



Grapevine

COMMUNITY

NEWS

PHOTOS

EVENTS



CHRISTMAS EDITION

2022





Merry Christmas



L'Arche NSW Community

MESSAGE FROM COMMUNITY LEADER



CELEBRATIONS



PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING



EVENTS

January

New Year's celebrations

February

Community Holidays

March

Prayer night





Community Leader's Message

***Christ is born and the angels sing once more:
'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill
among all.'* (Luke 2: 14-15).**

"The great and sacred day of Christmas has dawned inviting each of us to a spiritual uplifting and encounter with Jesus Christ. He who is without beginning, invisible, incomprehensible, immaterial, ever existing and the same becomes an infant for us and for our salvation.

Through his birth, our Lord entered our humanity, giving us a deeper understanding of our relationship with our Creator and offering us a greater experience of life and being. The Son of God who became a human being for our sakes, the One in our midst who knows our pains and struggles, offers to each of us life and peace.

"This beautiful story of our Lord's Nativity fills our hearts with tremendous joy. In this marvelous event of God becoming man, he reveals his great love for us and his divine plan to restore our communion with him. Through his incarnation, Christ offered Himself for our total renewal and challenges us to offer in return the same love, hope, and peace he brings.

"Let us open our hearts to him so he may be born in us and let us prayerfully examine our lives so we may build that relationship with him and exhibit to all every day of our lives the same love, hope and peace he brings to us. May you all have a very holy, blessed and joyful Nativity, filled with the love of God and the true life which he offers to us and may he grant us all his richest blessings in the New Year." We wish you every good tiding this Christmas and beyond. Stay safe and when traveling take care. God bless your 2023 and we look forward to another good year



JOURNEY OF THE WAITING ADVENT



Come, Come Lord Jesus Come!

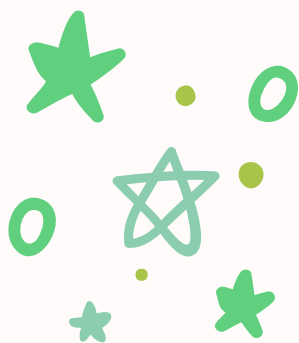
**We hear the cry be quick
only so many days till Christmas.
Prepare be ready
How do we prepare?**

**God only asks us to be ready.
Is your heart ready?
Hang the lights in your heart
Your Bethlehem**

**Being born is not easy,
but it is good.
Give birth,**

**To touch lives.
To heal hurt.
To wash feet.
To care immensely.**

**Decorate your life with gifts brought
in Christmas Birth**



Stars Shine!



**Which star is calling you?
You are called to follow it
To sing it, to live it, to celebrate it
Leading you through pain and beyond**

**We become stars following
our star.
In the light of our star
we come to Jesus.**

**Our love, being the gift in which we
wrap this baby.**

**Let us trust like Mary and Joseph
Listen like the angels
Follow our star
And live each day,
with peace, joy, and love**



Jesus came to give

Written by Kathy Bourke

Christmas Greetings

from our homes



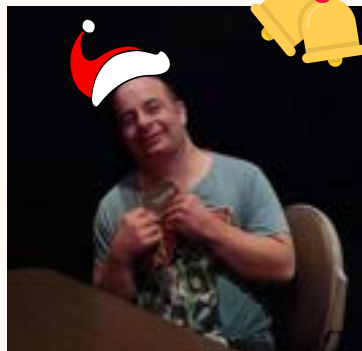
PEACE



Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.

2 Corinthians 13:11

JOY



Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, rejoice.

19. Philippians 4:4

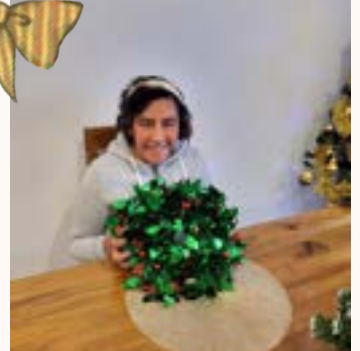
HOPE



Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

20. Romans 12:12

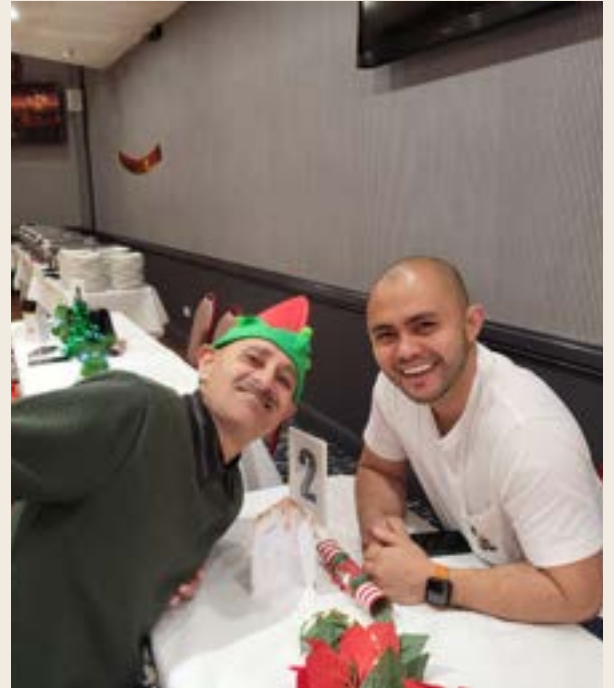
LOVE



If you welcome God's love into your heart, then you will be able to love like God, too

Christmas Greetings

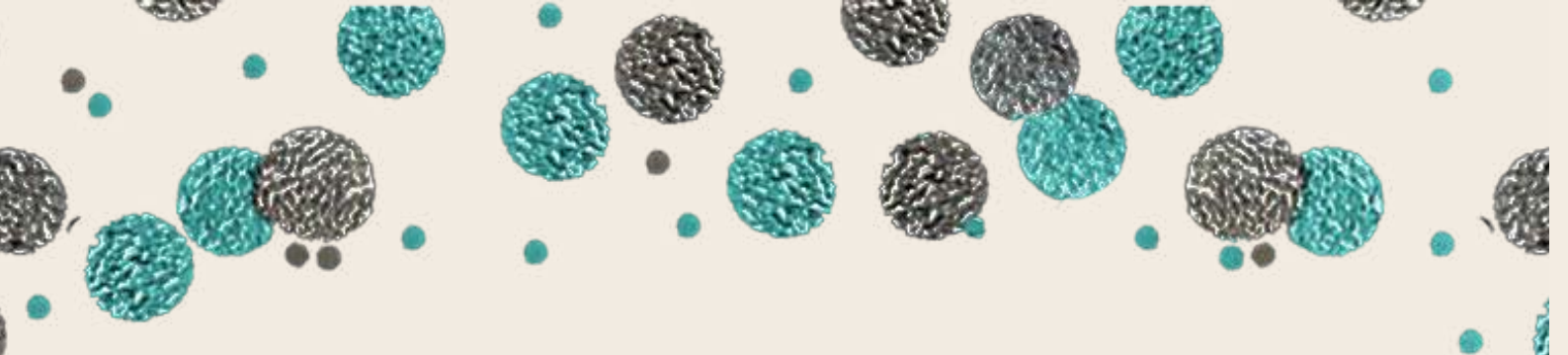
Burwood



Community Friend Nora was visiting and stayed at Burwood house. Many warm chats and sharing were shared over her stay. The Elf Tony and Lawrence smiling at us at the Christmas party. In the photos below core members getting busy with arts and crafts as preparing for Christmas. Peter, Elaine in the working progress.

Community friend Kathy sharing a laughter as trying on a Santa smile.





Burwood household core members and their families have enjoyed the time leading up to Christmas with catching up and celebrating the gift of each other.

In the photos above: Bruce with his brother Rob and sister-in-law Toula. Peter with his parents, Barry and Jo. Below: Marilena with her sister Adrianna and Kathleen with her sisters Maryanne and Jo

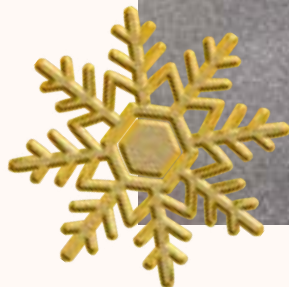




*We think and hold
our dear friend Tim
in our prayer,
and we wait for his
return home to
Burwood house very
soon...*



*Tim enjoying playing his
guitar and Together with
his sisters Elizabeth, Helen
and Peter - brother-in-
law celebrating Tim's
birthday earlier this year!*





*Burwood thanksgiving Christmas party.
Bingo with a hint for everyone to win
as the surprise was handed out all on the same Bingo cards :)*



In the photos below: Marilena, Rosa and Masiel at the Christmas Party, Lawrence Chelo and their little Ramnzo celebrating with everyone at Burwood house.





Dear families and dear friends. We want to thank you for being there for us and supporting us in big and in small events of life. May this time of the year bring us all many blessings and peace as we journey into the New Year with many hopes and dreams. Core members and assistants at Burwood household wish you all Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year

Christmas Greetings

Campsie



The photos above: Campsie house coordinator Barsa together with Janine, Priya and Janine's sister Bernadette. Rita with her sisters: Linda, Fatima and Connie.

Below: Geoff with his brother Warren and Geoff's niece Aleyah.

Katie with her sister Leonie and brother-in-law Mike at L'Arche community Christmas party!





At our thanksgiving Christmas Party. Geoff handing out the Christmas gifts. Priya and Katie so happy to see each other after some time apart.

We give thanks for the time that has been given to us to share, to listen to each other and simply being together.





Do you see what I see - a very handsome group of men!

Yes, that's us, Ray, Essa, John, Geoff and Blama at our L'Arche community Christmas

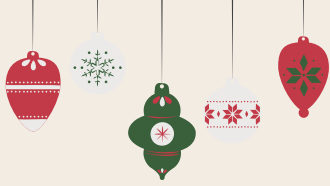


Anthony, Angela, Priya and Katie having a great time while Christmas photos been taken !



Talent Show performance !





We have had a year filled with some challenges but we found comfort in the wonderful moments we had the privilege of sharing with our friends and family. We remember Hugh every day and cherish the wonderful memories we had the privilege to share. We pray that you have a Christmas filled with miracles and many memorable moments that you will cherish forever. From everyone at Campsie household, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Christmas Greetings

Five Dock



Above: Christmas party celebration at Five Dock household

Below: Gian with her aunty Shelly and niece Madhu



Pakeeza warmly welcoming everyone at the Christmas celebration





Above: Prabha, Carlye with her mum Karen and sister Jess

Below at the Christmas party



Above: Fiona with her mum Lina and sister Vanessa, and house coordinator Pakeeza





Members of the Five Dock household were preparing the Advent wreaths at the Arts and Crafts workshop. All the items were auctioned at our annual Christmas party. Thank you all for your support and Merry Christmas.

In the photos Above, Katherine, Mamma and Fiona still in the process of creating beautiful Christmas decorations.



On Fridays community members gather for the Arts and Crafts workshop.



Community members and friends helping to fold L'Arche Australia newsletters

*I would like to wish everyone
a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New year.
Carlye*



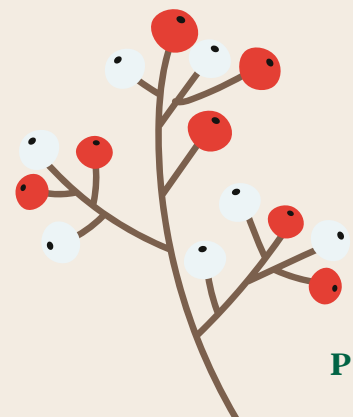
*May you have
Merry and bright
Christmas and a joyful
New year
from Kathy*



*Wishing everyone a
Happy and healthy
Christmas
Gian*

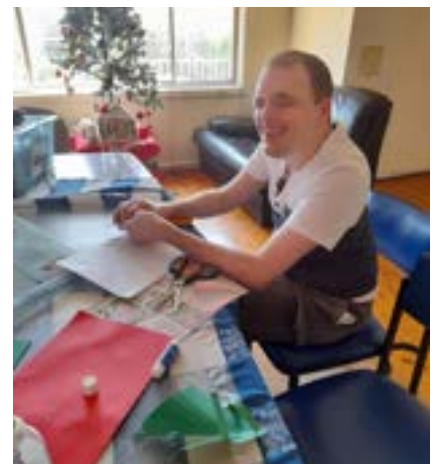


*Wishing you all
Peace and Love this
Holiday season,
Fiona*



Christmas Greetings

Merrylands



We all got creative and launched into Christmas mood very early in this festive season. In the photos, Andrew is checking if Christmas tree decorations are all into the right places, Goi with core members joining L'Arche Australia prayer time on zoom, Joseph supervising Seini at making Christmas cards, and so is Anthony and Andrew. A little Christmas workshop has been set up at our home.



MERRYLANDS THANKSGIVING CHRISTMAS PARTY

What is Christmas?

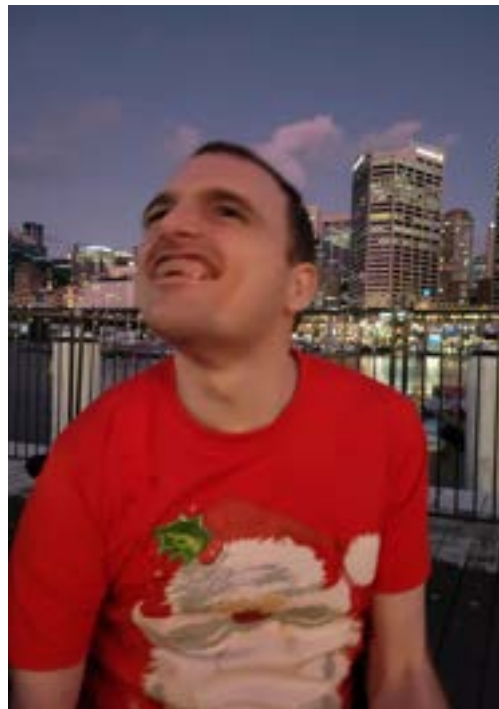
"It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future. It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to peace."

"Christmas is not just a day, an event to be observed and speedily forgotten. It is a spirit which should permeate every part of our lives."





Our night out full of Adventure at Darling Harbour. Christmas lights and that festive feeling around the city and in everyone's eyes as you can see in the photos!



Here's to feeling thankful for the year behind and enthusiastic for the year ahead. Each new year is a gift of learning, growth, and hope. As the sun sets on another year, may it rise again and shine light on new opportunities, perspectives, and adventures ahead. May your mind and soul be enriched with these things and more in the days to come! May the good times and treasures of the present become the golden memories of tomorrow.



*May this season bring only Happiness and Joy to you and your loved ones.
Merry Christmas!*

*All of us here at Merrylands Household would like to wish everyone a very
Joyful Merry Christmas and a safe, happy, healthy, prosperous New Year!*



L'ARCHE NSW CHRISTMAS PARTY

10th of December 2022 Ashfield RSL Club

We all are waiting for the arrival of baby Jesus. During our Christmas party, members and friends gathered together in celebration of Joy and gift of each other.

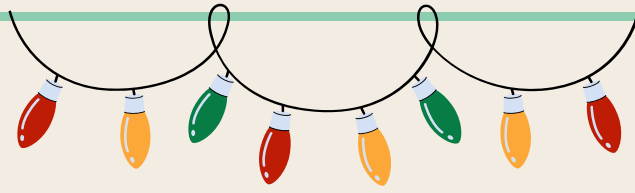
Can you hear that joyful noise of friends chatting, sounds of Christmas Carols, aroma of the Christmas meal and entertainment of Christmas talent show.

This all and much more was lived during the celebration together!



CHRISTMAS LITURGY

*Together we wrapped baby Jesus
in the gift of ourselves*



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

SHARING A MEAL

*So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.
1 Corinthians 10:31*





TALENT SHOW

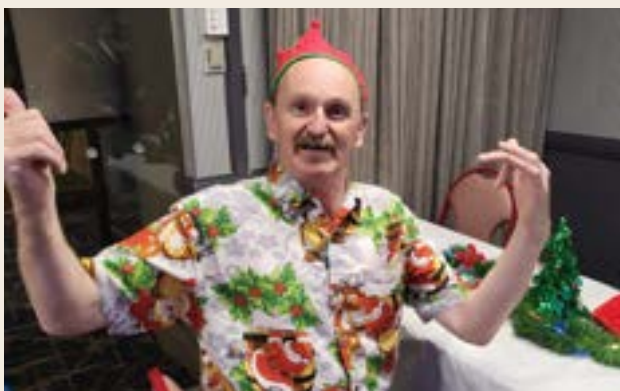
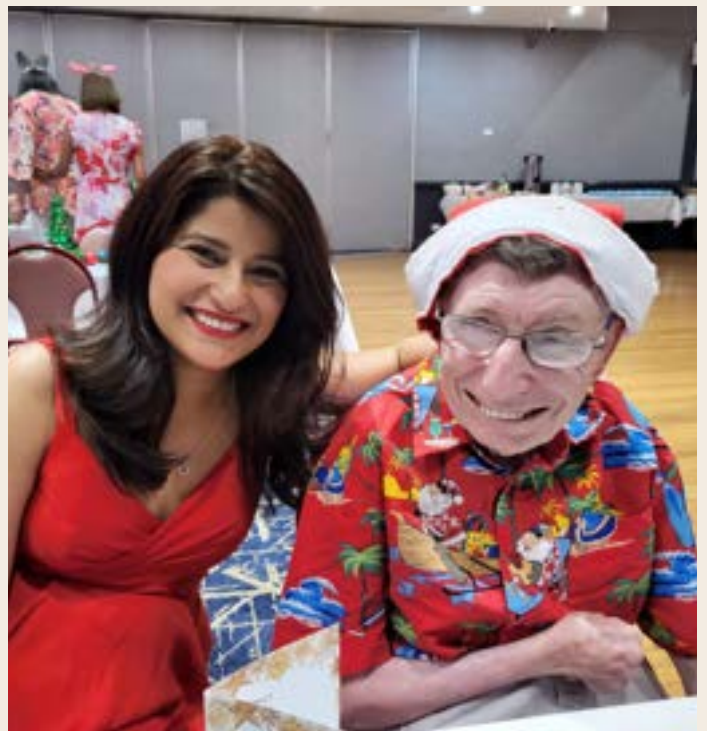
God gifted and entrusted us with blessings





HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY

12 Days of Christmas



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY

12 Days of Christmas



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY

12 Days of Christmas



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

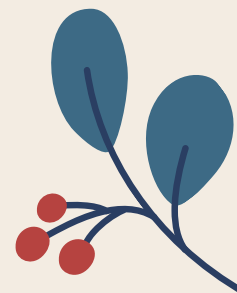
*The Lord has done great things for us; We are glad.
Psalm 126:3*



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Christmas favourite recipes

Christmas Punch & Nutella brownie



INGREDIENTS for Christmas punch

- 6 cups
 - Pomegranate Cranberry Juice (or cranberry juice)
 - 3 cups - Pineapple Juice
 - 1 tablespoon - Almond Extract
 - 3 liters - Ginger Ale
 - 1 (12 ounce) bag Fresh Cranberries (optional)
 - 2 Fresh Limes (sliced, optional)
- add Ice



This will be one of your favorite Christmas drinks!

A blend of soda, juices and almond extract - it may seem like a strange combination but together they taste amazing!

Here is Christmas desert recipe. It is simple and quick to make and very yummy!

3 INGREDIENTS Nutella brownies

- 1 1/4 cup Nutella
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup flour

Combine ingredients into medium bowl, mix and transfer to greased baking tray (20cm x 20cm tray)

Top with roughly chopped almonds (optional) and bake in oven fan forced at 180C for 15 mins or until a toothpick comes out clean.

Enjoy with a scoop of your favourite ice-cream or on their own!



Our Christmas Prayer

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

James 1:17

Dear Lord,
don't let us miss You this Christmas season.
Help us to simplify our activities and traditions so we can focus our celebration on You as our gift.

Thank You for being the Prince of Peace, and we ask You for that supernatural peace to reign in our hearts and lives always.
Thank You for the simple but life-changing message of Your love for us.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.



*May God bless you with a festive, loving and peaceful celebration this Christmas all throughout the year. Merry Christmas!
Asba and Family*

*Wishing you Peace and Joy throughout the Christmas Season and the coming year.
Claire*



Christmas Greetings & Christmas Prayer to you



Merry Christmas to everyone!

Psalm 72: 6, 12,14, 15

May the king be like rain on the fields, like showers falling on the land. He rescues the poor who call to him, and those who are needy and neglected, their lives are precious to him.

Long live the king!

As we celebrate the birth of the infant king this Christmas. We remember Christmas is the time when God became one of us and God always inspires us to heal relationships with others and especially those who need us most.

Keep safe this Christmas and may the Peace and Joy of the Infant Messiah enter our hearts.

Love from the Formosa Family

Luke Elina Jacinta and Estber



"Wishing you a season that's merry and bright with the light of God's love"

From Issa Chahine to all L'Arche members

*Il Today in the town of David
a Savior has been born to you;
he is the Messiah, the Lord.*

Isaiah 9:6

Leadership Team



Christmas Greetings & Christmas Prayer to you



As Mary and Joseph journey to Bethlehem we so want to journey with them. Journey in waiting for baby's arrival.

For the new hope and new extraordinary love. Let this baby to transform your heart. so our hopes turn into love for each other and love for The One who has led each of us on this journey to L'Arche.

From L'Arche NSW Spiritual Life Group we wish that this Christmas brings you Peace and New Year is filled with many blessings.



This has been a year like no other. Year of learning, growth and very much confidence that God is in control. May this Christmas is Merry and bright and may the New Year is the best year we have had so far .
Love and Peace from the members of Community Council.

We saw God move in great ways this year. we were challenged and stretched to make God fearing decisions this year. We are glad to celebrate the birth of Jesus - we are privileged to serve in a community that can celebrate Jesus' birth every day.

Have a blest Christmas and a Peaceful New Year- L'Arche NSW Board





For a little Christmas laugh

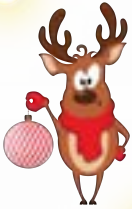


What is a Christmas tree's favorite candy?

Orna-mints

What kind of photos do elves take?

Elfies!



What is an elf's favorite car to drive?

A Toy-ota

What's every parent's favorite Christmas carol?

"Silent Night."



Did you hear about the man who stole an Advent calendar?

He got 25 days.

