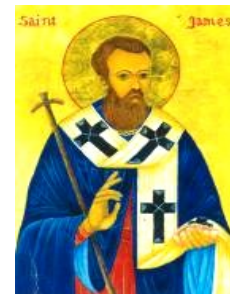


**2ND SUNDAY
ADVENT
YR A 2019
DECEMBER 8**

**The Parish of St James
Coorparoo
A Vibrant, Prayerful, Inclusive
Augustinian Parish
Archdiocese of Brisbane**



Bringing Home the Gospel

December 8, 2019 • 2nd Sunday of Advent • Matthew 3:1-12

Produce Good Fruit

John the Baptist let his followers know that he was baptizing with water, but the one who was coming after him, Jesus, would baptize with the Holy Spirit. He reminds us that it is not enough to be sorry for our sins or shake our heads helplessly over the wrongs of the world. We must be people of action and do something to change things.

John's baptism promoted a turn away from sin. The baptism Jesus offers not only turns us away from sin, it propels us into loving action. Our baptism into the Body of Christ empowers us to carry Christ's love to the world. If it doesn't do that then we are like the chaff of wheat, the useless husk covering the seed that John the Baptist talks about in this reading.

Our baptism marks us as children of God, a people of love. Not just the hearts-and-flowers-love that musicians sing about or even the platonic love between really good friends. As a matter of fact, we don't even have to like someone in order to love him or her in Christian love.

The love we share as God's children is more like a bond. It is the God-glue that links us to one another, binding us in a relationship closer than brothers and sisters or husband and wife. It makes all people, all creation, one with each other and with God.

This is the love God wants us to share with our children. It may not have the same euphoric feeling we felt for our children when they were born, but it is no less honest or deep. Somehow in those first few years of their lives we have to help our youngsters carry the familial love they experience at home to the whole family of God.

We can do this by introducing them early to the community of faith: bringing them to Mass as babies, enrolling them in the parish preschool program, taking them as they grow older to serve at the soup kitchen or sort food for the Thanksgiving baskets. If we get involved in our parish community, our children can meet and interact with their peers as well as adults and experience the love that binds God's community. Healthy seeds can be planted to bear all sorts of good fruit in their futures.

Bringing Home the Gospel: Parent Reflections on the Sunday Gospels • Copyright © 2007, 2019 Judith Dunlap. Published by the Pastoral Center, PastoralCenter.com. All rights reserved. Scripture passages have been taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., and used by permission. All rights reserved.

We wish all our students,

staff and

parents

from St

James

Primary



**School a safe, enjoyable,
and meaningful holidays
ahead of you! You are all
invited and very much
welcome to our Advent
and Christmas church
services!**

Parish Pastoral Council

**The Information and Discernment
Evening**

for members of the parish who are nominated to the Parish Pastoral Council was held on Monday, 2 December 2019. Current members of the PPC and ex-officio members (pastors and principal) were also present for the discernment during the gathering.

The topics presented included the ff.: Augustinian charism, the current parish structure, the roles and responsibilities of the PPC, the PPC meeting, on mission and vision. These were prepared and presented by current members of the PPC.

A discussion session followed the presentations. One of the main points that arose was on articulating the direction on which the parish is going. This is in relation to the need of having a sense of clarity with our identity as a missional parish, as well as of the need to be guided by a vision that unites all parishioners. Another aspect that was raised was on the importance of communicating PPC proceedings to the wider community.

The evening was intended to assist our nominees and everyone present in the discernment process. Being open to the stirrings of the Holy Spirit in each individual, we hoped that the week gave the nominees and current members of the PPC the space and opportunity to reflect: Am I called, with the God-given gifts and talents that I possess, to be a member of the Parish Pastoral Council? Would being in the PPC a good fit for my passion to serve? Would this allow me to better develop my gifts for the good of the parish community?

May we continue to offer our prayers for our nominees and for this process!

Today's Readings 2nd Sunday Advent: First Reading Isaiah

11: 1-10 He judges the poor with justice.

Second Reading Romans 15: 4-9 Christ, the hope of all people.

Gospel Reading Matthew 3: 1-12 Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

For complete Sunday's readings, visit our St James website (look for the Prayer tab).

Prayer Requests

Please pray for the recently deceased:

Bernie Miles;

Peter Ha; Bernadette Lawless; Carmel O'Connell.

And these anniversaries: Phan family; John Girard; Tom Lunney; Carmen Lunney; Joanne Downey; John Girard; Ray Killin.

Please pray for these unwell: Jim Clifford; Steven McSwan; John Pender; Tess Walsh; Santina Romano; Isabelo Corpus; Mary Dungan; Jocelyn Tibayan; Kathleen, Mary-Clare, Michael Simpson.

Please pray for these Baptismal children: Lachlan van Rosendal.



Social Justice

**SIGNIFICANT DATES
DECEMBER:**

Saturday 7: 1965: Vatican II Pastoral Constitution.

Monday 9: International Anti-Corruption Day.

Tuesday 10: Human Rights Day.

1948: adoption of UN Declaration of Human Rights.

1992: Redfern Speech by PM Paul Keating.

Wednesday 11: International Mountain Day.

Thursday 12: 1831: founding of Sisters of Mercy by Catherine McAuley.



*Eternal God,
In wisdom and love you created our
earth to
sustain us and give us life.*

*We turn to you now in faith, hope and love, asking
you to look with favour on our drought-stricken land, on our
starving animals, on our failing crops.*

*Strengthen, sustain and give new heart to our farmers
and to all who are affected by drought;
be with those who support them.*

*In your loving providence, send abundant rain and restore our
parched earth.*

*Father of all compassion, hear our prayer through Jesus
Christ your Son, in whom the promise of new life has
dawned, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, the Lord
the giver of life:*

Renew your faithful people; Renew the face of the earth.

**Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Mary, help of Christians
- Pray for us.**



Parish News

In our church
**Tuesday choir
practice for**



Christmas Midnight Mass and Carols on
all Tuesday nights at **7:30 pm** at the Church. (17/12
will start after novena mass) - all welcome!



NEXT ANOINTING MASS:

**Friday 13th December 2019, at
10am**—last anointing mass for the
year; no 8am mass on this day.



Parish-based 'Simbang Gabi'

[9-day Novena Masses in preparation for
Christmas]

15th - 23rd December 2019

(weekdays 7pm; weekends 6pm)

here at St James' Church, Coorparoo.



Sunday 15th December
(beginning of Advent
Novena season)

after all masses 7am - 9am - 6pm
AND

Saturday 21st December after 6pm mass
A chance to wish everyone a merry Christmas!



Volunteers for ministry over Christmas period
Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th December -
clipboard is waiting at the church side entrance.
Thanks to those who have placed their names.



**This year our
Christmas Eve Mass
will again be held at**



6pm to assist families with young children. Par-
ents may like to have young children dress up as an-
gels or shepherds to help them enjoy the experience
of Jesus' birth.



Keeping with our traditional
practice, **there are strips of red and
green cloth for you to take**

**home. These will be found at the crib, near the
church ambo.** On these, please write your message
or prayer in connection with the spirit of Christmas,
and bring them back to be presented at the crib at
one of our Christmas masses.

Privacy: The privacy of all individuals is important to the ST JAMES PARISH and we are committed to protecting all personal information we col-
lect and hold. Our Privacy Policy is available at ST JAMES PARISH WEBSITE AND ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE WEBSITE or on request from the
Parish Office.

Privacy Collection Statement: The parishes, schools and agencies of the Archdiocese of Brisbane (we, us or our) may collect, use and disclose
personal information about you. We collect personal information directly from you and may also collect personal information passively through our website.
We collect your personal information to fulfil the mission and directions of our organisation, to administer the sacraments and provide pastoral care to you,
to provide you with other services and products you are seeking, to communicate with you about the services and products we offer, to solicit donations
and to comply with our legal and regulatory requirements. If the personal information you provide is incomplete or inaccurate, we may not be able to pro-
vide you with the services or products you seek. We may disclose personal information about you to our parishes, schools and agencies and service pro-
viders who assist us in operating our organisation.

St. James Parish acknowledges the Jaggera People of Coorparoo as the traditional owners of the land on which we live.



DECEMBER

- 9 Monday 8am mass The Immaculate Conception of the BVM
 12 Thursday 7.30pm St V de P meeting in Priory
 14/15 Saturday 4.30-5.30pm Reconciliation; **Year A 3rd Sunday Advent**
 15 **Sunday Christmas Cheer after every mass - join us!**
 15-23 Christmas Novena Masses or 'Simbang Gabi' at St James Church (7pm weekdays & 6pm weekends)
 21/22 Saturday 4.30-5.30pm Reconciliation; **Year A 4th Sunday Advent**
 21 **Saturday Christmas Cheer after 6pm mass - join us!**
 24 Tuesday Christmas Eve 6pm Family Mass
 11.30pm Carols and Midnight Mass
 25 Christmas Day 7am and 9am mass
 No 6pm mass on Christmas Day
 26 Br Tuan Anh on annual leave 26 Dec - 26 January and Retreat in Philippines 23 February
 26 Fr Francis takes his 2019 annual leave: 1-31 January; from 26 Dec - 2 Jan attends ordination in Korea and visitation to Augustinian community in South Korea
 28/29 Saturday 4.30-5.30pm Reconciliation; **Year A Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

JANUARY (no Anointing Mass in January)

- 1 Tuesday Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God 8am mass only
 3 Friday **no Anointing Mass** in January
 4/5 Saturday 4.30-5.30pm Reconciliation; **Year A Epiphany**

Fr Pete Hayes' trailer is now for sale. Consider giving your details and offering a price to our parish office. It is currently registered and in good condition.



St Vincent de Paul Society
 QUEENSLAND

good works



2019 Vinnies Christmas Appeal

*Available for purchase from St Vincent de Paul at the front of the church...

Christmas cards \$3 Franciscan calendars \$8
 Columban calendars \$10

*Visit the **Jesse Tree** in our church with Christmas tags for gift giving. DONATIONS such as food and Christmas items can be placed under the Jesse Tree.

*If you wish to give a **financial donation**, envelopes for this purpose will be available at the door or on the pews.

*All donations received by mid-December will be greatly appreciated as the **Christmas Hampers** will be delivered shortly after.

THANK YOU for your generous support.

24 December, TUES 6pm
 Christmas Eve FAMILY MASS

24/25 December, TUES / WED
 (11.30pm Carols)
 12mn MIDNIGHT MASS

25 December, WED
 7am CHRISTMAS DAY

25 December, WED
 9am CHRISTMAS DAY



Parish News Youth & Young Adults Mass

every 4th Sunday of the month 6pm.
 For details phone 0413 762 544 (Doreen).



11 - 24 December

St Stephen's Cathedral Lights of Christmas an extraordinary sound and light show-free event to delight families with music, food and children's activities every evening
6.30-10.30pm.



Archdiocese news

FOOTSTEPS
 OF ST PAUL
 Journey

with St. Paul as you relive the Acts of the Apostles and the famous letters of the New Testament. Departures Available: 12th May 2020 and 20th Oct 2020. For inquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or 1300721561 or email us info@magiholidays.com.au (see noticeboard)



*Four Brisbane married Catholic men were ordained permanent deacons for the archdiocese on November 30.

*The Catholic Leader commemorated 90 years of journalism, covering the lives, news and events of Brisbane archdiocese.

*The relics of St Therese of Lisieux and parents Sts Louis and Zelie Martin have been confirmed to arrive in Brisbane in February 2020.

*Collecting plastic bottles has become a tool for local Catholics to raise money for the poor in Our Lady of the Southern Cross parish in Springfield.

*A landmark class action in favour of victims of the 2011 Queensland floods was reason for Brisbane Catholic Eddy Delsorte to reflect on the day his Sherwood home went under water.



**WE BELIEVE IN
 PREFERENTIAL
 OPTION FOR THE POOR
 AND VULNERABLE**

We believe in prioritising the women, men and children most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice.
 Be an angel of hope to vulnerable families around the world and buy a gift this Christmas.



Every child in poverty
 needs an angel to
 light their way to a
 better future.

Be an angel this
 Christmas.

The Parish of St James

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Email: osastjames@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Administrator: pp.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au

Web: www.stjames-coorparoo.org.au



Primary School

92 Kirkland Ave,
Coorparoo, 4151.

John Bates - Principal

Phone: 3457 1100

Fax: 3847 3337

Email: pcoorparoostj@bne.catholic.edu.au

Web: www.stjames.qld.edu.au/



Administration

Parish Priest	Fr Francis Belciña OSA	3397 1671
Assistant Priest	Fr Ngọc Hải Đăng Nguyễn OSA	3397 1671
On Pastoral Experience	Br Tuan Anh Le OSA	3391 1671
Parish Secretary	Trish Rashad	3397 1671
Parish Council Chairperson	Ray Mitchell	3892 1682
Finance Committee	Mark Garden	0437 730 792
Pastoral Care	Parish Office	3397 1671
Safeguarding Officer	Kate Pearson	capearson @optusnet.com.au

Counters:

December 7 / 8 Cecilia & Paul

December 14 / 15 Lenore & Brendon

NEXT WEEK December 14 / 15	SATURDAY 6 PM (CHRISTMAS CHEER ON 21ST DECEMBER)	SUNDAY 7AM CHRISTMAS CHEER	SUNDAY 9AM CHRISTMAS CHEER	SUNDAY 6PM CHRISTMAS CHEER
COMMENTATOR	Ron S	Don T	Morag S	Leo B
LECTOR	Karleen O'R	Trish R	Ray M	Ana I
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	Anne S Paul D Helen D	Heather L Yen Mai Vu Marj N	Martin D Yen N Pat P	Marie G Benedict Denis S
HOSPITALITY	Therese K Nev G	Leonie D	Judith M	Bill S
ALTAR SERVERS	Deneb	Gene	*(assistance needed, please contact parish)	John, Rodel, Ramil, Alyssa, Klaris
POWERPOINT	Cecilia	John, Gilbert	Di, June	Sydel

Mass Times & Services:

WEEKEND: Saturday 8 am; Vigil 6 pm;
Sunday 7 am, 9 am, 6 pm.

WEEKDAY: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 8 am.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4.30—5.30 pm.

ADORATION: Thursday 8 am.

PRAYER GROUP: each morning prior to Mass.

ALL NIGHT VIGIL: Friday 3rd January 2020.

NEXT ANOINTING MASS: Friday 13th December 2019, at 10am (no 8am mass on this day).

Next Sunday's Readings:

3rd Sunday Advent: First Reading Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10 God himself will come and save us.

Second Reading James 5: 7-10 You also must be patient: do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon. **Gospel Reading** Matthew 11: 2-11 Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

For complete Sunday's readings, visit our St James website (look for the Prayer tab).

www.stjames-coorparoo.org.au/sundays-readings.