

**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

P O Box 281

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Mt Gravatt Qld 4122

Telephone: 07 3349 2280

E: hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au

Fax: 07 3349 1558

Pager: 07 3834 8507

Website:

www.hollandparkmtgravatt.catholicparish.com.au[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)

4th Sunday of Advent

Year A

21st/22nd December, 2019**Jesus is the Reason for the Season**

Christ is born for us; let us rejoice in the day of our salvation! Let us open our hearts to receive the grace of this day, which is Christ himself. Jesus is the radiant “day” which has dawned on the horizon of humanity. A day of mercy, in which God our Father has revealed his great tenderness to the entire world. A day of light, which dispels the darkness of fear and anxiety. A day of peace, which makes for encounter, dialogue and, above all, reconciliation.

On this day, Jesus, the Saviour, is born of the Virgin Mary. We see the sign which God has given us: “a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” Like the shepherds of Bethlehem, may we too set out to see this sign, this event which is renewed yearly in the Church.

Christmas is an event which is renewed in every family, parish and community which receives the love of God made incarnate in Jesus Christ. With the shepherds, let us bow down and worship God’s goodness made flesh!

Where God is born, hope is born. He brings hope. Where God is born, peace is born; and where peace is born, there is no longer room for hatred and for war. Where God is born, hope is born; and where hope is born, persons regain their dignity.

Yet even today, great numbers of men and woman are deprived of their human dignity and, like the child Jesus, suffer cold, poverty and rejection. May our closeness today be felt by those who are most vulnerable.

Where God is born, mercy flourishes. Today, then, let us come together to rejoice in the day of our salvation. As we contemplate the crib, let us gaze on the open arms of Jesus - the merciful embrace of God . We hear the voice of the Child who whispers to us: “Peace.”

At this great time of joy and thanksgiving, I would like to send my personal gratitude to each of you and your families for being a part of our faith-filled community here in our parish. We would also like to Thank You for your loyal and generous cooperation during the year and for giving so freely of your time, talent and treasure. May the beauty, peace and joy of this most blessed season envelop you all with the infinite love of God, and the wonder of the birth of His only Son, our Saviour and brother, Jesus.

May our loving God bless you and your loved ones with a joyful grace-filled Christmas, and may the gift of God’s love come alive in your heart this Christmas, and throughout the New Year 2020.

*With blessings**Fr Joson***Readings: Christmas**

Isaiah 9:1-7

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-14

Readings: Feast of the Holy Family

Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14

Colossians 3:12-21

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23



*Wishing you and your family
a happy and holy Christmas*



Christmas/New Year Mass Times

Tuesday, December 24th

St Agnes Church

Carols 5:45pm
Mass 6:00pm

St Joachim's

Carols 7:15pm
Mass 7:30pm

Wednesday, December 25th

St Agnes Church

Carols 7:45pm
Mass 8:00am

Wednesday, January 1st

St Joachim's Church

Mass 9:00am

Parish Office Closure

The Parish Office will close at 4:00pm on Tuesday, December 24th and reopen on Thursday, January 2nd. In the case of an emergency please ring the Pager Service on 3834 8507 and Fr Joson will return your call.

HAPPENINGS

COUNTERS

December 23rd: Elisabeth's team.
January 2nd: Tony's team
January 6th: Alison's team

GOD'S WORD 2020

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

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas Cards are still available. Pack of 8 - \$3.

WEEKDAY MASSES – HOLIDAY PERIOD

There will be no weekday masses December 26th, 27th, 30th and January 2nd. Our regular masses will recommence on Friday, January 3rd. This mass will include an Anointing of the Sick.

ANNIVERSARY OF FR JOSON'S ORDINATION

Congratulations Fr Joson on the 14th anniversary of your ordination on December 26th. God's blessing on you and thank you for all you do in the service of God.

HOLLAND PARK MT GRAVATT PARISH WEBSITE

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

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

Parish Diary

Monday, December 23rd

Mass 8:00am
St Joachim's

Tuesday, December 24th

Christmas Eve

St Agnes' Church

Christmas Carols 5:45pm
Mass 6:00pm

St Joachim's Church

Christmas Carols 7:15pm
Mass 7:30pm

Wednesday, December 25th

Christmas Day

St Agnes' Church

Christmas Carols 7:45am
Mass 8:00am

Saturday, December 28th

Reconciliation 5:30pm
St Joachim's

Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 28th

Mass 6:00pm
St Joachim's

Sunday, December 29th

Mass 7:30am
St Joachim's

Mass 9:00am

St Agnes

Mass 6:00pm

St Agnes

Wednesday, January 1st

New Year's Day

Feast of Mary Mother of God

St Joachim's Church

Mass 9:00am

Friday, January 3rd

Mass 9:00am

St Joachim's

Includes Anointing of the Sick

FROM AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE



The most enduring gift this Christmas

Giving through your Will is the perfect way to support the future of our Parish.

For more information visit www.brisbanecatholic.org.au/life/bequests

Contact: Ph: 07 3324 3211 E: giving@bne.catholic.net.au Office: Level 6, 229 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane Q, 4000



The most enduring gift this Christmas

Giving through your Will is the perfect way to support the future of our Catholic Parish. For more information visit www.brisbanecatholic.org.au/life/bequests

The appropriate Will clause for our parish is: "I give [amount/percentage/asset/item] to The Corporation of the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Brisbane ABN 25 328 758 007 for the use and benefit of the general charitable, religious and educational purposes of the [insert name of Parish or the name of the Parish Endowment Fund] situated at [insert Parish Office street address and suburb], Queensland. However, if this Parish ceases to exist in its current form, then to the new parish or parishes erected in its stead which may include the Parish named in this clause (if more than one then equally as tenants in common). I direct that the receipt of the Financial Administrator for the time being of The Corporation of the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Brisbane ABN 25 328 758 007 shall constitute a sufficient discharge to my trustee."

LIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS – CATHEDRAL OF ST STEPHEN

Gather on the lawns of 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 with will delight families with music, food and children's activities every evening from 6:30 – 10:30pm up to December 24th. Carols begin at 6:30pm and the light show runs every 12 minutes from 7:00pm. "Loved it so much!!! Absolutely beautiful. I'll be going back to see it a few more times! #StStephens"

CCR BRISBANE HEALING PRAYER CENTRE

Catholic Charismatic Renewal will be offering training on Healing Prayer Level 1 at CCR Brisbane Centre, 688 Nudgee Road, Northgate in 2020. This level 1 course will be completed over 3 full Saturdays - 29 February, 28 March, 18 April with attendance at all three training days required and is **open** to all. For more details, fees and registration email secretary@ccrbrisbane.org.au or telephone 0435 558 390 or 3202 6856

CATHEDRAL GUIDES & WELCOMERS

Cathedral Guides & Welcomers invite you to an information session on **Thursday 7 February 2020 at 10.30am** to discover the delights of volunteering with the Cathedral Guides & Welcomers. The meeting will be held in the Hanly Room of the Francis Rush Centre. If you enjoy meeting people; love your Cathedral and revel in good art and juicy history, the rewards of becoming a volunteer with the Cathedral Guides and Welcomers is beyond measure. A comprehensive training program is offered. If this ministry appeals to you, please contact the Cathedral on 3324 3030 or email deveryc@bne.catholic.net.au, by Friday 25 January 2019.

THE CATHOLIC LEADER

COST: \$2.00

Available in the churches this weekend

- The Catholic Leader wishes all readers a joyful, holy Christmas and a happy New Year. Our next edition will be January 12.
- Cairns Bishop James Foley will retire due to ailing health after 27 years
- A brother and sister who arrived as refugees just 18 months ago are dual duxes of St James College
- Australian bishops have re-committed themselves to an evangelisation focus
- Farmer Lyle Winks sits down to discuss his life on the farm in drought conditions and the hope to come at Christmas.
- Baby Jesus could share a birthday with a boy whose life was saved by a crisis pregnancy safe house in Brisbane.
- Archbishop Mark Coleridge joined the other Qld bishops in sharing their Christmas messages with the People of God.
- Joseph Leeds tells his story about a run-in with hard drugs and a near death experience, saying he is only alive today as a product of God's mercy.

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.



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Thomas Antony : 0478911089

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

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