





SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9th / 10th DECEMBER 2023



Parish Priest

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Christ the King Church Churchill St, Graceville

St Joseph's School 28 Clewley St, Corinda Principal: Kim Davis Ph: (07) 3379 6937

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The Pastor's Pen....

John the Baptist (or Baptiser) was an important figure in Jewish history, a prophetic holy man in the image of Elijah, the archetypal prophet. He was also important to the first generations of Christians and those who followed after them, important to Jesus and he is a key figure in the Advent Season, so just who was he?

What we know from the scriptures (New Testament), and from tradition and archaeological research is that John was related to Jesus, his cousin through his mother, Mary's side of the family. John was called by God to prepare himself to be a herald, a spokesperson to the people helping them to get themselves right and ready for the coming of God's promised Messiah and the beginning of the last days. He spent much time in the Judaean desert with a community of like-minded Jewish faithful who practiced ritual purity, poverty, communal living, praying, sharing and studying and strict lived law abiding lives.

The remains of this community have been extensively excavated and their writings, part of the Dead Sea Scrolls discovery (found between 1947-1956) outline the way that they lived, what they believed, the copies of the scriptures they read (Hebrew / Old Testament) and how they prayed. They sought to be perfect in their adherence to the Jewish Law and so be a type of 'holy army' ready to fight and die for the people and for God so as to reform the country and their faith which they believed was corrupted by the Roman pagan occupation and was ripe for God's saving rescue and renewal.

Jesus looked up to John and even went to him for baptism in the River Jordan, a baptism of repentance and cleansing in readiness for God's arrival and intervention. He then spent his forty days in the desert rejecting temptation and discerning God's way forward. Jesus was greatly traumatised by John's imprisonment by King Herod and by his subsequent senseless, callous martyrdom. Only after John's removal from his public preaching and preparing work did Jesus begin his own, which he initially modelled on that of John. He even called John the greatest man ever born of woman. Disciples of John's message were still active when Jesus was ministering. Jesus never sought to convert them to his way.

While Jesus began where John was forced by his imprisonment to leave off, he soon went further in his teaching and farther in his mission than John ever did. He modelled and taught a new law (such as the beatitudes; the great commandment; the forgiveness parables) and he came to include pagans and people of good will into the plan of God which Jesus called the 'Good News' and the Kingdom or Reign of God. Jesus saw himself as the pivotal figure in announcing and inaugurating the Good News of God's Reign over our lives and in not just Israel, but in and for the world.

Finally, facing the full reality of what he was up against (Roman power, pharisaic, scribal and high priestly complicity and comfort, human frailty, selfishness and sinfulness) Jesus came to understand that his own death would be the central, great act wherein God would become manifest for all to see. He foresaw a new life beyond death for himself and for those who heard his call and accepted his message of God's way justice, love and peace.

John the Baptist speaks to us each Advent about getting ourselves right and ready for the coming of God's Anointed. His coming to us is threefold; in history, in our own time and at the end our lives and of time itself. He / Jesus was, he is now and he is to come. He has died in history; He is risen today; He will come again and we await his last coming with joyful hope. This is what we pray, say and believe. John continues to help us to renew ourselves in this faith and hope, a message for our times and for all Fr. Mark Percival. MA, PP. the ages.



Mass for Forgiveness of Sins

7.00pm Wednesday 13th December ~ St Joseph's (no morning Mass on Wednesday)

Fourth Weekend of Advent

5.30pm Saturday 23rd December ~ St Joseph's

8.00am Sunday 24th December ~ St Joseph's

9.30am Sunday 24th December ~ Christ the King

(no Sunday evening Mass at Graceville)

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

4.00pm Christmas Eve Sunday 24/12/22 ~ St Joseph's

6.00pm Christmas Eve Sunday 24/12/22 ~ St Joseph's

8.00am Christmas Day Monday 25/12/22 ~ St Joseph's

9.30am Christmas Day Monday 25/12/22 ~ Christ the King

Mary the Holy Mother of God

9.00am New Years Day Monday 1st January ~ St Joseph's



Archbishop Mark has a message for you: As I grow older, the world seems to grow smaller. Perhaps it's just that my energies aren't quite what they were. But I also find myself more and more interested in less and less. Since COVID struck, my taste for international travel has all but evaporated; and even domestic air travel tends to make me groan. When I look at the diary for the week ahead, I tend to groan too when I see I have a string of evening engagements. I'm happy just to have a quiet night at home, which was certainly not the case in other times. When I was young, my father said to me that I was better with too much to do than too little, but that's no longer true. Perhaps I was more easily bored back then than I am now. But a smaller world isn't necessarily a boring world. It's all a matter of how you see. The eye that can see the extraordinary at the heart of the ordinary, the big at the heart of the small, opens on to an ever expanding world, in large part because it sees God everywhere. That's the kind of eye we need at Christmas – seeing God-with-us in the baby born.

Break Open the Word: are available now for the new liturgical year. Ministers of the Word please collect your copy located near the picture of Mary MacKillop in each church or from the Parish office during the week. This book is essential for the preparation of Ministers of the Word. Please purchase a copy, at the subsidised price of \$10.00 (Retail price is \$26). Previous editions of Break Open the Word can be donated to Prison Ministry via the parish office.

SVDP Christmas Appeal:

Thanks to all those who have supported us in our SVDP Christmas appeal so far. It is not too late to make a donation: For details on how to do this, see below. For tax deductible receipts, please send details in an email to ctksj4075@svdpqld.org.au so that our treasurer has a return email address to forward your receipt.

SVDP Christmas gifts for children: As the hampers will be distributed next Sunday 17th December we need to have Christmas gifts returned by <u>Wednesday 13th</u> to enable them to be added to the hampers, and to ensure that we have a gift for every one of the children on our list. If you have not brought back your gift to Mass this weekend, can you please deliver it to <u>the parish office</u> by Wednesday.

Parishioners are welcome to help with hamper deliveries by coming to the parish office - entry near the columbarium - at 9am on Sunday 17th December.

If you can help us with donation please do so by:

- Online transfer to BSB: 064 786 Account Number: 100026057 Account name: SVDP Christ the King and St Joseph's Corinda Graceville Conference
- Deposit in any branch of the Commonwealth Bank to Account identification No: 4000 0032 5284 Agent No: 8064 Name of account: Archdiocesan Development Fund.
- **Envelope:** You may also use one of the SVDP envelopes available in the church, and place this (or a plain envelope marked SVDP) with the parish collection or drop off at the parish office.
- Post: Donations (not cash) can also be posted to SVDP Post Office Box 97, Corinda.
- Please email ctksj4075@svdpqld.org.au so that our treasurer has a return email address to forward your receipt.

Thank you for your generosity.





We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians, the Yuggera and Turrbal peoples, who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

Parish Liturgy Team Report: The Parish Liturgy Team met on Saturday 2 December. Key discussion items at the meeting were:

- Final planning for upcoming liturgies, especially during the Season of Advent and Christmas Time.
- Review of the various liturgical ministries and some suggested small changes to some ministries to be further explored in early 2024.
- Updates to the risk assessments for our parish Masses/Rites/Services.

Advent Mass for Forgiveness of Sins: will be celebrated at 7.00pm on Wednesday 13th December at St Joseph's Church. Please note there will be no morning Mass on that day.

Open Music Group: Our next Open Music Group will lead the singing at the 6.00pm Mass on Sunday 17 December. We welcome anyone who would like to be part of the music and singing group. Just come to a practice at Christ the King Church at 5.00pm on the day. Contact Ian Larter (0414 811 782) for further details.

Christmas Cards: are available to purchase at the back of each church and at the parish office. Packs of eight cards can be purchased for \$3.00 a packet. Thanks to St Vincent de Paul who make these cards available to purchase.

Free Advent Resources for Kids: are you looking for creative, fun and faith-filled ways for your children and family to enter into the liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas? Evangelisation Brisbane are excited to let you know that their team has just released our 2023 collection of free resources to help you engage with your young disciples. Please visit https://evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/advent-and-christmas-with-kids/ to access these free resources.

Cathedral of St Stephen Advent Concert Series: Music and Poetry to Celebrate the Advent Season: The 2023 Advent Concert Series will feature weekly concerts plus the annual Advent Carol Service over four Sundays in Advent. Concert 2, Sunday 10 December 5pm: Featuring The Cathedral of St Stephen Director of Music Christopher Trikilis (organ) Concert 3, Sunday 17 December 5pm: Featuring Susan Collins (violin) playing Biber and Bach (in the Chapel) At Stephen's Cathedral, 249 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane Qld 4000. Tickets available through www.trybooking.com/CNGCC Christmas Carol Service at St Stephen's Cathedral: Saturday 23rd December at 3pm. Free Admission. All welcome.

Save the Date: presentation by **Fr Richard Leonard SJ**, *Living Liturgy: Being Sent Out on Mission to the World* will be held from 7pm to 8.45pm on the evening of Wednesday, 13 March 2024, in the Hanly Room beside St Stephen's Cathedral. Join Liturgy Brisbane for the first in a series of liturgy focussed evenings in 2024. Cost: \$10.00 (\$8.00 for 5 or more). Further details and registration information will be available in mid-January. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to phone Liturgy Brisbane on 3324 3314.

Archbishop Mark has made the following Appointments: Fr Paul Kelly - Parish Priest Surfers Paradise Parish; Fr Joshua Whitehead - Parish Priest Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Caloundra; Fr January Mkude CSSp - Parish Priest St Francis Xavier Parish Goodna; Fr Michael Grace - Parish Priest Mother of Mercy Parish Hendra Hamilton and Administrator St Agatha's Parish Clayfield; Fr Neville Yun - Parish Priest Our Lady of the Southern Cross Parish Springfield; Fr William Aupito Iuliano - Parish Priest St Mary's Parish South Brisbane and Administrator of St Ita's Parish Dutton Park West End and Chaplain to the Emmanuel Community; Fr Jack Ho - Parish Priest Sacred Heart Parish Childers; Fr Baiyi Gong - Administrator St John Vianney Parish Manly; Fr Ray Chapman SM - Administrator St Michael's Parish Dorrington; Fr Rodel Enriquez MI - Chaplain to Hospitals; Fr Jerry Joseph MCBS - Associate Pastor Infant Saviour Parish Burleigh Heads; Fr Tomi Alexander CMI - Associate Pastor Jubilee Parish; Fr Ravi Kumar ALCP/OSS - Associate Pastor St Mary's Parish South Brisbane and St Ita's Parish Dutton Park West End; Deacon Michael Tran - diaconal ministry St Patrick's Parish Gympie; Deacon Bradley Davies - diaconal ministry Star of the Sea Parish Cleveland; Fr Joseph Vattaparambil CMI - Dean Logan Deanery; Fr Nigel Sequeira - Dean Brisbane North Deanery; Fr Rony Kalapurackal Chacko - Dean Redland Bayside Deanery; Fr Rafal Rucinski - Dean Brisbane North East Deanery; Fr Thomas Zaranski - Military Chaplain Enoggera Barracks.

I thank the Spiritan Fathers for their care of St Michael's Parish Dorrington since 1972 and wish Fr Tom Kessy CSSp well as he takes a period of leave. I thank Fr George Kallarackal Joseph MCBS as he returns to India having completed his term of service in the Archdioceses and wish him well for the future. I thank the priests retiring at the end of this year: Fr Dan Ryan, Fr Tuong Vu Dinh, Fr John Barlow, Fr Van Huong Nguyen, Fr Wrex Woolnough, Fr Pat Richards and Fr Denis Scanlan. Each will be forever a part of the story of the Archdiocese, and we wish them good health and a peaceful retirement.

We pray for the good health, strength and healing of: Joan Armstrong, Ron Atkins, Margaret Bailey, Joan Burgin, Jack Cain, Barbara Carmody, Bridie Carr, Cath Dennis, Maureen Doherty, Margaret Fernandez, Erica Finnimore, Neil Flynn, Nash Giles, Gregory Gould, Pam Harding, Margaret Hawser, Bob Healy, Myrna Healy, Una Hill, Ned Hiller, Mark Inmon, Maureen Inmon, Bevan Johnson, Fran Johnson, Charles Keating, Shelly Kelly, Annie Little, Fr Frank Lourigan, Monique Maltet, Neil McCormack, Phil Middleton, Damien Mollard, Julene Montgomery, Gabrielle Morgan, Adam Morrison, Monica Morrison, Donald Mortiss, Tri Nguyen, Richard Niland, Val O'Brien, Jan O'Donoghue, Jimmy O'Keefe, Rita O'Keefe, Emma Parer, Genevieve Parer, Jennifer Parer, Shelly Parer, Glenda Penna, Clive Punter, Dawn Punter, Mary Spandler, Sr Cyprian Thureson pbvm, Pauline Thureson, Thao Trinh, Sue Venderley, Jim Vievers, Rebecca Wallace, Ben Waters, Nick Willemsen.

We remember and pray for all our parishioners living in aged care.

We pray for all who are suffering due to conflict, natural disaster and ill health.

May the recently deceased rest in peace: Sr Jo Scanlon mfic, Bryan Lawrence Kassulke, Melba Hinspeter, Gordon McCormack

We pray for those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Shea Tristan Lange, Larry Gillespie, James Hanley, Shirley Dobson, Patrick McKenna, John McNamara, Joan Geeling, John McKeon, Annie Cridland, deceased members of the Wheatland, McLean and McCormack families, Maria Hoang Thi Hanh, Vivienne Benjamin, Jenny Marshall, Dawn Thorpe, Colin Doherty, Keith Shand



HOLY CROSS FUNERALS



WEEKDAY LITURGIES

Wednesday 7.00 pm St Joseph's-Mass for Forgiveness of Sins

9.00 am St Joseph's - Mass Thursday Friday 9.30 am Christ the King - Mass

SUNDAY MASSES

5.30 pm Saturday St Joseph's 8.00 am Sunday St Joseph's 9.30 am Christ the King Christ the King 6.00 pm

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday 4.30 pm - 5.00 pm St Joseph's

> Other times by appointment. **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

The Sacrament of Baptism for Children is celebrated by appointment on the following Sundays of the month

2nd Sunday 11.00 am St Joseph's 4th Sunday 11.00 am Christ the King

All enquiries to the Parish Office

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Printed so that users may pray daily the Liturgical Prayer of the Church)

SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT SUN, 10 DEC SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pet 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8 St Damasus I, pope - *Optional Memorial* Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26 MON, 11 DEC

Our Lady of Guadalupe, patron saint of The Americas and Mexico - *Optional Memorial* Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14 TUE, 12 DEC

St Lucy, virgin, martyr, patron saint of the blind and eye disorders - *Memorial* Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30 WED, 13 DEC

(Alt. 2 Cor 10:17 - 11:2; Mt 25:1-13)

St John of the Cross, priest, doctor of the church, patron saint of mystics - *Memorial* THU, 14 DEC

Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15 (Alt. 1 Cor 2:1-10; Lk 14:25-33) Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

FRI, 15 DEC SAT, 16 DEC Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:10-13

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT SUN, 17 DEC THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT

Is 61:1-2, 10-11; 1 Thess 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

HYMNS AND RESPONSES FOR SUNDAY MASSES

GATHERING: "O EMMANUEL"

Refrain: O Emmanuel come into our hearts

O Emmanuel we're waiting for your light.

O Emmanuel God is with us now.

O Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

1. We your people are waiting for you, Lord, waiting all throughout the earth. We your people are waiting for you, Lord, waiting to celebrate your birth.

2. We your people are longing for you, Lord, longing with hope and with joy. We your people are longing for you, Lord, longing for the sign to rejoice.



PENITENTIAL ACT: "THE CONFITEOR"

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, [And, striking their breast, they say:]

through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;

[Then they continue:] therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints,

and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

"PSALM 85: LORD, LET US SEE YOUR KINDNESS"



PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS: "EVERY VALLEY"

Refrain: Ev'ry valley shall be exalted and ev'ry hill made low.

And all God's people shall see together

the glory of the Lord.

1. A voice cries out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way for the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway, a highway for our God."

2. Comfort all my people; the time for war is gone. The blind shall see; the deaf shall hear; the lame shall leap for joy.



SENDING FORTH:

"YOUR LIGHT WILL COME, JERUSALEM"

Your light will come, Jerusalem; for on you will dawn the glory of the Lord, and all nations will walk in your light, alleluia, alleluia.

1. Christ is the light of the world, a light dispelling the darkness.

May we, his body, reflect that holy light.

2. His light is mercy and peace, a peace surpassing all telling. May we, his body, be instruments of peace.

ALTERNATIVE SENDING FORTH: "DAYS OF ELIJAH"

1. These are the days of Elijah, Declaring the Word of the Lord; And these are the days of your servant Moses, Righteousness being restored; And though these are days of great trials, Of famine and darkness and sword. Still, we are the voice in the desert crying, "Prepare ye the way of the Lord!"

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds, Refrain: Shining like the sun at the trumpet call; Lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee And out of Zion's hill, salvation comes.

And these are the days of Ezekiel, The dry bones becoming as flesh; And these are the days of your servant David, Rebuilding a temple of praise; And these are the days of the harvest, The fields are as white in the world. And we are the labourers in your vineyard, Declaring the word of the Lord! (refrain twice)

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"Every Valley" Text: Based on Isaiah 40:1,3,4,9; Bob Dufford. Tune: Bob Dufford. © 1970, Robert J. Dufford, SJ. Published by Oregon Catholic Press.

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