



ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC PARISH

OUR PARISH MASSES						
Weekday					Saturday	11 th December
7 th	Dec	Tues	9.00am	Mass – St Ambrose	4.30pm	Reconciliation (till)
8 th	Dec	Wed	9.00am	Mass - The Blessed Virgin Mary	5.00pm	Vigil Mass
			6.30pm	Rosary	Sunday	12th December
9 th	Dec	Thurs	9.00am	Mass	7.00am	Mass
10 th	Dec	Fri	9.00am	Mass	9.00am	Mass
					5.00pm	Divine Mercy

2nd Sunday of Advent

Year C

5th December 2021



Inward Looking

John the Baptist stayed for such a long time in the wilderness before he began his public ministry. During this time, John had spent time not for outward, but inward looking, so that both his outer and inner life grew in maturity.

To mention the emperor, Caesar, and the two governors, Pilate and Herod, was to say these rulers had imposed heavy burdens tax and harsh treatment, on the land they occupied. The mention of not one, but two high priests, indicated the religious hierarchy in Jerusalem was corrupted. They were influenced by the emperor and the governors, telling them how to run the Temple's affairs. They went too far, so that Jesus complained they had made God's house to be a market place. The high priest, Caiaphas, played a leading role in the plot to crucify Jesus.

'The word of God' came not to the religious hierarchy in Jerusalem, who were supposed to talk to God's people about 'the word of God'. No, none of these rulers received 'the word of God'. God's wisdom was revealed in a way that no one expected,

'The word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness' Luke 3,3.

God sent John, a voiceless, unknown man, who lived in the wilderness, to challenge the social structure set up by the unbeatable Roman Empire, and as well the religious hierarchy in Jerusalem. John called the crowds to look inwardly, to look into their personal spiritual wilderness which was deeply buried in their hearts. John told the crowds to change the dryness of their hearts, to return to Yahweh, and to discard the pagans' ways of life. John would make his mission or he would break his heart, the rulers of the day would say. They were underestimating John's mission.

First, John began his public ministry fearlessly, believing he was not alone but *'the word of God'* was with him in his mission. Second, growing in spiritual maturity meant John was no longer content to live for himself but to live and die for God. He loved and trusted God in all things.

Third, John had God's message, calling people to repent, to return to God. Instead of seeing John as the visible sign of God's love, these rulers saw John as a threat to their authority and power. They were afraid of John, and wanted to remove that fear by force.

Employing the same images as Isaiah, John talked to people about the improvement of their spirituality. The visible way, path, hill and mountain in Isaiah became the invisible way, path and mountain of a person's heart. John's message was clear, short, and sharp, straight to the point. He proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. John made clear to the crowds, that his baptism was only a visible sign of repentance, of returning to the Lord. John had no power to save. His mission was calling people to repent, to change their pagan way of life, returning to the way of God. John was only the messenger of God, not the Messiah. Jesus, the One who came after John, was the Saviour of the world.

That great crowds, as well as soldiers and tax collectors, came to John for baptism (Luke 3: 12-14) implied that wealth and power could not satisfy them. They were hungry for true spirituality, and they found it in John's preaching. Those who repented would *'See the salvation of God' v.6*. It meant to recognize Jesus as their Messiah, the One John later confessed that *'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming..... He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire'.* Luke 3, 16ff.

Lord, help us to confess you are our Saviour.

Fr Vudinh Tuong
Parish Priest

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

16 th	Dec	Thurs	6.30pm	Mass of Reconciliation
21 st	Dec	Tues	6.30pm	Christmas Carols - Followed by a sausage sizzle. Bookings essential
24 th	Dec	Fri	5.00pm	Christmas Carols followed by Mass – Bookings essential. No 9.00am Mass on this day.
25 th	Dec	Sat	9.00am	Mass
			5.00pm	Mass
26 th	Dec	Sun	7.00am	Mass
			9.00am	Mass
27 th	Dec	Mon	9.00am	Mass
1 st	Jan	Sat	9.00am	Mass. Followed by Cuppa

WEEKLY INFORMATION

Mass Precautions during COVID

As part of the COVID Protocols, the Mass format for all Churches have had to be amended (since March 2020):

- No wine for Communion – just prayer;
- Communion is given to the hand – currently given to the tongue is not permitted;
- Extraordinary Ministers – must wash hands before and after Mass with soap and water;
- The use of signing Peace – shaking hands, kissing and hugging is not permitted;

Fr Tuong is also not permitted to shake hands after Mass

Responsorial Psalm

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

PASTORAL MATTERS



Prayer for the Sick

Keith Auld, Lin Merrian, Marj Robbin, Kim Shadwell, Jackie Ledger, Amy and Reagan Whiteman, Sarah Kathleen Jones, Phil O'Dwyer, Peter Eddy, Michael Hancock, Almira Ann James, Finley McHardy, Nyaweir Ring, Kylie Herbert, Tony Ryan, Elisapeti Pati, Filo Laulu, Paul Nguyen Duc Trung.

Reading – 3rd Sunday of Advent – 12th December 2021

1st Reading

Zeph 3:14-18

2nd Reading

Phil 4:4-7

Gospel

Luke 3:10-18



Baptism at St Francis Xavier, Goodna

The next Baptism will be 16th January 2021
Please keep in touch with the Parish Office as the current restrictions may change at any time.

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

Home Visit

Due to COVID, the priest is not currently available for any home visits. Please contact the parish office for any further updates.

Reborn in Eternal Life 6th December - 12th December

Evelyn Blundell, Bill Lewis, Ula Burke, Patrick Molloy, Vincent Hoang Van Duc, Melchior Gruell, Margaret Watson, Allan Booth, Robin O'Sullivan.

Recently Deceased

Lilliam Montalvan, Sanelivi Esera, Peter James Lennon, Sanelivi Esera, Gregory James Donovan.



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.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK – 12th DECEMBER 2021



Flowers

Noela Leituala



Cleaning

Princeton & Tina Vaoiva

WEEKLY INFORMATION

Christmas Cards



Christmas Cards are available for purchase at the Parish Office - \$10 per packet (10 cards in each packet).



Working Bee

Over the coming weeks we will be having a working bee to clean up around the grounds. If you would like to help out, please contact Joe on 0412 289 263.



Thank you!

A big thank you to all who donated to the St Vinnies Christmas Appeal. Your generosity will go a long way in helping those families who are struggling. From everyone at the St Vincent de Paul Society, St Francis Xavier Conference.

WEEKLY INFORMATION

Positions Vacant

Applications are open for a **Parish Secretary** at the St Mary's, South Brisbane, and Dutton Park Parishes. 38 hours a week. Applications close: 19 December 2021. Applications are open for a **Youth Ministry Coordinator** at Star of the Sea Cleveland Catholic Parish. 10 hours per week on a fixed term contract. Applications close: 10 December 2021.

For further information and other positions see <https://clientapps.jobadder.com/68451/aob-internal-career-opportunities>

St Francis Xavier Primary School
Goodna

Contact us
Our location: 6 Church Street, Goodna QLD Australia 4300

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Kids who care

PARISH CONTACTS

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Website: www.stfrancisxaviergoodna.org.au
Parish Clergy: Fr Vudinh Tuong PP
Parish Secretary: Katherine Qualischefski (Tues - Fri)
Current Office Hours: Tues - Fri 9am to 3pm

Funeral services with
faith, dignity
and compassion

Holy Cross FUNERALS

www.holycrossfunerals.com Phone: 07 3293 0555