



**ST
FRANCIS
XAVIER
CATHOLIC
PARISH**

OUR PARISH MASSES						
Weekday				Saturday	6 th January	
1 st	Jan	Mon	9.00am	New Year's Mass – Mary Mother of God	4.30pm	Reconciliation
2 nd	Jan	Tues	9.00am	Mass – St Basil the Great & G. Nazianzen	5.00pm	Mass
3 rd	Jan	Wed	9.00am	Mass	Sunday	7th January
4 th	Jan	Thurs	9.00am	Mass	7.00am	Mass
5 th	Jan	Fri	9.00am	Mass – Healing Mass	9.00am	Mass

The Holy Family **Year B** **31st December 2023**



Gather Your People

Mary and Joseph present Jesus to the Temple to fulfil the requirement of the Mosaic Law, that a firstborn male must be consecrated to God (Ex 13:1). The ceremony involves a sacrificial offering. For those who can, a lamb offering was a requirement. For those who struggled financially, a turtledove offering was sufficient. Mary and Joseph offered a turtledove. Jesus was born under Jewish Law, and his parents strictly observed it. The text says both the prophets Simeon and prophetess Anna were prompted by the Spirit to come to the Temple. The prompting brought them to meet the baby Jesus. Whether at home or the Temple, they had never stopped praising God. Both were experts in listening to the voice of the Spirit. Simeon was praising God day and night; while Anna was fasting and praying. They trained their ears to reduce the voices of the world, and their own voices. They focused upon one single voice- the voice of the Spirit. Continuous praying, fasting and praising God helped them to know the difference. Both followed voices that led them to move from where they were to the Temple. The whole Temple was filled with great delight. They felt the heavenly peace fill their minds and hearts. Their everlasting great feelings confirmed the presence of God.

Tradition says that Simeon's sight was poor. He recognized the baby Jesus as his Saviour not by his physical eyes, but by faith. The Spirit led them to the Temple; it would be the same Spirit that helped them to recognize the baby Jesus as their Saviour. Both the prophets had no trouble spending time in the Temple praising God day after day. The Temple was a holy place where they felt at home with God and lived in hope. Day after day, they gave thanks to God and praised God's Holy Name. For them, praising God is their joy; they would never get tired of doing it. They praised the greatness

of God; His power to save, and His boundless love for all creation. It is very often, that irregular church attendants pose questions about the timing of Church services. They cite other commitments to attend, and how they do not want to be late for those commitments. We need to think hard about the question of who gives time to whom. Timing at the Church service reveals something about our faith. Simeon held the baby Jesus in his hands prophesising about himself, mankind, and Mary's future. About himself, he praised God for the fulfilment of his hope, seeing the Messiah before dying, *'You can dismiss your servant in peace... my eyes have seen your salvation'* Lk 2:30. About the difference between the children of God, and children of the world, Simeon prophesised about the *'rising and falling of many in Israel'* Lk 2:34. About Mary, Simeon prophesised about the unity between Mother and Son, *'A sword will pierce your soul'* Lk 2:35. On the cross, Jesus was pierced on his side; while Mary felt it in her heart.

Simeon's background was not mentioned. We know something about Anna, namely: her parents, and tribe, her family and that she was a long-time widow. She is now in her mid-eighties. Fasting, praying and serving in the Temple day and night were her way of life. She praised the baby Jesus and talked specifically about the salvation Jesus will bring for all who long to have it. Her prophesy seems to resonate with Simeon about *'the rising'* of many in Jerusalem.

Jesus is presented in the Temple, a place He later claimed as *'My Father House'* Jn 2:14. At the Temple, Jesus gathered God's people. Simeon and Anna represented all the faithful servants. Both prophesied about God's saving power, glory, and sovereignty.

We pray to be faithful to the voice of the Spirit.

**Fr Vudinh Tuong
Parish Priest**

WEEKLY INFORMATION

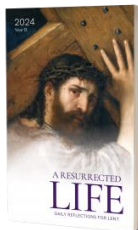


New Year's Morning Tea

Directly after Mass on Monday 1st January, there will be a morning tea in the pergola to celebrate the New Year. All are welcome, please bring a plate of food to share.

WEEKLY INFORMATION

2024 Lent Resource: A Resurrected Life



A Resurrected Life is a new 6-week reflection resource from Evangelisation Brisbane, that can be used during Lent by individuals and groups during the 2024 liturgical year. Each day's reflection is inspired by a text of Scripture from the day's Gospel reading, followed by Contemplating the Word, a thought or two on how to Putting the Word into Practice and concludes with a Prayer. Purchase now at www.lentprogram.com.au.

Responsorial Psalm

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets;
now he speaks to us through his Son.
Alleluia!

PASTORAL MATTERS



Prayer for the Sick

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, Louis Galea, Trent Andrews.

Reborn in Eternal Life 1st -7th January

John Uttley, Snow Hansen, Maria Aiojoaie, Albinas Bernotas, Annie Breen, Si Souphan Leuang, Della Wilks, Ellen Smith, Henryk Rudak

Reading – The Epiphany of the Lord, 7th Jan. 2024

1 st Reading	Is 60:1-6
2 nd Reading	Eph 3:2-3, 5-6
Gospel	Mt 2:1-12



Baptism at St Francis Xavier, Goodna

Bookings for January are now closed. The next Baptisms will be 18th February 2024. 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 5 ROSTERS - THIS WEEK – 31st DECEMBER 2023

Flowers	Kisa Senio	Cleaning	Kisa Senio	Yard	n/a
1 st	5pm Kerry Ellis	2 nd	5pm Lina Kalolo	Ciborium	5pm Ipolito Kalolo
Reading	7am Eddie Radke	Reading	7am Theresa Greig		7am Amelia Teomatavui
	9am Leituala Family		9am Sosefo Masalu		9am Angela Vaoiva

WEEK 1 ROSTERS – NEXT WEEK – 7th JANUARY 2024

Flowers	Samoan Community	Cleaning	Jim Walsh	Yard	n/a
1 st	5pm Angela Vu	2 nd	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

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

WEEKLY INFORMATION

Welcome Fr. January Mkude, CSSp



We welcome our new Parish Priest, Fr. Mkude, CSSp, who will celebrate his first Mass with us on the 1st January 2024, at 9am. Fr. Mkude was ordained on the 12 May 2011, and served as Parish Priest at South Hedland in Western Australia from 2014 to 2021, and Associate Priest at Holy Spirit Catholic Community, Bray Park from 2021 to 2023. During his time at South Hedland, he also looked after Port Hedland parish, and St. Cecilia's School, during a period of illness of the Port Hedland parish priest. Fr. Mkude originally hails from Tanzania, a country known for Africa's highest mountain, and for having the largest population of any country located entirely south of the equator. Fr. Mkude will soon be joined by another member of the Spiritans congregation very early in the new year. The Spiritans are an order of Priests, Brothers and Lay Associates who are dedicated to evangelisation, and the alleviation of poverty.



St Francis Xavier Primary School
Goodna
Kids who care

Our location: 6 Church Street, Goodna QLD Australia 4300

Postal Address: PO Box 402, Goodna QLD Australia 4300
Telephone: (07) 3818 0100
Email: pgoodna@bne.catholic.edu.au
Fax: (07) 3818 2171

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

Funeral services with
faith, dignity
and compassion

**Holy Cross
FUNERALS**

www.holycrossfunerals.com Phone: 07 3293 0555

If you are experiencing any symptoms such as cough, fever, shortness of breath, please stay home and contact your health care provider for advice