



**ST
FRANCIS
XAVIER
CATHOLIC
PARISH**

OUR PARISH MASSES							
Weekday					Saturday	9 th December	
5 th	Dec	Tues	9.00am Mass			4.30pm	Reconciliation
6 th	Dec	Wed	9.00am Mass			5.00pm	Mass
			6.30pm Rosary				
7 th	Dec	Thurs	9.00am Mass – St Ambrose			Sunday	10 th December
8 th	Dec	Fri	9.00am Mass – Immaculate Conception			7.00am	Mass
						9.00am	Mass

1st Sunday of Advent

Year A

3rd December 2023



Watchfulness

The Feasts of Christmas and Easter are inseparable. Without Christmas, there is no Easter, and Easter confirms God's angelic message that Jesus is God-Incarnate. At Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Jesus. A new life is given to the world. Through Easter, Jesus extends his new life to those who have faith in him. He came to the world to live amongst us, to teach us about God's bounty love. He rescues us from the power of sin and death, and finally leads us to our heavenly kingdom. Easter reveals God's gracious saving action: that for those who follow his way, Jesus will come again to gather and bring them to God's Kingdom. The parable is about the second coming of Jesus. It depicts a house Master. Before going abroad, He leaves his servants to take charge of his house affairs according to the ability of each servant. The time of the Master's return is unspecified. It means He could return at anytime. The parable is about the end of time. It suggests that God alone decides how long the created things of this world will last, and when they will end. Unless they relate to God, all other created things have a time limit. The Master is going abroad by his own will. He decides when He will return. The servants' responsibility to care for God's affairs on earth has a time limit. Their responsibility is completed when they see God face to face. All created things whether they last long or short are in God's hands. We humans can prolong the life of certain things, for a certain time, but in the end, God alone has the last word. It is also worth noting that things that are related to God will last forever. This is because God gives them life, and in God's house nothing can harm them anymore.

The return of the Master of the house is certain, but the time is unknown. It is best to carry out his orders the best that one can. Those who take it lightly will be caught off-guard. An unknown factor often creates fear, but in this case, fear only happens for those who fail to carry out the Master's expectations. Their fear at times may be

dormant or sleeping, but not forever. If you are caught off-guard, there is nowhere to hide. For those who love, and trust the Master, his second coming is the source of hope and joy. They live in the hope of welcoming his return. They labour with joy because they trust the Master, and they know the Master trusts them. This certain hope; and their source of joy makes their lives meaningful. They know their lives have a purpose, and that is to live for God and to actively serve God's people. The call to stay awake is the call to live a life of positive action, not an idle or passive one. It means doing something positive, good, and useful for oneself and for others. The Master expects his servant to promote and protect human life. Because human life and God's creation are related; they are connected to each other. The universe is created for us to enjoy. Therefore, we need to care for God's creation: namely the planet, its ecology, and climate, the earth, and all things in it, because they are created for us to live and find food and enjoy life. Love and compassion, honesty and integrity, forgiveness, and prayer, are what the Master expects his servants to do daily. Through prayers, we communicate to God, and this personal relationship helps us to receive God's grace, and that strengthens our relationship with God even more. An idle life or passive actions are a waste of time and talent. It relates to death in popular culture, which are harmful to oneself and others. Death cultures reject the Christian virtues; and disobey Jesus' teaching. It is an irresponsible way of living, and a short-sighted way of life. This way of living fails to see its long-term harmful effects: that life loses its purpose, and that people lose eternal life. The Master says this way of life is unsuitable in God's kingdom. It is not the Master who rejects them, but they themselves who reject the Master, His message, and His people.

We pray for the wisdom to let go of worldly, ephemeral things; and hold firm to the everlasting life that God has to offer.

**Fr Vudinh Tuong
Parish Priest**

WEEKLY INFORMATION

St Vinnies Christmas Appeal



The St Francis Xavier Chapter of St Vincent de Paul will hold their Christmas Appeal **today**. Proceeds provide food, living expenses and crisis support to vulnerable people living in our area. Donations can also be made via direct deposit: Account Name: St Vincent de Paul Society, BSB 064 786, Account Number: 1000 26711. Ref: Your surname. Email sfx4300@svdpqld.org.au for a receipt.

WEEKLY INFORMATION

Dates for your diary

10 th	Dec	Sun	4pm	Farewell BBQ for Fr. Tuong
13 th	Dec	Wed	6.30pm	Mass of Reconciliation
23 rd	Dec	Sat	5pm	Mass – 4 th Sunday of Advent
24 th	Dec	Sun	7am	
			9am	
			6.30pm	
			7pm	Christmas Vigil Mass
25 th	Dec	Mon	9am	Christmas Mass
26 th	Dec	Tues	9am	Mass – St Stephen
27 th	Dec	Wed	9am	Mass – St John
28 th	Dec	Thurs	9am	Mass - The Holy Innocents
29 th	Dec	Fri	9am	5 th Day of Christmas Octave
30 th	Dec	Sat	5pm	Mass – Holy Family
31 st	Dec	Sun	7am	
			9am	

Please note that the parish office will be closed from the close of business on Friday 22 December 2023 and reopen on Tuesday 2 January 2024.

Responsorial Psalm

Lord make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love,
And grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!



Farewell BBQ for Fr. Tuong

On Sunday 10th December at 4pm the parish will farewell Fr. Tuong as he moves on to well-earned retirement. We will be doing a sausage sizzle, but if you would like to bring something, please bring a desert to share. Those wishing to attend the BBQ should RSVP for catering purposes. A list will be available outside the church. Please bring a chair or blanket. Those wanting to donate towards a farewell gift, please put it in the collection clearly marked "Fr. Tuong's farewell".

PASTORAL MATTERS



Prayer for the Sick

Lin Merrian, 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, Margo Jane Higgins, Cameron Auld.

Reborn in Eternal Life 4th – 10th December

Don Stubbs, John McElroy Jnr, Ethel Whiteman, Maria Hoang Thi Hanh, Evelyn Blundell, Bill Lewis, Ula Burke, Patrick Molloy, Vincent Hoang Van Duc, Annakuthy Jacob, Melchior Gruell, Paul Nguyen Duc Trung, Margaret Watson

Reading – 2nd Sunday of Advent, 10th Dec. 2023

1 st Reading	Is 40:1-5, 9-11
2 nd Reading	2 Pet 3:8-14
Gospel	Mk 1:-1-8






Baptism at St Francis Xavier, Goodna

The next Baptism will be 17th December. Baptisms are held on the third Sunday of each month during the 9am Mass. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.




Recently Deceased Kathleen Gurdon (née McCarthy), Jacqueline Panaotie, Frances Stubbs, Marion Mahoney.

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 1 ROSTERS – THIS WEEK – 3rd DECEMBER 2023

Flowers	Samoan Community	Cleaning	Jim Walsh	Yard	n/a
1st	5pm Angela Vu	2nd	5pm Ruby Vu	Ciborium	5pm Suzanne Fitzgerald
Reading	7am Jane Brischetto	Reading	7am Louise Qualischefski		7am Joan Sitcheff
	9am Fruean Family		9am Sosefo Masalu		9am Uiki Vaoiva

WEEK 2 ROSTERS – NEXT WEEK – 10th DECEMBER 2023

Flowers	Noela Leituala	Cleaning	Tina & Princeton	Yard	n/a
1st	5pm Huong Nguyen	2nd	5pm Julie Aiavao	Ciborium	5pm Peter Aiavao
Reading	7am Paul Hodgkinson	Reading	7am Cameron Auld		7am Michael Miles
	9am So'oalo Family		9am Karoline Fonoti		9am Sosefo Masalu

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



Our location: 6 Church Street, Goodna QLD Australia 4300
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PARISH CONTACTS

6 Church Street, PO Box 450, Goodna Qld 4300
Website: www.stfrancisxaviergoodna.org.au
Parish Clergy: Fr Vudinh Tuong PP
Parish Secretary: Katherine Qualischefski (Tues - Fri)
Safeguarding Rep: Suzanne Fitzgerald
lsr.goodna@bne.catholic.net.au
Office Hours: Tues - Fri 9am to 3pm
07 3818 0111 or goodna@bne.catholic.net.au



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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.