



Parish Priest and Deacon

Fr Jason Antony MCBS

Dcn Des Neagle

Office Staff

Adrian Prendergast

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

1227 Logan Road

Mt Gravatt Qld 4122

Telephone: 07 3349 2280

E: hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au

Pager: 07 3834 8507

Website:

www.hollandparkmtgravattcatholicparish.com.au

Facebook:

st joachim's & st agnes' parish

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 0474 297 201

(Safeguarding purposes only)

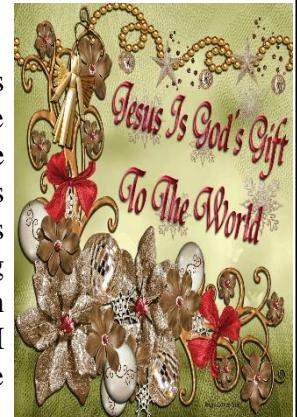
4th Sunday of Advent

Yr C

December 18th/19th 2021

Celebrate the Wonder of Christmas

Dear Friends the Spirit of Christmas is all around us. 2021 is drawing to a close at last. Again it was a year that made huge demands on all of us. The COVID-19 pandemic has gripped the world and stopped it in its tracks. Christmas is coming, and this year everything will be different again due to the border openings and easing of restriction, the family reunions, and travelling across the borders etc. – that much is certain, but nothing can prevent us from experiencing the joy of the Christmas season. I hope this Christmas celebration may add more joy as we come together to celebrate what we believe, as one community.



Aren't we so lucky in Queensland and of course in the Holland Park and Mt. Gravatt areas. When I drive around our parish I always see the Christmas lights and decorated homes which are the outward joy of our inner happiness. 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 and healing which makes for encounter, dialogue and, above all, reconciliation.

Christmas is an event which is renewed in every family in our parish community. With the shepherds, let us bow down and worship God's goodness made flesh! Where God is born, hope is born. Where God is born, peace is born; and where peace is born, there is no longer room for hatred and war. 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, hope and healing".

At this great time of joy and thanksgiving, I would like to send my personal greetings to each of you and your families for being a part of our faith-filled community during 2021 here in our parish. Again Thank You for your loyal and generous cooperation during this year and for giving so freely of your time, talent and treasure. Especially, I do thank all staff, liturgy committee, council members both pastoral and finance, ministers, volunteers, school and college staff and families, as well.

May the 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 reunions bring joy, comfort and healing to our families and societies and always have safe travel. Wish you all merry charisms and a peaceful New Year 2022.

Fr Jason

Readings: Feast of the Holy Family

Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

Luke 2:41-52

Readings: The Epiphany

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

First Reading

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
the least of the clans of Judah,
out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel;
his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old.
The Lord is therefore going to abandon them
till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth.
Then the remnant of his brothers will come back
to the sons of Israel.
He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord,
with the majesty of the name of his God.
They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power
to the ends of the land.
He himself will be peace.

Micah 5:1-4

Responsorial Psalm

Response: Lord, make us turn to you;
let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O Shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted.

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.

Second Reading

Hebrews 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me.
You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin;
then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book,
'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 1:39-44

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

Parish Diary**Monday, December 20th**

Mass 8:00am
St Joachim's

Funeral Mass 11:30am
(Margaret Macdonald)
St Joachim's

Wednesday, December 22nd

Mass 6:00pm
St Agnes'

Thursday, December 23rd

Mass 9:00am
St Agnes'

Friday, December 24th

Mass 9:00am
St Joachim's

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**Sunday, December 26th**

Mass 7:30am
St Joachim's

Mass 9:00am
St Agnes'

Please note there are no evening masses for this weekend.

Saturday, January 1st

Reconciliation 5:30pm
St Joachim's

The Epiphany of the Lord**Saturday, January 1st**

Mass 6:00pm
St Joachim's

Sunday, January 2nd

Mass 7:30am
St Joachim's

Mass 9:00am
St Agnes'

Mass 6:00pm
St Agnes'

There will be NO WEEKDAY MASSES from Monday, December 27th until Wednesday, January 5th

PARISH NEWS

WE REMEMBER

We remember Margaret MacDonald, John Kevin (Kev) O'Neill, George Zangerle and Mark Tiainen. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

WE REJOICE

With the Percival and Hamill and the Dever families as they celebrate the baptism of Hudson and Jessica in the parish this weekend.

COUNTERS

Cheryl's team.

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed from 4:00pm Friday, December 24th until Wednesday, January 5th.

WEEKDAY MASSES

There will be no weekday masses after Friday, December 24th until Wednesday, January 5th. In the case of an emergency please call the Pager Service, 3834 8507.

GOD'S WORD 2022

This book of daily reflections is a companion on the journey to pray, to share, to grow in God's love and be nourished by the word of God. It includes the scripture readings of the day along with a reflection. \$15.

MEALS ON WHEELS

St Joachim's team - Tuesday, December 21st.

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY BOOKS



The Parish has a special gift for all the kids (and kids at heart) this Christmas. Be sure to collect a children's activity book when you come to the Christmas Masses!

THE CATHOLIC LEADER

Special Christmas edition of the Catholic Leader is available this weekend. Cost: \$4

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

CHRISTMAS EVE – FRIDAY DECEMBER 24 PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN CHURCHES

5:30pm St Joachim's Carols from 5:15pm
<https://www.trybooking.com/BWDFD>

Fully Booked

7:00pm St Agnes' Carols from 6:45pm
<https://www.trybooking.com/BWDEZ>

CHRISTMAS DAY – SATURDAY DECEMBER 25

8:00am St Agnes' Carols from 7:45am
<https://www.trybooking.com/BWDEZ>

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL.

Feast of the Holy Family - Sunday December 26

7:30am St Joachim's

9:00am St Agnes'

NB: Please note there is no 6:00pm masses this weekend for the Feast of the Holy Family.

The Epiphany of the Lord - January 2

6:00pm (Saturday) St Joachim's

7:30am St Joachim's

9:00am St Agnes'

6:00pm St Agnes

COMMUNITY NEWS

CEO – CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION ALLIANCE, QLD. (CRIAQ)

Part time role. The alliance, made up of 15 denominations across Queensland, is looking for a person with a calling to support the ministry of RI in State Schools. RI is the church in Qld's most extensive cooperative ministry. It reaches out to approximately 150,000 children predominantly weekly via over 3000 volunteer instructors. The role is to lead engagement with our key stakeholders – the churches, organisations that provide RI across the state, the Education Department, political parties, foundations/donors/funders and oversee the deployment of central staff and regionally based staff. The CEO will preferably have executive experience, will be a committed Christian leader who appreciates the tremendous opportunity that RI is for the young people of this state to explore, question, and discover Christian faith. RI in Qld is well positioned to build on positive momentum and the CEO will relish meeting current challenges with innovative and strategic leadership.

For further information, please contact the Chair, Rev. David Baker, on chair@christiari.org.au, Ph. 0418 88 06 01 Applications close 24th January 2022



The Lord
is my
Shepherd:

*I shall
not want*

DECEMBER 31ST
ST MARY'S CHURCH
GATTON

PRAYER, PRAISE AND
REFLECTION FROM 8PM
MASS FROM 11PM
SUPPER TO FOLLOW
AS WE WELCOME 2022
BOOKINGS PREFERRED



For bookings and more information, please phone Chris 0407 132 700



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Binh Nguyen

Mob: 0452 162 656

QBCC:15 113 118

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* Carpentry *Decks * Patios
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Catholic Early EdCare
WATCH THEM GROW

St Joachim's Outside School Hours Care
41 Yuletide Street Holland Park 4121
07 3847 9820
0418 355 431

INDIAN SPICE SHOP
ASPLEY - ANNERLEY - BROWNS PLAINS
CHERMSIDE - SPRINGFIELD



The Holland Park Mt Gravatt Catholic Parish acknowledge the Jagera people, the Traditional Owners 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.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS PREVENTION AND PROTECTION POLICY

... for it is to such as thee that the kingdom of God belongs.

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.