

# PARISH NOTICES

## Dates for your Diary



Sun 10th Jan. The Baptism of the Lord  
 Mon 11th Jan. Divine Mercy Prayer Group  
 IN ENGLISH. 6.00pm  
 Wed 13th Jan. Rosary 6.30pm  
 Sun 17th Jan. 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

## 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.

## 10th Jan Baptism of the Lord

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7;; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Response: Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

## 17th Jan 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 62:1-5; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11



### 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  
 Friday 9.00am Mass  
 Saturday Vigil 6.00pm  
 Sunday 7.30am & 9.00am Mass

**Reconciliation** Sat 5.00 – 5.30pm

### Cleaning: 15th Jan. Lulu family

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 Habraken, 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: 10th—16th January

James Edwards, John McCaughey, James Liddy, Neville Charman, Geowefa Podolak, Daniel Ray, Sheila Lennon, Patrick Kennedy, Stan Cymer, Paddy Liddy, Clair Sheehan, Renee Chassin, Kevin Coleman, Leslie Thomas, William Goldie.

## 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 goodna@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](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. 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 Baptism of the Lord 10th January 2016

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



### **The Baptism of the Lord**

*"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." – Micah 6:8 (NIV)*

#### **CALLED TO MINISTRY**

The baptism of Jesus marks the day of his divine affirmation and his empowerment for public mission. It is an appropriate day to reflect on our own baptism as a call to participate actively in the mission of the Church.

The Second Vatican Council recognised the need to foster the active role of the laity in the Church's mission of salvation. Calling up the laity is not some strategy devised merely to counteract the falling numbers of priest and religious. The call to ministry is rooted in baptism and developed in confirmation. 'The apostolate of the laity is a sharing in the saving mission of the Church. Through baptism and confirmation all the baptised are appointed to this apostolate by the Lord himself.' (Vat II, Church, 33)

We have tended to regard baptism too much in terms of personal salvation ... As something necessary for the salvation of one's soul by the cleansing of original sin. It must also be seen as a sacrament of belonging to the family and mission of the Church. It imposes the duty to participate actively in the Church's mission of carrying on the work of Christ's kingdom.

For too long, we the clergy, have hogged the power and were happy to let the laity stand up, pay up and shut up! We did not recognise the charisms of the lay baptised, much less foster their growth. It is time for the sleeping giant of the laity to awake. The vocations crisis of today is principally about our failure to nurture the vocation of all the baptised to active mission.

But let us return to the baptism of the Lord which marked his emergence from obscurity to begin his public mission. It is very significant that his ministry began after he had received the two-fold testimony from heaven. He was divinely affirmed in his identity. One of the most mysterious areas of faith is the interplay between the human and divine natures in the person of Jesus Christ. We believe that Jesus felt with a human heart and thought with a human mind. And he had to pass through the normal stages of personal growth to maturity.

In Erikson's stages of growth, before a life is generative (as Jesus was in public ministry), one must previously have achieved a sense of who-I-am (identity) and developed the capacity for intimacy. The word intimacy may well be rooted in the Latin word for fear. It demands that one is sufficiently self-secure to relate now in full trust with others in the risk of a give-and-take relationship.

A revelation from heaven confirming for Jesus his divine identity. And the intimacy of his relationship with the Father was clearly heard: 'You are my Beloved Son; my favour rests on you.' With his identity clearly established and his relationship with the Father to reassure him, Jesus was now ready for a ministry which would generate divine life in others.

The pattern is the same for all Christians who are called to follow Jesus in ministry. I am speaking of ministry in the wide sense of any apostolic activity, rather than in the restricted areas proper to those who are ordained. Ministry is another word for serving others in the love of Christ.

The call to Christian ministry begins in finding out who I am in relationship with God. That means understanding my baptismal identity. For most Catholics this comes through a gradual process of encounters with God in prayer and the sacraments. Our faith and trust grow as God's loving relationship with us is increasingly revealed to us. There may be one special, overwhelming encounter like a weekend retreat, or some moment when we are taken beyond ourselves by the beauty of creation, or some crisis that is surmounted, some charismatic circles call this the experience of being born again or of receiving baptism in the Spirit.

Whether my personal history is of a dynamic breakthrough (born again) or of a gradual (born again-and-again) is beside the point. What matters is coming to know in my heart and mind that it means to (Continued on page 3)

**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.

### **Multicultural Mass—24th January**

To celebrate Australia Day and the multicultural aspect of our parish. we will be holding a special Mass on the Sunday before Australia Day. We are asking **your help** to make the day a success. Can you share some of your national food, arrive in national dress and be part of the celebration?

There are somewhere in the region of thirty-five different countries represented in our parish. This results in a rich gathering of people on weekends. Different practices of liturgy have been used in National gatherings such as World Youth Day in Sydney, to make known to those taking part, our praise of God.

**Christmas Cards:** We would love to receive your used cards for our Religious Education classes. We use Nativity scenes. A box will be near the Angel in the church to put the cards in. We give out each year about 600 cards to the children we teach with the real message of Christmas. Thank you. Christine Hodgkinson.

**Church Cleaning:** Each week a number of parishioners clean our Church in preparation for the weekend Masses. We are in need of some more volunteers to go on the roster, at the moment the people who are on the roster only have to clean every 6 weeks and it only takes 2 people about an hour to clean the Church and pergola area. If you and a friend or partner would be interested in being put on the next roster please contact Pam Dodrill on 3288 4594.

**Sacramental Preparation 2016** Last year, the Archdiocese launched a new programme for the preparation of children for the sacraments. This coming year we will be following the pattern set down by the Archdiocese.

**BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, FIRST COMMUNION FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN.** Infants are **baptised** at the request of their parents, usually in the first year of life and in their home parish. At least one parent should be Catholic.

In the year when the children turn eight (Year Three) they are sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit in the **Sacrament of Confirmation** administered by the Bishop or his delegate.

In the year when children turn nine (Year Four), they are welcomed to the Lord's Table and receive **Holy Communion** for the first time. This is the climax of their Christian initiation.

**CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR OLDER CHILDREN.** Once children have turned eight (Year Three), they are no longer candidates for infant Baptism. If they have not been baptised, they are enrolled in a modified catechumenate leading to the celebration of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion at Easter.

**PENANCE.** Introducing children to the greatness of God's mercy in the Sacrament of Penance is a two-step process. A simple celebration of the second rite of the sacrament of Penance is included as part of the preparation for First Communion.

In the year when the children turn ten (Year Five), they are prepared to celebrate more fully the **Sacrament of Penance** with individual confession and absolution (**the first rite**). This builds on the work of the previous year as they take a second step and learn in greater detail what it means to examine their conscience.

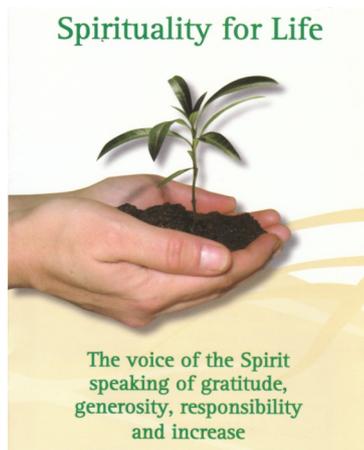
[Sacramental Policy in the Archdiocese of Brisbane 2015]

Parents with children eligible for the sacraments who attend St Francis Xavier School, have all been sent a letter regarding the changes.

For parents who have children in Non-Catholic Schools or Colleges, you need to contact the Parish Office with the names and ages of your children.

**The starting date set down for the 2016 preparation is Sunday 17th April, after the Easter holidays.  
PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE IT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO CONTACT THE OFFICE.**

**Rosary Group** will begin again on Wednesday 13th Jan. Come and join in the recitation of the Rosary.



***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)***

**January 10, 2016**  
**Baptism of the Lord**

*“John answered them all, ‘I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming...he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit...’” (Luke 3:16)*

The Catholic Catechism states that *“Jesus’ immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God’s will.”* In other words, as bap-

tized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus – the gift of ourselves. Once we surrender ourselves to God, we will know in our hearts what God calls us to do. Accessed on 31 December 2016, from <http://archstl.org/stewardship/page/bulletin-inserts>).

**CALLED TO MINISTRY (Cont.)**

To have been baptised.

Like Jesus I learn identity.

I too am a beloved child of God the Father.

I too have received the power and the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

I too am loved by Jesus Christ, the Son, that he entered the murky waters of human existence to embrace me.

This is my Christian identity.

And when I prayerfully bring this light to shine on my daily experiences, I will grow in confidence. For God is always with me. I will be ready to go, with God, into the areas of risk and fear .. Intimacy.

When this courage grows my life will be generative and apostolic. I will be ready to share with others in Christ’s name. it may be in a service of family responsibility, or working for justice, of feeding the hungry, or helping in retreats and growth programmes, or of liturgical ministry. In a great diversity of ways we are called to witness to our faith.

In Christian ministry it is not myself that I give to others, but Christ who lives in me. If I were to give of my own sinfulness and inadequacy it would be of little service to others. But the call to Christian ministry is to give what is not my own. What I give is whatever God’s Spirit will use me for.

Most people will initially react in fear when asked to participate in ministry. But this fear comes from thinking that bit depends totally on my own abilities.

Jeremiah, when he received the call to give God’s word, recoiled in fear: ‘Ah Lord Yahweh; look I do not know how to speak: I am a child.’ But God reassured him: ‘Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to protect you.’ (Jer 1:4,8)

If I am called to any ministry or service in the Church it is not reward for being a good parishioner. In Christian ministry I am called to give what is not my own: to give of Christ who lives in me by the grace of baptism. All I need to do is offer my emptiness to the Holy Spirit to fill me and use me for God’s purposes.

The voice of the Father speaks in the heart:

‘My Spirit tears open the heavens and pierces the clouds to come and rest on you. Be not afraid.’

Fr Silvester O’Flynn OFM Cap.—The Good News of Mark’s Year (p47f.)

In July 2006, the parish adopted the principles of Stewardship. As a consequence of our baptism, being blessed with gifts of the Holy Spirit which were reinforced or confirmed through our Confirmation, we are called into service s explained above.

**What is Catholic Stewardship?**

Stewardship is a spirituality — a way of life — which calls for our response by:

Receiving the gifts of God with **gratitude**

Cultivating them **responsibly**

Sharing them **generously in justice** with others

Returning the gifts with **increase** to God.

We invite you to firstly recognize your gifts and then seek ways to share them with others. If you would like to serve in the parish contact one of the priests or the Parish Office.