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Contact - Greg Cox
 3024 0331
 g.cox@hopgoodganim.com.au
 www.hopgoodganim.com.au

St Veronica Welfare Committee's 2021 Christmas Gift Cards
 This year, St Veronica Welfare Committee is offering three affordable and life-changing Christmas Gift Cards!
\$10 Chickens: this gift will be used to help purchase chickens for poor families in Sire, Nekemte, Ethiopia. Surplus eggs from each family's chickens will also be donated to the Bethany Fathers' feeding program, which provides meals for poor and malnourished children in the community.
\$20 Blankets: this gift will be used to purchase blankets and linen for victims of domestic violence in Siri Nidhan, Sri Lanka. In 2019, St Veronica's Welfare Committee helped raise funds to construct a temporary safe house (pictured above) in the Puttlam District, with the aim of providing a place of refuge for those escaping domestic violence. Construction is almost complete, with the remaining fit outs and furnishing work being carried out in late 2021. The blankets and linen will provide a warm and comforting welcome for the vulnerable women and children arriving at the safe house.
\$30 Computers: this gift will assist with the purchase of classroom computers and projectors for St Mary's Convent School in Mariapuram, India. The school is working to meet a government requirement that insists every classroom include a computer and projector. While government schools are provided with these items, independent schools such as St Mary's Convent School must find their own means of purchasing technical equipment, despite limited funds.
 Gif cards can be purchased online at www.stveronica.org.au; email admin@stveronica.org.au; phone (07) 3844 7423; or at our Thrift Shop located at 89 Hardgrave Rd, West End.

Merry Christmas

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Position Vacant – Youth Ministry Coordinator—Cleveland
 Applications are open for a position at Star of the Sea Cleveland Catholic Parish. A person who can establish and develop a youth ministry program within the parish is required for 10 hours per week on a fixed term contract. Application close: 10 December 2021 <https://clientapps.jobadder.com/68451/aob-internal-career-opportunities/402918/youth-ministry-coordinator-cleveland-parish>
The Archdiocese of Brisbane has standards of conduct for workers to maintain a safe and healthy environment for children. Our commitment to these standards requires that we conduct working with children checks and background referencing for all persons who will engage in direct and regular involvement with children and young people (0 - 18 years) and/or vulnerable adults. The organisation is fully committed to child safety and has a

Looking to deepen your relationship with God and discern God's desire for your life? The **Full Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius Loyola** are a practical way of discovering God's unique love and desire for you in your daily life. This process involves daily prayer/reflections and weekly face-to-face or online conversations with an experienced Ignatian Spiritual Director - adapted to your individual needs as your retreat journey unfolds over 30+ weeks in daily life. You are welcome to apply to make the Spiritual Exercises **Express your interest by 28 February 2022**
PHONE 1300 392 636 or EMAIL info@jisa.org.au



EMBRACING THE COMMUNITIES OF:
 St Mary's - South Brisbane;
 St Ita's - Dutton Park;
 St Francis of Assisi - West End &
 Our Lady of Perpetual Succour - Fairfield.
Under the care of the Capuchin Franciscan Friars



**Third Sunday of Advent
 12 December 2021 - Year C**



The Third Candle of Advent symbolizes "JOY" or "SHEPHERD'S CANDLE" rose is a liturgical colour for joy. The Third Sunday of Advent is "GAUDETE SUNDAY" it is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of advent.

preached. John's task was to wake people up from spiritual sleep and indifference, and to turn them back to hear God's voice and obey his commandments. John wanted the people to be in a good place to receive the Messiah and follow him.

Dear Parishioners

This Sunday is traditionally called "Laetare" Sunday, that is, the Sunday of "rejoicing," from the words of St. Paul in the second reading: "Rejoice in the Lord always; I say again, rejoice." In the first reading we hear the words of the prophet Zephaniah: "Rejoice, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!" In the responsorial psalm this extraordinary vocabulary of joy is enriched with still other terms: "My strength and my courage is the Lord, and he has been my salvation. With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation. Shout with exultation, O city of Zion.

John's message of renewal and repentance was very practical. He told the people three things: First, every follower of God must share what they possess with their neighbours, especially with those who lacked the basic necessities of life. Second, John pointed out the sacred duty to give each and every person what is their due and to not take from them what rightfully belongs to them and he instructed soldiers to not abuse their authority or power to compel people to give or do things for them beyond what was rightful and their due. John did not tell them to leave their profession, but to be good, honest, and respectful soldiers. And finally John exhorted his listeners to be content with what they had and to avoid coveting what belonged to others. John basically called the people to turn back to God and to walk in his way of love and righteousness for the true joy and happiness of Christmas.

The people recognized that John was an extraordinary man of God and a true prophet who spoke in God's name. They came out to hear the "good news" (Luke 3:18) which he preached to them. And they willingly submitted to his baptism of repentance at the River Jordan where he

God bless you and have a great weekend

Fr Joshy Parappully OFM Cap
 Parish Priest



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES—by Parish

Dutton Park West End Parish

Christmas Eve Friday 24th December

St Ita's 5.00pm Parish Mass (4.30pm Carols)
 St Ita's 8.00pm Mass Indonesian

Christmas Day Saturday 25th December

OLPS Fairfield 7.00am Mass
 St Francis 9.00am Mass (8.30am Carols)
 St Ita's 10.30am Mass Indonesian

Boxing Day Sunday 26th December

OLPS 7.00am Mass
 St Francis 9.00am Mass

St Mary's Parish South Brisbane

Christmas Eve Friday 24th December

St Mary's 6.30pm Mass (6.00pm Carols)

Christmas Day Saturday 25th December

St Mary's 9.00am Mass

Boxing Day Sunday 26th December

St Mary's 9.00am Mass
 St Mary's 5.00pm Mass

Please Note:
 St Mary's and St Ita's Christmas Masses—Allocated Seating will apply—an Eventbrite link will be sent to parishioners Wednesday 15th December to enable you to book mass before it is opened to the public.
 St Francis of Assisi and Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Christmas Masses will be run as our normal Sunday masses and close off at capacity.

MASS TIMES

St Mary's Church (20 Merivale St, South Brisbane)
 Mon-Fri: 7am; Sat: 8am (Rosary after Mass)
 Sunday: 9am and 5pm
 Youth Mass: 4th Sunday 5pm
 (Anointing 1st Friday of each month)

St Francis' Church (47 Dornoch Tce., West End)
 Sunday: 9am

St Ita's Church (Pope St., Dutton Park)
 Saturday (Vigil): 5pm

Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour
 (Victoria St., Fairfield)
 Sunday: 7am (Anointing: 1st Sunday)

CONFESSION

St Mary's Church:
 Fri: 7.30am—8am Sat: 8.30-9.00am; Sun: 4-4.45pm

St Ita's Church: By appointment contact parish office

ST ITA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
 247 Gladstone Rd, Dutton Park, Qld 4102
Phone: (07)3838 8400
Email: pduttonpark@bne.catholic.edu.au
Web: www.stitasduttonpark.qld.edu.au

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Office: 47 Dornoch Terrace, West End, Qld 4101
Postal: PO Box 3857, West End, Qld 4101
Emails: southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au
stitaspar@bne.catholic.net.au
Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 9am - 2pm
Telephone: (07) 3844 2744

South Brisbane website: www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au
FB: <https://www.facebook.com/stmaryssouthbrisbane/>
Dutton Park website: www.duttonparkcatholic.org.au
FB: <https://fb.me/duttonparkwestendcatholicparish>

Parish Priest: Fr. Joshy Parappully OFM Cap
pp.southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Deacon: Deacon Adam Walk
walka@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Pastoral Co-Ordinator: Sr Salvacion Bunao SFI
Parish Secretary: Bernadette Maguire
Parish Youth : southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au

Safeguarding Officers:
 St Ita's Church: Liam O'Rourke 0411 033 321
 OLPS Church: Elvis Chua 045 0 029 410.
 St Francis of Assisi Church: Liam Cunnane 0477 306 166
 St Mary's Church: Chris Bolger 0407 480 205

Readings at Mass

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle—JOY

Let us pray: O God of Joy, Emmanuel, send your light into our hearts at this time. Help us to be ready for the time of Christ's appearing. Fix our hearts and our minds upon those things you have done and those you have promised to do that we may have the joy you have promised. As we worship you, strengthen us so that we may always do your will and so bless you and the world you have made. Amen.

First reading **Zephaniah 3:14-18**

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

Responsorial Psalm **Isaiah 12:2-6. R.v.6**

Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. **R/**

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name. **R/**

Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds;
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **R/**

Second reading **Philippians 4:4-7**

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation **Isaiah 61:1 (Luke 4:18)**

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel **Luke 3:10-18**

What, then, must we do?

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is

in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

Communion Antiphon **Cf. Is 35: 4**

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Next Sunday's readings: 1st reading: Micah 5:1-4; 2nd reading: Heb 10:5-10; Gospel: Lk 1:39-44

Excerpts from the *Roman Missal* © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL) and "Excerpts from Universalis © 1996-2018 Universalis Publishing Limited: see www.universalis.com.

This Week's Liturgical Calendar Psalm Responses

Monday 13th: **St Lucy (Memorial)**

R/ Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Tuesday 14th: **St John of the Cross (Memorial)**

R/ The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

Wednesday 15th:

R/ Let the clouds rain down the Just one, and the earth bring forth a Saviour.

Thursday 16th:

R/ I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

Friday 17th:

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

Saturday 18th:

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

Can You Help—flowers & helpers needed!

There are several areas of need at our churches:

- ♦ **Flowers**—do you have flowering bushes, shrubs trees, orchids, colourful foliage you are willing to donate each week, once a month or occasionally?
- ♦ **Power Point operators**—St Francis
- ♦ **General areas of need** for all of our churches Please speak with our Church Coordinators after mass.

St Francis Table Ministry to the Elderly

This ministry will be taking a break over the Christmas holidays and will resume on 7th February 2022

Parish Office Closure



The Parish office will be closed
Thurs 23rd Dec 2pm—14th Jan
(reopens on Mon 17th Jan 9am)

Blessed - Advent Reflection Every Tuesday
2 weeks to go in our Advent & Christmas reflection Every Tuesday 6pm at St Ita's School Board Room, Dutton Park.
Bring a plate to share for dinner.

Christmas Nativity Play—St Mary's church



Practise starts today and will run for 2 Sundays, after 9am Mass (12 & 19 Dec)

Give Real Change this Christmas - Fuel for Change: Dhaka Gift Cards available now

Charity, [Fuel for Change: Dhaka](http://fuel4change.org) was started by parishioner, Claire Hanratty and her husband, Mark Jones, with a goal of eliminating firewood in Dhaka's slums.



Mark completed his PhD in 2020 focussing on energy justice in the slums of Dhaka in Bangladesh. There are approximately 5,000 slums in Dhaka with more than 4million people living in them. It is estimated that 60% of these people cook with firewood with the associated negative impacts on health, education, employment.

In just 3 months more than 550 stoves have been delivered but there is a huge amount more to do. To find out more and donate, please visit <https://fuel4change.org>

If you are looking for a Christmas gift idea, gift cards are available, please visit <https://fuel4change.org/gift-card/>
All donations and gift card purchases are tax-deductible.

Advent Reflection

Here is a good insight into life: "Life is not about being better than someone else. It is about striving to be better than you used to be." Author Unknown.

St Augustine had another good insight when he wrote: "When people choose to withdraw far from a fire, the fire continues to give warmth, but they grow cold. When people choose to withdraw far from the light, the light continues to be bright in itself but they are in darkness. This is also the case when people withdraw from God." And withdraw from God we all do, not out of disbelief necessarily, but mostly out of forgetfulness, because we are just too busy with the rest of life. Take for example the Bethlehem Innkeeper who told Mary and Joseph that there was no room for them in his inn. This did not mean that he was a bad person; he was just very busy taking care of his customers, providing for their needs and keeping the peace. Unfortunately, when the most important birth in history took place in his backyard, he missed it entirely, not because he was a bad person, he was just too busy.

With Christmas just around the corner, we might be too busy to give attention to what we are actually commemorating. Those who live "by the cash register" will do everything they can to keep our attention on our wallets and purses. The Three Wise Men seem to have had the true understanding of the Christmas event. They spent many weeks in anticipation as they travelled from their homeland to Bethlehem. When they arrived, their purpose was to honour the newborn child and out of courtesy they brought one gift each.

We, too, have the opportunity for a period of anticipation in the Season of Advent. Of course, Advent is a constant season for, within our own lives, we are continuously waiting to become, to discover, to complete, to fulfil. Hope, struggle, fear, expectations, are all part of our Advent experience. God does not come to us from the sky, he comes to us in the daily story of our lives in people, places and events.

Advent invites us to prepare for the commemoration of Gods coming by taking time to have a closer look inside ourselves away from the busy outside. This looking inside is not about remorse or regret, nor about listing ways life over the past year could have been different; its not about wishing we were better people. Its about forward movement, getting new bearings, relying more on God for directions. Its about a fresh start, getting closer to the "fire" and the "light" that are Gods love and compassion. Advent is a time to "Rejoice, let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is nigh." St Paul Phil 4:4,5.
by Jake Madden

Parish Activities in 2021

BAPTISMS

Saturday | 10.00am | monthly
2nd Saturday St Mary's, South Brisbane
3rd Saturday St Ita's, Dutton Park

Family preparation sessions on the Fourth Tuesday of each month at 10.00am. Bookings essential.

ADORATION

Sunday: 4-5pm St Mary's Church

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

1st Friday of the month | St Mary's Church 7am
1st Saturday of the month | St Ita's Church 5pm
1st Sunday of the month | OLPS Fairfield 7am

CHILDREN'S LITURGY (School Term Only)

Saturday 5.00pm Vigil Mass St Ita's Church
Sunday 9.00am St Mary's Church

FAMILY MASS

4th Saturday of the month | St Ita's Church 5pm
(School term only — check dates on website)

ST FRANCIS TABLE - Ministry to the Elderly

Monthly 1st & 3rd Monday: 10am -1pm
St Francis Hall, 47 Dornoch Terrace, West End

YOUTH MASS

4th Sunday of the month | St Mary's Church 5pm

NEW PARISHIONERS

We would like to help you feel at home in the Parish. Would you please make yourselves known to our Priests and to the parishioners who greet you as you arrive. Welcome leaflets with basic information about the parish are also available either at the door of the church or by contacting the parish office.
Thank you for becoming part of our community.

PLANNED GIVING FOR 1ST & 2ND COLLECTIONS

Please consider giving to our planned giving program

I want to take this opportunity to thank the committed parishioners who financially support our parish every week. As you can imagine the cost of running and the upkeep of a parish this size takes a considerable amount and we ask that you prayerfully consider committing to assist our planned giving program. The easiest most hassle free way for you to do this is via our Direct Debit Program. Click on the links below to download the separate forms for each parish. Our parishes are separate with individual accounts—please download the correct one for you, complete and email back to the parish office directly

Dutton Park Parish:

Download: <https://duttonparkcatholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/DUTTON-PARK-PARISH-collections-DD-FORM.pdf>
Email: stitaspar@bne.catholic.net.au

St Mary's Parish:

Download: <https://www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/South-Brisbane-Parish-DDR-1st-2nd-Collection.pdf> Email: southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au

Other ways of giving:

St Mary's Parish South Brisbane BSB: 064-786
Acc No: 100 009 890 Ref: Your Last Name and Collections
Dutton Park Parish: BSB: 064-786
Acc No: 100 022 825 Ref: Your Last Name and Collections
(Please always use Reference of Your Last Name and the word Collections)

We also have **Tap n Go** see church coordinator at mass.