

# St Thomas the Apostle Parish Camp Hill



No. 45

Second Sunday of Advent

5th December 2021

## *Gospel Reflection* by Greg Sunter

The second and third weeks of Advent this year focus particularly on the role of John the Baptist as the one who prepared the way for Jesus and announced his coming. It continues the theme of preparation that was begun last week, but still, rather than preparing for the birth of Jesus, we are exploring the wider theme of preparation. The gospel writer includes a quote from Isaiah in which the prophet says, 'Prepare a way for the Lord.' (Often translated as 'Prepare the way of the Lord'.) The application of this passage to John the Baptist is a logical one. This gospel emphasises that John was preaching 'a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins'. Throughout the gospel of Luke, the recognition of sinfulness and the desire to repent and seek forgiveness is the prelude to receiving God's favour.

This gospel makes it clear that one way in which we can prepare a way for the Lord is to recognise our faults and failings and to seek forgiveness. It is only through such repentance that we can make ourselves receptive to the love of God. The only preparation of the way that is necessary for the Lord is a personal preparation to be receptive. We are absolutely assured of God's love. The problem is that we often feel that we are undeserving of that love or are unable to receive it. When we are called to 'Prepare a way for the Lord' it is a call to prepare a way in our own hearts – to break down the barriers that we have put up; to clear the obstacles that we have placed in the path. God's love will find a way! We simply make the way easier for ourselves to recognise God's love if we 'Prepare a way'.

### *Living the Gospel – Make way!*

Today's gospel is a reminder to us that Advent is a season of preparation. In this case, the preparation is all about making way for the love of God in our lives. The love of God surrounds us all the time. It's like a rapidly flowing stream and sometimes we have placed boulders in the stream that send the water flowing around us. The call to make a way for the Lord is a call to clear the rocks out of the stream; to remove the obstacles that are directing the love of God around us and allow it instead to flow directly through us.

## Christmas Mass Times 2021

### Christmas Eve\*

Friday 24th December

No 9.00am Mass

5.30pm ~ Family Mass

7.30pm ~ Christmas Vigil

### Christmas Day

Saturday 25th December

8.30am ~ Christmas Mass

No 5.30pm Mass

Sunday 26th December

Feast of Holy Family

(No booking required)

We are taking bookings this year to get an idea of what numbers to expect at each Mass, however we will be utilising our outdoor space and everyone should be able to attend their Mass of choice.

Please book via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/2021-christmas-masses-tickets-215415201667>

We look forward to celebrating Christmas with you.



\*Christmas Carols 20 minutes prior to Mass

### Second Sunday of Advent

**1st reading: Baruch 5: 1-9** Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.

**2nd Reading: Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11** Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.

**Gospel: Luke 3: 1-6** All people shall see the salvation of God.

### PLEASE NOTE:

The Parish Office is closed from **Fri 3rd December to Fri 10th December** and will reopen **Monday 13th December**.

If you need a priest urgently during this time, please contact Fr Kevin Smith at Bulimba Parish on 3399 2386. Sr Analissa will be available during her usual hours if needed - [cmc.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cmc.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au).



## IMPORTANT CLEANING NEWS!

Dear Parishioners

You will notice a change to our church cleaning methods from this weekend. We have placed baskets at the end of some of the pews which will contain a spray bottle, paper towels and hand sanitiser.

We ask that you please spray and wipe down your seats after you have finished at Mass (paying special attention to any touch points), then pass the bottle on to your neighbour! This is being done in a number of surrounding parishes to great success and ensures that the seats are cleaned following each Mass. The church will continue to be thoroughly cleaned once per week by our Cleaners.

Please let the Parish Office know if you have any questions or feedback on this new system.

Thank you in advance for your help in keeping our church clean and safe!



## Thank You to Craft 4 Causes

St Vincent de Paul is filled with amazement and wonder at the very generous donation of \$2,500.00 dollars from the Craft for Causes Committee! It was most unexpected!

This committee have had the fervour of the Holy Spirit within them from the start through to their 12th year. They have been the Good News for our parish and school community in their deep commitment to the needs of those who are struggling financially and vulnerable.

Thanks a million to Angela, the Co-ordinator, Mary-Jane, Shelley and Michelle the original Committee members, and to other mothers of St Thomas's school students who have been part of the committee. Thanks to the whole community here at St Thomas's — you have responded eagerly, combining your skills and creativity with those of the committee. Your faith and support to St Vincent de Paul has enabled us to keep going.

God's blessings to you all.

*It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope.*

~ Pope Benedict XV ~



### The Week Ahead

Sun - Dec 5th	Second Sunday of Advent Mass @ 8.30am & 5.30pm
Mon - Dec 6th	Mass @ 7am Parish Office Closed
Tues - Dec 7th	Mass @ 7am Parish Office Closed
Wed - Dec 8th	Parish Office Closed
Thurs - Dec 9th	Mass @ 9am Parish Office Closed
Fri - Dec 10th	Mass @ 9am Parish Office Closed
Sat - Dec 11th	Mass @ 5.30pm
Sun - Dec 12th	Third Sunday of Advent Mass @ 8.30am & 5.30pm Baptisms @ 10am



### 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, Sue Lamb, Megan Bowden, Camel Horn, Fr Ian Wren, Lynn Toon, June Colch

### Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Harold Homann, Margaret McCann, Helen Malcolm, Leonardo Mariano, Leonard Smith, Mary McMahon, Arthur (Jim) Poole, Leo Shipperley, Cliff Dennis, Marie Holdsworth, Harold Gilder, Margaret Kilmartin, Joyce Ire-land, Patricia Hodges, Anna Graham, Patricia Peake, Norman Corrie, Reg Gamble, Shelia O'Donoghue, Brieon Down, William Bozier, Moira Murphy, Rose Knauth, Genevieve Phelan, Grace Spann, Stephen Lam, Robert Rafter, Luigi Marinucci, John Fry, Janina Pokoj, Eugene Vidulich, Elva Hargraves, Celie Cosgrove & Basil Nolan

# Parish News & Notices

## FAMILY ADVENT CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>05/12</b> <b>Second Sunday of Advent</b></p> <p>God promised he would send his son, Jesus. What other promises has God made to us?</p>	<p><b>06/12</b></p> <p>Write a Christmas card with a special note for Someone.</p> 	<p><b>07/12</b></p> <p>Be an angel to a family in need: buy a Caritas Global gift for education, food or shelter.</p> <p><a href="http://www.globalgifts.org.au">www.globalgifts.org.au</a></p>	<p><b>08/12</b> <b>The Immaculate Conception</b></p> <p>Pray a Hail Mary with your family.</p> 	<p><b>09/12</b></p> <p>Go for a walk with your family. Pick up rubbish as you walk and put it in the bin.</p> 	<p><b>10/12</b></p> <p>Look at a map and see how far Mary &amp; Joseph had to travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem.</p> 	<p><b>11/12</b></p> <p>Do a job around the house without being asked, like tidy your room or put away the dishes.</p> 

### CONTACT DETAILS:

31 Perth Street, Camp Hill 4152  
PO BOX 685 Coorparoo QLD 4151  
T: 3398 1154

E: [stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au)

W: [camphillcatholicparish.org.au](http://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  
Sunday 5.30pm

#### Weekday Eucharist

Monday 7.00am  
Tuesday 7.00am  
Thursday 9.00am  
Friday 9.00am  
Public Holiday 9.00am

**Reconciliation** Call Parish Office

#### Adoration and Benediction

1st Friday After 9am Mass

#### Anointing of the Sick during Mass

Thursday 18th Nov @ 10.30am

### PARISH TEAM:

#### Parish Administrator

Fr Kevin Smith

#### Children's Ministry Coordinator

Sr Analissa Balderama  
[cmc.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cmc.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au)

#### Parish Secretary

Ms Lisa Moroney  
[stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au)

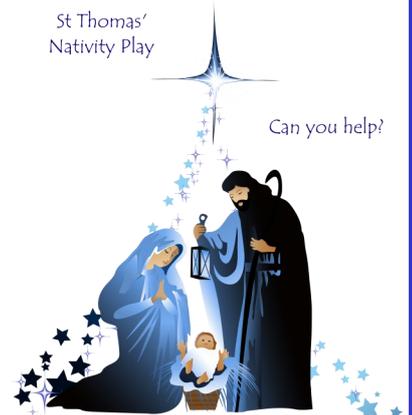
## CHRISTMAS NATIVITY - HELPERS NEEDED

*It is a long-standing St Thomas' Parish tradition to involve our young children and families in retelling the Nativity as part of our Christmas Eve Family Mass. Unfortunately, without someone to coordinate it, we may not be able to continue the tradition this year. Please contact:*

*Amanda Sheridan, Liturgy Team*  
([asheridan@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:asheridan@bne.catholic.edu.au))

*the Parish office ([stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au)) if you can help, or would like your children to participate.*

St Thomas' Nativity Play



### Position Vacant – Parish Secretary

Applications are open for a position at the St Mary's, South Brisbane, and Dutton Park Parishes. A person with excellent administration and time management skills required for a full-time position of Parish Secretary working 38 hours a week.

For additional information, please visit the Archdiocese of Brisbane website  
<https://clientapps.jobadder.com/68451/aob-internal-career-opportunities/404081/parish-secretary-st-marys-south-brisbane-and-dutton-park-parishes>

Applications close: 19 December 2021

*The Archdiocese of Brisbane has standards of conduct for workers to maintain a safe and healthy environment for children. Our commitment to these standards requires that we conduct working with children checks and background referencing for all persons who will engage in direct and regular involvement with children and young people (0 - 18 years) and/or vulnerable adults. The organisation is fully committed to child safety and has a 0 tolerance to abuse of children or vulnerable adults.*



### ST JAMES COLLEGE, SPRING HILL

A progressive multicultural Catholic Co-Educational Secondary College in the tradition of Edmund Rice (EREA) is still welcoming enrolment enquiries for vacancies in 2022 in Years 7 – 12. Welcoming students from diverse backgrounds and abilities so they can flourish in their learning and realise their potential.

**ENQUIRE NOW** online or call Maria Young, Enrolments Officer on 3230 8600, [MYoung@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au](mailto:MYoung@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au) - the college office closes Friday 10 December and reopens Monday 10 January.  
[www.stjamescollege.qld.edu.au](http://www.stjamescollege.qld.edu.au). Applications can also be submitted to [school@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au](mailto:school@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au)



**ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL**  
**ENDS SUNDAY 5TH DECEMBER**

We ask for your support of our St Thomas' St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal, offering a hand to those in our community who need assistance.

There are again a number of ways you can contribute:

- ♥ direct transfer to BSB: 064786/Acc no: 100026595. Please send an email to the parish office - [stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au) - once completed with name, address and amount, for your receipt.
- ♥ credit card or cash donations can be placed in the Appeal envelopes available from the stand near the exit to the church or use a clearly marked envelope with same details. Envelopes can be placed in the marked box near the exit door.
- ♥ single store gift vouchers from Coles, Woolworths, Aldi, Target, Kmart, or Best and Less - or we can, with discernment, utilise group gift cards from Coles/Myer or Woolworths group. Vouchers can also be placed in the labelled box near the exit door.

Donations of \$2 and over tax deductible (unfortunately vouchers are not tax deductible)

*Thankyou for your continued support.*

**JOIN US FOR A  
NIGHT   
OF CAROLING!**

**5:30pm Friday, December 17th 2021**  
**Laugh, Sing, Ring Bells and enjoy a Pizza Dinner  
at St Thomas' Parish Church Hall.**

**Don't miss this memorable family event!  
Come in Christmas bling!**

***RSVP 14th December for catering.***  
***Tammie Davis 0404 883 499***  
***(COVID safe plan in place)***