

# South Brisbane and West End Parish Newsletter



## Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand

Well, Advent has begun friends and who better to hear from in this season than the one who teaches us about waiting for the Lord - none other than John the Baptist.

We go back in time to begin with Isaiah's words, 'A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight'.

Already we pick up on a sense of waiting. The voice in the wilderness calls for preparation. The voice could have easily called for celebration or late arrivals, but it calls for people to get organised and to get ready. It is also important that this voice comes from the wilderness because the wilderness or the desert was considered a place of purification. So, this voice is a voice of sanctification calling us to get ready. This period of Advent then is not idle patience, as I mentioned last week, but of prepared anticipation, a ready hope.

Then, of course, we come to John the Baptist's story which follows his parents and their time of waiting. Elizabeth, we know was barren and unable to have child, but the miracle of John's birth marked the progression of a waiting period, they were getting closer to the arrival of the King.

John as a child anticipated the God-Man's arrival with a leap in the womb at the sound of the Mother's voice, but then John continued in his proclamation of repentance, as seen in our Gospel today.

So, what would it be like if we waited for the Lord like John the Baptist? Well, we would wait from a place of purity, expectant in hope with our hand to the plough at work for the Kingdom of God.

Isaiah's words hint at a spiritual preparedness that we're encouraged to adopt. Elizabeth's expectant hope of a son in her barren age models the hope we're all motivated to embody, and John the Baptist's fidelity to the work for repentance and conversion of souls is an inspiration for all the faithful.

This is how we are to approach this season of Advent. As we call upon the intercession of Zechariah, Elizabeth and John the Baptist, may this season of Advent prepare our hearts to receive the Lord come Christmas.

*Father William*

The Good Shepherd Parish acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which our Churches stand.

### Parish Administration

**47 Dornoch Terrace, West End, 4101**  
Monday - Friday | 9am-2pm

**Phone: 07 3324 3736**  
Postal: PO Box 3857, West End, Q 4101

**Connect with us:**

 [southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au)

### Parish Staff

**Fr William Aupito Iuliano**  
Parish Priest

**Fr Francisco Evangelista**  
Associate Priest

**Deacon Adam Walk**  
Parish Deacon

**Sr Salvacion Bunao SFI**  
Pastoral Coordinator

**Reyna Bran**  
Parish Secretary

### St Ita's Primary School

247 Gladstone Rd, Dutton Park, Q 4102  
Phone: (07) 3838 8400  
Email: [pduttonpark@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pduttonpark@bne.catholic.edu.au)  
Web: [www.stitasduttonpark.qld.edu.au](http://www.stitasduttonpark.qld.edu.au)

### Welcome to new Parishioners

We welcome any new Parishioners among us. Take the time to meet with our priests and get connected to the broader community.



Embracing the communities of:

*St Mary's, South Brisbane,  
St Francis of Assisi, West End  
St Ita's, Dutton Park  
Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Fairfield*

# Readings at Mass

## First Reading

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,  
a scion thrusts from his roots:  
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,  
a spirit of wisdom and insight,  
a spirit of counsel and power,  
a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.  
(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)  
He does not judge by appearances,  
he gives no verdict on hearsay,  
but judges the wretched with integrity,  
and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.  
His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless,  
his sentences bring death to the wicked.

Integrity is the loin cloth round his waist,  
faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb,  
the panther lies down with the kid,  
calf and lion feed together,  
with a little boy to lead them.  
The cow and the bear make friends,  
their young lie down together.  
The lion eats straw like the ox.  
The infant plays over the cobra's hole;  
into the viper's lair  
the young child puts his hand.  
They do no hurt, no harm,  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters swell the sea.

That day, the root of Jesse  
shall stand as a signal to the peoples.  
It will be sought out by the nations  
and its home will be glorious.

## Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 71(72):1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

**R/ Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

O God, give your judgement to the king,  
to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice  
and your poor in right judgement. **R/**

In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.  
He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to earth's bounds. **R/**

For he shall save the poor when they cry  
and the needy who are helpless.  
He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor. **R/**

May his name be blessed for ever  
and endure like the sun.  
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,  
all nations bless his name. **R/**

## Second Reading

Romans 15:4-9

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures  
was meant to teach us something about hope from  
the examples scripture gives of how people who did  
not give up were helped by God.

## Isaiah 11:1-10

And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up,  
help you all to be tolerant with each other, following  
the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and  
voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our  
Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat  
each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated  
you. The reason Christ became the servant of  
circumcised Jews was not only so that God could  
faithfully carry out the promises made to the  
patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to  
God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: *For  
this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing to  
your name.*

## Gospel Acclamation

Luke 3:4, 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

## Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached  
in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message:  
'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'  
This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he  
said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair  
with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was  
locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea  
and the whole Jordan district made their way to him,  
and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan  
they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number  
of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he  
said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly  
from the retribution that is coming? But if you are  
repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not  
presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our  
father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for  
Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid  
to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to  
produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on  
the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the  
one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I  
am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with  
the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his  
hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his  
wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire  
that will never go out.'

## Next Sunday Readings:

Ph 4: 4-5, Is 35: 1-6, 10  
Ps 145(146): 6-10  
Jm 5: 7-10, Mt 11: 2-11



# Upcoming Events & News



## Vinnies Christmas Appeal

Please Help People Facing Poverty This Christmas by:  
DONATING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS SUCH AS:  
Dry, tinned food Collection boxes are placed near  
the entrance in each of our churches



### MAKE A DONATION

Card, Cash or Internet transfer to  
A/c 100026566 BSB 064-786

Envelopes are provided for card or cash donations.

**MAKE A DONATION** of Kmart/Target/Big W  
Vouchers.

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI  
CONFERENCE  
'Serving Christ in the  
Poor' in the suburbs of  
South Brisbane, West  
End, Highgate Hill,  
Dutton Park &  
Fairfield

## Christmas Carols at St Francis table



St Ita's Prep and Year 1  
students delighted  
everyone at  
St Francis Table with their  
joyful Christmas carols on 1  
Nov



## Advent Groups!



Join our Advent reflection groups!

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> Dec

St Francis Meeting Room,  
47 Dornoch Tce  
West end



Prepare your heart for Christmas through prayer and community.  
Please remember books are available for sale after Mass.  
Register with the parish:  
07 3324 3736

## 2nd Rite of Reconciliation

Prepare your heart for Christmas and join us on Monday,  
22nd December 6pm at St Mary's Church  
for a peaceful evening of reflection and forgiveness



## Children's Nativity Play - St Mary's

All children are warmly invited to join this year's  
Nativity Play

Rehearsals :  
after the 9am Mass  
14th and 21st of  
December  
Nativity celebration:  
24th December 6pm



## Good Shepherd Advent Retreat



This year prepare yourself for Christmas in a special way  
with our morning retreat. Join us from 9am onwards at St.  
Francis Hall for refreshments before prayerfully entering  
the mystery of Advent. Families are welcome!



9am-11:30am Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Starting at St. Francis Hall, Followed by Lunch.

RSVP by 12th Dec.

phone: (07) 3324 3736

email: southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au

## Farewell Celebration for Sr. Salvacion

Join us in honoring Sr. Salvacion for her dedication, compassion,  
and faithful service to our community.  
Let's come together to celebrate her inspiring journey and the  
many lives she has touched with her kindness

St. Francis Hall  
Saturday, 17th January 2026  
6pm

## St Mary's Prayer Group

You are invited to our gatherings  
in faith and prayer on:



Tuesdays 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

May this time of reflection and fellowship deepen our connection  
with God and with one another. We look forward to growing in spirit  
together as a community.



Join us at St Francis Hall Saturday  
13th December at 6pm



We  
Love  
Our  
Volunteers

as we honour our amazing volunteers with an evening of gratitude,  
music, and community joy

ALL WELCOME!



Volunteers please RSVP : 07 3324 3736  
southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au

## Community News

A few notes:

## Mass Times



# Christmas Mass Times

**DEC 24**

- 4:30 PM ST ITA'S DUTTON PARK
- 6:30 PM CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PLAY  
ST MARY'S SOUTH BRISBANE

**DEC 25**

- 7:00 AM OLPS FAIRFIELD
- 9:00 AM ST FRANCIS WEST END
- 9:00 AM ST MARY'S SOUTH BRISBANE
- 5:00 PM ST MARY'S SOUTH BRISBANE



**Celebrating 140 years of family tradition.**  
1883-2023

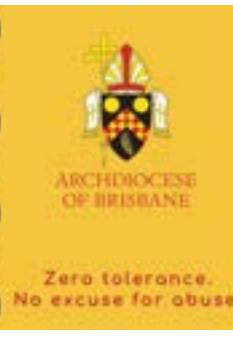
**K.M.Smith**  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS SINCE 1883

**Phone: (07) 3252 2031**  
[kmsmith.com.au](http://kmsmith.com.au)



**Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.**

Respect & Protect.


**ST MARY'S****20 Merivale St, South Brisbane**

- Mon-Fri: 7am | Sat: 8am (Rosary after Mass)
- Sun: 9am & 5pm

**ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI****47 Dornoch Tce, West End**

- Sun: 9am

**ST ITA'S****247 Gladstone Rd, Dutton Park**

- Sat(Vigil): 5pm
- Sun: 10:30am (Indonesian)

**OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR****72 Victoria St Fairfield**

- Sun: 7am

**CONFESIONS****St Mary's**

Fri: 7:30-8am | Sat 8:30am-9am  
Sun: 4:15pm-4:45pm

**PARISH ACTIVITIES****BAPTISMS**

- Sat: 9:30am
- \*\*Booking is essential\*\*

Contact Parish Office 07 3324 3736

**PRAYER & ADORATION**

- Tue: 6:30pm - St Mary's Church
- Sun: 4pm - St Mary's Church

**PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

- Sat: after 8am Mass until Sundays 8:30am

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS**

- 1st Fri - 7am - St Mary's Church
- 1st Sat - 5pm - St Ita's Church
- 1st Sun - 7am - OLPS Fairfield

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY (SCHOOL TERM ONLY)**

- Sun: 9am - St Mary's Church

**ST FRANCIS TABLE - MINISTRY TO THE ELDERLY**

- 1st and 3rd Monday: 9am - 1pm

**Have you considered Planned Giving?**

Many parishioners use Direct Debit for 'Planned Giving' to support the upkeep of the parish of Dutton Park & South Brisbane.

We ask that you prayerfully consider contributing to our planned giving program.

Please Contact the Parish 07 3324 3736 if you are interested.

**St Mary's Catholic Parish and Dutton Park Catholic Parish have zero tolerance for abuse and are committed to safeguarding everyone involved in their activities, ministries and service. The safety of children and adults at risk is paramount.**

**To make an anonymous report call 1300 304 550**

For more information visit:

[www.brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding](http://www.brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding)