

# 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)3267 4825  
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 Joseph Nguyen ofm  
Parish Priest

Email: jnguyen@franciscans.org.au

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

## RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4.00 - 4.30 pm

## WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday (Vigil) 5.00pm

Sunday 7.30am, 9.30am & 5.30pm

## WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday NO MASS and Tuesday 8.00am

Wednesday 9.00am

Thursday 8.00am and Friday 8.00am

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursday: For 24 hrs after the 8am Mass  
until the start of Friday 8am Mass

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

1st Wednesday of the month at 9.00am

## BAPTISMS

2nd and 4th Sunday of the Month at 11.00am

(unless of another event that day)

(Booking is essential)

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

1st, 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the Month - 9.30am

(School Term Only)

## FAMILY MASS

4th Sunday of the Month at 9.30am

(School term only)

## ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

2nd and 4th Monday of the Month at 7.00pm

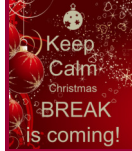
(Parish Office)

## SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs Sandra Di Francesco

Ph: 0448 356 599

## 3rd Sunday of Advent — 17th December 2023 (YEAR B)



**CHRISTMAS BREAK** - The Parish Office will close Friday 22nd December at 12 noon and re-open on Monday 15th January at 8am.

**OUR CHRISTMAS NEWS BULLETIN** will be the last until a resumption on 15 January 2023

**Advent Reconciliation Service 2023 will be on Tuesday 19 December at 7.00pm in the church. Please come and join us.**

## Reflection...

Today is traditionally called *Gaudete* Sunday. Over the first millennium of Christianity Advent was like a late Lent. Both were five weeks long, both were marked by fasting and penance and both gave the faithful a day off half way through. In Lent *Laudete* Sunday is still, roughly, half way through the five-week season. Advent, however, was shortened to four weeks in the tenth century, and Pope St Gregory the Great eased the fasting and penitential aspects of this season in the twelfth century, but the not-so-half-way *Gaudete* Sunday has remained. It is, literally, the 'rejoicing' Sunday when we look more directly at Jesus' coming at Christmas.

To enable us to look at Jesus we start with the man who heralded his mission in the world, John the Baptist. In today's Gospel John the Baptist is the model of humility, opening the way for the Kingdom of Jesus to break in upon the world. We should never underestimate talent spotters, for as this story demonstrates, they all have John the Baptist as their patron saint.

Fleming was a poor Scottish farmer in the nineteenth century. One day, while trying to make a living for his family, he heard a cry for help coming from a nearby bog. He dropped his tools and ran to the bog. There, mired to his waist in black muck, was a terrified boy, screaming and struggling to free himself. Farmer Fleming saved the lad from what could have been a slow and terrifying death.

The next day, a fancy carriage pulled up to the Scotsman's sparse cottage. An elegantly dressed nobleman stepped out and introduced himself as the father of the boy Farmer Fleming had saved. 'I want to repay you,' said the nobleman. 'You saved my son's life.' 'No, I can't accept payment for what I did,' the Scottish farmer replied, waving away the offer.

At that moment, the farmer's own son came to the door of the family home. 'Is that your son?' the nobleman asked. 'Yes,' the farmer replied proudly. 'I'll make you a deal. Let me take him and give him a good education. If the lad is anything like his father, he'll grow up to be a man you can be proud of.' And that is what he did.

In time, Farmer Fleming's son graduated from St Mary's Medical School in London, and went on to become known throughout the world as the noted Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of Penicillin. Years afterward, the nobleman's son was stricken with pneumonia. What saved him? Penicillin.

The nobleman's name? Randolph Churchill. His son's name? Sir Winston Churchill.

John the Baptist, the embodiment of the old covenant, recognises who Jesus is for the world and encourages his foes and friends alike to welcome in the Christ, the new and everlasting Covenant. Just like Farmer Fleming or Lord Randolph Churchill, he could not have known the implications of what he was doing. John the Baptist simply saw Jesus and knew that Love had taken human form. Through his talent spotting and in his promotion of Jesus he enabled the first generation of Christians to see and believe that the promises made to their ancestors had been fulfilled.

No wonder we have him as our focus on *Gaudete* Sunday. And so may we all rejoice today, not only because salvation is always close at hand in Christ the Lord, but because we are also called to spot his love in every act of goodness we see, encourage and promote it as best we can and then watch nature and grace do the rest.

© Richard Leonard SJ

"We acknowledge the Turrbal and Jagera People in Brisbane, and the Gubbi Gubbi People at Pomona as the traditional custodians, past, present, and emerging, of the land and waters where Kedron Parish stands. We pay our respects to them".

**PARISH EVENTS  
THIS WEEK**

**Monday 18th December**

**NO Mass**

**Taekwondo 4.30pm - 8.00pm**

**SVdP 7.00pm**

**Tuesday 19th December**

**Mass 8.00am**

**Rosary after Mass**

**Advent Reconciliation 7.00pm**

**Wednesday 20th December**

**Mass 9.00am**

**Mass Delamore 4:45pm**

**Thursday 21st December**

**Mass 8.00am**

**24hr Perpetual Adoration**

**Friday 22nd December**

**Mass 8.00am**

**Christian Meditation 9.00am  
(Delamore)**

**Saturday 23rd December**

**Reconciliation 4.00pm**

**Vigil Mass 5.00pm**

**Sunday 24th December**

**Mass 7.30am, 9.30am**

**Christmas Carols 5.00pm**

**Mass Outside 5.30pm**

**Please pray for our recently  
deceased:**

Sr Jo Scanlan mfc, Marisa Emlyn - Jones,  
Sesto Porcellini, Belen Vargas, John Cook,  
Fr Greg Bourke OFM,

**and those whose Anniversaries  
occur about now:**

Ronald O'Malley, Daniel Green, Bill Ryan,,  
Marianne Desmond, Kevin Jacab, Annie  
Ranger, Thomas Family, O'Shea and  
Delaney Families, Elena Nadtran

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**

**4th Sunday of Advent  
24 December 2023 — Yr B**

1st Reading

[2 Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16](#)

2nd Reading

[Romans 16:25-27](#)

Gospel

[Luke 1:26-38](#)

**The Samaritan Community**

The Samaritans Morning Activities, will be back in the New Year on the 23rd January 2024 . Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and safe New Year. Thank you from the Committee.

**Mass times for Christmas and New Year 2023/2024**

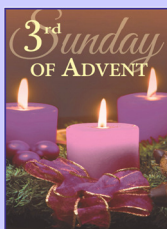
**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December -7.00pm** Advent Reconciliation Service

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December - 5.00pm** Vigil (Normal Mass)  
**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December -7.30am and 9.30am** (Normal Mass)  
**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December - 5.30pm** Christmas Vigil Mass (on the lawn with carols from 5.00pm)  
**Midnight Mass** with carols from 11.30pm  
**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December (Christmas Day Mass) - 8.30am** Mass only

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> December Boxing Day - 8.00am** (Normal Mass)  
**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> December - 9.00am** (Normal Mass)  
**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> December - 8.00am** (Normal Mass)

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> December - 8.00am** (Normal Mass)  
**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> December - Vigil Mass 5.00pm**

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> New Year's Eve Day - 7.30am, 9.30am & 5.30pm** (Normal Mass)  
**Monday New Year Day 1<sup>st</sup> January – no masses**



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.**

**Little Flower Church  
Christmas Eve Family Mass**

Planning for our **outdoor** Christmas Eve Family Mass has begun! In order to make this a special time for the Parish and families, we are looking for volunteers to please help us with: setup, pack up, offertory and collections.

Please consider your availability during this special season on the church calendar. A volunteer sheet is now in the sacristy. We would be grateful!



**Home Visitation to the Sick and Elderly**

You need not be isolated from your Parish family if you are sick or unable to join us for Mass. We are fortunate to have **Ministers of Communion** who will visit homes within our Parish and bring Holy Communion.

If you would like them to visit you or someone you know, please contact the Parish Office on 3267 4825 or by email. If you are interested in becoming a Minister of Communion please contact us.



**Giving Tree**

You are welcome to take a gift/prayer tag to support others during this Advent season. Offerings can be returned under the tree or on the collection plate or parish office. Thank you.

**To receive the Parish Newsletter and other resources by email, please print your details here, tear off this section, and drop it in the suggestion box at the church door .**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Important News

We are informing your parishioners about the upcoming renovations at our church which will begin on January 8<sup>th</sup>. Over the past few years we have observed the deterioration condition of the carpet and we are pleased to announce that new carpet will be installed throughout the entire church. We believe that this much need improvement will significantly enhance the aesthetics and comfort of our worship space. Please note that during the renovation period there will be NO weekday or weekend Mass at the church. However, alternative arrangements have been made to ensure that you can still attend Mass conveniently. The **weekday Masses** will be relocated to **the Chapel at Padua College**, while the **weekend Masses** will take place in the **Parish Hall**. We understand that this change may be inconvenient for some of you, but we are grateful for your understanding and flexibility as we work to improve our church.

In addition to the carpet replacement, we are also excited to announce that the church pews will be refurbished at the end of the month. This process will involve stripping back the pews, applying a new varnish and adding new padded kneelers. We believe that this refurbishment will not only restore the pews to their former glory but also provide a more comfortable seating option for all parishioners. However, please note that this process may take a few months to complete as it requires meticulous and time-consuming approach.

We apologize for any inconvenience or disruption these renovations may cause to your usual worship experience. However, we assure you that these changes are necessary to maintain the beauty and functionality of our church. We appreciate your understanding and patience during this period and will make every effort to keep you updated on the progress of the renovations and any changes that may arise.

We hope that these renovations will ultimately provide a cleaner and more comfortable space for prayer and reflection. Your continued support in our parish are greatly appreciated and we are confident that these improvements will enhance your worship experience.

If you have any questions concerning the renovations please do not hesitate to contacting the parish office.

## THE CATHOLIC LEADER

Keeping Faith with You

As you all know, the Leader will no longer be supplied to parishes in

2024. If you wish to continue receiving it, you are encouraged to take out a subscription to The Catholic Leader and support Brisbane Archdiocese's multiplatform news service. Once subscribed, the paper will be delivered to your door each month. To subscribe either call The Catholic Leader team on (07) 3324 3555 OR use the RETURN ENVELOPES.

## CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY MASS

Plans are currently underway for our Christmas Eve Nativity Mass. At this stage, we are looking for children who would like to help us tell the story by being involved in our Nativity play. If you know someone who would like to volunteer to be the various roles in the play, please email Mav Green on

[mav\\_sp\\_green@hotmail.com](mailto:mav_sp_green@hotmail.com) to put your child's name forward to participate in the nativity. We are also looking for a baby Jesus – no experience necessary!

And remember - All children are welcome to dress up as angels, shepherds or wise kings on Christmas Eve and share in the magic!

**1<sup>st</sup> Rehearsal - Sunday, 17 December**  
**after 9:30 am mass**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Rehearsal - Thursday, 21 December**  
**at 9 am at the church.**



## Laudato Si

In Jesus' day it was not that easy for Pharisees or those of the political or religious interests of the day to recognize the voice of hope crying out in the desert. This last week COP28 is a good news/bad news story and reveals the congruence gap of 'climate finance pledges' and the yet continuing fossil fuel investments and profiteering (see the Climate Action Commitment Counter and the Declaration Status Report at: <https://www.cop28.com/en/>). Official teachings of the Catholic church have a record of note from Paul VI's 1971 apostolic letter, John Paul II in 1990 for World Day of Peace and Benedict XVI in 2010 (see: <https://www.ncronline.org/earthbeat/politics/when-did-catholic-church-begin-address-climate-change>) right up to the official teaching in Laudato Si' and the exhortations in Laudate Deum. On the talk/do front, the Vatican State is committed to a concrete plan for sustainable mobility: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2023-11/vatican-sustainable-mobility-programme-ecological-conversion.html>. Knowing what carbon dioxide footprints actually are is basic but essential and more or less unknown even for local Catholic property and fleet portfolios. Measuring is a first step and is becoming more comprehensive (see: <https://www.our-trace.com/>) as is media-watching on climate issue coverage. In addition to sites like DeSmog (<https://www.desmog.com/2023/12/05/reuters-new-york-times-top-list-of-fossil-fuel-industrys-media-enablers/>) we have university research as from Colorado at MeCCO: [https://sciencepolicy.colorado.edu/icecaps/research/media\\_coverage/figure\\_usage/index.html](https://sciencepolicy.colorado.edu/icecaps/research/media_coverage/figure_usage/index.html) We Christians have the Gospels' coverage of John the Baptist who spoke from the silence of the desert about what doesn't count and what and who does. We advent – go towards – in hope and faith in the already but not yet.







# Something for the Kids...

## Prepare for the Lord Jesus

3rd Sunday of Advent, Year B

### Who is John the Baptist?

Indicate whether each answer is either true or false

-  The cousin of Jesus  True  False
-  A pharisee  True  False
-  Elijah  True  False
-  The son of Elizabeth  True  False
-  A preacher  True  False
-  The Messiah  True  False

Decipher the message that John the Baptist gave to the priests and temple helpers

 **use** 

**2**  



The third Sunday in Advent is called Gaudete Sunday; the Sunday of Joy! How can we share our joy for the arrival of Jesus at Christmas?

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Kate Eggar - 7<sup>th</sup> Dan Instructor  
**0408 982 248**

**Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.**  
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STOP line Service Phone: 1300 304 550 Email: [AOB@stopline.com.au](mailto:AOB@stopline.com.au) Online Disclosure: [www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com](http://www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com)

STOP line is an external service that receives confidential information about 'reportable conduct' under the Whistle blower Policy. Reportable conduct includes suspected abuse, misconduct and policy breaches within the Archdiocese of Brisbane, Brisbane Catholic Education and Centacare Brisbane. Information can be shared anonymously



**DUKE REALTY**  
Sam Patterson  
DIRECTOR OF DUKE REALTY  
A: 204 Riding Road, Balmoral QLD 4171  
P: 0401 240 042  
[www.dukerealty.com.au](http://www.dukerealty.com.au)



### Cuts on Clifford

Barbara Goddard

132 Clifford Street,  
Stafford Heights  
Phone 3359 5199

**ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE**

**Safeguarding Commitment**

The Archdiocese has **zero tolerance** for all forms of abuse & is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries & services.

*The safety & wellbeing of children & adults-at-risk is paramount.*



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