

St Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish Camp Hill



No. 50

3rd Sunday of Advent — YEAR B

17th December 2023

CONTACT DETAILS:

31 Perth Street, Camp Hill 4152
PO BOX 685 Coorparoo QLD 4151
T: 3398 1154
E: stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au
W: camphillcatholicparish.org.au
F: <https://www.facebook.com/StThomasCatholicParishCampHill/>

Office hours

8:30 am - 1:30pm: M/T/Th/F

MASS TIMES:

Sunday Eucharist

Saturday 5.30pm
Sunday 8.30am & 5.30pm

Weekday Eucharist

Monday & Tuesday: 7.00am
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday &
Public Holiday: 9.00am

Reconciliation

Saturday 5.00pm-5.20pm

Adoration and Benediction

1st Friday After 9am Mass

PARISH TEAM:

Parish Priest

Fr. Dantus Thottathil
thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au

Children's Ministry Coordinator

Sr. Analissa Balderama
cmc.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au

Local Safeguarding Rep

David Colch
Lsr.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Secretary

Shanti Suppiah
stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Pastoral Council

Michael Williamson—Chair

Parish Finance Council

Anthony Oostenbroek—Chair

St Thomas' School

10 Stephen Street, CAMP HILL 4152
Ph: 07 3398 6633
E: pcamphill@bne.catholic.edu.au
W: stthomascamphill.qld.edu.au
Principal - Liam Beatty
APRE: Vivienne Thompson



Rejoice in the Lord....

On this Third Sunday of the Advent season, the theme is traditionally one of joy. The first word of the entrance hymn today is "Rejoice!" With a pink candle in the Advent wreath, the third week is a time to start feeling the joy of Christmas. However, it is hard to feel true joy if our hearts are cold with bitterness or resentment. One of the important steps to both joy and peace is to forgive. Forgiving is not easy. For some crazy reason, we like to hang on to our anger and hurt. However, carrying this baggage is no way to approach the Christ Child in the manger. Our Advent season should be a time to embrace merciful forgiveness.

Often, the hardest person to forgive is ourselves. We must stop concentrating on our past mistakes, shortcomings and weaknesses. A merciful God loves and forgives us no matter what we have done. When we are able to forgive ourselves, we are then better able to forgive others. Whether we need to forgive a family member, friend, co-worker, neighbour, now is the time to do it. It is not always necessary for us to actually confront that person. In fact, bringing up old pain can sometimes be more harmful than helpful. We just need to resolve to set aside our anger and replace it with love, mercy and compassion. This simple decision can flood our hearts with joy.

Every Christmas is a reminder of God's eternal love for me, for you, and for the whole world. Christmas provides a wonderful opportunity to join with God in giving to the world. The joy of Jesus, the joy of Christmas can only be ours to the extent that we work with Jesus to bring that joy into our life and the lives of others too.

I invite to join us for second Rite of Reconciliation for Advent, a celebration of healing and reconciliation as part of our preparation for Christmas, this Wednesday 20 December at 6.30 pm.

Blessings,
Fr. DantusThottathil

We at St Thomas' Parish acknowledge the Yuggera people, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we gather. We pay our respects to elders - past, present and emerging, who have walked and cared for this land for thousands of years.

Parish News & Notices

We remember in our prayers

The sick: Joan Scott, Humberto Villalta, Nes Mustafa, Jolanda Villalta, Dan Bishop, Shirley Murphy, Sue Douglas, Tom Grant, Lauren Balcombe, Lola Radford, Sonia Mendez, Fr Ron Mollison, Megan Bowden, Carmel Horn, Fr Ian Wren, Lynn Toon, Judith Angela, Alex Stegman, Kui Liu, Eileen MacDermott, Lorraine O'Leary, Shirley Mead, Don Cattnach, Rod Grove, Sr Belen, Trish Buckle, Elizabeth Rejmer, Trevor Farley & Evelyn Neave & Jan Effiney.

Recently Deceased: June Colch, Barry Ahern,

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Francis Cosgrove, Arthur Gorski, Leslie Dossetto, Benjamin Longland, Allan Rogers, Margaret Catchpole, Olive Dean, John Milford, Kathleen Jessop, Madge Sapsford, William Peake, Daniel Barry, Marjorie Croft, Nancy Downing, Fred White, Margaret White, Barry Harding, Susan Ballinger, Jack Ballinger, Theresa Hourigan, Patrick Radford, John McKenna, Ken Murray, Ruby Johnston, Mary McNamara, Margaret Goakes, Patricia O'Leary, Betty Smith & Fay Thomas.



PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Please consider giving to our Planned Giving Program.
Your continued support for our Parish is much appreciated.

Collections & Planned Giving: BSB:064-786
Acc: 100012966

Baptisms/Sacrament Programs/ Donations/

All other deposits:- Name: Camp Hill Parish

BSB:064-786 Acc: 100005597

* We also have Tap n Go facility in the Church. premises.
Thank you for your generosity.

St Thomas' Safeguarding Representatives:

Name: David & Veronica Colch

Contact: lsr.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au

Please contact David or Veronica, if you have any questions or concerns regarding Child Safety in our parish. If you are not comfortable speaking to someone in the parish, or wish to make an anonymous disclosure, PLEASE CONTACT **STOPLINE** on 1300 304 550, aob@stopline.com.au; or www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com an external service provided by the Archdiocese to receive confidential & anonymous disclosures.

Baptisms

We welcome **Charlotte Grace Zowtyj** daughter of Shane & Caitlin Zwotyj & **Georgia Mary Raiteri** daughter of Justin & Hannah Raiteri being baptised in our Church this weekend. *May Jesus, who loves all children, bless your precious child with love and peace on this special day and always.*

Important Note

Parish Office Closure over Christmas:

The parish office is closed from 22 December 2023 until Monday 15 January 2024. We can be contacted via email at stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au. Alternatively, please leave a message on (07) 33981154 and we will return your call as soon as possible. **In the event of an emergency** please contact the Presbytery on (07) 33248021. Or email at thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au

Changes to the "The Leader"

From January 2024 the Leader will no longer be distributed to parishes and will be available by subscription only. The December edition is available now for sale in the church and the Christmas edition will arrive later this month. You can take out a year's subscription for the print version to be home delivered or opt to receive a digital ones. To subscribe, please call 3324 3555 or go to [https:// catholicleader.com.au/subscribe](https://catholicleader.com.au/subscribe)

The Week Ahead

Sun – 17th December	Mass @ 8.30am & 5.30pm
Mon - 18th December	Mass @ 7am
Tue - 19th December	Mass @ 7am
Wed - 20th December	Mass @ 9am 2nd Rite of Reconciliation @ 6.30pm
Thu - 21st December	Mass @ 9am
Fri - 22nd December	Mass @ 9am
Sat - 23rd December	Devotion of the Holy Rosary@ 7.30am– Church Mass @ 5.30pm
Sun – 24th December	Mass @ 8.30am Christmas Eve Family Mass & Nativity @5.30pm Christmas Vigil Mass @7.30pm

NEW TO THE PARISH

If you are new to the Parish or have recently moved into this area, we warmly welcome you and your family. We invite you to join our Parish. Please contact the Parish Office on 33981154 or email : stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au

Quote of the week

**Life begins with our cry.
Life ends with others cry.
Fill this gap with as much
laugh as possible.
Always be happy and
make others too happy.**



St Thomas's Catholic Parish, Camp Hill
Christmas Mass Times 2023

Jesus is the Reason for the Season

Weekend Masses 23/24 December
 5.30 pm Saturday
 8.30 am Sunday
Christmas Eve
Sunday 24 December
 5.30 pm : Family Mass with Nativity play
 7.30 pm: Christmas Vigil Mass

Christmas Day
Monday 25 December
 8.30 am: Christmas Day Mass
No evening Mass on 25 December
Happy and Holy Christmas !



**Please join us for
 the Second Rite of
 Reconciliation
 during Advent.**



**Wednesday, 20th December
 at 6.30pm. All are welcome.**



*Join our 2023
 Christmas
 Choir*

**Practice on Fridays
 8th, 15th and 22nd Dec
 6.30pm to 7.30pm
 In the church**

Thank you!

In the coming year, Neal will be taking a break from the Music Ministry roster. We'd gratefully like to acknowledge his dedicated service in helping to raise our hearts and minds in song during Sunday morning Mass for many years! Thank you Neal!!

Trish McGrath would like to say Thank you to all the parishioners who assisted Terry when he had a medical episode at the 8.30am Mass last Sunday. After being given the all clear at the hospital Terry was home in the afternoon. Your care and concern is much appreciated.

Sacramental Preparation 2024

First Reconciliation

Enrolment/Commitment and Session 1 – 3/4 Feb
 Session 2 – 10/11 Feb
 Session 3 – 17/18 Feb
 Session 4 – 24/25 Feb


Actual Celebration: Sat 2 March @3.30pm.



Confirmation Preparation:

Parents Information Session – Wednesday 6 March @ 6.30pm
 Enrolment/Commitment and Session 1 – 9/10 March
 Session 2 – 16/17 March
 Session 3 – 23/24 March
 Session 4 – 20/21 April
 Rehearsal: Monday 29 April during school hours for St Thomas' children.

Actual Celebration: Wednesday 15 May @ 5pm and 7pm.



ANY CHILDREN WHO WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIVITY PLAY AT THE 5:30 PM CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S MASS, PLEASE CONTACT ALISON CLARK VIA EMAIL: ALISON.CLARK@BNE.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU. ALL ARE WELCOME.



**CHRISTMAS
 isn't just one day!**

**SCAN QR TO
 PURCHASE
 FOR ONLY
 \$2.50 EACH**



Activity book for kids YEAR B

ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE
 Evangelisation Brisbane
 Children and Families

Readings

3rd Sunday of Advent—Year B

First Reading: (Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11)

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

My soul rejoices in my God.

Second Reading: (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24)

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: Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; 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 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: a 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.

For the Children...

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

THE SHEPHERDS CANDLE

When the angel first appeared to the Shepherds they were scared.

But their fear turned into joy once they saw the child Jesus.

This week we focus on the Advent candle **joy**. Just like the Shepherds who were transformed, Jesus can change our fears and despair into **joy**.

LET US PRAY

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for changing our sadness and our fears into **joy**. Please help us to share that **joy** with others and let our **joy** be a light unto the world of others.
Amen.

JOY



Readings for Next Sunday

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT- YEAR B

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12.
14. 16

The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27
The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38
You will conceive and bear a son.