

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B

17 DECEMBER, 2023



Parish of Gosford

The Shrine of St John Paul II

The Communities of St Patrick's East Gosford, St Francis of Assisi Somersby & Holy Trinity Spencer Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.



St Patrick's Gosford

Year of

COURAGE

REFLECTION

By our SEMINARIAN, HUY TRAN

"Natural things have a natural inclination not only towards their own proper good, to acquire it if not possessed, and, if possessed, to rest therein; but also, to spread abroad their own good amongst others, so far as possible."

Since God is the goodness itself, it is much more appropriate for God to communicate his goodness to others, hence he creates everything including us out of his goodness and love. Also, out of his great infinite goodness and love, he comes so close to us as a little baby in a manger to share every aspect of human life.

As Advent season is coming to an end and Christmas is just around the corner, the Church invites us to celebrate the great joy for the goodness of our God with the third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday. The Church communicates a great news for us: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." (Phil 4:4-5). Prophet Isaiah, upon receiving the great goodness of God, could not contain it but burst forth for the people of Israel: "[The Lord] has sent me to bring good news to the poor; to bind of hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord." (Isaiah 61:1-2). This verse from Isaiah would later be quoted by Jesus himself. Finally, when John the Baptist knowing that Jesus is the goodness itself incarnated, John cannot not preach about Jesus to all those who were around him: "there stands among you - unknown to you - the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap" (John 1:27). John the Baptist had all the reasons to accept people's praises, but he refused and pointed to the right one, the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

Dear friends,

Since we are all created in the Image of God (Imago Dei), in our nature, we also want to communicate our goodness and the goodness that we possess to other people. Gaudete Sunday invites us to all communicate the greatest news for other people: God is Emmanuel, God is here with us, God is here for us, God is here about us, so close that one can touch him, see him and hear his voice. Are we courageous enough to talk about God to others, to share his message of love, joy and peace to others and to



**"THERE STANDS AMONG YOU,
UNKNOWN TO YOU, THE ONE WHO IS
COMING AFTER ME."**

make the world a better where heaven is amongst us. May we all be inspired by Saint John the Baptist who constantly leads people to Christ rather than himself.

As we are approaching the joyous season, personally it is a bittersweet experience for me this year as I bid farewell to our great parish to return to the seminary that I will finish in priestly formation. It has been a marvellous experience for me to live among you, to walk together (syn-hodos) with you on our faith journey. It has also been a privilege and joy for me to share my goodness with you. Nonetheless, it is humbly tiny compared with what I have received from you. Your faith, joy, hospitality and love that you have been giving me: in the parish, at schools, in the hospital or anywhere I have been a little part. I am deeply grateful for everything. I want to thank especially Father Greg and Father Bronek, who have welcomed me to the parish and to their home. I have learned so much from them. I thank all the staff and all volunteers of the parish and schools. I also want to thank all the parishioners; you have been a significant part of my ministry here for the last 10 months. Finally, I do also want to apologise for my shortcomings. Words cannot express all my gratitude to you now, I will remember to in my daily prayer. Please also remember to pray for me.

Yours in Christ.

Seminarian Huy Tran.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention

For DECEMBER

For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.



FR. Francis Jordan

Cast all your cares on the Lord and soon you will discover that the Lord directs things to the best outcome!



JT 1898/02/18



ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD

UNDER THE PASTORAL CARE OF SALVATORIANIANS
Society of the Divine Saviour
<http://www.sds.org.au>

PARISH PRIEST	Fr Grzegorz (Greg) Skulski SDS greg@sds.org.au
ASSISTANT PRIEST	Fr Bronislaw (Broniek) Pietruszewicz SDS

PARISH OFFICE	Mon - Thu: 8:30am - 4:30pm Friday: 8:30am - 3:30pm Phone: (02) 4325 1042
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PARISH SECRETARY	Colleen Kirk
EMAIL:	patsgos@acs.net.au

ST POPE JOHN PAUL II PASTORAL CENTRE	
EMAIL:	JPII.Centre@bbcatholic.org.au

PASTORAL CENTRE & FORMATION, INCLUDING YOUTH MINISTRY

COORDINATOR	Jaimi-Lee Andrews
EMAIL:	jaimi.andrews@bbcatholic.org.au

PHONE:	0499 386 336
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MEDIA	John French
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EMAIL:	03johnfrench@gmail.com
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CATECHIST COORDINATOR	Raelene O'Connor
PHONE:	0499 995 292

EMAIL:	saintpatccd@acs.net.au
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PARENT ENGAGEMENT COORDINATORS

ST PATRICKS	Dionne Soares
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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON	Scott Beattie
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PARISH OPERATIONS	Eunice Dal Busco
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EVANGELISATION	Amanda Eades
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COMMUNITY	Diane Dankwah
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DISCIPLESHIP	Maisie Tenev
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LITURGY	Jon Kealy
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EX OFFICIO PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS	St Patrick's - Chris Franklin
	St Joseph's - Tony McCudden
	St Edwards - Mark Bonnici

PASTORAL CTR INCLUDING YOUTH MINISTRY	Jaimi Andrews
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FINANCE COMMITTEE	Maria Andrzejewska
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SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	Hilary Pope
EMAIL:	hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au



If you see any activities involving children or vulnerable adults that concerns you, please email Hilary Pope, our Safeguarding Officer.

SENIORS MINISTRY:	Barb: 4322 0250, Eunice: 043-827-2141
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CHURCH OPEN DAILY 8:30AM – 4:30PM.

STANDARD WEEKDAY MASSES

GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD

Mon: 9:00am	Wed: 11:30am	Fri: 12:00pm
Tue: 9:00am	Thu: 9:00am	Sat: 9:00am
Devotion to St JPII after Mass		

Adoration and Confession 30 minutes before each weekday Mass.

Mass live stream: <https://www.youtube.com/@stpatrickscatholicchurch-g5766/streams>

WEEKEND MASSES INCL. CONFESSION 30 MIN BEFORE

GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD

Sat Vigil: 5:00pm	Sun: 7:30am, 9:30am & 6:00pm
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Filipino Mass:	2nd Sunday of each month: 12:00pm
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SOMERSBY, 30 LUTANA RD	Sat Vigil: 5:30pm
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SPENCER, 4200 WISEMANS FERRY RD	4:00pm 2nd Sat of Month
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ADORATION IN OUR CHURCH

BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Mon 8:30 - 9:00am	Wed 11:00 - 11:30am	Fri 12:30 - 3:00pm
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Tue 8:30 - 9:00am	Thu 8:30 - 9:00am	Sat 8:30 - 9:00am
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ROSARY - PLUS ON LINE DAILY AT 9:00 PM

Mon, & Thu	8:05 am to 8:25 am
Tuesday	8:05 am to 8:25 am: "Right to Life"
Wednesday	10:35 am to 10:55 am
Fridays	11:35 am to 11:55 pm
Saturday	8:05am until 8:25am: 1st Priests & Religious 2nd Mothers & Babies 3rd Persecuted Christians
Sunday	7:05 am to 7:25 am

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL

Mon to Thu:	8:30am to 3:30pm
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Fri:	9:00am to 3:30pm
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ACTIVE GROUPS IN OUR COMMUNITY OF ST PATRICK'S

Cancer Prayer Group	After 9:00am Mass, 4th Tuesday of the Month, in the Jordan room.
Craft Group	9:00am to 12:00pm Every Friday in the Jordan Room
Grief & Loss Support	Please contact Margaret on 0439257817..
Women's Faith Circle	2nd and 4th Friday of the Month in the Primary Learning And Resource Centre 6:00 pm to 7:45 am
MenAlive	7:00pm 1st Tuesday of the month. Mass followed by meeting in the Jordan room.
Seniors Ministry	Meet 1st Tuesday of the month. Enquiries:
Monday Morning Prayer Groups	Prayer Group DVDs 1st Monday of the Month Prayer & Bible Discussion 2nd, 4th and 5th Monday of the Month Prayers for Christian Unity 3rd Monday of the Month
Bible Study - Monday night	7:00pm to 9:00pm Monday, in the Jordan Room, all are welcome!
Divine Will Prayer Group	6:00pm to 7:15pm every Wednesday in the Jordan Room.
Salvatorian Collaborators	3:00pm, 1st Saturday of the month, in the Jordan room.
Paddies - Youth	Years 3 & 4 students, meet every Wednesday during school terms in the Hall 3:00 to 4:30 pm.
Arise - Youth Group	Years 5 & 6 students, meet every Friday during school terms, in the school Library 6:00pm.
Ascend - Youth Group	Years 7 to 12 meet every Sunday night during school terms, after 6:00 pm Youth Mass
Awake - Young Adults Group	18 to 35 year olds meet the last Saturday of each month 7:00 pm in the Jordan Room

NATIONAL CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP STANDARDS

Committed leadership, governance & culture

Key Elements of Standard 1:

- † A Commitment to Safeguarding
- † Promoting a Safeguarding Culture
- † Safeguarding Policies
- † Code of Conduct



UPCOMING EVENTS

FOR NORMAL MASS TIMES SEE OPPOSITE ON PAGE 2 ANY EXCEPTIONS WILL BE LISTED BELOW.

Date	Time	Event
Sun 17/12/23	7:00 – 8:00pm	Youth Christmas Party
Tue 19/12/23	9:30 – 10:30am	Church Cleaning
Wed 20/12/23	7:00 – 8:00pm	2nd Rite Encounter Evening (Mercy NIGHT)
Fri 22/12/23	3:00 – 4:00pm	Nativity Play Rehearsal
Sun 31/12/23	7:00 – 8:00pm	MenAlive BBQ

SETTING THE SCENE!

What a wonderful team of helpers who came last Tuesday to assist Fr Greg in setting up the scene for the arrival of our Saviour! We thank them most sincerely and acknowledge the wonderful contribution they made to our Christmas setting.

YOUTH PIZZA NIGHT WITH FR GREG

Last Sunday in our parish, Fr Greg organised a pizza night for our youth group. It was such a fun night for all. Thank you to seminarian Huy and Kelly Paget for their help with organisation and on the night, it was great pizza team a big thank you to FEDELE'S restaurant in East Gosford for donating dough and few more ingredients (they're always supportive of our parish). Thank you to Paul Hussein for donating the rest of the ingredients. Our youth enjoyed it so much!



PREPARING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

CHURCH CLEANING

On Tuesday, 19th December at 9.30am, volunteers will help to clean our church, followed by a yummy morning tea. Please join us! As they say, many hands make light work!

SALVATORIAN VISITATION

From Thursday December 21 until Boxing Day, we will host the Provincial of the Polish Province of the Salvatorian Order, Fr Jozef Figiel SDS, and its Secretary, Fr Adam Ziolkowski SDS. Fr Jozef & Fr Adam will be joining us for all of our Christmas celebrations and we know you will give them your renowned warm welcome.

PIETY STALL

NEW STOCK

Christmas cards are now available, as well as new Christmas stock and God's Word books for 2024!

BAPTISM PRESENTATIONS

Frances Olivia Dryden; Meil Louise Egerton, Marni Anna Beadman, Charlotte Elizabeth & Feyja Jo Hegarty

KEEPING YOU IN THE LOOP

At Fr Greg's request, the Parish Finance Committee passed a motion at its meeting that from next week we will commence advertising weekly in the Bulletin the amount of the 2nd Collection, which is the collection that supports the parish and its upkeep. Last week's 2nd collection was \$4315.50 (This figure is higher than usual due to the monthly processing from credit card donations. So that there is full clarity, from next week this will be displayed against the average cost of sustaining the parish weekly.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH FOR THOSE WITHOUT FAMILY IN THE AREA

It is our tradition to provide a Christmas lunch for those who are alone at this special time. If you would like to attend from 11am on Christmas Day at St Patrick's Hall, please RSVP to Barbara on 4322 0250 or Eunice on 0438 272 141, our hard working ladies who coordinate this. If you would like to donate cash towards this lunch [so that the menu may be tailored to our needs] please pop it in an envelope duly marked and place it on the plate, or bring it to the office.

SUNDAY AND CHRISTMAS OBLIGATIONS

Please be advised that the obligation to attend Mass applies to both Sunday and Christmas. This means that the Vigil Christmas Masses at 5pm and 9pm on the Sunday will not fulfill the Sunday obligation. For Sunday, we will celebrate the 7:30am and 9:30am Masses as usual, however, there will be no 6pm Mass.

OFFICE HOURS

Our parish office will be closed from Monday, 25th December for the Christmas break, and will reopen on Wednesday, 3rd January.

MUSIC MINISTRY FAREWELLS

This month, we say farewell to two groups from our Music Ministry Team. Firstly, Kathie Smith and her choir, and secondly, Scott Frazer and his band who have been providing the music at Family Masses since 2008! We thank them all sincerely and wish them well!

JANUARY CESSATIONS

Like everyone else, our groups like a break in January which applies to our Saturday morning coffee shop teams, Monday morning groups and our youth groups who will recommence the first week in February. Also reopening on the first Friday in February will be our JPII Display Room at the Pastoral Centre.

2ND RITES AT OTHER PARISHES

SJB Woy Woy: Thursday, 21st December @ 7pm.
Holy Spirit, Kincumber: Tuesday, 19th December @ 7pm.
None at Wyoming or Terrigal.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF STAFF CHANGES

SEBASTIAN EAGER

As promised last week when we announced that Jaimi was leaving her multiple roles in the parish, we are very pleased to advised that Jaimi's Youth Coordinator role has been accepted by Sebastian Eager, who has been part of our youth group for over 5 years. We look forward to welcoming Sebastian into his new role!

RAELENE O'CONNOR

Mrs Raelene O'Connor has accepted the roles of Sacramental Program Coordinator and Shrine & Formation Coordinator in addition to her current Catechist Coordinator role! We welcome Raelene into her new position with confidence in her dedication and commitment, shown in her passionate contribution to her existing roles in our parish, and look forward to a continuation of the success of all these programs in 2024.

AWAKE YOUNG ADULTS

X CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL

All young adults invited to join us for our last event of the year! We will be heading to St Mary's Cathedral to see this year's Christmas lights, enjoy live music and visit their food and gift stalls. We would love for you to join us!

22ND
DECEMBER
@7.30

TRAVEL WITH US AT
GOSFORD STATION
OR MEET US THERE

ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD

CHRISTMAS EVE

24TH DECEMBER

@ST PATRICK'S GOSFORD

5PM FAMILY MASS

9PM YOUTH MASS

MIDNIGHT MASS

@ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI SOMERSBY

5PM FAMILY MASS

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS DAY

25TH DECEMBER

7:30AM MASS

9:30AM MASS

'Confession is an act of honesty and courage - an act of entrusting ourselves, beyond sin, to the mercy of a loving and forgiving God'
St John Paul II

MERCY NIGHT

2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

+ ADORATION | PRAYER | VENERATION | PRAISE & WORSHIP

20th DECEMBER @ 7PM

LAST YOUTH GROUP OF THE YEAR!



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CHRISTMAS PARTY

THIS Sunday night
7pm - 8:45pm
All High School Youth Welcome!

@stpatsyouth

CHRISTMAS MASS ROSTER — DECEMBER 25TH

	Children's Mass 5:00PM Vigil	Youth Mass 9:00PM Vigil	Midnight Mass 12:00AM	Christmas Day 7:30AM	Christmas Day 9:30AM
Date	24.12.23	24.12.23	25.12.23	25.12.23	25.12.23
Audio Visual	Ron Begg	Youth	Greg McBride	Michael Lynch	Peter McLean
Acolytes	Kevin O'Donnell Tim Dasan	Joseph Nicholls Huy Tran	Sheila Evans Adrian Andrzejewski Peter Young	John Ryan Gerard Price	Mark Bennett Liz Malik
1st Reader	Children	Youth	Keith Quinn	Neil Murphy	Steph Trevenen
2nd Reader	Children	Youth	Joseph Nicholls	John Konopka	Maria Nardi
Commentator	Children	Youth	Maisie Tenev	Eunice Dal Busco	Emily Rudd
Spec. Minister	Jane Eager	Trudie Hiep	xxxxxxx	Lucy Price	Nora Koleszar

CATECHIST MINISTRY

FAMILY ROOM



It always brings such Joy having young families Worship and Glorify God at Mass. We invite you to sit where ever you feel most comfortable within God's church.

This Advent Season in preparation for the Birth of the Christ, Jesus, our Infant Saviour, we have prepared our Family room, for families with young children, as well as a space for parents with prams.

YEAR 6 CATECHIST ROLE NEEDED

Our Parish Catechist Ministry is currently seeking to fill a year 6 Catechist role starting next year at Point Clare PS of a Wednesday on 12.10 pm for 30 minutes

If you feel the Holy Spirit is calling you to share God's Good News with our Parish children Please contact Raelene on 0499 995 292.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY MINISTRY

We invite Parishioners interested in assisting with Children's liturgy in 2024 to please express their interest with Elvira 0410 098 757.

Our Parish Children's Liturgy Ministry offers 20 minutes of formation to our Parish children during the 9.30 am Sunday Mass. The rostered commitment is usually 1-2 times per school term. Elvira looks forward to hearing from Parishioner interested in assisting with this beautiful Ministry.

THANK YOU CHRIS PAGET

For fixing the the sound system in the Chapel at Somersby to ensure a smooth and seamless liturgy. Your work is greatly appreciated.

FAREWELL TO OUR SEMINARIAN, HUY TRAN

As a parish, we would like to thank Huy Tran who has been here on placement from the seminary since February, for his worthwhile contribution to this parish. We thank him for his interactions with parishioners in general, and his involvement with the youth groups, baptism preparation of parents, the training of our altar servers and many more. Please extend your warm wishes for his future and his formation. We look forward to Huy returning to celebrate Mass for us when he is ordained!

FAREWELL TONY MCCUDDEN, PRINCIPAL AT ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE.

Tony will be joining us at the 9.30am Mass this Sunday so that we may take the opportunity to farewell him as he steps down from his role as Principal at Joey's. Tony has always been supportive of the Parish and its initiatives through his membership on our Parish Pastoral Council and we wish him well for his future.

JPII CENTRE

DISPLAY ROOM IS OPEN

Over the last few weeks, our volunteers have been working hard to present for the parish a display room which features the history of the life of St John Paul II. All are invited to visit the room which can be found in the JPII centre. **The display room is now available for viewing on Fridays from 12:30-1:30pm (no appointment needed), and from Tue-Thur by appointment. The room is not open for viewing on Mondays. To book appointments, please call 0499 386 336.**



Websites for
e-Commerce
Small Business
Custom created

Other Services
Data Recovery
Virus Removal

digitalaffinity.com.au
vince@digitalaffinity.com.au
0405 332 491

PWBB APPEAL - WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

ALL DONATIONS OVER \$2 ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Our Diocese of Broken Bay continue their appeal to support the pastoral works program which supports a wide range of charities in our Diocesan community, particularly the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) and the Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Program. PWBB also supports St Lucy's School and St Edmund's College for students with disabilities and the Ephpheta Centre which supports the deaf community. This financial year, Gosford Parish has been asked to collect \$60,319 for the 2023/24 appeal. More information about donations below:

PWBB Total to be Raised by Gosford Parish	
60,319	APPEAL 2023/2024 FINANCIAL YEAR <i>Our allotted target this year is:</i> \$60,319 to be collected by June 30, 2024. Collected to Date \$18,967 Balance Owning \$41,397 <i>Thank you so much for your generosity to date.</i> <i>A long way to go!</i>
60,000	
55,000	
50,000	
45,000	
40,000	
35,000	
30,000	
25,000	
20,000	
15,000	
10,000	
5,000	



PASTORAL WORKS Broken Bay

Pastoral Works Broken Bay is the pastoral charity of the Catholic community in Broken Bay.

Every gift makes a difference to someone in hospital, school, a parish or the wider community.

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo
Bishop of Broken Bay



Confraternity of Christian Doctrine
Catechists taking the gospel to state school students.

Hospital Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care Practitioners
Helping those who are vulnerable, experiencing loneliness or are sick in hospital.

St Lucy's School
Serving year K-12 students with disabilities.

St Edmund's College
Serving year 7-12 students with disabilities.

Ephpheta Centre
Pastoral care, sacraments, and advocacy for the deaf community.

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. ABN 87 849 944 998
To donate, complete the form in the envelope available in your parish and return to your parish.
Or go online by scanning the QR code or visiting: bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks. Thank you.



"THERE STANDS AMONG YOU, UNKNOWN TO YOU, THE ONE WHO IS COMING AFTER ME."

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-5

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

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 61:1-2. 10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I exult for joy in the Lord.

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels.

'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lk 1:46-50. 53-54. R. Is 61:10

(R.) My soul rejoices in my God.

1. My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.

He looks on his servant in her nothingness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

(R.) My soul rejoices in my God.

2. The Almighty works marvels for me.

Holy his name! His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him.

(R.) My soul rejoices in my God.

3. He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy.

(R.) My soul rejoices in my God.

SECOND READING

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-24

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ISAIAH 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

JOHN 1:6-8. 19-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me. A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked, 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not,' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.' Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Cf ISAIAH 35:4

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

THIS WEEK

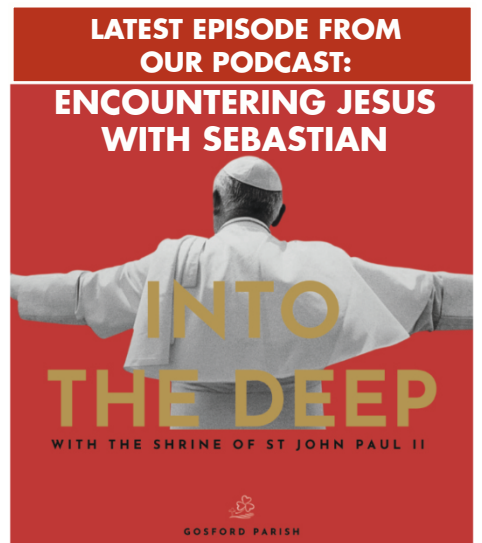
- Mon Monday of 3rd week of Advent**
Mass Service @ St Patrick's 9:00 am
- Tue Tuesday of 3rd week of Advent**
Mass Service @ St Patrick's 9:00 am
- Wed Wednesday of 3rd week of Advent**
Mass at St Patrick's 11:30 am
- Thu Thursday of 3rd week of Advent**
Mass at St Patrick's 9:00am
- Fri Friday of 3rd week of Advent**
Mass 12:00 noon
- Sat Saturday of 3rd week of Advent**
at St Patrick's 5:00 pm
at Somersby 5:30 pm
- Sun FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT**
Mass at St Patrick's 7:30 am
Mass at St Patrick's 9:30 am
Mass at St Patrick's 6:00 pm

* Designates Mass is Live-streamed

NEXT WEEKS READINGS

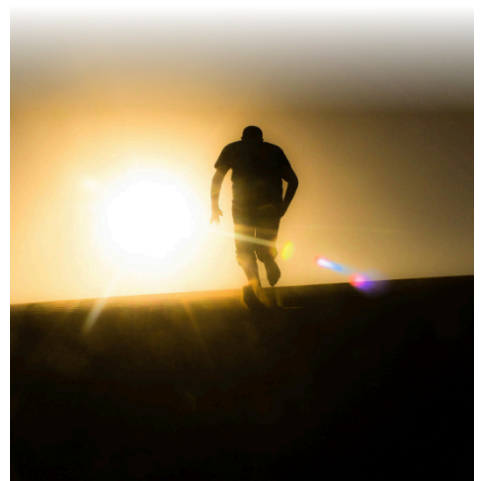
4th Sunday of Advent

- 1st: 2 Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16
- Ps Ps 88:2-5. 27. 29. R. see v.2
- 2nd: Romans 16:25-27
- Gos: Luke 1:26-38



EPISODE DESCRIPTION

On this episode of Sacred Stories Jaimi is joined by Sebastian Eager. Sebastian has been a member of our youth ministry for the last five years and was recently appointed as youth coordinator for 2024. He shares on growing up at St Pats, how altar serving and music brought him closer to God and how a profound encounter with the love of Jesus changed his faith. From his experience of youth ministry to the power of community, lets dive right in!



ROSTER — DECEMBER 24TH, 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mass	Vigil 5:00 pm	7:30 am	9:30 am	6:00 pm	Somersby - 5:30 PM	
Date	23.12.23	24.12.23	24.12.23		Function	23/12/23
Audio Visual	Ron Begg	Peter McLean	Greg McBride		Audio / Visual	Matthew Xuereb
Acolytes	Peter Young	Sheila Evans	Peter Julius	No 6pm Mass	Altar Society	Mary Luci
	Alberto Torres	Eunice Dal Busco	Tim Dasan			
Commentator	Maisie Tenev	John Konopka	Emily Rudd		Commentator	Mark Bigeni
Lectors	Regina Fong	Gerard Price	Liz Malik		Lectors	Marissa Xuereb
	Trudie Hiep	Isobel Binello	Maria Nardi			Judy Grenfell
Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist	Regina Fong	Neryl Tyrrell	Steph Trevenen		Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist	Alyce Chin
					Cleaning	
Altar Servers	Dominic Chehade	Veronica Chechelska	Cara Eades		Altar Servers	Jessica Xuereb
	Christopher Chehade	Sobina Chechelska	Alexander Warner			
	Amin Chehade		Jamie Nardi			
			Montana Nardi	Flowers		Doris Vassallo
		Victoria Bennett				
COUNTERS	ALTAR LINEN P/Up 18/12/23 Marie Cradock Ret'n by 22/12/23 COFFEE SHOP 23/12/23 Hilary Pope Jan Stinson Cathy James	ALTAR SOCIETY Sat 23/12/23 Donna Hobday Pauline Parsons Julianne Hayne	CHILDREN'S LITURGY [Returning on the first Sunday of February, 2024]	PARISH BUS 24/12/23 Driver Rob Surdich Helper Yohans Bastian	FRIDAY HOSPITAL 22/12/23 Theresa Giddings John Mccrae Bigi Kongola Coleen Martin Denise Nicholson Sandrea Petith Joan Vella-Critien Gary Wills	SUNDAY HOSPITAL 24/12/23 Bigi Kongola Marie Cradock
18/12/23 Eunice Dal Busco Diana Addis Margaret Hunter						
27/12/23 Eunice Dal Busco Trudi Hiep						

PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Margaret Spooner, Denis McCarrol, Gloria Emara, Leigh Adams, Fran Thompson, Cathy Low, Emma Wright, Patricia Kociela, Caroline Galea, Brian Connell, Jadwiga Skulska, Maria Ines Ramirez, Alfredo Osorio, Derek Melia, Judith Vale, Paul Jones, Cath Goudie, Jim Smith, Aaron Burke, Margaret Gunnulson, John Bendkowski, Marie Allman, Christine Mary Page, Margaret Eadie, Peter Glow, Robert Clark, Ranjan Fernando, Michael Ludemann, Marie Nolan, Caterina Erbeni, Philip Soady, Sheryl Rogers, Bernadette Humphries, Megan McGowan, Mery-Anne Bonnici, Ross Sayer, Teresa Davar, Susan Milne, Maura Garvey, Anne Holohan, Angela Gibbs, Peter Allman, Pam O'Malley-Jones, Judith Wennerbom.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Kenneth Cecil Waugh, Marisa Corbelli, Noel Fenning, Pdraigh (Pat) Kinsella, Lloyd Greenwood, Marie Hodsdon, Sheron Decker, Tony Xuereb

ANNIVERSARIES:

Ken Durnford, Alan Nolan, Paul Sheeran, Maia Attard, Clare Murphy, Gerard Wall, Jeanne Friquet

REMEMBRANCES

Margaret & Kevin Flynn, Kieran Warden, Edmond Maher, Gabrielle Cerveau, Paul Galea, Hilda Doutré, Michael Kokegei.

CONDOLENCES

Our sincere condolences to the wife, Pat, and children of Noel Fenning who recently passed. May the Lord keep him in his loving arms.

MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Mass	Intention
Sat 16/12	9:00am Gosford	JPII INTERCESSIONS
Sat 16/12	5:00pm Gosford	Healing & Health DANA GALJAR
Sat 16/12	5:30pm Somersby	PARISH INTENTIONS
Sun 17/12	7:30am Gosford	+ Anniversary KEN DURNFORD
Sun 17/12	9:30am Gosford	+ Remembrance MARGARET & KEVIN FLYN
Sun 17/12	6:00pm Gosford	Successful Surgery SUSAN LINDAYA
Mon 18/12	9:00am Gosford	Wedding Anniversary JOHNSON & ANTIA FERNANDES
Tue 19/12	9:00am Gosford	+ Anniversary ALAN NOLAN
Wed 20/12	11:30am Gosford	HEALTH & HEALING DANA GALJAR
Thu 21/12	9:00am Gosford	3RD ANNIVERSARY PAUL SHEERAN
Fri 22/12	12:00pm Gosford	PERSONAL INTENTION [JB]
Sat 23/12	9:00am Gosford	JPII INTERCESSIONS

Date	Mass	Intention
Sat 23/12	5:00pm Gosford	PERSONAL INTENTIONS [SRB]
Sat 23/12	5:30pm Somersby	PARISH INTENTIONS
Sun 24/12	7:30am Gosford	+ REMEMBRANCE JAN & PHIL MCMAHON
Sun 24/12	9:30am Gosford	+ REMEMBRANCE ALFREDO PARADIS
Sun 24/12	5:00pm Gosford Children's Vigil Christmas Mass	+ Remembrance MAGDALENE McNAMARA
Sun 24/12	5:00pm Somersby Children's Vigil Christmas Mass	INTENTION AVAILABLE
Sun 24/12	9:00pm Somersby Youth Vigil Christmas Mass	+ REMEMBRANCES MCGUIRE FAMILY & KIRKS
Mon 25/12	12:00am Gosford Midnight Christmas Mass	PARISH INTENTIONS
Mon 25/12	7:30am Gosford Christmas Mass	+ Remembrance PETER & GLEN MILLS
Mon 25/12	9:30am Gosford Christmas Mass	+ANNIVERSARY SAVERIO PIRROTTINA

RELAX



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