



**ST  
FRANCIS  
XAVIER  
CATHOLIC  
PARISH**

OUR PARISH MASSES						
Weekday					Saturday	31 <sup>st</sup> December
26 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Mon	9.00am	Mass – St Stephen	4.30pm	Reconciliation
27 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Tues	9.00am	Mass – St John	5.00pm	Vigil Mass
28 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Wed	9.00am	Mass – The Holy Innocents	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> January</b>
29 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Thurs	9.00am	Mass	7.00am	Mass
30 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Fri	9.00am	Mass – The Holy Family	9.00am	Mass

**New Year's Mass** will be celebrated on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> January at 9am, followed by a cuppa.

**The Nativity of the Lord**

**Year A**

**25<sup>th</sup> December 2022**



**Homeless Baby**

The story of Christmas is the story of God, who in His abounding love and mercy, sent Jesus, the perfect obedient Son to live amongst us. We believe those who listen to Jesus' voice, listen to God's voice. Those who obey Jesus, obey God. Those who obey God become God's children, heirs of the kingdom.

The history of the birth of Jesus is as old as the history of The Fall. As soon as sin enters the world through Adam and Eve, who disobeyed God. God in his loving goodness prepares a plan to rescue men from the power of sin and death. In preparation for the birth of Jesus Christ. God has chosen all key figures for this special rescue mission. These special holy men and women are directly involved in the birth and the life of Jesus. John the Baptist became the Precursor who went ahead to pave the way for the Lord. Mary, an unknown girl from a country town, was specially chosen to be the Mother of Jesus. Her simplicity of life and humble attitude in life has become a universal model for all Christians to exemplify. Joseph, an honest, and upright character, was chosen to take care of the Holy Family. God's messenger, the archangel Gabriel was chosen to execute this holy mission. The messenger travelled forwards and backward like a shuttle to different places, convincing different people for the mission. At first, they were all afraid of taking part in the mission simply because they believe they could hardly do what God expects of them. After much explanation and affirmation that they would not carry the mission alone, God is in the midst of all this. They all listened carefully, though not fully understood, and yet all responded positively to their call seriously, regardless of the sacrifices the call would involve.

For those who have faith in God believe that events such as: the Holy Family's flight to Egypt, and the killing of innocent children were not God's plan but simply attempts on the human part to interfere with God's plan of salvation. They are the dark side of human brutality that is influenced by pure human desires.

Jesus was born in the wilderness because honourable places were reserved for the powerful and wealthy customers; liveable places were for the middle class; the simple poor peasants, the voiceless, like Mary and Joseph were not counted. The only place available was a wilderness where there was minimum essentials and utter discomfort even for the healthy. It was certainly unsuitable for a pregnant woman to give birth. A midwife to assist a childbirth was unavailable and hygiene of the place was nil. We do not dramatize the situation, but we believe, Mary and her son, Jesus survived in such conditions was itself a miracle. God chose the wilderness for the birth of God's Son indicating that God lives amongst God's people but his true homeland is not on this earth; but in heaven. God chose that his Son would be born in a hostile country to highlight the brutality caused by men who refused to obey God. By not obeying God, they followed their own will and that made the world they governed a hostile world, and that inflicted much suffering and pain for their people. The Holy Family became refugees because of the faulty claim of the ownership of the land. It further highlights the way in which God peacefully responded to human ambition - not confronting the hostile situation but quietly running away from it. God chose his Son to proclaim the truth and those who listen to the truth listen to his voice. The truth means Jesus is God's only Son who comes to the world to tell the world about God's love, and to conquer the power of sin and death. God used the weak to humble the strong, non-violence to calm aggression, love to restrain brutality, and death to offer eternal life.

We celebrate Christmas with a thankful heart for the gift of eternal life God has given us. Merry Christmas.

**Fr Vudinh Tuong  
Parish Priest**

**WEEKLY INFORMATION**

**Mass for the Holy Innocents**

The Knights of the Southern Cross (Qld) will celebrate a special Mass for the Holy Innocents on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> December, commencing with Rosary at 5.30pm followed by Mass at 6pm. You are invited to join them after Mass for tea, coffee & refreshments.



**Merry Christmas!**

A very warm welcome to all visitors to the parish over the festive season. We pray for safe travel for all those who are travelling during this period. Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped throughout the year in different ministries – wishing you all a Blessed Christmas.

**WEEKLY INFORMATION**

**Nativity of the Lord**

“And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us” John 1:14.

God made us to be in relationship with Him. He loves each of us individually. Through sin, our relationship with God was broken. He gave us Jesus to restore our relationship. Being a disciple of Jesus we are given the model to obtain eternal life in Heaven. Christmas isn't about the material gifts we receive, it's about the love that God, Our Father, gave us by giving us His Son, Jesus - the best gift we could ever receive. (Accessed on December 13, 2022 from [www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin-inserts/weekly-bible-reflections](http://www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin-inserts/weekly-bible-reflections))

**Christmas Eve Vigil**

**Responsorial Psalm**

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed:  
the Saviour of the world will be our king.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

**Christmas Day**

**Responsorial Psalm**

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
A holy day has dawned upon us.  
Come you nations and adore the Lord.  
Today a great light has come upon the earth.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

**PASTORAL MATTERS**



**Prayer for the Sick**

Lin Merrian, Marj Robbin, Kim Shadwell, Jackie Ledger, Amy and Reagan Whiteman, Sarah Kathleen Jones, Phil O'Dwyer, Peter Eddy, Almira Ann James, Finley McHardy, Nyaweir Ring, Kylie Herbert, Tony Ryan, Elisapeti Pati, Amanda Harding, Martin Folkes.

**Reborn in Eternal Life 26<sup>th</sup> December – 1<sup>st</sup> January**

Mildred McGrath, Millicent Sharman, Lusia Aiavao, Grace Ferguson, James Allison, David Wood, Eileen Power, Georgina Pearson, Anbele Siruriene, John Uttley, Snow Hansen, Maria Aiojoaie, Albinas Bernotas, Annie Breen.

**Reading – Mary, Holy Mother of God 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023**

1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Num 6:22-27
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Gal 4:4-7
Gospel	Lk 2:16-21



**Baptism at St Francis Xavier, Goodna**

The next Baptism will be 19<sup>th</sup> February 2023. 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.

**Recently Deceased** Kathleen Ellen McGrath, Patricia Edith Richardson (nee Collins) OAM, Vicenta Basubas.



**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.

**WEEK 4 ROSTERS - THIS WEEK - 25<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

Flowers	Tien & Nhu		Cleaning	Tien & Nhu		Yard	n/a	
1 <sup>st</sup>	5pm	Bruce Larter	2 <sup>nd</sup>	5pm	Owen Ross	<b>Ciborium</b>	5pm	Julie Aiavao
Reading	7am	Joan Sitcheff	Reading	7am	Anna Timu		7am	Cameron Auld
	9am	Uiki Vaoiva		9am	Filo Lauulu		9am	Angela Vaoiva

**WEEK 1 ROSTER - NEXT WEEK –1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2022**

Flowers	No flowers		Cleaning	Jim Walsh		Yard	n/a	
1 <sup>st</sup>	5pm	Angela Vu	2 <sup>nd</sup>	5pm	Peter Aiavao	<b>Ciborium</b>	5pm	Suzanne Fitzgerald
Reading	7am	Veronica Tierney	Reading	7am	Emma Tierney		7am	Jane Brischetto
	9am	Fruean Family		9am	Teofilo Lauulu		9am	Sosefo Masalu

Ministers should arrive at least 10 minutes before the start of Mass, or their role will be reassigned on the day.

**WEEKLY INFORMATION**

**Catholic Formation** **Catholic Theology in Context:** The Archdiocesan Centre for Catholic Formation's four core modules entitled "*Catholic Foundations*" are designed to draw Catholics into the fullness of the Catholic life and provide formation for those considering ministry roles. The first module, Catholic Theology in Context, will commence on Monday night 20 February 2023 at Xavier Hall, Holy Spirit Seminary. For more info see: [www.catholicformation.au](http://www.catholicformation.au)



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**PARISH CONTACTS**

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**ENROL NOW FOR 2023**

Contact us to find out more  
[www.catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.au/goodna](http://www.catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.au/goodna) 07 3381 8872

**WATCH THEM GROW**



We are committed to Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. The Archdiocese has **zero tolerance** for all forms of abuse and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries, and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount. Please see our website for our Safeguarding and Whistleblower policies. StopLine is a confidential, independent provider of whistleblowing services available to all parishioners on

**1300 304 550** or [AOB@stopline.com.au](http://AOB@stopline.com.au).