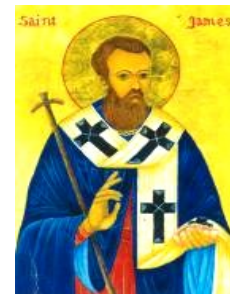


**4TH SUNDAY
ADVENT
YR A 2019
DECEMBER 22**

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



Bringing Home the Gospel

God Is With Us

Matthew's account of Jesus' birth doesn't mention a stable or shepherds. There is no trip to Bethlehem. An angel comes to Joseph in a dream and tells him that Mary, the woman he is engaged to, is about to have a child. This child will fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah that a virgin would bear a son.

Sometimes I get so wrapped up with Mary and Joseph's holiness that I forget they were ordinary people. They couldn't see the future, and while the baby was certainly a wonder to the new parents, not in their wildest dreams could they have imagined how this precious child would change the world.

It was only decades later, after he had died, that his followers realized how well the name Emmanuel fit Jesus. As Jews, they were familiar with the covenant between God and Abraham. Later they would understand that Jesus had come to make a new covenant with us. God was not just with us; God was in us: "On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me and I in you" (John 14:20).

Like Mary and Joseph, we have held our own swaddled infants. They, too, captured our hearts, and we marveled at how special they were. Like Jesus' parents, we were probably scared of the overwhelming responsibility we had been handed. It's good to remember the gift of the new covenant: God is with us and in us, and nothing can overcome or overpower us. They understood that God was a God of action; a God who was always with them. After they had a chance to look back on their walks and talks with Jesus, they realized that he himself was "God with us," Emmanuel.

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

An infant is born, helpless and vulnerable. Mary and Joseph take turns holding this tiny swaddled mystery from God. He has captured their hearts. He is special and marvelous, and they would have known this even if an angel hadn't told them so because every child born is special and marvelous. But there must have come a point in all that joy and happiness when Mary and Joseph realized what an incredible responsibility they had been given.

FAMILY RESPONSE

Find an early baby picture of your child. Talk about the day your child was born.

PERSONAL RESPONSE

What do you want more than anything for your child? How can you help him or her obtain it? What do you want most for yourself? How can you get it? What do you want to remember from last week? What are you looking forward to next week? What are your concerns?

**ST JAMES PARISH
CHRISTMAS MASSES**

**24 DEC
Tuesday**

5.30 pm Carols
6.00 pm CHRISTMAS EVE
FAMILY MASS
(Children dress up
as Shepherd &
Angels)

11.30 pm Carols
12mn MIDNIGHT MASS

**25 DEC
Wednesday**

7.00 am CHRISTMAS DAY
MASS

9.00 am CHRISTMAS DAY
MASS

NO 6.00 pm MASS



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"They shall name him Emmanuel, which means God is with us."

Sheepish Question:

Where have I recognized Christ coming into my life this week?

Today'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).

Prayer Requests Please pray for the recently deceased:

Corpus; ; Leonarda Nurzynski; John Blount; Bernie Miles; Peter Ha; Bernadette Lawless.

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; Jocelyn Tibayan; Kathleen, Mary-Clare, Michael Simpson.

Please pray for these Baptismal children: Isabella Steele; Lachlan van Rosendal.



Parish News 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.



Last chance... 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.

Social Justice SIGNIFICANT DATES DECEMBER:

Saturday 21: 1993: passage of Native Title Bill by the Australian Senate.

Sunday 22: Beginning of *Hanukkah* (Jewish Feast of Dedication).

Monday 23: 1901: enactment of Immigration Restriction Act (White Australia Policy).

Thursday 26: 2004: devastating tsunami in South Asia, killing 200,000 to 300,000 people.



*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-based 'Simbang Gabi' 9-day Novena Masses. Thank you to all ministers (choirs, readers, and servers) who are involved in the liturgy in these 9 days, and to the sponsors of the food for our nightly fellowship. Your donations will help the urban poor families in Cebu City for the "Fiesta Senor sa Kabus" (*Feast of the Santo Nino for the Urban Poor*). This project will be spearheaded by Fr Francis while he is in Cebu in co-ordination with the Youth and Youth Alumni of San Roque Parish, Mambaling, Cebu City.



Planned Giving for the Week ending 22 December (Week 3)

| Collection | Loose money [not pledged] | Envelopes [pledged] | Direct Debit | Credit card | Total |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|------------|
| 1 st Collection Augustinian [BSB: 064 786 Account #: 006160102] | \$729.05 | \$408 | \$50 | Week 4 | \$1,187.05 |
| 2 nd Collection Parish [BSB: 064 786 Account #: 006161103] | \$581.55 | \$356.60 | \$30 | only | \$968.15 |

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



DECEMBER

- 23** Monday final Christmas Novena Mass or 'Simbang Gabi' at St James Church (7pm)
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, he attends ordination in Korea and visitation to the Augustinian communities there.
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 (2 weeks) 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
11/12 Saturday 4.30-5.30pm Reconciliation; **Year A Baptism of the Lord**
14 Tuesday 7.30pm Liturgy meeting in Priory
18/19 Saturday 4.30-5.30pm Reconciliation; **Year A 2nd Sunday**

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. Last Chance!

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— Lea Sueta **+ 1 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.**



25th December 9am mass

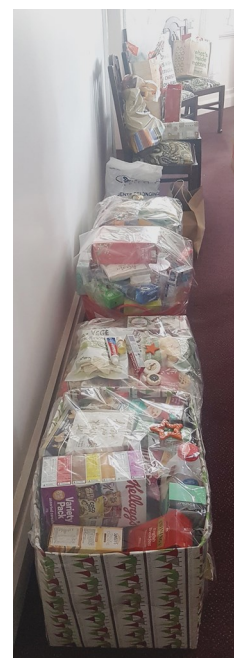
Servers— **+ 2 required.**
 Commentator— Kate Pearson
 Reader— Marina Yesudas
 Powerpoint— **+ 1 required**
 Collectors— Mike Slack **+ 3 required**
 Welcomers— **+ 2 required.**
 Eucharistic Ministers— Priya; Morag Slack; Carmel Trewern; **+ 2 required.**



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.**



January 6th-17th Monday—Friday (for 2 weeks)
 there will be refurbishment of hall toilets, cubicles and wash areas, so hall not to be used during the daytime.



Friends of St Augustine Christmas Amici
 newsletter (different format) available at side entrance for interested parishioners.



Donations made recently to the Augustinian Vietnam Mission:

— St Cecilia Concert (22 Nov): **\$ 725.60**
 — Friends of St Augustine Christmas Lunch
 (4 Dec): **\$ 500.00**
Total: \$ 1,225.60

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

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 |
| On Pastoral Experience | Br Tuan Anh Le 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 | |
| Pastoral Care | Parish Office | 3397 1671 |
| Safeguarding Officer | Kate Pearson | capearson @optusnet.com.au |

Counters:

December 21 / 22 Karleen & Sandra

December 28 / 29 Sylvia & John

| NEXT WEEK December 28 / 29 | SATURDAY 6 PM | SUNDAY 7AM | SUNDAY 9AM | SUNDAY 6PM |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---|--|
| COMMENTATOR | Sylvia P | Don T | Kate P | Christine U-M |
| LECTOR | Anne C | Berenice T-F | Marina Y | Ana I |
| EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION | Karleen O'R Priya Helen D | Heather L Jan L * | Carmel T Yen Nguyen * | Romy U Christy U Denis s |
| HOSPITALITY | Mary-Rita D Fred D | Leonie D | Pat P | * |
| ALTAR SERVERS | Deneb | Gene | *(assistance needed, please contact parish) | John, Rodel, Ramil, Alyssa, Klaris |
| POWERPOINT | Paul | 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 7th February 2020, at 10am (no 8am mass on this day).

Next Sunday's Readings:

The Holy Family: First Reading *Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14* Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.

Second Reading *Colossians 3: 12-21* Concerning the Christian life in the world.

Gospel Reading *Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23* Take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt.

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

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