



# Catholic Parishes Kangaroo Point East Brisbane and Buranda Newsletter



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

17 December, 2023

## Mass Times

ST LUKE'S CHURCH  
43 Taylor St, Woolloongabba  
**Friday: 9.00am Mass**  
**Sunday: 8.00am Mass**

ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH  
81 Mowbray Tce, East Brisbane  
**Wednesday: 8.00am Mass**  
**Saturday: 5.00pm Vigil Mass**

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH  
26-36 Leopard Street,  
Kangaroo Point  
**Sunday: 9.00am Mass**

Reconciliation: By appointment

## Fr Peter's Message

### Christmas Past

Perhaps I am exercising selective memory, but I do believe that Christmas was a much more exciting and joyful time when we were children. The anticipation, the preparation, the mystery and the decorations was so different from the rest of the year, and we knew something wonderful was going to happen. I can't remember ever being disappointed with the result. Even the selection of gifts was a pleasure rather than a chore. The dilemma of which size bottle of 4711 for Mum and Old Spice or Brylcreem for Dad. (I knew they like these gifts because they had several bottles of each in the bathroom cabinet, probably saved from previous Christmases.)

The atmosphere in the house was also different, and while our decorations did not reach the dizzy heights of the electrical extravaganzas of today, a tree, a crib and a bit of tinsel on the front door was a great reminder that sometime good was coming our way. Special foods were prepared with the Christmas cake ingredients soaking in brandy for weeks before. Dad was in charge of refreshments in an era when six tallies of beer and a couple of bottles of Ben Ean Riesling was apparently enough for about ten thirsty adults, (those were the days). For some reason watermelon had a starring role for dessert, not to mention plum pudding with a cash reward in every serving. To this day I refuse to eat plum pudding outside of December. It just seems wrong. There was a palpable air of happiness in the house and in the community, and without being aware of the behind-the-scenes activities of the grown-ups, everything seemed to happen smoothly and simply. It was a happy, busy time.

Is it just when we get older that the wonder starts to fade or do we overload and try too hard to force the festivities, rather than just let some of the simple things we hold dear take hold. Perhaps because we were one of those conventional Catholic families of the time, going to mass at Christmas, or any Sunday, was not to much a decision to be made, but a tradition to be upheld. I honestly can't remember any of the homilies of the perspiring priest of that time, but they all seemed to put us in the mood for what was to come.

*Continue on next page ...*

## Your Prayers

We ask you to pray for fellow parishioners:

*Brian Prove, Michael Mulligan, Pauline Burnett, and Jeanette McMahon.*

## SPRING CLEAN ST JOSEPH'S

A reminder about the spring clean before Christmas Mass. If you can stay following Mass this Sunday for an hour, we would be grateful. Thank you for any assistance you can give, we know how busy this time of year can be.

## Christmas Ministries

If you are able to assist in any way over the Christmas Masses, please put your name on the form today located in the piety stall or email the parish office. There are many ways to be involved as a volunteer. Thank you.



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Administrator: Fr Peter Dillon | Priest in Residence: Fr Stephen Camiolo

# Around our Parishes

## Parish Lucky Number (KPEB)

The winner of last week's lucky number was: **Nick Prove**.

Any parishioners interested in being part of the Lucky Number Draw simply need to speak with Isobel at the foyer of St Benedict's Church at Mass on Saturday evening.

Proceeds of the lucky number draw go to support the St Vincent de Paul and other social needs in the Parish.

**GOOD LUCK!!!**

## Baptisms

Baptisms are held in the parish on the **second Saturday** each month at *St Lukes* at 10.30am and the **fourth Sunday** following the 9.00am mass at *St Joseph's Kangaroo Point*.

Preparation is held on the **second Saturday** of the month at *St Lukes Buranda*, at 10.30am.

*This week we welcome:*

*William Coleman*

*Son of Belinda and Gareth*

## Fr Peter's Message (continued)

Because our family had a large yard, most of the relatives would come to our place, laden with more treats than any child deserves. Some adequate contribution was made the "those less fortunate" via St. Vincent de Paul. While I never knew the recipients of our family donation, I did naively imagine that many families were now sitting down to luscious feasts mainly due to our few dollars of contribution. Win/ Win as far as I could see.

Mobility and distance from family members can make the celebrations of today more demanding to organise and participate in, however it is important to appreciate the efforts that so many people go to, to make this time more special than the rest of the year. While it's not just about the food or the gifts, the decorations or the carols, these are the trimmings which remind us that this is not a bad world, it is just one in need of repair. Like families, it's a world that is trying to do the right thing for its members, but we can't seem to let go of thinking our way is the only way of living. Perhaps if families could put aside their petty quarrels to remember the greater blessings we have been given, then maybe bigger families, like world powers can recapture some of the lost wonder of belonging and not be afraid to see that what we already have might be enough.

*Fr Peter*

## What's happening ....GOODBYE FR STEPHEN!

After what seems a very short time, only 12 months, we are saying goodbye to Fr. Stephen Camiolo from our parish as he has been appointed to a new ministry as Chaplain at St. Vincent's Aged Care, Carseldine and Veridian Aged Care at Boondall.

His duties will include providing pastoral care and sacramental services to over 200 aged care and independent living residents. This will entail a substantial increase to his present duties, but we know that this is an area where his skills in pastoral care of the aged and infirmed will be much needed. This ministry begins on January 8<sup>th</sup>, so we have little time to find a replacement here in the parish. I hope to provide you with further details in next week's newsletter.

## Last Call!!

### SVDP GIVING TREE

The members of the St Vincent de Paul Society wish to express our thanks to the parishioners from St Benedict's, St Luke's and St Joseph's for your generous support in providing food items or cash for our annual Giving Trees located at the three churches. This week is the last week for gifting. We anticipate providing about 35 food hampers to various individuals and families. Many thanks to the families from St Joseph's Catholic School for continued support. Please keep the people we serve as Vincentians in your prayers. To the parishioners from the three churches we trust the Christmas season will bring peace and joy to you and your families.



## Christmas Mass Times

Kangaroo Point East Brisbane  
Christmas Eve: 5pm at St Joseph's (Carols at 4:30pm)

*Children are welcome to come dressed as a Nativity character.*

*Please join us for refreshments after Mass.*

Christmas Day: 9.00am  
at St Benedict's, East Brisbane

St Luke's Buranda  
Christmas Eve at 5.00pm

*Followed by drinks and nibbles at St Luke's Green*  
Christmas Day Mass at 8.00am



# The Order of the Mass

## GLORIA (when spoken)

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.  
We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God,  
heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus  
Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.  
**Amen.**

## 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.** **R. Is 61:10**

(R.) 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: **John 1:6-8. 19-28**

*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:

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.

## APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
(At the words that follow, up to and including 'the Virgin  
Mary', all bow.)

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day, he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting,  
**Amen.**

# Hymns

## Buranda Parish

### ENTRANCE

#### **Hark! A Herald Voice is Calling**

*Tune: Firmly I Believe and Truly*

Hark! A herald voice is calling:  
"Christ is near", it seems to say;  
"Cast away the dreams of darkness,  
Waken, children of the day!"

See, the Lamb so long expected,  
Comes with pardon now from heav'n'  
Let us meet him with repentance,  
Pray that we may be forgiv'n.

So, when next he comes in glory,  
And earth's final hour draws near,  
May he then as our defender  
On the clouds of heav'n appear.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

### OFFERTORY

#### **See Us, Lord, About Your Altar**

See us, Lord, about your altar;  
Though so many, we are one;  
Many souls by love united  
In the heart of Christ your Son.

Wheat and grape convey the meaning:  
Food and drink he is to all;  
One in him, we kneel adoring,  
Gathered by his loving call.

### COMMUNION

#### **Lord, to whom shall we go?**

*Refrain:*

*Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You are our bread, broken and shared.  
Lord, to whom shall we go?  
Yours are the words of life.*

O Lord, you feed us with the finest of wheat,  
Our pledge of eternal life.

The bread you give is the living bread,  
Your flesh for the life of the world.

### RECESSIONAL

#### **Bring Forth the Kingdom**

You are salt for the earth, O people:  
Salt for the Kingdom of God!  
Share the flavour of life, O people:  
Life in the Kingdom of God!

*Refrain:*

*Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy,  
Bring forth the Kingdom of peace:  
Bring forth the Kingdom of justice,  
Bring forth the City of God!*

We are a blest and a pilgrim people:  
Bound for the Kingdom of God!  
Love our journey and love our homeland:  
Love is the Kingdom of God!



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