



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

*Under the care of the Capuchin Franciscan Friars*



*The community of St Mary's Catholic Parish and Dutton Park Catholic Parish acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which our parishes stand.*

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Year B - 10th December 2023

### Good News Reflection : You have a fruitful future

Today's readings tell us to prepare for the Lord - for whatever he wants to give us, do for us, and ask of us. He has a plan for our lives; he has a divine purpose that will bring us to our full potential as children of our loving Father and as partners with Christ the Savior of the world.

We can only fulfill our wonderful potential if we unite ourselves to Christ by joining him on the straight path, the holy path.

How do we know when we are on the right path? By the fruits of the journey. The way of holiness always produces good fruits.

Isaiah says: A voice cries out in the desert! What is barren in your life, and dry, hot, or empty? Sins dry up what would otherwise be fruitful.

Advent is a good preparation for Christmas - and meeting the Lord anew - if we use it to face our sins, reconcile with God, and follow Jesus back onto the holy path. If we neglect this opportunity, Christmas will be only a secular holiday. Our lives will be too barren to give Jesus to others, and we will feel just as empty next year as we do right now.

Prepare the way of the Lord! He has more love to give you, more healing, more joy! Make straight in the wasteland of your sins a highway for our God. Go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and create a wider road into your heart that's easy for Jesus to travel, a through-way upon which he can arrive in great speed and glory.

All humankind is as frail as grass, and all our glory is like the flower of the field that withers and wilts. Only the glory of God stands forever.

What are your troubles and struggles this Advent? Here is where Jesus wants to minister to you, and here is where you are most vulnerable to sin.

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### ST FRANCIS' MORNING TEA Sunday, 10th December 2023



Please join us for our monthly morning tea this Sunday after 9am Mass.

All welcome!  
 A plate to share would be most welcome.

### Welcome to New Parishioners

Please make yourselves known to our Priests and to the parishioners who greet you as you arrive. For more information about our parish or how to volunteer in the Church ministry or our activities, please contact the Parish Office below.

#### MASS TIMES

**St Mary's** (20 Merivale St, South Brisbane)

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

**St Francis of Assisi** (47 Dornoch Tce, West End)

- Sunday: 9am

**St Ita's** (Pope St, Dutton Park)

- Saturday (Vigil): 5pm
- Sunday: 10.30am (Indonesian)

**Our Lady of Perpetual Succour**  
 (68 Victoria St, Fairfield)

- Sunday: 7am

#### CONFESSION

**St Mary's:**

Sat: 8.30am-9am | Sun: 4.15-4.45pm

**St Ita's:**

By appointment (contact parish office)

#### More information:

**Websites:** - [www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au](http://www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au)  
 - [www.duttonparkcatholic.org.au](http://www.duttonparkcatholic.org.au)

**FB:** - [www.facebook.com/stmaryssouthbrisbane/](https://www.facebook.com/stmaryssouthbrisbane/)  
 - [www.fb.me/duttonparkwestendcatholicparish](https://www.fb.me/duttonparkwestendcatholicparish)

#### PARISH ADMINISTRATION

47 Dornoch Tce, West End, Q 4101

**Ph:** 07 3324 3734

**Postal:** PO Box 3857, West End, Q 4101  
[southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au)  
[stitaspar@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stitaspar@bne.catholic.net.au)

- **Parish Priest:** Fr. Joshy Parappully OFM Cap  
[pp.southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:pp.southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au)
- **Parish Deacon:** Deacon Adam Walk  
[walka@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:walka@bne.catholic.net.au)
- **Pastoral Coordinator:** Sr. Salvation Bunao SFI
- **Parish Secretary:** Niken Westerman
- **Finance Officer:** Kevin Bhasin

#### Safeguarding Officers:

- St Mary's Church : Chris Bolger (0407 480 205)
- St Francis of Assisi: Liam Cunnane (0477 306 166)
- St Ita's Church: Liam O'Rourke (0411 033 321)
- OLPS Church: Paul Hogan (0418 742 760)

#### ST ITAS' PRIMARY SCHOOL

247 Gladstone Rd, Dutton Park, Q 4102

**Ph:** (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)

## READINGS AT MASS

**First reading:** Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

'Console my people, console them'  
says your God.  
'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem  
and call to her  
that her time of service is ended,  
that her sin is atoned for,  
that she has received from the hand of the Lord  
double punishment for all her crimes.'  
A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness  
a way for the Lord.  
Make a straight highway for our God  
across the desert.  
Let every valley be filled in,  
every mountain and hill be laid low.  
Let every cliff become a plain,  
and the ridges a valley;  
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed  
and all mankind shall see it;  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'  
Go up on a high mountain,  
joyful messenger to Zion.  
Shout with a loud voice,  
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.  
Shout without fear,  
say to the towns of Judah,  
'Here is your God.'  
Here is the Lord coming with power,  
his arm subduing all things to him.  
The prize of his victory is with him,  
his trophies all go before him.  
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,  
gathering lambs in his arms,  
holding them against his breast  
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 84(85):9-14

**R: Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us  
your salvation.**

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace,  
peace for his people.  
His help is near for those who fear him  
and his glory will dwell in our land. **R/**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
and justice look down from heaven. **R/**

The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him  
and peace shall follow his steps. **R/**

**Second reading:** 2 Peter 3:8-14

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait

and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

**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:** Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;  
he will prepare your way.  
A voice cries in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

**Communion Antiphon:** Bar 5: 5; 4: 36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,  
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

### THIS WEEK'S Psalm Responses

**Monday 11th:**

*Our God will come to save us!*

**Tuesday 12th:**

*The Lord our God comes in strength.*

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

*O bless the Lord, my soul.*

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

*The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger, and of great kindness.*

**Friday 15th:**

*Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light of life.*

**Saturday 16th:**

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

### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

*3rd Sunday of Advent*

**1st reading:** Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11

**2nd reading:** 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

**Gospel:** John 1:6-8,19-28

From page 1...

What in your life is going well? What activities are you doing that seem good and productive? Are any of them grassy glories that can wither away in a drought? A hundred years from now, will what you're doing today still have an impact - a beneficial impact?

God has given you talents and a vocation - a calling, a special purpose - that requires those talents. Yes, you! We are all called to have fruitful lives that make an eternal difference. We are all called to be like Mary giving birth to Jesus so that the world becomes a better place. Jesus wants to come straight to us to produce the fruits of his eternal kingdom in our lives and in others.

Are you wasting time? If so, take this to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and prepare yourself for the way of the Lord. He wants to make an eternal difference through you!

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### LAUDATO SI'

As our world leaders are meeting in Dubai for COP28, we pray for our governments to negotiate a global, ambitious and fair energy transition and phase out of fossil fuels. We also pray for today's victims of global warming, both human and non-human; and as custodians of the planet, we cultivate hope for our common home and seek more sustainable ways to live.

During the season of advent, we are urged to pray and act. The Laudato si' movement has designed an advent calendar to prepare us in the best way to welcome the Christ Child at Christmas. It contains key liturgical dates and the most important COP28 events and the Pope's visit to Dubai.

Download the 2023 Advent Calendar and start your spiritual journey towards Christmas at [https://laudatosimovement.org/advent2023/?utm\\_source=advent&utm\\_medium=blogs-web&utm\\_campaign=EN](https://laudatosimovement.org/advent2023/?utm_source=advent&utm_medium=blogs-web&utm_campaign=EN)

### ST FRANCIS TABLE MINISTRY TO THE ELDERLY End of Year Christmas Celebration

St Francis Table Ministry invites everyone to join in their Christmas celebration:



Monday, 11 December 2023  
10am - 1pm

**Note:** This ministry will be taking a break over the Christmas holidays and will resume on Monday, 5 February 2024.

### LOOKING FOR THE IDEAL GIFT THIS CHRISTMAS?

St Mary's Church has a variety of handmade Christmas and greeting cards, sacramental candles, Christmas decorations, rosary beads and bracelets plus much more available.

Make your own Advent Wreath - Advent Wreath kits are available to make your own wreath at home.

You will be able to browse and purchase these items after daily and Sunday Masses. The funds raised through the sale will help fund the restoration of St Mary's Church.

### PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION Spread across the Archdiocese of Brisbane Our 24/7 prayer engine for the world

St Mary's is seeking two (2) Adorers to attend Adoration from 1.30 am to 3.30 am on Sundays from December to end February whilst our dedicated rostered Adorers are overseas.

St Mary's Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration period commences following the 8.00 am Mass on Saturdays until before 9.00 am Mass on Sundays. You are encouraged to become a Dedicated Adorer - having a regular hour(s) on roster, or as a Casual Adorer - helping to fill vacancies. Both are vital for the continuation of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration.

If you wish to be included in the roster, please contact Dianne - mobile 0411 869 017.

## TWO MINUTES CATECHISM

### What is Advent?

The word Advent is from the Latin *adventus* for "coming" and is associated with the four weeks of preparation for Christmas. Advent always contains four Sundays, beginning on the Sunday nearest the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle (November 30) and continuing until December 24.

In 2023, Advent begins on December 3 and ends on December 24 (Christmas Eve), as the Mass of the Lord's Nativity begins. Christmas Day is December 25.

### Why is purple used in Advent?

The liturgical year has different colours for the different seasons. *Redemptionis Sacramentum* (No. 121) says, "The purpose of using different colours is to express the specific character of the various mysteries. The use of the diverse colours is both pedagogical and symbolic of the various liturgical feasts and seasons."

Violet or purple, a symbol of suffering and penitence, is therefore the liturgical colour used in Advent and in Lent.

### What do the four candles of the Advent wreath represent?

The candles indicate the different weeks of Advent. When you are in the first week of Advent, you light one purple candle, and for the second week, two purple candles. During the third week, you add the rose candle. Then for the final week, you light all four candles. These colours match the liturgical colours of the vestments for those weeks, with purple representing penance and rose representing rejoicing.

The Advent Wreath brings to mind the time before Jesus, when the world was in spiritual darkness. During Advent, we remember the Old Testament days as we anxiously anticipate His Birth at Christmas.

*"In Advent, Christians relive a dual impulse of the spirit: on the one hand, they raise their eyes towards the final destination of their pilgrimage through history, which is the glorious return of the Lord Jesus; on the other, remembering with emotion His birth in Bethlehem, they kneel before the Crib."*  
(Pope Benedict XVI)

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

### Sunday 24th December

#### Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Fairfield:

- 7.00am Mass

#### St Francis of Assisi, West End:

- 9.00am Mass

#### St Mary's, South Brisbane:

- 9.00am Mass



### CHRISTMAS VIGIL

#### St Ita's, Dutton Park:

- 5.00pm Mass  
(4.30pm - Carols & Nativity Play)
- 8.00pm Indonesian Mass  
(7.30pm - Carols)

#### St Mary's, South Brisbane:

- 7.00pm Mass  
(6.30pm - Nativity Play & Carols)

### CHRISTMAS DAY Monday 25th December

- **OLPS:** 7.00am Mass
- **St Francis of Assisi:** 9.00am Mass  
(8.30am Carols)
- **St Mary's:** 9.00am Mass
- **St Ita's:** 10.30am Indonesian Mass



### PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE



Parish Office will be closed  
from 22 Dec 2023 to 7 Jan 2024.

The office will re-open on  
8 January 2024.

## When was the last time you reviewed your Will?

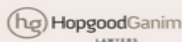
/ HopgoodGanim Lawyers is a leading Australian independent legal and advisory firm operating nationally and internationally from Brisbane and Perth.

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### PARISH ACTIVITIES 2023

#### BAPTISMS

- 2nd Saturday of the Month - 9.30am: St Mary's  
(Booking is essential.)

#### PRAYER & ADORATION

- Tuesday 6.30pm: St Mary's Church
- Sunday 4pm: St Mary's Church

#### PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Saturdays after 8am Mass until Sundays 8.30am

#### ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

- 1st Friday - 7am: St Mary's Church
- 1st Saturday - 5pm: St Ita's Church
- 1st Sunday - 7am: OLPS Fairfield

#### CHILDREN'S LITURGY (School Term Only)

- Saturday - 5.00pm: St Ita's Church (Vigil Mass)
- Sunday - 9.00am: St Mary's Church

#### FAMILY MASS (School term only)

- 4th Saturday - 5pm: St Ita's Church

#### ST FRANCIS TABLE - Ministry to the Elderly

- 1st and 3rd Monday: 9am -1pm  
St Francis Hall, 47 Dornoch Tce, West End

### PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

#### Please consider giving to our planned giving program.

Your continued support for our Parishes is appreciated. If you'd like to use direct debit please complete the form below and return to the Parish Office.

- [St Mary's Parish Direct Debit Request Form](#)
- [Dutton Park Parish Direct Debit Request Form](#)

#### Other ways of giving direct internet transfer:

- **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: Last Name and Collections

We also have **Tap n Go**  
see Church Coordinator at Mass.

### SAFEGUARDING

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

To make an anonymous report call 1300 304 550. For more information visit [brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding](http://brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding)

