



Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

(This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws)



Second Sunday of Advent - Year C - 5th December 2021

We are all Advent people.... We enter into the Second Sunday of Advent. This season of Advent tells us about the coming of Emmanuel, "God with us". It is the time we recall how our God comes to earth to take on human form and live on earth just as we live. He does it as He shares His life and love with us. Because God shares His love with us, He invites us to share our love with Him and with others. Advent is the time of waiting as we prepare ourselves to welcome the God who became man and who by example showed us how we too should be able to live like Him for others. Within this period of advent, the voice of God which came through John the Baptist still resounds in the teachings of the Church calling us to prepare the way for the Lord who is coming into our hearts both as the new born king and as the judge of the living and the dead.

To prepare the way for the Lord in our hearts, two things are suggested to us as we can learn from John the Baptist. The first is that we need to go into the wilderness of our hearts where we are alone with God and enjoy His presence. This could be done through private meditation, contemplative prayer, bible reading and participation in Church fellowships. In doing this, we silence the distractions of the busy world. Secondly, when we are settled in the wilderness like John, God reveals His Word to us as He revealed it to John. This Word illuminates our minds and then allow it to inform, reform and transform us into what God wants us to be.

Advent is the time to get ready. And how do we get ready? We turn away from our sins, from the distracting things of our material lives, and turn toward God, asking His pardon and forgiveness in so far as we pardon and forgive others who have offended us. Dear friends, let us turn to God and prepare our hearts to receive Him again at Christmas, with peace that surpasses understanding, leaving the sadness that is stopping us from really living, levelling the mountains and valleys of our lives and in that way, we will be ready for the coming of the little child who will be born in us again this year.

Blessings,

Fr. Dantus Thottathil.

This Week's Readings:

First Reading: *Baruch 5:1-9 – Jerusalem - God will show you splendour.*

Psalms Response: God has done great things for us, filled us with laughter and music.

(Alternative Psalm Response if spoken): The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Second Reading: *Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 – Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.

Gospel: *Luke 3:1-6 – All people shall see the salvation of God.*



QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

*Faith
is like a
small lamp
in the dark forest.
It does not show
everything at once
but gives enough light
for the next step to be
safe!*

Next week's Readings

First: Zeph 3:14-18

Second: Phil 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3:10-8

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve Friday 24th December - **7:00pm** (with Children's Pageant) and **11:30pm**

Christmas Day Saturday 25th December - **8:00am (NO SATURDAY EVENING MASS)**

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Sunday 26th December - **8:00am**



Roster	Readers 6:15pm (1st) Tom M 8:00am (1st) Jane W (2nd) Don F (Welcome & POF) Suzy P	Counting Group 2
11 th & 12 th December	Communion Ministers 6:15pm Anne Maree C 8:00am Anthony W	Music 6:15pm Gp 3 8:00am Gp 2 PowerPoint 6:15pm Emma M 8:00am Chris M

Mass Times: Saturday 6:15pm & Sunday 8:00am

Reconciliation: Thursday 5:30pm

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Parish Council Members: Chris Mahoney, Therese Evans, Cathy McGrath, Lorraine Kumar, John Spillane

Pastor: Fr Dantus Thottathil thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au

Associate Pastor: Fr Prem Rethnamony

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Safeguarding Officer: Lisa Knight ☎ 3822 2139

STOPLINE Contact: AOb@stoline.com.au

A VOCATION VIEW:

Who, today, is willing to make ready the way of the Lord to clear Him a straight path?
Vocation Brisbane. P: (07) 3336 9392 E: vocation@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Primary School

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Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them: Lynne Gage, John Jorna, Agatha Ravaneschi, Liana Lo Presti, Andrew Hodgson, Amanda Ward, Ed Moloney, Colleen Van den Bosch, Janice McAnlen, Rebecca Harvey, Clara Elms, Beth Riegler, Henk Hoonhout, Tony Dickinson, Elizabeth Smit, Pat Cochrane, Patricia Briscoe, Paul McKean, Geoffrey Whall, Kevin Harrop, Judy Mullan, Charles Lilley, Ann Brown, Sally Legarda, Gemma Paxman, James Thomas, Cindy Cummins, John Bacon, Jodie Bromiley, Casey Whitby, Trish Swan, Ian Splatt, Steven West, Ava Loda, Joan Thorpe, Patricia Haines, Belinda Wheeler, Cely Salisbury, The Bade Family, Brian Crimmins, Brian Johnston, Medi Camelli, Hazel Foster, Dan Mullan, Stana Matic, Page Brosnan, Dot Abrahams, Amelia Ramsay, Jeanette Moore, Nola Murphy, Christiana Becker, Cathy Leane, Pauline McNamee, Pat Crimmins, Gina Mather.

May God embrace all who have recently died: Michael McMahon, Gina Basso, Carmel Hickey.

Anniversaries & Remembrances December: Les and Ruby Richards, Alberto & Vittorio Poloniato, John Jorna Snr, Antonio Cailotto, Amalia Bandiera, John Williams, Madeline Gauci, Eve Buckmaster, Peter Moores, Carmen Jagga, Hans Adam, Fayline Fraser, Alma Prove, Mary Boyle, Josefina Wilcox, Rita Fantov, Michael Newman, Maria Bosso, Mark Ciavarella, Ron Tamatea, Meg Griffiths, Mal Carlson, Luigi Santarossa, Arnold Splatt, Arthur McCarthy, Ray Murphy, David Kearney, Sr Dot Newberry, Jack and Mary Ward, Graeme & Sonia Giles, David Boyd, Irene Kearney, Llewellyn Mills, Clare Rubach, Ivan Randall, Jordan Smith, Vladga Smith, Franco Peressini, Dorothy McInroy, Annie Neale, Fr Tom Boland.

Please record any further names in the Anniversaries & Remembrance Diary at the Welcome Desk

Support Your Parish: Thank you so much to all the Parishioners who continue to support our Parish financially. Our planned giving bank account details for Electronic Funds Transfer deposits are as follows: **BSB: 064 786 Account No: 1000 17027**
Account Name: Birkdale Parish Planned Giving (this account number is NOT for over the counter deposits at the Bank). Kindly reference your deposit with your surname and your planned giving number/envelope number if you have one.

Advent Second Rite of Reconciliation: Our Advent Second Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated on **Thursday 16th December 2021 at 6.00pm**. There will be no mass on this day.

Christmas Pageant It is a tradition in the Parish for children to present the story of the birth of Jesus at Mass on Christmas Eve. We are looking for children who might like to be involved this year. There are a range of speaking and non-speaking roles. Costumes are available. Children must be able to attend Mass at 7 pm on Christmas Eve as well as a number of rehearsals. These will be held at the Church from **3:30 – 4:30 pm on Tuesday 14th December, Thursday 16th December, Tuesday 21st December and Thursday 23rd December**. For more information, please contact Lisa Knight in the Parish Office or Tania Logan on 0407436643 or britania@optusnet.com.au.

EAST TIMOR RAFFLE Tickets will be on sale at Masses \$5 each or 3 for \$10. Lots of great prizes!!!! Many thanks for your support.

Christmas Appeal - The St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal will be held on **the 4th & 5th December**. Funds raised provides the community with a chance to help change lives by adding a little comfort, dignity, hope and warmth to the lives of those who are struggling. All money donated stays within the Birkdale Conference. Envelopes will be available in the Church or deposits can be made by EFT to: BSB: 064 786 Account No: 1000 26127 Account Name: SVDP St Mary MacKillop (not for over the counter deposits).

Christmas Tree Donations of food items for St Vincent de Paul to prepare hampers will be gratefully received. If donating presents, please take a gift tag from the Christmas Tree in the Church and purchase an item for the age and gender of the recipient. Donation baskets will be in the Church from next weekend. *Thank you for your generosity.*

St Vincent de Paul - have Christmas cards (\$2.95 for a pack of 8), Christmas gifts and Columbian Calendars for sale at weekend Masses.

Parish Diary:

Monday 6th December

1:00pm Rosary Group and Private Prayer

2:00pm Activities Group

Tuesday 7th December

St Ambrose

9:30am Finance Council Meet

7:00pm SVdP Meeting

Wednesday 8th December

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30am HEARTfit

11:00am Rosary Group and Private Prayer

Thursday 9th December

10:30am Mass at Sylvan Wood

5:30pm Reconciliation

6:00pm Mass

Friday 10th December

9:00am Rosary

9:30am Mass

10:30am Mass at Regis Grange

Saturday 11th December

11:00am Baptism Celebration

3:00pm Baptism Celebration

6:15pm Mass

Sunday 12th December

Third Sunday of Advent

8:00am Mass

10:00am Golf at Howeston followed by BBQ

12 noon Farewell Lunch

Second Sunday of Advent – Year C

First Reading: A reading from the prophet Baruch

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

Second Reading: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.