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

7.30am, 9.30am & 5.30pm Sunday

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday 8.00am 8.00am Tuesday Wednesday 9.00am **Thursday** 8.00am 8.00am Friday

EUCHARISTIC 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

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

The Holy Family - 26 December 2021

1st Reading $\underline{Sir\ 3:2-6.\ 12-14}$ or $\underline{1\ Sm\ 1:20-22.\ 24-28}$ 2nd Reading Col 3:12-21 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24

Gospel Lk 2:41-52

4th Sunday of Advent, 19th December 2021 (YEAR C)

Reflection ...

The visitation is one of the moving scenes in the Gospel. On a human level, here are two cousins, unexpectedly pregnant in the most extraordinary circumstances, meeting and offering each other greetings and support. We can see the scene and feel the bond.

In the Gospel of Luke this moment is pivotal. These women meet in the mountains where God has always been manifest to the Israelites. Elizabeth is the Old Covenant made to Israel and she carries John who will be the herald of the Messiah. Mary, literally, embodies the new, and final, covenant in Jesus.

Elizabeth recognises what is happening here and she embraces all that God is doing for the world. She has tasted the promise of God and now sees its fulfilment.

On a more mundane level, however, a meeting like this would have occasioned much comment and speculation from those outside the inner circle. We only have to imagine it happening today in any small suburb or country town for us to appreciate the human scale of the unfolding drama.

The Iona Community has explored the unwritten history in their story of Mmes Matthew, Mark and Luke, 'The village gossips'.

Narrator: In any small village, news travels quickly. Therefore it is only to be expected that the strange changes in the lives of Mary and Elizabeth might have been food for other people's thought.

Mrs Matthew: Well, ladies, you know how I'm not one for gossip, but wait until you hear this. You know that old woman Elizabeth, with the man who has not spoken for nine months.

Mrs Mark: Yes, what about them?

Mrs Matthew: They say she's had a little boy. Mrs Luke: At her age? She's 88 if she's a day!

Mrs Matthew: Well, that's what I heard and it was on very good authority!

Mrs Luke: Are you sure you've got the right woman? You're not mixing her up with her cousin?

Mrs Mark: Who? Mary?

Mrs Luke: That's her! Now, I'm not one for talking about anybody but wait until I tell you this. She's

pregnant!

Mrs Mark: Never! How do you know? Mrs Luke: You can tell. You can just tell.

Mrs Matthew: Oh yes, you can tell all right. I heard her in the store last week asking for a dress

eight sizes too big for her.

Mrs Luke: There you are. Draw your own conclusions. Now, I know that this will not go any further, but I hear that she and a certain young man are planning to leave the district.

Mrs Matthew: Who is the young man? Mrs Luke: The joiner's boy, Joseph.

Mrs Mark: Never!

Mrs Luke: Well, that's what they say and I'm not one for gossip.

Mrs Mark: So, have you heard what they're saying about the so-called census?

Mrs Matthew: No Tell us

Mrs Mark; Well, I happened to hear that the reason the Romans want our names is not to send us

birthday cards.

Mrs Luke: Well, why are they having a census?

Mrs Mark: To register us for a 'poll tax'.

Mrs Matthew: I heard it was a 'community charge'.

Mrs Mark: 'A rose by any other name.'

Mrs Luke: They wouldn't do that, would they?

Mrs Mark: Well I'm just warning you. Mind, I'm not one for gossip.

Mrs Luke: Nor me. Mrs Matthew: Nor me

The story of the visitation keeps the rumour going that just when we think we can figure God out, predict how God will enter our lives and our world, he does something none of us can imagine. And the best thing about this rumour is – it's true.

As we wait for Christmas to come again into our lives, let's make room for Jesus Christ who turns our expectations upside down and always gives the gossips plenty to talk about.

© Richard Leonard SJ



The parish office will be closed from the 24th December 2021 and will reopen on Monday 11th January 2021.

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



PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday 20 December
Mass 8.00am
Adoration after Mass

Tuesday 21 December
Mass 8.00am
Rosary after Mass
Funeral 1.00pm

Wednesday 22 December Mass 9.00am Delamore Mass 4.45pm JPICC Group 7.00pm

Thursday 23 December
Mass 8.00am
Adoration after Mass

Friday 24 December
Mass 8.00am
Funeral 9.30am
Nativity Play Rehearsal 4.15pm
Christmas Eve Mass 5.30pm
Carols & Midnight Mass 11.30pm

Saturday 25 December
Christmas Mass 7.30 & 9.30am
Reconciliation 4.00pm
Mass 5.00pm (Sunday Vigil)

Sunday 26 December Mass 7.30am & 9.30am Baptisms 11.00am Mass 5.30pm

SINGLE SUGGESTIONS @ CHRISTMAS

Spare a thought this Christmas and Holiday Season for family and/or friends who live alone and/or fit the marital status of `single.' Whether widowed, divorced, clergy, religious Sisters or Brothers, never married, homeless etc., people who are single (or live alone) do not comfortably fit the Christmas mould of `family' – especially that promoted by the media.

Remember also people who are living in a family circumstance, but may be feeling psychologically alone, single, deserted or vulnerable. Christmas is a time when the contented family unit of mother, father and child/children is proclaimed as the norm, creating a sense of displacement for many people who live singularly or feel alone. Individuals may be reminded of their own experience of loss – loss of family, spouse, children, parents, intimacy, love, identity, or the life they imagined. Regrets can take the place of Christmas celebration and people may feel out of place (or an 'add-on') at family gatherings as they watch each family unit within the extended family celebrate their own togetherness. People who throughout the year embrace and celebrate their single life can suddenly feel uncomfortable and profoundly alone. They may crave, albeit momentarily, the connection and intimacy of family. Some single people are experiencing their first Christmas alone and others have expended time and energy creating a Christmas experience to avoid feeling out of place.

Maslow (1943) clearly identified 'belongingness' as a fundamental human need. It is this need that can often create a sense of loneliness and superfluity at Christmas for single persons - whether at family gatherings, amidst the crowds at Christmas shopping forays, or anticipating and experiencing Christmas dinner in an aged care facility.

As people who care, let's please be aware of our own approach to family and friends this Christmas. Our gentle and discreet expressions of inclusiveness, kindness and understanding can make all the difference to someone's experience of Christmas. Wishing you all a very special Christmas experience.

Trish Carroll, Elder Matters (Kedron Parishioner)

Mass Times for Christmas Sunday Dec 19th at 4.30pm Christmas Carols on the lawn Tuesday Dec 21st at 7.00pm **Advent Reconciliation Service** Friday Dec 24th at 5.30pm **Christmas Family Mass** with Carols from 5.00pm (on the Church lawn if weather permits or in La Cordelle, Padua College if rain) Friday Dec 24th Midnight Mass with Carols from 11.30pm Saturday Dec 25th at 7.30am & 9.30am **Christmas Day Mass** Saturday Dec 25th at 5.00pm Sunday Vigil Mass Sunday Dec 26th at 7.30am, 9.30am & 5.30pm

Please pray for our recently deceased:

Louise Mitchell, Joyce Barrett, Doris Heffernan, Val Davidson, Charlotte Stevenson, Denese O'Brien, Thérèse O'Regan, Edna Ang, Vincenzo Del Vecchio

and those whose Anniversaries occur about now:

Barney Curran, Catherine Mahony, Patrick Mahony, Roy & Vera Jarrett, Noel & Connie Peach, 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 WE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED; MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.



The 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.

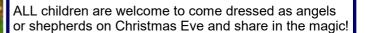
Each candle represents an aspect of the spiritual preparation for the celebration of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Most Advent wreaths use three colors of candles – purple, pink, and white.

4th Candle (purple). The Angel's candle or the *Candle of Love*. The angel's announced the good news of a Saviour, God's only son sent to save us.



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



First Dress Rehearsal is this Saturday Dec 18th at 3.30pm and Final Dress Rehearsal is at 4.15pm on Christmas Eve before the Mass.

Thank you from Vinnies

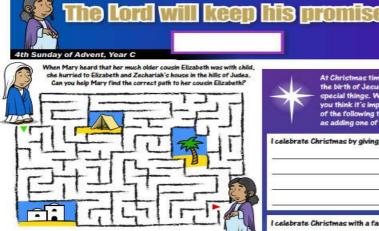
Your response to the Giving Tree in recent weeks has been tremendous with donations of gift/food vouchers totalling nearly \$2000 and loads of Christmas food and gifts. The generosity of the parish and our 3 local schools has allowed hampers to be put together to meet the Christmas needs of over 75 local households. The bulk of the hampers were delivered by parish, school and Vincentian community members on 13 December. Additional hampers will be delivered as required for the remainder of the festive season so please be assured that any late donations will still be put to good use.

On our Giving Tree, we also invited donations to assist with education costs for local families in need. The Samaritans group are also faithful and generous supporters of this aspect of our work. With your generous donations, we have already assisted with the books and uniform costs for 6 local families and we are still working with others for the 2022 school year,

Thank you again for your commitment to and support for the work of your Kedron conference and we wish you all a happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas.

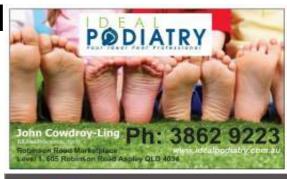


Something for the Kids...













Police Check and BlueCard'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.

The Parish of Kedron and the Diocese of Brisbane are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. May our message be that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: www.catholic.org.au/ Safeguardingsunday



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



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