



## St Francis Xavier Parish

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](http://stfrancisxaviergoodna.org.au)

Ph: 3818 0111 Fax 3818 1420 Email: [goodna@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:goodna@bne.catholic.net.au)

**Parish Clergy: Fr Roger Burns PP.**

**Parish Secretary: Mrs Marie Hodges**

**(Local Safeguarding Children Representative: Marie Hodges)**

St Vincent De Paul: For Assistance Please call 3010 1096 - Weekdays only .

Meetings: Fortnightly on Tuesday 7.00pm. Call 0479 163 335

**First  
Sunday  
Of Advent**

**27th November  
2016**

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



### GOOD NEWS: The Son of Man is Coming.

The liturgical year will carry us through all the moods and experiences of the pilgrimage of life. Sunday after Sunday we will be caught up in the memory of Jesus Christ in all its aspects.

The first Sunday of the year sets our sights on life's horizon to the coming of Christ to us at the end. We must know where the journey of life is going before we start on the way. At the end, the Son of Man is coming. Three times today's short passage speaks of his coming.

Who is coming and what will he be like?

The title given here to the Lord is 'Son of Man.' Surely this is the echo of the humanity of Jesus Christ suggests to us that the final coming will bear many of the characteristics of his coming once in the flesh. In other words, if we want to know what the final coming will be like, we can learn it from the incarnation.

Then he came to us as light, love and life.

And there are many ways in which how will come again. Once he came as the light of the world. He was rejected by some, accepted by others: destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, for his light exposed many of the pretenses and camouflages of life.

When he comes again his light of judgement will penetrate our barriers and strip away our masks. Then we will see ourselves in utter honesty and will be our own judges. We will know within ourselves whether we can leap towards the arms of God who is coming, or whether we want to hide away in the darkness of guilt over what we have done to our own lives. 'On these grounds is judgement pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown that they prefer darkness to light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everyone who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.' (Jn 3:19-21)

Secondly he came in love. God the Father so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that we might not be lost but might have eternal life. He came in love ... as a brother to embrace us ... and to serve us ... and to be our ransom. And that is how he will come again ... to draw us totally into his loving embrace.

Thirdly, he came that we might have life to the full. He spoke of the need to let go, even to die to self in order to grow into divine life. And his words were verified in deed as he passed through death unto the resurrection. When the Son of Man comes again and we must return the breath of life to the Father, it will be to invite us to share in the fullness of divine life. But if we have sold our birthright for a mess of pottage, then his invitation will be to our shame and embarrassment.

That he will come again is certain: for all surely die. The only uncertainty is when. Too easily we are so deafened by the clamours of the flesh and the noise of the streets of life that we fail to hear the rumble of the approaching flood down our valley. Or we are so comfortably ensconced in the domesticity of self-centered living that we fail to hear the burglar breaking through the wall.

The message at the start of Advent is to stay awake ... watch ... for the Son of Man is coming. The manner of his coming will be imitation of the thrust of light, love and light which centred the world in Jesus of Nazareth. And the manner of our acceptance of him will be the way that we are open to the honesty of light, the calls of love and the challenges of life. For as we live, so shall we die.

**Use of the Parish Centre Toilets.** Just a reminder to all parishioners and visitors with regards to the use of the toilets. When the Out of School Hours Facility is in operation, the toilets are not available to parishioners or visitors. This means that in the mornings, until the children have departed for the school at 8.30am and again in the afternoon between 3.00 and 6.00pm, please do not use the toilets. This restriction is part of our adherence with the Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults instructions instituted by the Archdiocese of Brisbane and the Archbishop.

**Special Minister to the Housebound** At the moment we do not have a spare communion Pix in the Sacristy. If you are not using your pix which was supplied by the parish, please return it to the sacristy ASAP.

**Young Children at Mass etc.** All children attending Masses and other celebrations should be supervised by a parent or responsible adult. We ask you not to allow your children to roam around outside. This applies to Masses, choir practices and Prayer Group meetings.

**SVDP Christmas Collection.** Because of the Annual Peter's Pence collection which is to be taken this weekend, the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Collection will be taken at all Masses in Church **weekend of 10/11 December**. Your donation will help the Saint Vincent De Paul conference to serve the needy in the parish this Christmas.

**Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Audit** In June of this year the Archdioceses hired the services of an external company to audit a number of Parishes and we were one of those Parishes. A report on the results of all the Parishes was released to us this week. As a result a recommendation was all Ministers must hold a Blue Card and that they must sign The Code of Ethical Behaviour. We are very good in this area but still have a little way to go to be fully compliant. If you are a Minister in any of our Ministries and still do not have a Blue Card then can you please contact the office? Code of Ethical Behaviour Forms are in the Sacristy for those Ministers who are yet to sign please sign one and leave with Fr Roger or call into the Office as soon as possible.

**Catholic Mission** If you have experienced Mission in an overseas context, if you have a heart for sharing the Good News, or even if you simply want to help us make a difference in the world, then perhaps you might consider becoming a Mission Ambassador for Catholic Mission. We have just finished several months of telling parishes across Queensland about the missionary work of the Church and would love to hear from anyone else. At this stage, we are simply looking for names and contact details—we will then be in touch early in 2017 to discuss the logistics and clarify your availability and level of interest.

To find out more, please call our Brisbane office during business hours on (07) 3336 9239 or email our Parish Appeals Co-ordinator, Anna Jimenez, at [ajimenez@catholicmission.org.au](mailto:ajimenez@catholicmission.org.au)

**Invitation** to our Religious Instruction Christmas Concert at Redbank State School, Brisbane St, Redbank. Tuesday 29th November at 1-45pm—2-45pm. Christine Hodgkinson, RI Coordinator.

**Thank you** to Agnes Fryars and all the members of the Senior Singers Group for putting on a terrific Parish Christmas Party. Since beginning my role as Parish Secretary nearly 3 years ago now I have had the privilege of providing support for this wonderful group of people.

The annual Christmas Party just seems to get better every year and the Senior Singers Group are a well oiled machine with each one of them having their own little job to do and it certainly shows when everything comes together just right.

Bob McDowd and Kath Hogan were the entertainment for the morning and did not disappoint. Thankyou both for your time. The School children and their teachers who came over and gave us a glimpse into their performance for the School Concert which was held on Tuesday evening. Thankyou to the senior students who waited on us and helped with the raffles.

Last of all thank you to Sonia and the staff of Outside School Hours Care for setting up the tables and all the help you provided on the day. **Marie**

**Humour** Adam and Eve had an ideal marriage. He didn't have to hear about all the men she could have married and she didn't have to hear about the way his mother cooked.

## 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)

**27th November 2016**

**First Sunday of Advent**

*“For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.” Matthew 24:42*

People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and grow in gratitude for all that we have been given. (Accessed on 17th November 2016 from <http://archstl.org/stewardship/page/bulletin-inserts>)

## JESUS WAY – THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS

In Jesus’ teaching and life, self-emptying is fundamental. His self-emptying is not sterile self-denial for its own sake; rather in setting aside self, He is filled with the Father’s will, . . . The Beatitudes and the rest of the Sermon on the Mount prescribe the life-style of a Christian disciple. Although (the lifestyle of a Christian disciple) does not suit worldly tastes, the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God. *Stewardship – A Disciple’s Response. A Pastoral Letter on Stewardship.*

*How blest are the poor in spirit, the reign of God is theirs.*

*Blest too are the sorrowing; they shall be consoled.*

*Blest are the lowly; they shall inherit the land.*

*Blest are they who hunger and thirst for holiness; they shall have their fill.*

*Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.*

*Blest are the single-hearted for they shall see God.*

*Blest too are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.*

*Blest are those who are persecuted for holiness sake, the reign of God is theirs.*

*Blest are they when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of slander against you because of me. (Matthew 5, 3-11)*

My parents were great examples of giving – they gave of themselves to each other, and they gave of themselves to others: me and my brothers and sisters, their parents, our parish, the poor in the community. However, my folks claimed none of the credit. They said they were just following the example of Jesus and the call of Jesus; and this is how they wanted us to live as well.

- How did your parents (or other family members) set an example for you of Jesus’ giving?
- To what extent are we called to live as Jesus did?
- To give up everything we own and preach the Gospel?
- To give up our lives?

To confront those who are obstacles to belief in God?

To be a disciple of Jesus is to embark on a spiritual journey which asks every person to walk with the Lord, to imitate the pattern of Jesus’ life, to follow His example of service to others. It involves the willingness to take up the cross, to endure the difficult, to be willing to give up one’s life for others, only to discover the rich paradox of reward which comes from discipleship. *Archbishop Thomas J. Murphy USA Catholics: are we our Brothers’ and Sisters’ Keepers? (from Chicago Studies, April 1991, Volume 30 #1)*

# PARISH NOTICES

## Dates for your Diary



Sun 27th Nov. First Sunday of Advent  
 Mon 28th Nov. Divine Mercy prayer Group 6.00pm  
 In English.  
 Wed 30th Nov. Graduation Mass  
 Thurs 1st Dec. Parish Pastoral Council 7.00pm  
 Saturday 3rd Dec. First Saturday mass 9.00am  
 Parish Working Bee 9.45am  
 Sun 4th Dec. Second Sunday of Advent

## Collections For Last Week

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

**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.

## First Sunday of Advent

Is 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

Psalm: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

## Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12



### Services times this week:

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

### Weekdays

Monday No Mass  
 Tuesday 11.30am Requiem Mass  
 Wednesday 6.00 pm Graduation Mass  
 Thursday 9.00am Mass in School  
 Friday 9.00am Mass  
 Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass  
 Sunday 7.30am & 9.00am

**Reconciliation** Sat 5.00 – 5.30pm

### Cleaning: 02.12.16 Mitch & Pam

If you would like to help out on this roster, please contact Pam Dodrill on 3288 4594. (Roster approximately once every eight weeks) The current Roster is available from the Sacristy. If you cannot honour your commitment please let Pam know.

### 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, William Ryan, Hudson McHardy, Hini Habchi, Jamie Teal, Jaiden Madasferi, Maureen Shackleton, Macey Ingham, Nada Payne, Carmel Vig, Rebecca Habraken, Sr Carmel, Wendy Marshall, Eileen Monaghan, Marge & Tom Robin, Lillian Morrison, John Appelman, Kath Gurdon. (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: 27 Nov. — 3 Dec.

JANE Keane, Maria Giollo, Condy Fryars, Bernadette Oddie, Francisca Grazina, Frances Locke, Elaine Foster, Karen Kennedy, Ian Grayson, Harley Robinson, Leonora McNamara, Nellie Anderson, Mary Gallagher, Alan Johns, Kathleen Barratt, Pierre Chassin, Glenis Nugent, Cecilia Eustace, Margaret Robinson, Josephine Hurray, Charles Galea, Gerardus Krist, Lea Gonzales.

**Recently Deceased:** Euphemia Keppel (PHEME)

## 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.