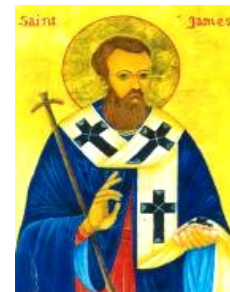


**3RD SUNDAY  
ADVENT  
YR A 2019  
DECEMBER 15**

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



**Bringing Home the Gospel**

**Are You the One?**

*John the Baptist sends his messengers to ask Jesus if he is the promised Messiah. Jesus answers by telling him how he has fulfilled the words of Isaiah regarding the Messiah. He has healed the lame and given sight to the blind. Jesus does not say directly that he is the Messiah, but he answered John's question.*

The Jews believe that the Messiah was the anointed one, the promised king of a new Israel. Jesus answers John's questions by talking about his relationship to the people he encounters. He lets John know that he fulfills Isaiah's messianic prophecies, but his kingdom is of a different sort. He is a healer, a reconciler. He brings good news to the poor. The kingdom in which Jesus rules as the anointed one is not a set place or a particular country.

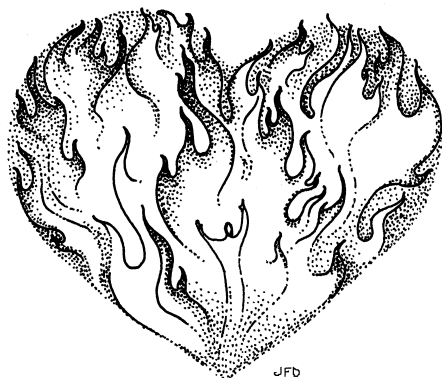
The kingdom of God is wherever God's rule of love reigns. It is where greed and prejudice, self-absorption and pettiness are not welcomed. Some find the kingdom in fleeting moments of quiet peace, others in the joyful celebration of life. For too many suffering people, the kingdom is a distant dream. However, one thing is certain; we know the kingdom can be found almost anywhere.

Wherever there is healing or reconciliation, wherever the good news is proclaimed in word or action, we will find the kingdom of God. It can be shared around the kitchen table when we really listen to what each person has to say. It can be found as we bandage the scraped knee of a child and listen to the story of how she hurt herself.

The kingdom of God is not just in some far-off heaven or afterlife. It is also found in the present, in the here and now. We are called to be kingdom builders—to create a safe environment for our children where they can feel loved and valued and where they can learn to love and value others.

*Bringing Home the Gospel: Parent Reflections on the Sunday Gospels • Copyright © 2007, 2018 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.*

**Parishioners, please be part of our parish-based 'Simbang Gabi' 9-day Novena Masses in preparation for Christmas]...**



**PERSONAL RESPONSE**

When and how have you experienced the kingdom of God? What do you want to remember from last week? What are you looking forward to next week? What are your concerns?

**FAMILY RESPONSE**

Ask family members to talk about a person who makes them feel good about themselves. Send a note or phone the person to let him or her know he or she is appreciated.

**Date**

15th Sunday 6pm  
16th Monday 7pm  
17th Tuesday 7pm  
18th Wednesday 7pm  
19th Thursday 7pm  
20th Friday 7pm  
21st Saturday 6pm  
22 Sunday 6pm  
23rd Monday 7pm

**Choir**

Dan Farrelly & Friends  
Glenn & Friends  
Canossa Angels  
Akila and Friends (CRL)  
PETZBRO  
Denise & Friends (CFC; SFC)  
Morna Kassulke & Friends  
YYAM  
The FRIENDS Choir (Rex & Friends)

## Today'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).**

## Prayer Requests

**Please pray for the recently deceased:**

John Blount;

Bernie Miles; Peter Ha; Bernadette Lawless; Leonarda Nurzynski.

**And these anniversaries:** Lourdes John; Phan family; John Girard; Tom Lunney; Carmen Lunney; Joanne Downey.

**Please pray for these unwell:** Steven McSwan; John Pender; Tess Walsh; Martin Devine; Rodrigo Urbano; Santina Romano; Isabelo Corpus; Jocelyn Tibayan; Kathleen, Mary-Clare, Michael Simpson.

**Please pray for these Baptismal children:** Ruskin Zorilla; Lachlan van Rosendal.



## Social Justice

**SIGNIFICANT DATES  
DECEMBER:**

**Wednesday 18:** International Migrants Day.  
1894: South Australian Parliament the first in Australia to give women the right to vote.

**Friday 20:** International Human Solidarity Day.

**Saturday 21:** 1991: dissolution of the USSR and the founding of the Commonwealth of Independent States including Russia.



1993: passage of Native Title Bill by the Australian Senate.

*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 (17th December after Novena Mass—8pm).



**YYAM are making Christmas Trees (\$25) and Christmas Advent Wreaths (\$35).** These are for sale and available at entrances to church. The proceeds will go towards Romero Centre for Refugees.



**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.



**This Sunday 15th December**  
Christmas Cheer (cuppa, company & good cheer)

after all masses 7am - 9am - 6pm

**Also, Saturday 21st December** after 6pm mass.

A chance to wish everyone a merry Christmas!



**This year our**

**Christmas Eve Mass will again be held at 6pm** to assist families with young children. Parents may like to have young children dress up as angels or shepherds to help them enjoy the experience of Jesus' birth.



**Parishioners are invited to place "Cloth" for the Cradle (via prayer strips)** at Christmas again this year. Ribbons for your prayer to Jesus will be available at the entrances to the Church and also in a basket on the Altar.

**Could you bring your Prayer Ribbons back either during the Novena Masses (either weekend or weekday), or just prior to the Christmas Mass,** and place them so that they line the box crib on the Altar, in preparation for the child Jesus to be laid there at the start of the Christmas Mass. Prayers that you might like to write on the Ribbons could be specific to you and your family, or could be a more general hope for the future of Australia, or for the World. They can be anonymous or signed, short or long.

The only limit is the space on the ribbon and your own imagination.



## Planned Giving for the Week ending 15 December (Week 2)

Collection	Loose money [not pledged]	Envelopes [pledged]	Direct Debit	Credit card	Total
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection Augustinian [BSB: 064 786 Account #: 006160102]	\$752.45	\$434	\$115	Week 4	\$1,301.45
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection Parish [BSB: 064 786 Account #: 006161103]	\$451.65	\$375	\$115	only	\$941.65

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





## DECEMBER

- 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)  
**17** Tuesday 8pm Choir practice in the church (after Novena)  
**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**  
**6-17** Monday-Friday x2 refurbishment of hall toilets, cubicles and wash areas so hall not to be used during the daytime ...  
**9** Thursday 7.30pm St V de P meeting in Priory

**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.**

### 24th December 6pm mass

Servers— **+ 2 required.**  
 Commentator— Trish Rashad  
 Reader— Don Tallon  
 Powerpoint— Cecilia Devlin  
 Collectors— Ron Stephenson **+ 3 required**  
 Welcomers— **+ 2 required.**  
 Eucharistic Ministers— Ron Stephenson; Marie Grimaud; Maude Parker; **+ 2 required.**



### 24th/25th December Midnight mass

Servers— **+ 2 required.**  
 Commentator— Karleen O'Reilly  
 Reader— Christine Umali-Manalac  
 Powerpoint— Sahanya  
 Collectors— **+ 4 required**  
 Welcomers— **+ 2 required.**  
 Eucharistic Ministers— Priya; Benedict; Collette Sukkar; **+ 2 required.**



### 25th December 7am mass

Servers— Gene Triggs-Fulton.  
 Commentator— Berenice Triggs-Fulton  
 Reader— Barbara De Paoli  
 Powerpoint— Vince Donohue  
 Collectors— **+ 4 required**  
 Welcomers— Sandra Gregory **+ 1 required**  
 Eucharistic Ministers— Barbara De Paoli; Heather Lewis; **+ 1 required.**



Merry Christmas!

### 25th December 9am mass

Servers— **+ 2 required.**  
 Commentator— Kate Pearson  
 Reader— Marina Yesudas  
 Powerpoint— **+ 1 required**  
 Collectors— Mike Slack **+ 3 required**  
 Welcomers— **+ 2 required.**  
 Eucharistic Ministers— Priya; Morag Slack; Carmel Trewern; **+ 2 required.**



## Parish News 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



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

\***Christmas Hampers** are now being delivered.

**THANK YOU** for your generous support.

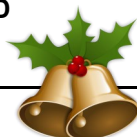


**24 December, TUES 6pm  
Christmas Eve FAMILY MASS**

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

**25 December, WED  
7am CHRISTMAS DAY**

**25 December, WED  
9am CHRISTMAS DAY**



Thank you note and **Certificate of Appreciation** to our Parish of St James, from St Cecilia Day Ecumenical Concert, on back noticeboard.



**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.



**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.**



## Deanery news

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Cooparoo invites applications for the part-time position of Finance Officer—10 hours per week : 6 hours one day and four the next. For a copy of the position description and to apply for this position, please visit the below link. Applications should include the name of two (2) referees one of which preferably should be a Parish Priest.

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/careers/>  
 Applications close Wednesday 8th January 2020.



**Caritas**  
AUSTRALIA

**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.



**The Gift Of  
Sustainable  
Livelihoods**



## The Parish of St James

165 Old Cleveland Road.

### Postal:

PO Box 1051

COORPAROO DC, QLD, 4151

**Phone:** (07) 3397 1671 OR 3847 3696

**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
Retired	Fr. Peter Hayes OSA	
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 14 / 15** Lenore & Brendon

**December 21 / 22** Karleen & Sandra

NEXT WEEK December 21 / 22	SATURDAY 6 PM CHRISTMAS CHEER	SUNDAY 7AM	SUNDAY 9AM	SUNDAY 6PM
COMMENTATOR	Bill S	Berenice T-F	Marina Y	Young
LECTOR	Ron S	Don T	Morag S	Adults Group
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	Paul D Sylvia P *	Gene T-F Heather L Jan L	Dianne M Martin D *	John W Barbara D *
HOSPITALITY	Sandra G Cathy W	Esme G	Joan S	*
ALTAR SERVERS	Deneb	Gene	*(assistance needed, please contact parish)	John, Rodel, Ramil, Alyssa, Klaris
POWERPOINT	Margaret	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 February 2020, at 10am (no 8am mass on this day).

## Next Sunday's Readings:

**4th Sunday Advent: First Reading** *Isaiah 7: 10-14* The virgin will conceive.

**Second Reading** *Romans 1: 1-7* Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

**Gospel Reading** *Matthew 1: 18-24* Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

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

[www.stjames-coorparoo.org.au/sundays-readings](http://www.stjames-coorparoo.org.au/sundays-readings).