



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention
for December**

For Catechists

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Vox Episcopi - The Voice of the Bishop
7 December 2021**

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,
Last Sunday I celebrated our annual Mass of Inclusion at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara, to mark International Day of People with Disability – 3 December.

Once more it was wonderful and inspiring to welcome people with disability and their families to celebrate their gifts and achievements. I especially thank your friends from the Ephpheta Centre for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people, St Lucy's School, Wahroonga, St Edmund's College, Wahroonga and CatholicCare-Diocese of Broken Bay for contributing to such an uplifting celebration.

(To read the full message go to our website or facebook page)



First Reading
Zeph 3:14-18

Responsorial Psalm
Is 12:2-6. R.v.6

Second Reading
Phil 4:4-7

Gospel Acclamation
Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Gospel
Lk 3:10-18

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



OLOR Cathedral:
**Fri 24th December –
Christmas Vigil**
5pm
8pm
12am Midnight
(Carols from 11.30pm)

QOP Church:
**Fri 24th December –
Christmas Vigil**
5.30pm
**Korean Christmas
Vigil**
8pm

**Sat 25th December -
Christmas Day**
9.30am
*No Saturday Vigil
Masses*

**Sat 25th December -
Christmas Day**
8am
*No Saturday Vigil
Masses*
Korean Christmas Day
11am; 7pm

**Sun 26th December—
Feast of the Holy Family**
9.30am
6pm

**Sun 26th December—
Feast of the Holy Family**
8am
Korean
11am; 5pm

**THANK YOU to those who stay after
Mass to clean the pews.**

If a Priest is needed in a matter of emergency, after hours or on the weekend, please call **0458 351 843**.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Shepherds' Candle (3)

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Saviour, the true light who has come into our world. We ask you to send your blessings on this community who gather around this wreath, which we honour as a remembrance of your first coming at Bethlehem, your daily coming amongst us in grace and your final coming in glory. Strengthen our hearts with the example of your love that we may receive you with joy and gladness on the day of our redemption, when you will come to reign as Universal King for ever and ever.



We ask this through Christ our Lord.

REFLECTION BY FR MANOJ MANUEL

Goodness 24/7

While reading the Gospel of the 3rd Sunday of Advent, I was reminded of a story I heard years ago. Once a group of people who were members of a particular club were planning the future programmes and initiatives. One of them suggested to have a friendship week. The purpose of it was to remind the importance of friendliness towards everyone. While this was being discussed, one of the members, a larrikin, said that it was better they kept a week aside to observe it as hate and revenge week. He argued that if they did that then the rest of the year they could live in friendship.

In the Gospel people asked Jesus, "What must we do?" Jesus answered to various people according to their life situations (common people, tax collectors, soldiers). Though he answered them differently, he exhorted them all towards a life of goodness 24/7. Our advent preparation towards Christmas could be an in-depth search of 'who we are' and 'what we must do?'

CHRISTMAS ROSTER If you like to volunteer for serving, reading or being a Covid Marshall for any of the Christmas weekend services please put your name on the list at the back of the Church.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

The Sacramental Program returns to our Parish. This weekend we welcome our six newest members to the Cathedral Parish as they receive the sacrament of Baptism. Please pray for:
Wesley, Avani, Daniel, Sebastian, Harriet & Karlie.
Remember their parents in prayer as they commit themselves to teaching their children to love God and his people.
Marie Gately—Sacramental Coordinator

KIDS Christmas Decoration Craft Activity.

On our Parish facebook page, our e-bulletin and our Website we have a Kids Craft Activity on how to make Christmas Decorations.

If you have no access to this the instructions can be requested via email from the parish office.



YAKHUMNDENI CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Advent wreaths, Christmas cakes (incl gluten free), plum puddings, date loaves, biscuits, jams, rocky road etc. To order please contact Helen Schyvens on 9487 1563.

May I ask you to pray for those who are sick, those who are struck with the virus, those tested positive, those in isolation, and those vaccinated for COVID-19.

Lawnmower wanted

If anyone has a spare self propelled mower (suitable to mow slopes) in good working order please contact the parish office. (to be used at QOP Church)

We remember those who died recently : Betty Borg (Fr Robert's mum) • Richard Thomson • Ofelia Morales • Theresa Rodrigo • Patricia Symmington • Sister Christopher Neal IBVM

Anniversaries : Warren Niven • Brian Niven • Assunta Fraietta • Maria Lombardo • Caterina Di Losa Randazzo • Mrs Bodh Singh • Nona & Louis Noach

We pray for the sick : Albert Leuing • Allan Ivers • Lisa Kaye Willatt • Pauline Carr • Martin Palisi • Lisa Hogarth

SAFEGUARDING—Child Safe Scheme

Under new laws passed in parliament on 10 November, the Child Safe Scheme gives the Office of the Children's Guardian (OCG) additional powers to monitor and investigate how organisations implement the Child Safe Standards to support the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. The Child Safe Standards provide a framework for organisations to create and maintain child-safe cultures, operations, and environments. The Standards are consistent with the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, which have been the focal point of implementation across the Diocese for some time. Parishes have been provided with resources on the Standards and are encouraged to have their self-assessment and action plans completed by 30 June 2022.

PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE CHRISTMAS BREAK from noon 24 December 2021—3 January 2022 (incl).

LAST BULLETIN FOR 2021 WILL BE ON 19 DECEMBER 2021
We will recommence publishing a bulletin from 30th January 2022 onwards.

CATECHIST RECRUITMENT — TRAINING NOW FOR 2022

Catechist or Assistant needed for the following public schools:

Tuesdays at Hornsby South PS —
Kindergarten, Yrs 1 and 2 at 1:45 - 2:15 pm.
Yrs 5 and 6 at 2:20 – 2:50pm.

Wednesdays at Normanhurst PS —
Yrs 1, 2, 3 and 4 at 10:30 – 11:00am.

Wednesdays at Thornleigh West PS -
Yrs 1 and 2 at 2:15 – 2:45pm.

Wednesdays at Waitara PS -
Yr 3 at 2:30 – 3:10pm.

Thursdays at Normanhurst West PS –
Yrs 1, 2, 3 and 4 at 10:30 - 11:00am.

Thursdays at Thornleigh West PS -
Yrs 5 and 6 at 2:15 - 2:45pm.

To become a Catechist or an Assistant, contact via email:
louise.spencer@bbcatholic.org.au



GENTLE REMINDER—Please adhere to the following:

- use QR Code before entering Church
- hand sanitise before entering Church
- wear a face mask
- Physical distance 1.5M
- no congregational singing allowed
- Please stay at home when you are unwell

PARISH GIFTING TREE

“Our journey to Bethlehem” during this time also invites you to reflect as a **“Community of faith”** on our Parish Gifting Tree. This is an opportunity, for each of us to stop and focus on what best way we can gift of our persons, for our personal growth, and that of our community, in whatever capacity we are in.



Let us ask ourselves, how can we best use our time, our talents and our treasures to be of greater and richer use. We are invited to open our hearts in prayer, and our hands in an act of commitment, so that our journey stands enriched when we carry the incarnated Lord on our travels.

On behalf of the Clergy of the Parish, I extend my deepest gratitude to each of you in advance for considering this, and my prayer is for us to walk together in faith. Let us pray for the star of “Bethlehem” to guide us through.

GOD'S WORD

We have a few spare God's Word—Daily reflection books. Cost \$20 each. If you are interested in purchasing one please contact the parish office.

Curious about Catholicism, or Christianity in general?

Are you, or someone you know, interested in finding out more about what Catholics believe and practise, and why? Do you think you might like to become a Catholic? Free information and discussion sessions start very soon. Come and see with no obligation. Contact Peter, parish Christian Initiation team leader on Mobile 0411389300 or via email rcia.hornsby@gmail.com

HAVE YOU CHANGED ADDRESS, EMAIL ADDRESS OR CREDIT CARD DETAILS? Please let the parish know if you have changed your address, email or credit card details so we can update our data system. Thank you.