

**PARISH PRIEST****FR THOMAS VARKEY****OFFICE STAFF****DOT LOMAX****KATE WAYMOUTH****PASTORAL COORDINATORS****MARY GINTY****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 3521 8025****WEBSITE:****WWW.HOLLANDPARKMTGRAVATT****CATHOLICPARISH.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)****LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE****YEAR B****NOVEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup> /24<sup>TH</sup>, 2024****What is the Kingdom of God?**

Gerald Darring, a retired high school and college teacher of theology, explains it this way: "The Kingdom of God is a space. It exists in every home where parents and children love each other. It exists in every region and country that cares for its weak and vulnerable. It exists in every parish that reaches out to the needy."

The Kingdom of God is a time. It happens whenever someone feeds a hungry person, or shelters a homeless person, or shows care to a neglected person. It happens whenever we overturn an unjust law, or correct an injustice, or avert a war. It happens whenever people join in the struggle to overcome poverty, to erase ignorance, to pass on the faith.

The Kingdom of God is in the past (in the life and work of Jesus of Nazareth); it is in the present (in the work of the Church and in the efforts of many others to create a world of goodness and justice); it is in the future (reaching its completion in the age to come).

The Kingdom of God is a condition. Its symptoms are love, justice, and peace."

The Kingdom of God, God's Reign in the world, is Jesus' central and urgent message. In proclaiming the Kingdom, Jesus announces that a new age has come and that the Reign of God is near – underway, but not yet complete. Jesus' proclamation of the Kingdom was so counter-cultural to those who heard him and witnessed his works that he was put to death on a cross.

Jesus' Kingship is a reversal of the Kingship of empire building. Instead of striving for power, prestige and privilege, Jesus seeks out 'excluded' or 'forgotten' people – for example, the leper, the adulteress, the sinner, the blind, the lame, and the Samaritan; people who were oppressed, put down, voiceless and seen to be worthless in the dominant culture of power, control and position. Jesus turns the lives of these 'little ones' around, loves them into life, and sets them on new paths of living, loving and relating.

In our time, who are the 'excluded' and 'forgotten', the demonised and condemned, the oppressed and abandoned, whom we are called to love into life? Called to love into life with love that affirms their dignity, love that breaks down the barriers of discrimination, love that heals and comforts, and love that is practical and hands on.

This week's Mass Preface describes Christ's Kingdom as one of "truth and life, of holiness and grace, of justice, love and peace." Such a Kingdom is not some 'pie in the sky' ideal or utopian dream.

The Kingdom is a reality which may have small beginnings but has the potential to change the world and the way we live. And each of us has a role to play to bring about this reality wherever and with whom we find ourselves.

David J Hore CSsR

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## READINGS FOR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

### FIRST READING

I gazed into the visions of the night.  
And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven,  
one like a son of man.  
He came to the one of great age  
and was led into his presence.  
On him was conferred sovereignty,  
glory and kingship,  
and men of all peoples, nations and languages became his servants.  
His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty  
which shall never pass away,  
nor will his empire be destroyed.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**RESPONSE:** The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed;  
the Lord has robed himself with might,  
he has girded himself with power.

The world you made firm, not to be moved;  
your throne has stood firm from of old.  
From all eternity, O Lord, you are.

Truly your decrees are to be trusted.  
Holiness is fitting to your house,  
O Lord, until the end of time.

### SECOND READING

Revelation 1:5-8

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the First-born from the dead, the Ruler of the kings of the earth. He loves us and has washed away our sins with his blood, and made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God and Father; to him, then, be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen. It is he who is coming on the clouds; everyone will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the races of the earth will mourn over him. This is the truth. Amen. 'I am the Alpha and the Omega' says the Lord God, who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father;  
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

John 18:33-37

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.' 'So you are a king then?' said Pilate. 'It is you who say it' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.'

## PARISH DIARY

**Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 8:00am  
St Joachim's

**Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 6:00pm  
St Agnes'

**Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 9:00am  
St Agnes'

**Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 9:00am  
St Joachim's

**Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup>**

Reconciliation 4:30pm  
St Joachim's

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup>**

Mass (Vigil) 5:00pm  
St Joachim's

**Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**

Mass 7:30am  
St Joachim's

Mass 9:00am  
St Agnes'

Mass 6:00pm  
St Agnes'



*When Jesus speaks about the Kingdom of God he never gives a particularly clear picture of what he means. He usually refers to the kingdom with metaphoric language ('the kingdom of God is like ...') and often the kingdom is defined by what it is not. The kingdom is also a real contradiction: it is here and now and yet it is still to come; it is almost impossible for some to enter the kingdom while others are assured a place; it is within us and in our hearts and yet is a great banquet to which all are invited.*

## READINGS – 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1<sup>ST</sup> READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

2<sup>ND</sup> READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:12 – 4:2

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

## PARISH NEWS

### WE REJOICE

With the Varghese and Wilson families as they celebrate the baptism of Jordhin in the parish this weekend.

### HOSPITALITY AT ST JOACHIM'S

There will be hospitality after the 5:00pm and 7:30am masses at St Joachim's this weekend.

### COUNTERS

Elisabeth's team.

### ADVENT REFLECTION – HOPE REIGNS STARTS THIS WEEK

There will be a Advent Reflection Group gathering during the season of Advent commencing on Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Centre at 6:30pm. The evenings will be led by Lesley van Trier. If you are interested in coming please indicate on the form on the gifts table.

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Tuesday, November 26th at 4:00pm in the Parish Centre.

### LITURGICAL READERS WORKSHOP

A Readers On-going Formation Workshop will be held on Tuesday, November 26 commencing 6:30pm in St Agnes' Church. The workshop will take no longer than an hour. minutes. Ongoing formation is important and we ask readers to make the time to attend.

### PARISH LAWN MOWING

We have had volunteers mowing lawns at the two churches this year, a huge saving in maintenance costs for the parish. We are looking for someone to help, at times, with St Joachim's Church, maybe someone who lives nearby. Although not a large area, it covers the area in front of the church/footpath and small area behind the church. Message Paul on 0407011988 if you own a lawnmower and could help. Good chance to offer your charitable effort for the holy souls in purgatory for maximum benefit.



### Advent Reflection Books

Hope Reigns, a book of daily Advent reflections is available in the churches this weekend.

Cost \$5

### INVITATION TO A HEALING MASS

An invitation is extended to the people of the Archdiocese to attend a healing Mass at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, 51 Cecil Road, Bardon, Friday, 6th December, 2024 at 7.30pm. Fr. Neville Yun, PP Our Lady of the Southern Cross Parish, Springfield, will be the celebrant. The Sacrament of Healing will be administered during Mass together with a short personal prayer. Prayer ministry will also be offered after Mass for anyone who would like further prayer. Supper will be provided. For more information, contact Len Airey on 0421 977 849 or by email to [lenpatairey@gmail.com](mailto:lenpatairey@gmail.com)

### LAY VOLUNTEERS PROVIDING PASTORAL CARE TO THE SICK IN HOSPITALS

Volunteers providing Pastoral Care to the sick in hospitals are invaluable as part of holistic patient care. The foundation for this ministry lies in the parable of the Good Samaritan. Centacare provides accredited training for compassionate men and women who would like to explore if this ministry is where God is calling them to practical Christian action in their lives. The next training course will start in February 2025. To express your interest or to find out more about the course and the volunteer role please email [judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au](mailto:judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au) or phone 3324 3193

### ANNUAL ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The local conference will be conducting this appeal in the parish next weekend, November 30<sup>th</sup>/December 1<sup>st</sup>.

This year's appeal shines a light on the ongoing impact on the vulnerable people in our community who are being pushed to the brink of poverty, including those like Tania, who is doing her best to provide a safe and caring home for her 3 children.

According to reports, 13% of Queenslanders are living in poverty – the highest rate in Australia, and a shocking 17.3% of children are experiencing poverty. Nearly a quarter of Queenslanders are going hungry because they can't afford to eat.



### THIS CHRISTMAS FAMILIES LIKE TANIA'S NEED YOUR URGENT HELP.



The ongoing cost-of-living crisis is pushing more and more vulnerable people beyond breaking point, into poverty and disadvantage. Give generously today to provide immediate assistance and ongoing support.

SCAN TO DONATE.

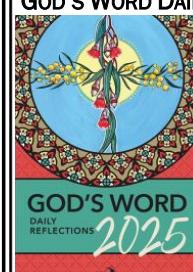


Donate to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal today.  
Please give online [vinnies.org.au](http://vinnies.org.au) or call 13 18 12

Funds raised through the Vinnies Christmas Appeal will be used to fund our core programs including supporting people experiencing or at risk of homelessness and also people struggling with poverty and cost-of-living pressures.

Vinnies Christmas Appeal  
St Vincent de Paul Society  
your local

### GOD'S WORD DAILY REFLECTIONS 2025



This book of Daily Reflections which commences on January 1<sup>st</sup> is coming soon. The cost will be \$15 each.

### MENTAL WELLBEING MORNING

A Catholic Mental Wellbeing morning is held weekly on a Wednesday morning at 58 Morgan Street, The Valley. Participants who would enjoy a morning of companionship, reflection and prayer, and to celebrate Mass followed by a light lunch are most welcome to attend. For more details please contact Judy Norris, Ph 3324 3193 or email [judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au](mailto:judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au)



### Gingerbread House Night

Thursday 5 December, 7:00pm at Emmanuel City Mission, 10A Cordelia Street, South Brisbane. Come and join us for a festive evening, build your own gingerbread house and support a great cause! Cost \$55 each, or \$250 for 5 tickets. All materials provided. Register at [www.ec.org.au](http://www.ec.org.au). Enquiries to [events@ec.org.au](mailto:events@ec.org.au). All profits support the mission of Emmanuel Community.

### ADVENT 2024 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY BRUCE DOWNES

Jesus is Coming - Time to Get Ready. Experience the life-changing love of Christ and be strengthened in your faith journey this Advent alongside many people from around the world with The Catholic Guy, Bruce Downes. To help you go deeper in your prayer life and spiritual journey, you are invited to attend the Advent Mission Event Retreat online from 7-9th December with unlimited streaming until the end of Advent. To find out more and register, go to:

<https://TheCatholicGuy.com/missionevent>

Register now on the website or for more information, email: [info@brucedownes.org](mailto:info@brucedownes.org)

### BACH SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 2.00 pm at the Dron Auditorium, St Peter's Lutheran College, Lambert Road, Indooroopilly. (There is ample parking on site and the venue is wheel chair accessible.)

**Tickets:** Adult (\$50); concession (\$45); group 6+ (\$40); secondary school students (\$20) (children free) are available at:

Trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/CVNGQ>

Bach Society of Queensland website: [www.bachsocietyqld.org.au](http://www.bachsocietyqld.org.au)

Ph: Barbara on 0412 667 348 (please leave a message)



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### 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.



We are committed to the  
**NATIONAL CATHOLIC  
SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS**