

**Parish Priest**

Fr Joson Antony MCBS

**Office Staff**

Dot Lomax

**Pastoral Coordinators**

Rachel Marchesini

Yolanda Apelt

**Churches**

St Joachim's Church

41 Yuletide Street

Holland Park

St Agnes' Church

1227 Logan Road

Mt Gravatt

**Parish Office Hours**

Monday – Friday

8:30am – 4:00pm

**Parish Details**

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Mt Gravatt Qld 4122

Telephone: 07 3349 2280

E: [hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au)

Fax: 07 3349 1558

Pager: 07 3834 8507

Website:

[www.hollandparkmtgravatt.catholicparish.com.au](http://www.hollandparkmtgravatt.catholicparish.com.au)

**Parish Schools and College**

St Agnes' School

07 3349 5130

St Joachim's School

07 3397 9087

Seton College

07 3291-5333

**St Vincent de Paul Welfare**

1800 846 643

**Safeguarding Officer**

Dot Lomax 0428 172 224

(Safeguarding purposes only)

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Year A

14<sup>th</sup>\15<sup>th</sup> December, 2019

## Rejoice

Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudate Sunday, meaning Sunday of joy. Gaudate is a Latin word that means “rejoice.” The word rejoice is taken from Philippians 4:4-5, “Rejoice in the Lord always, again I said rejoice.”

In this third week we are praying for the restoration of joy, especially for those, according to Pope Francis, whose life seem like “Lent without Easter.” This type of joy, according to the pope, enables “wheat to grow in the midst of weeds” and the light of the Holy Spirit to radiate in the midst of darkness.

Today we light the pink candle which symbolizes joy. There are people who have little or no joy in their life. We pray for such people today as we light the candle of joy. May God restore their joy again.

The joy we are talking about is not “feeling good” because of possession of worldly things. One can lack material things and still filled with joy. One can be physically sick but filled with joy. What therefore is this joy? It is what Nehemiah the prophet calls the joy of the Lord which is our strength (Nehemiah 8:10). It is joy from above. This joy is the gladness of heart that comes from knowing God, trusting and abiding in him and being guided by the inspiration and promptings of the Holy Spirit.

John the Baptist was in prison. The expectation was that Jesus would get him out of the prison. That did not happen. John also thought that Jesus was to deliver Israel from the Romans. That did not happen. John was disappointed and send messengers to Jesus to ask, “Are you the one to come, or are we to wait for another.” John the Baptist in his difficulties forgot that his being in physical prison does not mean spiritual prison. He forgot that Jesus was not a political messiah. Like John the Baptist, in our difficulties we doubt, we are disappointed, we look for answers. Jesus tells us in the Gospel not to doubt but to trust God and abide in him. Jesus says, I am the one who make the blind regain their sight. I make the lame walk again. I heal the lepers, I make the deaf hear. I raise the dead. I bring good tidings to the poor in me.”

Pope Francis' First Apostolic Exhortation Evangelii Gaudium (Joy of the Gospel) states that “The Joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew. In this Exhortation I wish to encourage the Christian faithful to embark upon a new chapter of evangelization marked by this joy, while pointing out new paths for the Church’s journey in years to come”. So my friends let’s joyfully welcome our Jesus preparing our hearts and minds for Him.

*Every blessings*

*Fr. Joson*

**Readings: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 7:10-14

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-24

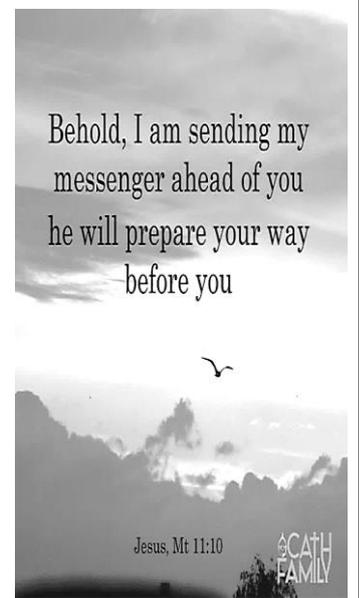


**Invitation**  
**Advent Prayer and Christmas Drinks**  
**St Agnes Church**  
**Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**6:30pm**



You and your family are invited to set some time aside to pray together and to enjoy one another's company.

For catering purposes please indicate on the clipboards in the churches today if you are planning on attending or give the office a call tomorrow.



**WE REMEMBER**

We remember Donna Meadowcroft, Lois Colborn, Fran Barry and Allan Tiainen. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

**PARISH HAPPENINGS**

**COUNTERS**

Cheryl's team.

**GOD'S WORD 2020**

This book of daily reflections is now available from the churches for \$12 each.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS AND COLUMBAN CALENDARS**

Christmas Cards are available this weekend; Pack of 8 - \$3. Columban Calendars – If anyone would like a calendar please let the office know asap.

**MEALS ON WHEELS**

St Joachim's team - Tuesday, December 17th. See noticeboard for roster.

**HOLLAND PARK MT GRAVATT PARISH WEBSITE**

The Parish now has its own website and it is accessible on the link below:

<https://hollandparkmtgravattcatholicparish.com.au/>

Go online and check it out.

The more often it is visited the higher it rates on the search engine. It is continuing to develop.

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS PREVENTION AND PROTECTION POLICY**

*...for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Mark 10.14*

The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm.

They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded by all.

This means that everyone in the church must ensure that the fundamental rights of children, young people and vulnerable adults are respected. This will be achieved through the development of respectful relationships and a commitment to safety embracing appropriate boundaries, behaviours and practices, in accordance with the Archdiocesan *Code of Ethical Behaviour* and adherence to legislative imperatives of the State.

**This policy applies to Clergy, Religious, Staff, Parishioners, Volunteers, students on placement and Visitors to our sites.**

**Parish Diary**

**Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 8:00am  
 St Joachim's

Advent Prayer with Penitential Rite

6:30pm St Agnes'

**Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**

Benediction 5:30pm

Mass 6:00pm

St Agnes'

**Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 9:00am

St Agnes'

**Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 9:00am

St Joachim's

**Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**

Reconciliation 5:30pm

St Joachim's

**3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**

Mass 6:00pm

St Joachim's

**Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Mass 7:30am

St Joachim's

Mass 9:00am

St Agnes

Mass 6:00pm

St Agnes

# Holland Park Mt Gravatt Parish LITURGICAL TIMETABLE FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SEASON

Advent Prayer and Christmas Drinks (includes Penitential Rite) - MONDAY 16 DECEMBER, 6:30pm, St Agnes'

CHRISTMAS EVE - TUESDAY 24 DECEMBER

6:00pm St Agnes' - carols from 5:45pm

7:30pm St Joachim's - carols from 7:15pm

CHRISTMAS DAY - WEDNESDAY 25 DECEMBER

8:00am St Agnes' - carols from 7:45am

NEW YEAR'S DAY - 1 JANUARY

9:00am St Joachim's

St Joachim's Church  
41 Yuletide Street  
HOLLAND PARK

St Agnes' Church  
1227 Logan Road  
MT GRAVATT

## FROM AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

lights  
OF CHRISTMAS  
CATHEDRAL OF ST STEPHEN

11-24  
December

6.30pm carols  
7pm light show  
(every 12 minutes)

FREE

249 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

Gather on the lawn at St Stephen's Cathedral to celebrate the joy of Christmas with an extraordinary sound and light show. The Lights of Christmas is a free event open to the public that will delight families with music, food and children's activities every evening 11 - 24 December, 6.30 - 10.30pm.



Queensland  
Government



ST VINCENT'S  
CARE SERVICES



ST VINCENT'S  
PRIVATE HOSPITAL

www.brisbanecatholic.org.au

### ST GERARD'S CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Saturday, 21 December at 7.00pm at St Gerard Majella's Church 146 Maundrell Tce, Chermside West. Outdoors - bring a chair and the Aerogard. Sing along with Renata and the Paradise City Band and enjoy all the fun of the Festival.

### THE CATHOLIC LEADER

COST: \$2.00

- ❖ Young Catholics marched in their thousands – a pilgrim army united by faith, and urged to “go and rebuild” the Church.
- ❖ Fertility medical consultant found a link between a study that shows the pill changes a woman's brain structure and a treatment option for women who have used oral birth control.
- ❖ WA signs euthanasia and assisted dying legislation into law.
- ❖ Archbishop Coleridge answered questions and reflected on 2019 during a Facebook Live session with viewers.
- ❖ Julianne Schmid has spent the past few years preparing her sons, who were born deaf, to hear the world differently.
- ❖ A Brisbane priest said it was important that Church and medical workers offer hope to offshore refugees and asylum seekers.
- ❖ National costumes and flags of the Americas heralded a vibrant feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Brisbane on December 9.
- ❖ Marina Castellanos shares her story as friends and relatives were being kidnapped, tortured and murdered, and she was left asking “Where is God?”

Available in the churches this weekend.



For however you choose to say goodbye...

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Thomas Antony : 0478911089



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Light  
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PRIMARY SCHOOL | [stagnes.qld.edu.au](http://stagnes.qld.edu.au)



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**St Joachim's**

Catholic Primary School HOLLAND PARK

PREP - 6

Faith - Respect - Service

**Cr Krista Adams**

Deputy Mayor  
Councillor for Holland Park  
Chair of Finance and Economic Development

- (07) 3403 7791
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- CrKristaAdams
- @CrKristaAdams
- CrKristaAdams4121
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Mt Gravatt, Qld, 4122



**Samuel Denny**

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