

Cleaning Roster for Next Week Jim Walsh



Flower Roster for Next Week Donna Soalo

Registering as a Volunteer

All Mass volunteers will need to be registered with the Archdiocese of Brisbane as a Volunteer prior to any volunteering duties can be carried out. The registration process can extend to either a Blue Card application and/or Police Check. To get more information and details about the new online registration process, please come up to the Parish Office if you are interested in helping out.

Lenten Program - 2020

Anyone wishing to register their name for a Lenten Program for Easter 2020 (12th April 2020), please contact the Parish Office.



Prayer for the Sick

Hudson Mc Hardy, Keith Auld, Lin Merrian, Marj, Gladys Robbin, Kim Shadwell, Jackie Ledger, Amy and Reagan Whiteman, Blake Dufty, Amanda Harding, Sarah Kathleen Jones, Marie Bonne, Maureen McCallion.

Anniversaries: 8th December - 14th December

Vincent Hoang Van Duc, Melchior Gruell, Margaret Watson, Allan Booth, Dulcie Neden, Doreen Toothill, Irene Fenelon.

Recently Deceased

Thomas James McCarthy, Peter John Burns, Unasa Mesi Galo Esera, Tofilau Uili Ponifasio Leafa, Irene Kelly wife of Maurie (dec'd).

Christmas Cards

We have Majellan Christmas cards for sale at \$10/pack (10 cards/pack). If you wish to purchase any cards, please contact the Parish Office. Get in early as we only have a limited number for sale.



Happy International Volunteers Day!!

For the 5th December, we wish to express a Happy International Volunteers Day to all of our wonderful volunteers at the Goodna Parish. Thank you for all your incredible efforts, we appreciate everything you do to make our community safe and welcoming for everyone.



St Francis Xavier Parish

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Website: stfrancisxaviergoodna.org.au

Email: goodna@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Clergy: Fr. Vudinh Tuong PP

Parish Secretary: Michelle Castell
(on Annual Leave Mon 9th Dec - Fri 13th Dec 19)



8th December 2019 Second Sunday of Advent



The Precursor

Several weeks prior to Christmas shopping, stores have decorated their shop windows hoping to catch the eyes of their customers.

They are promoting the Christmas Festive

Season by calling people to do shopping, spend more. It is the way of a consumer society promoting the birth of Jesus. The Church is promoting the birth of Jesus in a different way. It is the old way; to renew the heart of a person; the way John the Baptist proposed. John went before Jesus preparing the way for his coming. John's way of conversion was old, but it is always fresh for a couple of reasons. First, what John shared was his personal wisdom gained from the wilderness experience. It came not from the head, but from the heart. Second, his wisdom was gained through his days in the wilderness where animals fight cruelly for prey and for survival. Life and death were interwoven. And third, his simplicity of life and humility were all for the Lord. John invited each member of his audience to do personal reflection by looking deep into one's own heart, and making changes accordingly to welcome the Messiah. John told the people, he was the voice in the wilderness, and his voice called each of us to look deep into the wilderness of our own heart, to get rid of all that is harmful to us, and what stops us from returning to the Lord. It is the voice that calls us to make wise choices from amongst voices of the world. John called us to remove the hills that block us coming to the Messiah, and the valleys that narrow our vision about God's love and mercy for the world. The invisible hills and valleys are within our minds and hearts. These are the

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blockages stopping us from reaching out to love God and having compassion for others. The invisible hills and valleys create the smoke screens that twist our vision about the world and about others. They make us see the illusion of our vocation, not the real one. John saw his vocation clearly and lived out his vocation faithfully, because there were no invisible hills and valleys in his heart. His vocation was going before, paving the way for the Messiah to come. He was born before Jesus; he entered the wilderness before Jesus; he began his public ministry before Jesus; he baptised people in the Jordan river; he sent his disciples to Jesus; and finally he died before Jesus. He died a violent death, beheaded in prison.

We do draw up a shopping list at Christmas, buying gifts for others. Why not draw up a list of what we would like to change at Christmas, begging Jesus for the power to change; for the wisdom to make a right decision, and for the courage to overcome the mountain range in our own heart.

There is no better way to prepare for Christmas than by preparing our own heart. It is good for oneself, and it pleases Jesus because he came to the world to give us life. Navigating our life towards God would free us from life's heavy burden. John performed no miracle, and he certainly was not a diplomatic character; his language was rough and tough, and yet people loved him, simply because he lived not for himself, but for the Lord. This alone made his name last forever.

Vudinh Tuong

St Francis Xavier Christmas Dates

- 8th Dec St Francis Xavier Christmas BBQ for all Volunteers - Thank You**
This year the Christmas BBQ and turning on of the Christmas Lights will be held on the 8th Dec 19 at 5.00pm
- 13th Dec St Francis Xavier Christmas Carols 6.30pm**
The St Francis Xavier Christmas Carols will be on Friday the 13th December, starting at 6.30pm, with a Mass Reconciliation at 7.00pm. This will be followed by a shared Supper (Please bring a plate of food to share).
- 24th Dec St Francis Xavier Christmas Carols & Mass 5.00pm**
There will be no 9.00am on Tuesday 24th Dec 19. The Christmas carols and Mass will start at 5.00pm.
- 25th Dec St Francis Xavier Christmas Day 7.00am & 9.00am**
On Wednesday the 25th Dec 19, there will be a 7.00am Mass and a 9.00am Mass.

Dates to Remember

- 11th Dec Lights of Christmas at St Stephen's Cathedral
This event will run from the 11th Dec - 24th Dec and include music, food and children's activities from 6.30pm followed by a 12 minute show running continuously from 7.00pm.
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- 11th Dec Awaken: Together in Christ West End
Come for a spirit filled night of worship on the 13th Dec 19 at 7pm. Nibbles & refreshments provided. Suggested Donation. RSVP by the 11th Dec, please call 07 3844 2744.
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- 13th Dec Women's Retreat - Dragonfly Ministries Ormiston
Get in quick for a weekend opportunity for women to experience a time of prayerful reflection without the chaos and clutter of life. For more details or to book, please call Grace on 0409 524 283.
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- 21st Dec St Gerard's Christmas Festival Chermide West
The festival runs nightly till the 23rd Dec 19. St Gerard's now includes a Carols by Candlelight outdoors on the 21st Dec 19 at 7.00pm. See website for schedule www.olaparishchermide.org.au. 146 Maundrell Terrace, Chermide West.

Baptism at St Francis Xavier, Goodna



The next Baptism will be held on 15th December 2019.

Baptisms are held on the third Sunday of each month during the 9am Mass. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

Loop System



The Church is fitted with a loop system. If you wear a hearing aid, set the control to the 'T' to obtain a better sound.

Mass Times next Week

- | | | | |
|------------|---------|--------|----------------|
| 10th Dec - | Tues - | 9.00am | Mass |
| 11th Dec - | Wed - | 9.00am | Mass |
| 12th Dec - | Thurs - | 9.00am | Mass |
| 13th Dec - | Fri - | 9.00am | Mass - St Lucy |

Saturday Mass

- | | | | |
|------------|-------|--------|------------------------------|
| 14th Dec - | Sat - | 4.00pm | Reconciliation (till 4.30pm) |
| | | 5.00pm | Mass - St John |

Sunday Mass

- | | | | |
|------------|-------|-----------------|------|
| 15th Dec - | Sun - | 7.00am & 9.00am | Mass |
|------------|-------|-----------------|------|

Third Sunday of Advent 15th December

Is 35:1-6, 10; James 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

