



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

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

27th December
2015

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



"We all make mistakes and occasion someone gets offended in the marriage, in the family, and sometimes—I say—plates are smashed, harsh words are spoken but please listen to my advice: don't ever let the sun set without reconciling. Peace is made each day in the family: "Please forgive me", and then start over."

Pope Francis, Participants of Pilgrimage of Families, 28 October 2013



Feast of the Holy Family

In Matthew's stories surrounding Jesus' birth the human suffering caused by Herod's cruelty appalls and saddens. However, the full impact of the story comes to us in this sublime proclamation in the Gospel of John: "The Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us." Jesus, we hear, is indeed Emmanuel, God-with-us. So it is God-with-us who in Matthew's story escapes death by flight from Herod's insecure but brutal power, banished to share his human ancestors' bitter experience of exile. In the beginning, as at the end, the 'kingdom of this world' had no room for Emmanuel.

Today, the bitter experience of exile is shared by millions of refugees in flight from the loss or abuse of their human dignity and rights. Their very lives are at the mercy of prosperous nations who control and enjoy so much of the world's God-given resources. Why are so many of them knocking in vain at the doors of nations claiming to honour human

rights? Or nations whose cultural heritage has been shaped in part by the Christian ideal: "love the Lord your God ... and love your neighbour as yourself"?

In my prosperous country, fear of 'other' seems to have hardened into an attitude which regards any group that may disturb our comfortable status quo as a threat, a potential burden, an enemy to be kept at bay. Directed to refugees, such an attitude breeds indifference to both their suffering and their rights and condones policies of self-interested exclusion, short-sightedly claimed to be 'in the national interest'.

Are we, in a strange paradox, in flight from the refugee whose plight challenges us to be truly human? For the Christian the challenge cuts even deeper. If in flight from our human brothers and sisters in dire need, are we not in flight from Emmanuel, God-with-us? 'As often as you did it to one of these, you did it to me' (Matthew 25:40).

In sharp contrast to national policy of 2004, a public sign outside a parish school in Sydney proclaimed that Gospel message: 'We welcome Christ who comes to us in the refugee.'

Mary Britt OP 'Just One Year—A global Treasury of Prayer and Worship' Orbis Books.

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.

Christmas Raffle winner was Monica Marrinan. Thankyou to everyone who bought tickets, we raised \$262.

Carol Service Many thanks to all who came along and joined in the singing. And a special thank you to the band of people who made it possible, musicians, singers, the people who organised the BBQ and much more. We will try it again next year, if you enjoyed the experience, let your friends know and invite them along next year.

Christmas Celebrations Many thanks to all who contributed in making our Christmas and Advent celebration something special. To those who only join us at Christmas and Easter, we hope that their experience may encourage them to join us through the year.

How Will You Celebrate the Jubilee?

Pope Francis asks each of us to celebrate by showing to others the mercy that God constantly extends to all of us. Here are a few things you can do:

- **Contemplate Mercy.** The motto for the jubilee year is “Merciful like the Father.” By contemplating mercy, we begin to see how God gives himself to us and asks us nothing in return. Because we are touched by God’s mercy, we can be merciful toward others.
- **Don’t Judge or Condemn.** No one can look into another person’s soul. We see only what happens on the surface. Refraining from judgment and condemnation is an act of mercy, because it allows us to accept the good in every person and spare that person suffering caused by our negative attitudes.
- **Forgive.** Jesus asks us to forgive others in the same way that we have received forgiveness from God. When we forgive we release the poison of resentment that builds up inside of us. Forgiveness is an act of mercy for ourselves as well as the person who hurt us.
- **Listen to God’s Word.** To become more merciful we must listen to the Word of God in Scripture and meditate on the message of God’s mercy. As we grow in our understanding of mercy, we can better incorporate mercy into our lives.
- **Go on a Pilgrimage.** Pope Francis hopes that we will make a pilgrimage to a Holy door in Rome or in our Archdiocese, where we can receive special graces granted during the Jubilee year.
- **Recognise the Need for Mercy.** During the Jubilee year, we are called to recognise human misery in our world and reach out to those in need of mercy. We must find ways to heal wounds, break down barriers of indifference, offer friendship, and restore human dignity.
- **Practice the Spiritual and Corporal Acts of Mercy.** We practice the corporal works of mercy when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, welcome the strangers, heal the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead. We practice the spiritual works of mercy when we counsel the doubtful, instruct the ignorant, admonish the sinners, comfort the afflicted, forgive offences, bear patiently those who do us ill, and pray for the living and the dead.
- **Change our Hearts.** The ultimate goal of the Year of Mercy is to help us change our hearts and our lives so we can become conduits of God’s mercy in everything that we say and do.

©2015 Our Sunday Visitor—A Year of Mercy.

Hail Holy Queen (Salve Regina)

Hail, holy queen, Mother of Mercy
Hail our life, our sweetness and our hope.
To thee do we cry, the children of Eve;
To you we send up our sighs,
Mourning and weeping in this land of exile.
Turn, then, most gracious advocate,
Your eyes of mercy towards us;
Lead us home at last
And show us the fruit of your womb, Jesus;
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.



Spirituality for Life



The voice of the Spirit speaking of gratitude, generosity, responsibility and increase



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 27, 2015

Feast of the Holy Family

“See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” (1 John 3:1)

During this season of giving, let us remember the most important gift we have received – being children of God. As God’s children, it’s important that we express our

love for others as well. Tell your spouse, children and other family members and friends that you love them, frequently. Accessed on 19th December 2015, from <http://archstl.org/stewardship/page/bulletin-inserts>).

The Call – The Call of Stewardship

Following Jesus is the work of a lifetime. At every step forward, one is challenged to go further in accepting and loving God’s will. Being a disciple is not just something else to do . . . it is a total way of life and requires continuing conversion. – *A Disciple’s Response. A Pastoral Letter on Stewardship*

As Vatican II remarks, all Christians are “bound to show forth, by the example of their lives and by the witness of their speech,” that new life of faith which begins in baptism and is strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit in confirmation.” (Ad Gentes, 11)

There is a woman I know who I see receiving communion at Mass every week. She positively glows! I didn’t know who she was, so I asked a fellow parishioner about her. While she has all the ‘attributes’ of our lives – a family, a job, a mortgage – my fellow parishioner told me she has stripped her life of all unnecessary encumbrances.

Though prosperous, she doesn’t work to get rich, she works to make a living and because she has found a job she likes. Though involved in our parish and the community, she doesn’t do it for public acclaim, but because she cares about helping others. Though she is a boss at work, a parent and spouse at home, an elder sister in her family, her direction of those for whom she has responsibility is merely to share wisdom, provide guidance, and support others.

She has found happiness in the ultimate paradoxes: that totally giving over control of one’s life to God is the truest liberation, that giving up your life brings eternal life!

Questions:

How is stewardship a part of being a disciple?

What does it mean to you to be a steward of the Church?

Do you see your baptism as creating a responsibility to follow Jesus?

Stewardship means I am not in control. It means the gifts I take for granted will not always be mine. It means that when it comes down to the basic gifts of life, love, faith, and relationships, what I possess and who I am makes little or no difference. *Archbishop Thomas Murphy.*

PARISH NOTICES

Dates for your Diary



Sun 27th Dec. Holy Family
 Mon 28th Dec. Divine Mercy Prayer Group
 IN ENGLISH. 6.00pm
 Frid 1st January. Mary the Mother of God

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.

27th December The Holy Family

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

Response: Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

3rd January The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12



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 9.00am Mass
Friday 9.00am Mass
Saturday 9.00am Mass
 Saturday Vigil 6.00pm
 Sunday 7.30am & 9.00am Mass
Benediction 4.30pm

Reconciliation Sat 5.00 – 5.30pm

Cleaning: 1st Jan. Pam & Mitch Dodrill

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 Tournay, 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: 28th December—2nd January

Noel Mills, Joshua Carroll, Grace Ferguson, Alice Coleman, David Wood, Irene Fenlon, Greg Patterson, Sarah Elliot, Eileen Power, Goergina Pearson, Hemcy Tirrant, John Utley, George Byrnes, Albinas Bertonas, Snow Hanson, Si Souphna Leuang, Edward Doyle.

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.