



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH

3rd Sunday of Advent

Year B Cycle II

17 December 2023



We are Sent

The experience of being anointed and sent by God for a specific purpose is something the prophet Isaiah took up in deeply practical ways. Sent to the poor, the broken, captives and the imprisoned, Isaiah, like the saints, becomes a sign for us - pointing the way to both our journey and destination: finding Jesus in those to whom we're called, and actively accompanying them into union with him. They live in our midst, but often they are us.

Just think of the many people who are spiritually poor, captive to a culture which says that they have no need for an intimate, personal, life-giving relationship with Jesus (curiously, this can even sometimes be faithful Mass-goers). We are surrounded by broken relationships in our families and communities. Many people are imprisoned by a slavery to screen-time. The poor are in our midst, we are sent to them, and we are them.

Lord, help me to grasp the call you have placed on my life; that I may use the gifts you have given me to serve, give and accompany others into relationship with your Son, Jesus. Amen.

The Sign Fr Joshua Whitehead

Christmas Mass & Confession Times

Second Rite of Reconciliation Wednesday 20 December

6pm (With several visiting priests available for Confessions)

Christmas Eve Sunday 24 December

Carols 4:30pm, Children's Nativity Mass 5pm

Christmas Vigil Mass 7pm

Carols 11:30pm, Midnight Mass 12am

Christmas Day Monday 25 December

Morning Masses 8am and 9:30am

Mass 11am at Reynolds Court, Bias Avenue Bateau Bay
(No Mass Christmas night)

New Years Day Monday 1 January

Feast of Mary, Mother of God Mass 9am



My Offering



Amount \$ _____

Christmas Offering Envelopes

are available on the tables.

Donations help support the Priests of our Diocese - active and retired.



Nursing Home Mass

Christmas Mass will be celebrated at Nareen Gardens Bateau Bay 10:30am on Tuesday.

The Franciscans

are celebrating the 800th Anniversary of the first Christmas Crib of St Francis of Assisi. For more on the Franciscan charism go to: www.ofsaustralia.org.au



Quote for the Week

*Not what we give,
but what we share,
For the gift
without the giver
is bare.*

James Russell
Lowell

In God's Good Time

Many of today's Christians worry about the loss of faith within their families and within society. The statistics are not encouraging – the faith and practice of previous generations seem, in some senses, to be disappearing. It requires considerable faith and self-effacement on our part to prepare the ground for the faith journey of others without having any reassurance that this will ultimately prove successful.

For some of our family, friends and neighbours, we ourselves will be the only Gospel that they ever read, the only sermon they will ever hear. It's not so much a question of thinking up clever and convincing arguments as of living our faith genuinely and convincingly. We may not always be able to use overtly religious language with those who are unable to accept it, but within the widest implications of our living justly, loving tenderly and walking humbly, there lie the seeds of faith, waiting to grow in God's good time and in ways that perhaps only God can see. The Fourth Eucharistic Prayer prays for "all who seek you with a sincere heart... and all the dead, whose faith you alone have known". Faith is found and fostered in many hidden ways. The challenge to us is to have confidence in God's call even when we cannot see the proof.

Every baptised person shares in the threefold ministry of Christ as prophet, priest and king. We are prophetic when our faiths open up paths of faith for others. We are priestly when we affirm the sacredness of life in every human person and in our universe, and we are proclaimers of the kingdom when we do justice in all our social and personal relationships. That is how Advent is lived within the world.

Sunday Living Word Majellan Family Media

St Francis' Crib

We celebrate Christmas in many splendid ways. One of the first items to appear in our homes, churches, schools and workplaces as Christmas approaches is a Christmas nativity scene, often in the form of a crib or creche. The Nativity scene now recreated in city squares and churches worldwide was originally conceived by St. Francis of Assisi. However, nativity scenes have been found in early Christian catacombs in Rome and can be traced to AD 380. It is more accurate to say that Francis popularised the first live Christmas creche, for Francis loved Christmas. Thomas of Celano, the earliest biographer of St Francis of Assisi wrote: 'the birthday of the Child Jesus Francis observed with inexpressible eagerness over all other feasts, saying that it was the feast of feasts, on which God, having become a tiny infant, clung to human breasts' (2 Celano, 199).

In 1223 Francis wanted to celebrate Christmas in a special way. Francis and some of the Brothers were staying near the little village of Greccio, Italy. Blessed Francis summoned one of the brothers: "If you desire to celebrate the coming feast of the Lord together, hurry before me and carefully make ready the things I tell you. For I wish to enact the memory of that Babe who was born in Bethlehem: to see as much as possible with my own bodily eyes the discomfort of his infant needs, how he lay in a manger, and how, with an ox and an ass standing by, he rested in hay." The good and faithful man ran quickly and prepared all the things the holy man had requested.

Francis of Volume I. The Saint. pp 254-255 courtesy Gerard Price, Franciscans

Thank You from St Vinnies

Thank you for your donations to this year's Vinnies' Christmas Appeal. As you may know, Aussie families are struggling to survive with the increasing cost-of-living pressures this Christmas.

Your generosity provides urgent relief for a family who are doing it tough and gives them hope for a better future. You are helping real people and real families in great need in our area.

For any further donations please use the envelopes that are available on the church tables or donate online at vinnies.org.au/Christmasappeal. Thank you again for your generosity.

End of Year School Mass

A big congratulations to the students and staff at our schools for another great year of education, and we wish the leaving students all the best for a wonderful future!



OLR Primary Students End of Year Mass and Awards

Children's Christmas Mass & Rehearsal

All children are invited to dress up as angels and shepherds for the 5pm Children's Nativity Mass on Christmas Eve. If your child would like to participate in the reenactment of the Nativity they may come to the rehearsal on Friday 22 December at 4pm in the Church. Costumes are provided for those participating. For all those attending remember the Carols start at 4:30pm.

Please Note

Thank You Catechists and Helpers

A special thank you to all our SRE Teachers and their Assistants for another great year of teaching our students about Jesus. Well done all!

On Holidays

Men's Group and Secular Franciscans have concluded for the year. A holy Christmas to all!

Caritas Global Gifts

Give a gift and change lives with Caritas' Global Gifts. Purchase a Gift Card for farmer training, a chicken or goat, or other essentials, for those in need around the world, online at www.globalgifts.org.au or call 1800 024 413.

Toukley Parish Christmas Carols

Come along with your family and friends and let us relive the story of Christmas with carols and prayers. Refreshments will be served afterwards. Wednesday 20 December 6pm St Mary's Church Toukley.



Welcome Visitors!

A warm welcome to anyone visiting our parish over the Christmas Season. It is lovely to have you with us.



Low Gluten Hosts

Please see one of the Priests before Mass if you are a coeliac.



Christmas Mass Remembrances

Envelopes need to be in to the office by this Monday 18 December to be printed in the bulletin list.



Shop Locally

Please support the shops in the Carnival Hall building in the shopping precinct. These shops support our parish.

THE ENTRANCE PARISH DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

A beacon of Faith, Hope and Love

PARISH PRIEST & DEAN OF THE CENTRAL COAST Fr Brian Moloney **ASSISTANT PRIEST** Fr Joshi Naduppura

DEACON Paul Simmons **SEMINARIAN** Tân Nguyen **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE** Colleen Smith

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Leanne McGill **PROPERTY MAINTENANCE MANAGER** Karen Green

Office Hours Monday-Friday 9.30-5.00pm **Telephone** 4332 2216

Postal Address PO Box 189 THE ENTRANCE 2261 **Street Address** 239-243 The Entrance Rd THE ENTRANCE 2261

Email info@ourladyoftherosary.org.au **Facebook** Our Lady of the Rosary Parish The Entrance

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PRIMARY SCHOOL Tel 7256 2115 **ST PETER'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE** Tel 4351 2344

Mass & Devotions

Sunday Masses Saturday Vigil 5:00pm Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am (11am at Reynolds Court, Bias Ave Bateau Bay)

Weekday Masses Monday - Thursday 9:00am Friday 11:45am Saturday 9:00am

Reconciliations Saturdays 9:30-10am and 4-4:30pm

Liturgy of the Hours Saturday 8:40am **Rosary** Monday-Thursday 8:35am Friday 11:20am Saturday 9:30am

Cenacle Prayer Group Wednesday 9:30am **Christian Meditation** Friday 10:30am-11:30am Reynolds Room

3rd Sunday of Advent

Is 61:1-2, 10-11

Thes 5:16-24

Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

Responsorial Psalm: My soul rejoices in my God.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Keep Us In Your Prayers *There is no gift more precious than prayer - Fr Benedict Groeschel*

Recently Deceased: James Diggins, Jim Eves, Moira Grace, Dawn Collins, Charles Gatt.

Funerals: The funerals of Jim Eves and James Diggins were held during the week. Please pray for Jim, James and their families.

Anniversaries: Deacon David Huntley, Jeanette Leonidas, Maria & Richard Lucchese.

Remembrances: Pat Smith, Marie Powell, Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, Terence & Josephine Smith, John Giutronich, Frank Malone, Simon Butcher, Rose Goodwin, Patricia & Neville O'Hara and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Families: Moore & Langley, Tyrrell & Giutronich.

Sick: John McClement, Margaret Falzon, Martin Ghirxi, Susan Simmons, Barbara Greaney, Anne & Trish Knoke, Lyle Dunn, Paul Smith, Anne O'Rourke, Collette O'Grady, Emma Horton, Marc Sabat, Linda Read, Peter O'Grady, Tanya Doorn, Kelly Will, and all with serious illness.

Welcome Newly Baptised: Emmylou & Ezra Baldock, Taitum Peterson, Otis & Lennox Marks.

Pearly Gates Revisited



Christmas has Arrived at our Gift Centre

Beautiful Christmas gifts and Nativities - come and see!
We are open before and after the 5pm Saturday Vigil Mass and before and after the 9:30am Sunday Mass in the Church foyer. EFTPOS is available. For any enquiries:

4332 2216