulletin Notice requests to the parish office by 2pm Wednesdays)

**PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE BULLETIN**

If you would like the parish to pray for a family member please email the parish office or complete a prayer card for each person and place in the mail box near the parish office door.

**UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :**

Saturday 27th December 5pm

Mass—Cooranbong

Sunday 28th December 9.30am

Mass—Morisset

Tuesday 30th December 9.30am

Mass—Morisset

Thursday 1st January 9.30am

Mass—Morisset

Saturday 3rd January 5pm

Mass—Cooranbong

Sunday 4th January 9.30am

Mass—Morisset

Tuesday 6th January 9.30am

Mass—Morisset

Dear Parish Family,

*The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light!*

As we celebrate Christmas this year, it's a very different world and indeed a very different country from a couple of weeks ago. Over the past week we have been saddened by the attacks on our Jewish brothers and sisters at Bondi. We witnessed the events on our television screens of those who were killed and of those who were injured. Amongst that pain has also come the stories of hope, the stories of bravery of those who took a stand to try and stop the violence or to protect others.

Amongst this we remember the Christmas story, it is the story of hope! The birth of a first child to poor parents with an uncertain future. The generous love in the story of God who wants to be close to us by becoming human like us. The creator who cares deeply for each of us as we deal with the joys and the sorrows, the hopes and the disappointments of everyday life. I read this quote once -“some of the most glorious messes in the world is mess created in the living room on Christmas day, or the dishes piled up after an amazing family get together...don't clean it up too quickly but ponder it...I want to propose that Jesus came at Christmas to clean up our mess that we can sometimes make....” In and through the birth of Jesus, let's make this world a better place.

This Christmas we remember God's gift of the Prince of Peace, and I thank everyone for making Christ present to our world – God with us! Emmanuel! I pray this blessing for you and your families.

During these days of Christmas –

May you be blessed with the spirit of the season which is peace.

The gladness of the season which is hope

And the heart of the season which is love.

Merry Christmas!

Fr Darryl PP

“A Saviour has  
been born to you:  
He is Christ, the  
Lord”

Luke 2.11



## CHRISTMAS CHARM

I grew up in a rural/country part of Kenya and to date, I am nostalgic of my childhood Christmases back then. We were over the moon showing-off new clothes, backyard barbecue, soda (yes, it was such a privilege!) – a God-given right on Christmas day to have a cold one, mama permitted us to us on Christmas day to use ‘special cutlery’ – beautiful ceramic plates kept under lock and key in a glass cupboard reserved for visitors. Growing up we cherished photos at the Christmas crib and the village film cameraman on a bike sure made ‘a kill’ on Christmas day. Sounds childish – but in these little things was the Christmas charm and in them we found happiness, we appreciated them and life felt richer.

My take on Christmas 2025 is to re-discover ***little charms*** that rekindle your Christmas joy, for through them, God exposes how good things and greatness come in small packages. To illustrate this, see how our decorated Christmas mangers in front of the altar in our Lakeside Churches are eye-catching and bring the profound image of God who choose a very little-simple physical space where animals are fed to be born. I think of this as God’s win, God who beat all odds and gloriously celebrated by the choirs of angels, thus we sing: Glory to God in the Highest. Wouldn’t be that sensational if it all happened in a motel! Yet, Mary and Joseph take it as it is: no grumbling, no complaints and look forward for the gift of a new-born that made the simple stable glow. Is not that if you want to be blessed, you can’t be bitter, no space to be scornful rather its on you to find your small wins and truly life will feel abundant.

Dear parish family may God bless you with peace, joy and love this season and may the joys of Christmas bring goodness and glad tidings that stay with you all year long.

Fr. Paul Kamau

## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION IS HERE AGAIN.

During my childhood the feast of the birth of Christ was more favourable than Easter.

It happened during the coffee harvesting season.

It was the only time when kids were assured of new Christmas clothes, and special and most desirable foods like. Rice, meat and bread

Families could visit each other and celebrate without any discrimination, friends and enemies alike. The poor families and individuals could taste from their neighbours what they couldn’t afford.

This reminds me of Prophet Isaiah 25;6-9 “On this mountain, the Lord will prepare rich food..... will wipe away tears from every face.... This is the Lord we have waited”

The birth of Christ, Emmanuel, became more meaningful and so were the Christmas carols chanted by all, so real as happening right there.

We visited the Christmas crib with the baby Jesus lying in the manger and gave him our gifts. We’re zealous enough to continue attending the octave Masses again and again so as to perpetuate the season sentiment. It gave us a lot of peace.

If I want to enjoy Christmas, I normally revisit the Emmanuel of my childhood, the real baby Jesus, and converse with him in my/our needs and offer him gratitude for his love for me and all.

May the baby Jesus, the Emmanuel, come to all so that we may all sing the Christmas ‘Gloria’ in a meaningful way in order to wish one another a joyful Merry Christmas. Happy Christmas to Frs. Darryl, John, Paul and all our parishioners. Fr Peter Njau CSSp.

## JEWISH COMMUNITY IN OUR PRAYERS

The tragic and targeted attack on the Jewish community at Bondi Beach, as they gathered to begin their celebrations of the religious festival of Hanukkah, has shocked and saddened us all. Such hatred and violence have no place in our community.

We stand in solidarity and support for all in the Jewish community. I call for all to pray for our Jewish brothers and sisters, for those killed, those injured and all those impacted by these traumatic events.

I give deep thanks to the brave first responders and our emergency services.

While we as Christians were lighting candles on our Advent wreaths and celebrating Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday, the Jewish community were lighting candles to begin their celebration of Hanukkah, an occasion that should have been a joyful gathering.

As we reflect at this time – a time when in the Christian community we are preparing to celebrate Jesus’ birth, a birth into a Jewish family – I am reminded this was God’s choice for his Son and God does not do things without good reason.

Together, we must live in mutual respect.

I know our leaders and governments will do all in their power at this difficult time to ensure that all Australians, and particularly Jewish Australians, can go about their daily lives without fear.

*Let us pray together for peace: O God, creator of the world, who first revealed your love and salvation for humankind in and through the Jewish community, and who have revealed that peacemakers are to be called your children, grant we pray, that we may work without ceasing to establish that justice which alone ensures true and lasting peace. Amen.*

With every blessing.  
Bishop Michael Kennedy

