



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.

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

**Fourth
Sunday
Of Advent**

**18th December
2016**

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



A SAVIOUR, EMMANUEL

One of the greatest intentions of the evangelists is to answer the question, “Who is Jesus?” Matthew’s answer is written in such a way as to reach out in appeal to the Jewish mind to accept that Jesus is the fulfilment of the Old Testament hopes and strivings.

This story of the annunciation to Joseph draws out of the rich river of Jewish memory. Matthew uses Joseph as the link with many of the great Old Testament saints and the hopes that they represented.

As we read that Joseph has a dream we remember another Joseph who had dreams, one of which was about a technicolour coat. We are linked to the days of the patriarchs, for this Joseph was the great-grandson of Abraham ... Abraham, the first recipient of divine revelations, the holy father of believers.

Then we hear that this child of Mary will save his people from their sins, leading them out of slavery. Suggestions of a new Moses surely!

And Joseph himself is addressed by the angel as son of David. What memories of David tumble out before us! David was a native of Bethlehem. He was but a boy-shepherd when the call of God entered his life to anoint him as the future king. He was revered in sacred story as the king who overcame the tribal rivalries and united the nation, who succeeded in liberating the land from foreign invaders and who established their capital city of Jerusalem. And Jerusalem became the holy city, site of the temple of God’s presence upon earth.

Who then is this child soon to enter upon the stage of history?

Matthew is telling us that he is the new Abraham, source of divine revelation and faith for the people. He is the new Moses who will liberate his people from the slave-land of sin. He is the new David, shepherd and ideal king, leading his united people to the new Jerusalem, city of the presence of God.

The saints of the Old Testament drew their strength and consolation from the words of promise, “I will be with you.” Now at the climax of history the promise is fulfilled.

God is with us, Emmanuel.

The slave-chains of sin have been broken: the barrier from God’s presence knocked down: the cloud hiding the face of God has been removed. For one who saves from sin has come to Mary’s womb. Jesus is the fulfilment of every holy hope, need and expectation.

Jesus is the presence of God to our desert-emptiness,
power to our weakness,
life to our dying,
bread to our hunger
water to our thirst,
companion to our loneliness,
forgiveness to our sins.

Silvester O’Flynn OFM. Cap—The Good News of Matthew’s Year.

Illustration: The visitation of the angel to Joseph in Bethlehem’s Basilica of the Nativity.

Training Day for Ministers regarding Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults.

One of the requirements laid down in the Archdiocesan Policy, is that all ministers should attend a training session. The Archdiocesan Safeguarding Officer Mr Troy Tornabene has given us a number of dates when he is available to lead the training. If you have not attended a training session to date you will be expected to enrol in the next session.

Work in the School during the holidays.

During the Christmas break a number of projects will be undertaken in and around the school. These include renewing the fencing on the oval and turfing the central section of the oval. Removal of asbestos from the Library and the Tomasi wing near the church. During this work there will probably be fencing and warning signs. Would all parents please ensure that your children are supervised at all times. There should be no children or adults wandering around the church or in the school grounds.

Garage Sale. During the working Bee, a number of items were identified "FOR SALE". These include metal framed chairs and some plastic chairs which will be going for \$1.00 each. Also with the renovation of the Centre kitchen we have a Dish-washer for sale. A number of the chairs have already gone, the chairs that are left are Children's chairs (would suit children in grades 3 and 4) Please contact the parish office if you are interested in any of the above items.

Your help required. A number of ministers have ceased to serve in the past few months. To lessen the load on the roster, we are looking for new readers, Special Ministers for during Mass and Special Ministers to the housebound. Can you please help? There will be a training session in the new year possibly on a Saturday. We are in desperate need of cleaners for the Church on a Friday and someone to clean the toilets on a Monday morning.

Christmas Raffle: Catholic Church Insurances have once again donated a Christmas Hamper to our Parish for us to raffle with all proceeds raised going directly to our Parish. Tickets are \$2 per ticket or 3 for \$5. today Sunday 18th at 9-00am Mass.

As the Church's own insurance company, CCI provides support to the Catholic Church and its community. As part of their commitment to serve, CCI provides support to the Catholic Church and its community: For more information call **1300 655 003** or visit www.catholicinsurance.org.au

Centenary of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Corinda 1917-2017

Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Brian Finnigan, 6pm Saturday 28th January 2017 at St Joseph's Church, Oxley Rd, Corinda.

Dinner will follow at the Sherwood Services Club, Clewley St, Corinda.

Cost of dinner is \$30 per person (two course dinner with tea/coffee).

Please contact the Corinda Graceville Parish Office on 3.379 1534 or at corindagraceville@bne.catholic.net.au

To make a booking and arrange payment. All present and past parishioners and students of St Joseph's School Corinda, OLSH School Darra and OLSH College Corinda are invited to attend the celebrations.

Free e-book Son of God: The Daily Gospel Year Q-1

This e-book, which may be downloaded free of charge to a computer or e-reader/tablet/iPhone, offers the Gospel for every day of this coming Liturgical Year A-1 (Sundays Year A, weekdays Year 1), together with a reflection of some 750 words on each daily gospel. This Liturgical Year A-1 began on the First Sunday of Advent 2016 and will continue till November of 2017. It may be passed on to friends or acquaintances as desired. It carries the Imprimatur of Archbishop Anthony Fisher of Sydney, given to this publication when he was Bishop of Parramatta.

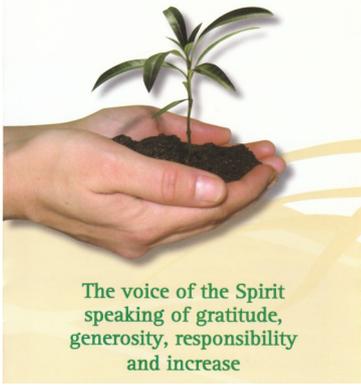
Son of God: The Daily Gospel Year A-1 may be accessed at www.catholic-thoughts.infor/ebook/

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. A big thankyou to the people of our parish who gave generously last weekend to our Christmas Appeal. You donated \$1728.90 which will help us to help the poor in our area.

Humour A woman lost her handbag in the bustle of Christmas shopping. It was found by an honest little boy and returned to her. Looking in her purse, she commented, "Hmmm ... When I lost my bag there was a \$20 bill in it. Now there are twenty \$1 bills."

The boy quickly replied, "The last time I found a lady's purse, she didn't have any change for a reward."

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 18, 2016 - 4th Sunday of Advent

“When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.” Matthew 1:24 Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may led us. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Jo-

seph was. (Accessed on 13th December 2016 from <http://archstl.org/stewardship/page/bulletin-inserts>)

JESUS WAY – THE IMAGE OF THE STEWARD

All temporal and spiritual goods are created by and come from God.

That is true of everything human beings have:

Spiritual gifts like faith, hope, and love,

Talents of body and brain;

Cherished relationships with family and friends;

Material goods;

The achievements of human genius and skill;

The world itself.

One day God will require an accounting of the use each person has made of the particular portion of these goods entrusted to him or her.

Stewardship – A Disciple’s Response. A Pastoral Letter on Stewardship.

There was a man who was going on a journey, and who left his wealth to be tended by three servants. Two of them responded wisely by investing the money and making a handsome profit. Upon returning, the master commends them warmly and rewards them richly. But the third behaves foolishly, with anxious pettiness, squirreling away the master’s wealth and earning nothing; he is rebuked and punished. (A paraphrase of Matthew 25: 14-30)

Do you ever run into people who tell you they have no talent or no talents in particular? Their disclaimer is as bad as false modesty! Why would God create someone with no talents? Isn’t it hard to believe that God would do that? Instead, people who claim they have no talents need to take the time to discover what their talents are. If they truly want to find a way to serve God, finding out what their talents are seems to be a small price to pay. I also remember the old saying that if only the birds with the most beautiful songs were to sing, the forest would be a very quite place indeed.

Questions:

What talents has God given to you?

How have you used those gifts to further God’s kingdom/make this world better?

How have you helped others recognize the gifts God has given to them?

At the heart of stewardship is the ability to grow in our faith commitment. It is a growth that asks us to recognize the richness of the simplicity of recognizing what is really important in our lives. *Archbishop Thomas Murphy*

Talents are not trophies to be kept in cabinets or to be boasted about, they are gifts from God. Gifts not just for the recipient but for all those whose lives are touched by the recipient. The Offertory during the Mass is our opportunity to lift those gifts that we have received from God, returning them with thanks, so that he can multiply them. Then we have even more, through the goodness of God to share with those around us.

PARISH NOTICES

Dates for your Diary



Sun 18th Dec. Fourth Sunday of Advent
 Mon 19th Dec. Divine Mercy prayer Group 6.00pm
 In English.
 Tues 20th Penitential Service 6.30pm
 Saturday 24th Carols 6.00pm Mass 6.30pm
 Sun 25th Dec. Christmas Day 7.30am & 9.00am

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.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Is 7:10-14; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

Psalm: Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

Christmas Eve and Day

Eve: Is 9:1-7; Titus 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14; Day: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:10-18



Services times this week:

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

Weekdays

Monday No Mass
 Tuesday 9.00am Mass
 Wednesday 9.00am Mass
 Thursday 9.00am Mass
 Friday 9.00am Mass
 Christmas Eve 6.00pm Carols
 6.30pm Mass
 Christmas Day 7.30am & 9.00am

Reconciliation Sat 5.00 – 5.30pm

Cleaning: 23.12.16 Maria & Family

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, Kath Gurdon, Frank Asange. (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: 18 –24 Dec.

Gladys Hamilton, Norman beardmore, Teodorico Caracal, Gordon O'Donohue, Felice Pastro, Antonis Stevenson, Angelina Aizoi, Joseph Vu Van Ngon, Judy Harris, Bonifacio Cajes, Leonardo Oblino, Myrtle Bentley, Constance Swales, Monica Pelu, Terence Cross, Arlyn Tirrant,, Basis Fenelon, Reuben Dunn, Denis Cavanagh, Marcel Meynard, Eileen McCauley, Elizabeth Mahulik.

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.