

A Coffee with Alessio



Welcome to 2018 and the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Happy New Year to you all and welcome to the coffee column for 2018. I hope your Christmas music and celebrations helped you and your congregation to pray more fully and meditate upon the love God has for us by sending us the gift of His Son Jesus.

Normally, as you know I write my column based upon the upcoming feast on Sunday. I am going to deviate from that in today's column. Today is the feast of the Presentation of the Lord (hence the gold border). Forty days have passed by since Christmas Day. By now we have well and truly taken down our decorations and put the manger away, as well as having put the wrapping paper and boxes from our gifts in the recycle bin. However, today is the last day that the Christmas crib is up in Saint Peter's Square. That's because in the pre- Vatican II liturgy the Christmas Season finished on this feast day. Imagine a few more weeks of fruit cake, fruit mince pies or panettone, just to name a few Christmas food delights.

Anyhow, what is today's feast all about. In today's liturgy candles will be blessed and as the Roman Missal says: "Christ is our light and we, in turn, are called to reflect this light to all the nations." In other words, the joy and kindness and outreach that we do at Christmas, is what we need to try to do each and every day. In this way we live out the Eucharist. I know it's easier said than done sometimes. Perhaps this week we can find someone who is need of help and be the Light of Christ for that person.

School went back this week. Where did the Christmas holidays go? It only seems like yesterday we had the Christmas party, farewelled staff members and packed everything away. Time flies however, and

each new year is a gift from the Lord and an opportunity for us to spread His Name, love and kindness in the world.

So, I wish you every blessing for the year ahead and I look forward to sharing my insights on liturgy, music and life through this column. Before I go, just a reminder that these columns are now available both on our website <http://liturgy.perthcatholic.org.au/> and also on our Facebook page @alessiomusician.

Till next week enjoy your coffee!

Friday 2 February 2017

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord