

The Parish Community of St Thérèse and St Anthony

The Little Flower Church - In the care of the Franciscan Friars

PARISH OFFICE AND CONTACTS

Parish Office Address: 134 Somerset Road,
Kedron Qld 4031

Ph: (07) 3357 6640

Email: kedron@bne.catholic.net.au

Website: www.kedroncatholicparish.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday 8.30am - 3.00pm

Friday 8.30am - 12.00pm

PARISH TEAM

Fr Mario Debattista ofm

Parish Priest

Email: DebattistaM@bne.catholic.net.au

Ph: 0429 600 711

Mrs Sandra Di Francesco

Parish Manager

Email: kedron@bne.catholic.net.au

Mrs Maria Hopes

Sacramental Coordinator

sacramental.kedron@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH SCHOOL

St Anthony's School

Mr Martin Wilkie Principal

Ph: 3357 6185

Email: pkedron@bne.catholic.edu.au

www.stanthonyskedron.qld.edu.au

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mr Johnny De Angelis (Chair)

Email: j.deangelis@bigpond.com

Ph: 0438 119 709

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday (Vigil) 5.00pm

Sunday 7.30am, 9.30am & 5.30pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday 8.00am

Tuesday 8.00am

Wednesday 9.00am

Thursday 8.00am

Friday 8.00am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday & Thursday after the 8.00am Mass

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4.00 - 4.30 pm OR

please call Fr Mario to arrange a time to meet individually.

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs Sandra Di Francesco

Ph: 0448 356 599

3rd Sunday of Advent, 12th December 2021 (YEAR C)

Reflection ...

During Advent, Daniel went to his mother demanding a new bicycle for Christmas.

'Danny, we can't afford it', she said, 'so write a letter to Jesus and pray for one instead.'

'Dear Jesus, I've been a good boy this year and would appreciate a new bicycle. Your friend, Daniel.'

Now Danny guessed that Jesus really knew he was a brat so he tore it up and tried again.

'Dear Jesus, I've been an OK boy this year and I want a new bicycle. Yours truly, Daniel.'

Danny knew this wasn't true so he tore it up and tried again.

'Dear Jesus, I've thought about being a good boy so may I have a new bicycle? Daniel.'

Finally, Danny thought better of making these false claims and so ran to the Church.

He went inside and stole a small statue of Mary and ran out the door. He went home, hid it under his bed and wrote this letter.

'Jesus, let's face it, I've broken most of the Commandments; tore up my sister's doll and lots more. I'm desperate. I've got your mother Mary, if you ever want to see her again, give me a bike for Christmas. You know who.'

There is something of Danny in all of us.

We often think that we can bargain with God to get the best possible deal out of life. The problem with this bargaining image is that it is based on faith that does not believe in Advent. The bargaining image of God is the furthest thing from the mind of the writers of today's readings – Zephaniah, the Canticle from Isaiah, Philippians and Luke. Each of them rejoices in the undeserved gift God gives to the world. We do not deserve God's love given to us in the Babe of Bethlehem. It is God's overflowing goodness which pours out in Jesus and through him and the Spirit we have been welcomed into the family of God and bear his name.

These Scriptures remind us that God has not held back one thing in his love for us. By becoming one with us in our flesh, God has done everything he can to assure us of his saving love. He has shown us all what can be shown about how to live lives of sacrifice, justice and love to transform our world.

In today's Gospel John's disciples are full of wanting to know what they can do to earn God's love. The crowds, tax collectors and soldiers ask what they can do to gain God's favour. While there is much to do, Advent reminds us every year that all we do is a response to the initial, undeserved goodness of God.

Still the image of us 'doing a deal' with God is so prevalent in our theology and prayer. 'I will be a better person if I get well.' 'I will return to Sunday Mass if I pass my exams.'

All dreadful stuff. And the Church has to take some responsibility for this and correct it.

Advent teaches us that we have to witness to a God who risked everything so that we might know love and life in this world and in the next. We hold and proclaim, in season and out of season, a God who emptied himself of power and might and came to us as a baby.

That's not the profile of a deal-doer. It's the portrait of a lover.

So this Advent let's not ransom ourselves to a benevolent dictator. Let's ask for anything we need with confidence that God has heard our words and so sent love itself in Jesus Christ.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Fourth Sunday of Advent – 19 December 2021

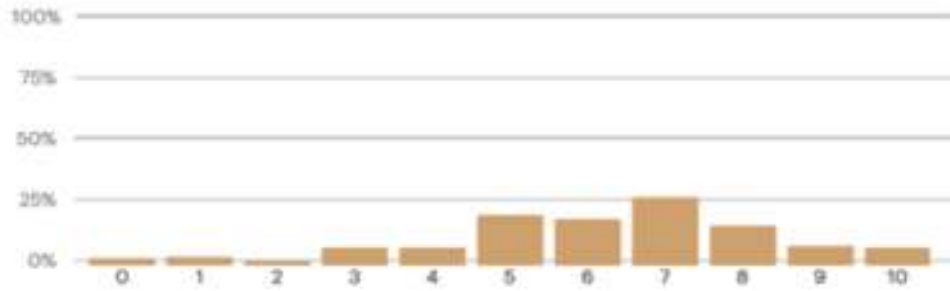
1st Reading [Mi 5:1-4](#) 2nd Reading [Heb 10:5-10](#)

Gospel [Lk 1:39-45](#)

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PARISH SURVEY - SUMMARY OF RESULTS (Up to 150 Responses received)

Ques 4. Generally, how engaged or involved do you feel you are in our parish?
(Ranging from 0 = No Engagement to 10 = Maximum Engagement)



Ques 5. What would help you become more engaged in the life of our parish?



SWOT Analysis of Responses to Ques 2, 3, 7 & 8

<p>STRENGTHS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sense of community and belonging. • Strong sense of connection developed over time. • Inclusive. • Welcoming and friendly. • Meaningful & thought-provoking homilies. • Quality Liturgy. • Music/Singing – variety. • The Franciscan spirit over many years. • Children’s Liturgy & Children’s Mass. • Youth Groups. • Prayerful feel/atmosphere. • Choice and availability of Mass. • Adoration, Rosary, Prayer groups. 	<p>THREATS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are we in danger of overlooking our Franciscan roots / spirituality? e.g. for our youth. • Ensuring we maintain a genuine spirit of service e.g. through St Vincent de Paul, social action that is balanced. • Ensure we maintain prayerful atmosphere e.g. watching noise level before Mass. • Ensuring we respect and include parishioners of all ages. • Ensuring we foster youth and younger parishioner involvement e.g. in choir and music ministry. • Ensuring that Parish Office Admin are in touch with parishioners and encourage and welcome volunteers.
<p>WEAKNESSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to reach out to and involve people of all ages. • Are we always as welcoming and inclusive as we ought to be? • Need for clearer communication e.g. of financial situation of Parish. • Need for greater clarity and understanding of the role & duties of the Parish Pastoral Council. • Homilies can be long sometimes. 	<p>OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>Many suggestions on how:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To Build Community, Connection & Inclusion. • To form / educate people in the Catholic faith. • To strengthen people’s commitment. • To cater for the needs of specific age groups in the parish. • To enhance or broaden our Parish Liturgies.

PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Monday 13 December**
 Mass 8.00am
 Adoration after Mass
 Taekwondo 4.30pm, 5.45 & 7.00pm
 Choir Practice 7.15pm
- Tuesday 14 December**
 Mass 8.00am
 Rosary after Mass
- Wednesday 15 December**
 Mass 9.00am
 Delamore Mass 4.45pm
- Thursday 16 December**
 Mass 8.00am
 Adoration after Mass
- Friday 17 December**
 Mass 8.00am
 Christian Meditation 9.00am
- Saturday 18 December**
 Nativity Play Rehearsal 3.30pm
 Reconciliation 4.00pm
 Mass 5.00pm
- Sunday 19 December**
 Mass 7.30am & 9.30am
 SFO 9.00am
 Baptisms 11.00am and 12.00noon
 Christmas Carols (outside) 4.30pm
 Mass 5.30pm

Christmas Eve Mass

Planning for our Christmas Eve Mass has begun! In order to make this a special time for all, we are looking for volunteers to help with: set up, pack up, offertory and collection. If you would like to help us with this Mass, please contact the Parish Office on 3357 6640.

Get vaccinated for the common good: Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have stated it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine available. More information is at: <https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>

Mass Times for Christmas

Sunday 19th December 4.30pm
Christmas Carols
(on the lawn)

Tuesday 21st December 7.00pm
Advent Reconciliation Service

Friday 24th December 5.30pm
Christmas Family Mass
(on the lawn with Carols from 5.00pm)

Friday 24th December Midnight Mass
(with Carols from 11.30pm)

Saturday 25th December
Christmas Day Mass 7.30am & 9.30am

Saturday 25th December 5.00pm Vigil
(Normal Mass)

Sunday 26th December
7.30am, 9.30am and 5.30pm
(Normal Masses)

Please pray for our recently deceased:

Val Davidson, Charlotte Stevenson, Denese O'Brien, Thérèse O'Regan, Edna Ang, Vincenzo Del Vecchio, James Sharry,
and those whose Anniversaries occur about now:

Brendan O'Brien, Eileen Carroll, Rita Sullivan, Mollie Byrne, Rosy Varghese, Panikulan Varghese, Giuseppe & Isolina Maccarone, Angus & Mary Robertson, Vince Jowett, Joyce Swanson, Lorna Agli, Bill & Pat Ryan, Peter Moran, Monica & Edgardo Tandiani,
*WE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED;
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.*



Please feel welcome to take prayer and gift suggestion tags from the Advent Giving Tree.

Secular Franciscan Order

This year is the 800th anniversary of the Third Order of the Secular Franciscans 1221 -- 2021. In 1221 St Francis established the Third Order now called the Secular Franciscan Order. St Francis saw the need to establish an order for people living in the world and pursuing their ordinary lives. He drew up a very simple rule of life which any good earnest Catholic might easily observe. Members of the Kedron Parish are welcome to join the Secular Franciscans who meet each third Sunday of the month. All are welcome.

Advent Reconciliation Service 2021
will be on
Tuesday 21st December at 7.00pm
in the church.
Please come and join us.

Advent Wreath...



The Advent wreath is a Christian tradition that symbolizes the passage of the four weeks of Advent. It is a circular candle holder that typically holds five candles. During the season of Advent one candle on the wreath is lit each Sunday until all of the candles, including the fifth candle, are lit on Christmas Day.

Each candle represents an aspect of the spiritual preparation for the celebration of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Most Advent wreaths use three colors of candles – purple, pink, and white.

3rd candle (rose) the Shepherd candle or the candle of joy. The angels sang a message of JOY!"

... and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son.

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

Plans are currently underway for our Christmas Eve Family Mass. We are still looking for children who would like to help us tell the story of Jesus' birth by being in our Nativity play. If you would like your child to have a role in the play, please email Carmel Burroughs at the parish office on: kedron@bne.catholic.net.au Please understand that we cannot promise your child will have a particular role, but ALL children are welcome to dress up as angels, shepherds on Christmas Eve. If all children please come dressed up as an angel or shepherd and share in the magic! Rehearsal will be on Saturday 18th December at 3.30pm at the church and final dress rehearsal will be at 4.15pm.



Join the Kedron Parish
Community for
Christmas Carols on the Lawn
Sunday 19th Dec from 4.30pm
followed by

Outdoor Mass at 5.30pm.
Contact Christine Masters for info:
christine@musicmasters.com.au

Little Flower Church,
80 Turner Road, Kedron

The *Samaritan Community* wish all parishioners and friends a **Happy and Holy Christmas.** Tuesday Morning Activities resume on 25th January, 2022. Until then keep well and happy. We will be thinking of you all.

To receive the Parish Newsletter and other Parish Resources by email, please print your details here, tear off this section, and drop it in the suggestion box at the church door or give it to Fr Mario or Rob.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Something for the Kids...

What must we do?

3rd Sunday of Advent, Year C

John, the son of Zechariah baptised people in the River Jordan to prepare them for the arrival of God's chosen one, Jesus. Draw John baptising one of the people in the river.



John the Baptist had great respect for Jesus. He told people, "Someone more powerful is going to come, and I am not good enough even to untie his sandals." Write down in the shell how you can show your respect for Jesus.



Water is used in the sacrament of Baptism as a symbol of life and purity. Below there are clues to six hidden words that are all symbols used in Baptism and Mass.

G	F	A	Y	I	H	I	Q	K
F	T	M	W	J	O	Q	G	W
D	G	P	V	Z	Z	U	F	I
Z	G	W	A	T	E	R	I	N
Z	G	X	P	K	F	T	R	E
Q	E	S	L	U	Q	H	E	N
Q	D	K	C	R	O	S	S	X
Q	A	Q	K	U	G	H	M	B
N	C	A	N	D	L	E	B	J
B	H	B	R	E	A	D	D	Q

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Police Check and Blue-Card's and other associated forms have been simplified!

There is a new portal for registration of volunteers. The Welcome Portal can be accessed via

<http://archbne.org/welcome>.

In the portal, volunteers will be asked to enter personal information and volunteer position details which will automatically prepopulate forms to be signed.

If you have not completed forms yet and are involved in ministry **PLEASE ATTEND TO THIS ASAP.**

If you have any questions, please contact Sandra in the office.

YUN HAP
TAEKWONDO & SELF DEFENCE

Taekwondo in the PARISH HALL
Mondays 4:30, 5:45 and 7pm
All ages welcome - family discounts
Fair Play Vouchers and NDIS supported
Kate Eggar - 7th Dan Instructor
0408 982 248

Cuts on Clifford
Barbara Goddard

132 Clifford Street,
Stafford Heights
Phone 3359 5199

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