



Christmas 2019

A Message from Bishop Michael McKenna

As I write these words of Christmas greetings, we are still in a time of drought, waiting for rain.

We know all too well the human cost of this, for farmers, families, local enterprises and communities. Faced with this situation, as people of faith we turn to God in honest and sorrowful lamentation.

Turning to God, we remember that Jesus has told us to pray for what we want, and to persevere in that prayer. We do want rain, and plenty of it, so we should keep praying for that. We also need to pray for one another: and in that prayer seek the wisdom to know how best to be of service to those who are suffering the most from this adversity. And, in the midst of our affliction, rejoice in the love of neighbour that is already God's gift.

The long wait for a Messiah ended when Jesus was born in Bethlehem. But, "he was in the world that had come into being through him and the world did not recognise him". (John 1:10)

Am I still waiting for Jesus, or is he still waiting for me to recognise him? I hope you meet him soon and have a truly Happy Christmas.

+Michael McKenna
Bishop of Bathurst