

# 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](mailto:kedron@bne.catholic.net.au)

Website: [www.kedroncatholicparish.org.au](http://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](mailto:jnguyen@franciscans.org.au)

Mrs Sandra Di Francesco

Parish Manager

Email: [kedron@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:kedron@bne.catholic.net.au)

Mrs Maria Hopes

Sacramental Coordinator

[sacramental.kedron@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto: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](mailto:pkedron@bne.catholic.edu.au)

[www.stanthonyskedron.qld.edu.au](http://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 3th 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

4th Sunday of Advent — 24th 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

## Reflection...

Jesus and Satan have an argument as to who is the better computer programmer.

Eventually they agree to hold a contest with God as the judge. They set themselves before their computers and begin. They type furiously for several hours; lines of code streaming up the screen. Seconds before the end of the competition, a bolt of lightning strikes and takes out the electricity. Moments later, the power is restored, and God announces that the contest is over. He asks Satan to show what he has come up with. Satan is visibly upset, and cries, 'I have nothing! I lost it all when the power went out.' 'Very well, then,' says God, 'let us see if Jesus fared any better.' Jesus enters a command, and the screen comes to life in vivid display, the voices of an angelic choir pour forth from the speakers. Satan is astonished. He stutters, 'But how? I lost everything, how can Jesus' program be intact?' God chuckles and says, 'Ah — because Jesus saves.'

On this final Sunday of Advent the Church moves our gaze to the Annunciation. The whole scene hinges around one word: 'Yes.' Mary's fiat sets in motion the entire Christian drama. In his film *Jesus of Nazareth* Franco Zeffirelli pictures the Annunciation this way: Mary is asleep at night when a gust of wind opens a high window. Afraid at all the commotion Mary gets up and starts to pray. As she prays, we see her face change and her body bend over. With tears in her eyes, Mary looks up through the window to the moonlit sky and simply says, 'Yes'. The swirling wind dies down at once.

In recent years successive popes have reminded us that the best devotion to Mary is one that leads us to do what she did: say 'yes' to Jesus. Mary is not a stop on our journey of faith; she is a guidepost that always sends us on to Christ. Mary does not save us, for we believe she needed to be saved by Christ as well. That's why she could say yes in the first place. Mary recognised the gift and the giver and became the bearer of God for the world.

In this final week of Advent let's keep reminding ourselves of this simple but life-changing fact: Jesus saves us. Jesus saves us from death. Jesus saves us from living lives devoid of purpose and meaning and Jesus saves us from ourselves.

We don't save ourselves. We cannot earn salvation by good works or prayers or penance. And, as difficult as it is to hear, we cannot save anyone else. That includes our children, spouse, grandchildren, parents or friends.

Our prayers, good works and faith are the responses we make to the salvation of Christ we claim here and now. And how we live is the way by which those we love will find the gift of God's salvation for themselves.

In the midst of this frantic final week before Christmas when so many other things can distract us from what this grace-filled feast is really all about, let's take a moment to join Mary in accepting into our lives and hearts the greatest of all gifts — our undeserved salvation, Jesus Christ the Lord.

© 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 25th December**  
**Mass 8.30am**

**Tuesday 26th December**  
**Mass 8.00am**  
**Rosary after Mass**

**Wednesday 27th December**  
**Mass 9.00am**  
**Mass Delamore 4:45pm**

**Thursday 28th December**  
**Mass 8.00am**  
**24hr Perpetual Adoration**

**Friday 29th December**  
**Mass 8.00am**  
**Christian Meditation 9.00am**  
*(Delamore)*

**Saturday 30th December**  
**Reconciliation 4.00pm**  
**Vigil Mass 5.00pm**

**Sunday 31st December**  
**Mass 7.30am, 9.30am**  
**& 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,

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

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December - 5.00 pm Vigil (Normal Mass)**  
**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December -7.30am and 9.30 am (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 25th 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 - 8.00 am (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 ...**

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.



**Little Flower Church Christmas Eve Family Mass**

**We are still needing people for our outdoor Christmas Eve Family Mass. 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!**

**Laudato Si**

Reflecting on Mary's "Yes" from Luke 1:38 we can say "yes" to personal and collective steps for a more sustainable future. Pope Francis in his letter to COP 28 said, "let us choose life. Let us choose the future! ...We have a grave responsibility" For the first time at a Conference of the Parties (COP) on climate change not only were fossil fuels mentioned but there was unanimous agreement that a transition be made away from them. The Christmas Gospel message was more bold, in fact the boldest, from the highly literary and symbolic reporter John probably written in the 90s of the first century. He says (1:3-5) "What came through him was life, and his life was the light of the human race: the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it"

With the help of the Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit, we can "emerge from the dark night of wars and environmental devastation to turn our common future into the dawn of a new and radiant day". <https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/it/bollettino/pubblico/2023/12/02/0848/01842.html?#inglese>

Action from faith means dialogue and community engagement. See Queensland's Zero Emission Vehicle Strategy: <https://www.qld.gov.au/transport/projects/electricvehicles/zero-emission-strategy>



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.





### Sacramental Coordinator

Our Parish is part of the Catholic Archdiocese of Brisbane staffed by the Franciscan Friars of the Holy Spirit Province. We aim to be a prayerful, caring community in the spirit of St Francis, so that we may come to know more intensely the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. We are seeking an enthusiastic and committed person to coordinate the sacramental program where children and families can encounter Christ, be transformed by Him, and realise their call to discipleship. This is a casual position (approximately 10 hours a week) with flexible hours.

### Main Purpose

The Sacramental Program Coordinator assists the parish priest in the organisation and delivery of the parish sacramental program and other liturgical ministries. The Coordinator will prepare and deliver information sessions, learning resources and liturgy materials for the sacraments of Confirmation, First Communion and Reconciliation.

### Duties

Co-ordinate sacramental enrolment:  
Liaise with the Parish Team & APRE at St Anthony's School.  
Enlist the practical help of volunteers  
Prepare all enrolment material.  
Advertise in school, parish, web newsletters – as well as at all local state schools; and promote sacramental program on Facebook and parish website.  
Send enrolment information to all Catholic families in Yr 3, Yr 4 & Yr 5.  
Liaise with parents and attend to day-to-day sacramental queries. Issues of a pastoral nature are to be discussed, as appropriate, with the Parish Priest or school staff.  
Order sacramental materials i.e. booklets, stationery, medals, certificates etc.  
Prepare and print certificates and celebration booklets for each sacrament.  
Prepare sacramental celebrations/Masses in liaison with the Parish Priest, office manager and volunteers.  
Prepare PowerPoint slideshows for sacramental celebrations  
Maintain Sacrament data base on PACS  
Prepare, organise and deliver materials for Parent Preparation Sessions  
Prepare, organise and deliver materials for Family Workshops  
Prepare, organise and deliver materials for Confirmation and First Eucharist retreats  
Coordinate volunteers to assist in the celebration of the Sacraments and organise celebration afterwards  
Attend training where relevant.  
Attend at all sacrament celebrations, including weekend Masses if applicable.

### The successful applicant should be able to demonstrate

- An understanding of parish life, liturgy, and the sacraments.
- An understanding of and commitment to the Mission and Vision of the Catholic Church.
- Knowledge and experience in a Catholic context including integrating children and families into the broader church community.
- A demonstrated capacity to work both independently and with others in a team environment.
- Demonstrated leadership abilities and experience in group facilitation and delivery of learning materials.
- Highly developed organizational skills and interpersonal communication skills.
- Computer skills – basic knowledge and experience in the Microsoft Office and management of email communication lists and platforms.
- Must have a Qld suitability card for child related employment (Blue Card) or willing to obtain.  
Must have Police check or willing to obtain.

To apply for this role please submit your cover letter and resume via the Apply For This Job button. Applicants must attach a cover letter to be considered.

For more information about the position or a copy of the position description please email Mrs Sandra Di Francesco (Parish Manager) at [kedron@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:kedron@bne.catholic.net.au)

*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 organization is fully committed to child safety and has zero tolerance to abuse of children or vulnerable adults.*

*We would like to thank you for your support and wish you and your families every blessing for this Christmas Season.*

**Fr Joseph Nguyen ofm**

**Fr Joe McKay ofm**

**Fr John Nguyen ofm**

**Sandra Di Francesco**

**and all of our parish staff.**

*May hope and peace be renewed as we together celebrate the birth of the Saviour*

### 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)



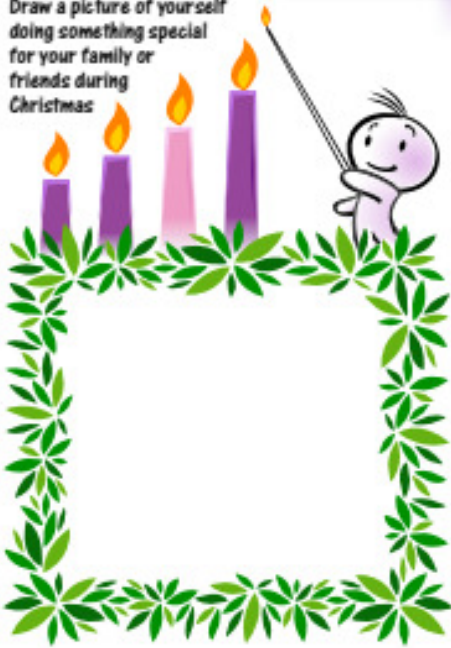
# Something for the Kids...

## His name will be Jesus

4th Sunday of Advent, Year B



Draw a picture of yourself doing something special for your family or friends during Christmas



### Gospel

Lk 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

In the story of the Annunciation, the angel Gabriel tells Mary that God has chosen her to bring his Son into the world. What are some ways that we can bring Christ into the world for others?

**IDEAL PODIATRY**  
Your Ideal Foot Professionals

**John Cowdroy-Ling Ph: 3862 9223**  
BA, Health Science, (Pod)  
Robinson Road Marketplace  
Level 1, 605 Robinson Road Aspley QLD 4034  
[www.idealpodiatry.com.au](http://www.idealpodiatry.com.au)

**PROMENADE DANCE STUDIO**

**We Love Dance!**  
For fun, for friends, for life...

26 Glentanna Street, Kedron  
Phone: 07 3733 0900  
[info@promenadedance.com.au](mailto:info@promenadedance.com.au)  
[www.promenadedance.com.au](http://www.promenadedance.com.au)

**Drew's Mowing Services**  
ABN: 75 276 365 865

- Mowing
- Edging
- Blowing
- Hedging
- Weed Spraying

m: 0424 950 360

**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**

**Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.**  
Respect & Protect.

ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE  
Zero tolerance. No excuse for abuse.

STOP line Service Phone: 1300 304 550 Email: [A0B@stoline.com.au](mailto:A0B@stoline.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



*Sam Patterson*  
**DUKE REALTY**  
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**

**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.*

**Holy Cross FUNERALS**  
Funeral Services with dignity and compassion.  
For however you choose to say goodbye...  
**Phone: 07 3293 0555**  
[info@holycrossfunerals.com](mailto:info@holycrossfunerals.com)  
[www.holycrossfunerals.com](http://www.holycrossfunerals.com)  
An Outreach of the Catholic Church Celebrating Life...