

PARISH NOTICES

Dates for your Diary



Sun 20th Dec. Fourth Sunday of Advent
 Mon 21st Dec. Divine Mercy Prayer Group
 IN ENGLISH. 6.00pm
 Wed 23rd Dec. Penitential Service 6.30pm
Thurs 24th Dec. Carols 6.00pm Mass 6.30pm
Frid 25th Dec. CHRISTMAS DAY
Mass 7.30 & 9.00am

Collections For Last Week

First ☺ ↑
Second ☺ ↑
 ☺ ↑ = Income up on last week.
 ☹ □ = Income steady.
 ☹ ↓ = Income down

Welcome to our Community! Have you moved into our parish lately? We would love to hear from you. Please give the Parish Office a call on 3818 0111. If you call at the information point after Mass, a member of the Parish Council will give you a welcome and information pack. We hope that you will enjoy your time in the parish and join in our activities.



For the Sick and housebound. If you know of anyone who is sick or housebound and would like a visit from a priest or to receive Holy Communion, please let the parish office know and a visit can be arranged.

20th December Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:1-4; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:30-44

Response: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

27th December The Holy Family

Micah Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21; Lk 2:41-52



Services times this week:

Saturday Vigil Mass 6.00pm
Sunday 7.30am Mass
9.00am Mass

Weekdays

Monday 9.00am Mass
 Tuesday 9.00am Mass
 Wednesday 9.00am Mass
 Thursday 9.00am Mass
Thursday 6.00pm Carols 6.30pm Mass
Friday 7.30 & 9.00am Mass
 Saturday Vigil 6.00pm
 Sunday 7.30am & 9.00am Mass

Reconciliation Sat 5.00 – 5.30pm

Cleaning: 24th Dec. Sandra Dorricott

If you would like to help out on this roster, please contact Pam Dodrill on 3288 4594. (Roster approximately once every eight weeks)

We Pray for the Sick:

Audrey Congreve, Colin Jackson, Sr Helen Stanley, Breda O'Sullivan, Ellen Parker, Rose Logan, Edna May Tourney, Keith Auld, Kathy McMonagle, Kevin Ward, Matthew Berwick, John Ward, Allan Peterson, Kathleen Doherty. Rachel Scriben, Stan Brown, Carmon Z, Nancy McCarrick, Kath McGrath, Maria Vink, Claire Curry, Phil O'Dwyer, John Doherty, William Ryan, Hudson McHardy, Hini Habchi, Jamie Teal, Jaiden Madasferi, Maureen Shackleton, Macey Ingham, Nada Payne, Carmel Vig, Rebecca Harbraken, Sr Carmel.

(Some names have been removed from this list, so please contact us if you need these names back on. If you know someone who can come off the sick list please contact us)

Anniversaries: 20-27th December.

Bonifacio Cajés, Leonardo Oblino, Myrtle Bentley, Constance Swales, Monica Pili Pelu, Terrence Cross, Arlyn Tirrant, Basis Fenelon, Reuben Dunn, Denis Cavanagh, Marcel Meynard, Eileen McCauley, Elizabeth Mahili, Ellen Lee, William Mullins, Mildred McGrath, Millicent Sharman, Alia Morcus.

LOOP SYSTEM



The church Sound System at St Francis Xavier's is fitted with a Loop System. If you wear a hearing-aid set the control to the "T" setting to obtain a clear sound.

A gift in your Will can provide support for the many ministries of your Parish and ensure a legacy of faith for future generations. A gift in your will is a wonderful way to express your Catholic faith. After you have provided for your loved ones, please consider a lasting memory to your parish. Booklets available from Parish Office.



Newsletters by Email.

If you would like this newsletter sent to you by email each week, simply send an email to good-na@bne.catholic.net.au title it 'newsletter' and the next week you should receive the email.



St Francis Xavier Parish

6 Church Street (GPO Box 450) Goodna, Qld. 4300

Office Hours: Monday - Wed 9.00am — 4.00pm

Friday 9.00am — 4.00pm Closed Thursdays

Website: stfrancisxaviergoodna.org.au

Ph: 3818 0111 Fax 3818 1420 Email: goodna@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Clergy: Fr Roger Burns PP. Fr Paul Chanh

Parish Secretary: Mrs Marie Hodges

St Vincent De Paul: For Assistance Please call 3010 1096 - Weekdays only . Meetings:
Fortnightly on Tuesday 7.00pm. Call 0479 163 335

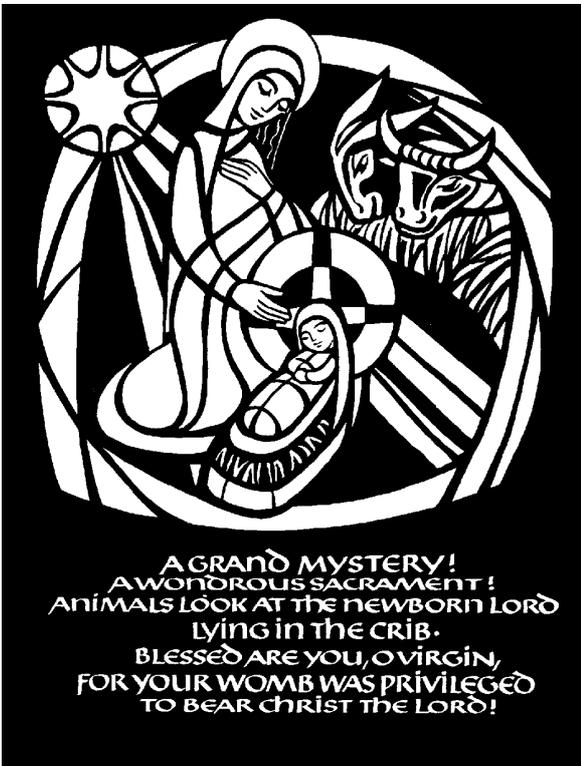
Fourth Sunday of Advent

20th December
2015

Embracing the suburbs of Goodna, Bellbird Park, Camira, Carole Park, Collingwood Park, Ellen Grove. Gailes, Kruger, Redbank, Redbank Plains, Wacol and beyond.



"Pray, hope, and don't worry. Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear your prayer."
Padre Pio.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

**CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLS 6.00PM CHRISTMAS
EVE MASS 6.30PM.**

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS AT 7.30 AND 9.00AM.

**SUNDAY 27TH DEC. FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
SAT. VIGIL 6.00PM 7.30 & 9.00AM**

**NEW YEARS' DAY 9.00AM MASS FEAST OF MARY
THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD.**

A HOLY, HAPPY AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO ALL PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS.

Since human nature as He assumed it was not annulled, by that very fact it has been raised up to a divine dignity in our respect too. For by His incarnation the Son of God has united Himself in some fashion with every man. He worked with human hands, He thought with a human mind, acted by human choice, and loved with a human heart. Born of the Virgin Mary, He has truly been made one of us, like us in all things except sin.

(Second Vatican Council—'The Church Today')

Penitential Service in Preparation for Christmas: Make a date in your diary for Wednesday **23rd December at 6.30pm**. This will be a second Rite Celebration with Fr Paul and Fr Roger ready to hear individual confessions. Remember, the sacrament of Reconciliation is for grave sin which has to be confessed and the penitent receives absolution from a priest. The day to day 'venial sins' are forgiven with an act of contrition and also at the beginning of each celebration of the Eucharist.

The practice of reflection and repentance associated with a Penitential Service is a good way of ensuring that we are at one with God and our neighbour.

Thank you to everyone of our volunteers who give up their precious time throughout the year to help our Parish run smoothly.

Do you have an hour to spare at the end of the week that you could possibly help out by cleaning the Church? If so please contact Pam or Mitch Dodrill on 3288 4594

School Watch Once again you are asked to keep an eye on the school during the holidays. There will be some work being undertaken on the Tomasi Block near the Church. Building work is always attractive to those who want to take advantage of scaffolding etc. If you see anything suspicious please contact the Police first.

New Web Site for Parish. At long last we have been able to fix the problems with our Parish Web Site. We had to start from the beginning but it has been well worth it. You can view the new Web Site at www.stfrancisgoodna.org.au Please let us know what you think of it.

Reflection by a young person in detention

If only you could feel how much it hurts to be locked up behind the fence.

If only you could know how my tears are falling down every moment.

If only you could know how much it means to me to be a normal person,

Like any other – like people outside the fence.

If only you could see how lonely I am without my family

And knowing they are not safe.

If only you could hear me out and listen to why I came.

If only you could feel the pain inside my chest.

If only you could see how many times

I wake up in the middle of the nights,

My blue bag to Nauru waiting at my door.

If only you could see how many dreams I have for my future.

(Poem by 17 year old asylum seeker on Christmas Island)

Another Christmas Miracle

A poorly dressed lady walked into a grocery store.

In a most humble manner, she asked if the grocer would let her charge a few groceries for Christmas.

She softly explained that her husband was very ill and unable to work, they had seven children and they needed food.

The grocer angrily asked she leave his store at once.

She pleaded: 'Please, sir! I will bring you the money just as soon as I can.'

He told her he could not give her credit, since she was not a customer.

A regular customer who overheard the conversation walked forward and told the grocer that he would pay for whatever she needed for her family. The grocer said in very reluctant voice, 'Do you have a grocery list?'

She replied, 'Yes sir,' 'Ok' he said, 'put your grocery list on the scales and whatever your grocery list weighs, I will give you that amount in groceries.'

She hesitated then she reached into her purse, took out a piece of paper, scribbled something on it, then laid the piece of paper on the scale.

Amazingly, the scales went down and stayed down.

The regular customer smiled and grocer started putting the groceries on the other side of the scales. The scale did not balance so he continued to put more and more groceries on them until the scales would hold no more.

The grocer stood there in utter disgust. Finally, he grabbed the piece of paper from the scales and looked at it with greater amazement.

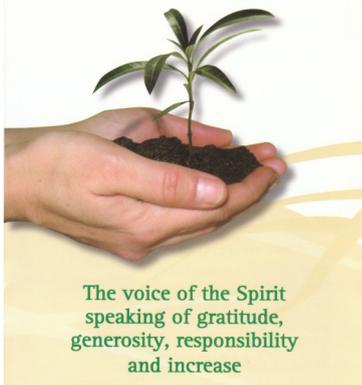
It was not a grocery list, it was a prayer, which said:

'Dear Lord, you know my needs and I am leaving this in your hands.'

The grocer gave her the groceries that he had gathered and stood in stunned silence.

She thanked him and the regular customer and left the store. The regular customer handed the money to the grocer and said: 'I was worth every penny of it. Only God knows how much a prayer weighs.'

Spirituality for Life



Each one of you has received a special grace, so, like good stewards responsible for all these varied graces of God, put it out at the service of others.”
(1 Peter 4:10)

December 13, 2015

December 20, 2015
4th Sunday of Advent

“For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy.” (Luke 1:44)

When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading each Sunday, do you “leap for joy?” If not, don’t blame the lecturer or priest, rather look inside yourself. Do you

prepare for Mass each week or do you just show up and expect to be entertained? Accessed on 12th December 2015, from <http://archstl.org/stewardship/page/bulletin-inserts>).

Victims of Conflict: Who is a “refugee”? Who is an “internally displaced person”?

Scripture points to the fact that the Holy Family started out as victims of conflict.

In Luke’s Gospel, Joseph, Mary and Jesus are forced to leave all they have behind in Israel and to flee into Egypt: *“An angel of the Lord suddenly appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you because Herod intends to search for the child and kill him. So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, left that night for Egypt...Herod was furious that he had been fooled by the wise men, and in Bethlehem and its surrounding district he had all the male children killed who were two years old or less (Luke 2:13-14, 16).”*

After Herod had died, Joseph returned with his family to Israel. However, *“when Joseph learnt that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as ruler of Judea he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream, he withdrew to the region of Galilee. There he settled in a town called Nazareth (Luke 2:22)”*

The Holy Family as ‘refugees’

The Holy Family experienced two situations that have tragically occurred over and over again throughout history. The first is the real even of a family escaping persecution (not criminal prosecution) by their own State which is targeting them, or a class of persons to which they belong to, for a specific reason. This family is forced to flee without warning to a foreign third country and in fear that they (or a member of their family unit) will suffer serious harm at the hands of that State, leaving everything behind and living in fear of what will happen to them in the future. The Holy Family would today meet the definition of a refugee under the 1951 United Nations Refugees Convention, which has been adopted as law by more than one hundred nations.

The Holy Family as “internally displaced persons”

The second event, which has also painfully occurred throughout history, is the return of a family from a country foreign to their own, only to find that returning to their own region within the country is dangerous or that they return to devastation and ruins. This forces the family to move to another region within their own country that is unfamiliar to them or hostile to their moving to this region for various internal reasons. The Holy Family would today fall within the category of persons known as internally displaced persons. These persons however are not refugees by definition because they are displaced within their own country and have not left their country of origin.

Scripture remind us that hospitality and love to stranger, including the refugee, is our Christian duty.

Matthew 25:35-36 ‘...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you too care of me, I was in prison and you visited me...’

Luke 10:29, ‘But wanting to justify himself, the lawyer asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbour?” ... Jesus replied ... “Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” The lawyer said: “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

Clyde Cosentino—Director for Multicultural Pastoral Care