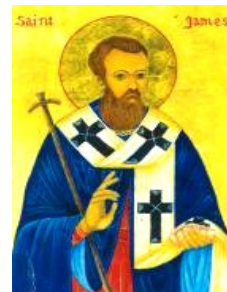


**3RD SUNDAY  
ADVENT  
'GAUDETE'  
YR B 2020  
13 DECEMBER**

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



**Beyond the Pews**

**by Mark Garden**

**Phillippians 4:6:16**

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."*






I would like to start a prayer group at St. James that prays the Rosary together in our own homes petitioning Lord Jesus and Our Lady.

My life is busy. I start my day with preparing my family for school and work. My day finishes at about 8pm after putting children to bed and sitting in front of the television for about an hour. I end my day in reciting the Rosary and the sacred mysteries. St. James has a prayer group that prays the Rosary every morning at 7.30am. I would like to be able to make this, but circumstances do not allow this.



*Photo Credit: The Catholic Sun, CNS photo/Doug Hesse, The Leaven, 6 February 2020*

My petitions after the recitation of the Rosary are normally for my family and loved ones and myself. St. Paul tells us to not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving. But what if we as a community in St. James prayed more regularly, together and at the same time and made requests or supplications to Jesus and Mary. I'm not talking about meeting every night, but praying in our own homes the Rosary with the same supplications. We could pray for:

-  St James church and all parishioners
-  Father Francis and the Clergy
-  Family members / loved one who do not come to church
-  Gods wisdom and help
-  Engaging the local community

Praying the Rosary has helped me in my life during good times and not so good times. The Rosary has saved me from a life of addiction. The Rosary is a very powerful weapon for one person to pray. Imagine a whole group praying the Rosary every night, with the same supplications and thanksgiving.

If you would like to join a prayer group with me (there's only person in my group so far), email me and I can share the sacred mysteries that I meditate on. They come from a 1953 Catholic Bible.

My email address is: [mrkgarden9@gmail.com](mailto:mrkgarden9@gmail.com)

- Mark Garden

**"Beyond the Pews"** are written by parishioners of St James Parish. This section in our bulletin hopes to share with the wider parish community voices from the pews, from whom faith is lived at home, the workplace, among family members and friends, and out there beyond the pews. You can also take part in this by registering on the **"Beyond the Pews"** sign-on sheet located at the side entrance of St James Church.

# BRINGING HOME THE GOSPEL

## Make Straight the Way of the Lord

John's Gospel has John the Baptist giving testament to who he is, who Jesus is, and who those who believe in Jesus are called to be. John the Baptist makes it very clear that he is not the Christ. He is just "...the voice of one crying out in the wilderness..." (v. 23).



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"He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted..."

### Sheepish Question:

What worldly concerns hold me back from the freedom Christ offers?

In John's Gospel John the Baptist goes on to tell us what happens to those who believe in Jesus, the Light of the World. John the Baptist tells us, "... to all who received him [Jesus], who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh... but of God" (John 1:12–13) These words capture for me one of Jesus' most important messages.

If we are open to God's grace, Jesus becomes our brother not just on his mother's side, sharing our humanity, but also on his Father's side, sharing his divinity. When we were baptized we were gifted with the Holy Spirit, and the same divinity that was full parcel of a totally human Jesus is also full parcel in us.

I used to pray to be open to that Spirit. Asking the Spirit to come and help me find the right words or the right solution to a problem. Later in life I realized that the Spirit is already in me. The Holy Spirit was a gift at my baptism.

Today, I pray to be open to the Spirit, but open so that the Spirit already in me can come out and be set free to lead me and empower me.

With that Spirit in us we can accomplish so much. By allowing the Spirit to shine in the darkest parts of our being, we can be healed of our deepest hurts. We can ask the Spirit within us to change those things (anger, selfishness, etc.) about ourselves we want to change but are unable to let go of.

Remind your children that Jesus is not just their friend, but also their brother. Remind them that they carry Jesus' light inside themselves. And like the song says, they have to let it shine.

### FAMILY RESPONSE

Talk about what it would be like to have Jesus for a brother. Would having Jesus in the family change the way you acted?

### PERSONAL RESPONSE

You too carry Christ's light inside yourself. How brightly is that light shining right now? How can you help it to shine brighter? What do you want to remember from last week? What are you looking forward to next week? What are your concerns?

Bringing Home the Gospel: Parent Reflections on the Sunday Gospels • Copyright © 2007, 2020 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.

## Justice Challenge

### December 13, 2020 • 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent

Justice Challenge: December 18 is International Migrants Day. Migrant workers are often denied basic human rights—the right to a just wage or to safe working conditions or to benefits. They often have no voice in the decisions which affect their lives. Your challenge this week is to learn more about the work of the Catholic Church of the U.S. with migrants and refugees. Go online at [www.usccb.org/committees/migration](http://www.usccb.org/committees/migration). Read some of the information provided by the Bishops' Conference about the issue of migrants and refugees and how it connects to our Catholic faith. Then click on "How You Can Help" and choose one action on behalf of migrants which you as a family would like to do. Perhaps you want to read a statement by our U.S. Catholic Bishops or do advocacy on behalf of migrants and refugees. You may want to volunteer or get your parish mobilized to help. It doesn't matter what you choose to do; stand in solidarity with your brothers and sisters who move from farm to farm, from place to place, to find work just so they can feed their families and live in hope.

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

## Prayer Requests

Please pray for recently deceased:



Noel Harris; Lyn Janouris; Peter Hung Dang; Maggie Simpliciano; Rodrigo Urbano; Edgar Galdo; Nora May Convine.

And these anniversaries: Mary

Dungan; Daniel Reilly; Flaviana & Eulogio Diaz; Tom Lunney; John Girard; Carmen Lunney; Adela Herrera; Lourde & Regina John.

Please pray for these unwell: Paul & Esme Gannon; Beth Mennie; Laurie Sheehan; Tina Romano; Pauline Donaldson; Rex Ducat; Charles di Bella; Dennis Moritcho; Peter Herman; Danny Pearsall.

Give prayers to our Baptismal

Children: Selena Vu; Abel Pentecost.



## Parish News

Christmas masses 2020

24th December 6pm family mass

24th December midnight mass

25th December 9am mass

\* Clipboard for ministry volunteers at the side entrance only. Many thanks.

\* Registration to these masses via QRcode Eventbrite Here's the link to this Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/christmas-masses-2020-st-james-church-coorparoo-tickets-131277764327>

\* To our parishioners who are UNABLE to go to EVENTBRITE (our elderly, especially those who DON'T USE MOBILES or the internet), we invite you to register for these masses by writing your info on our Christmas Mass clipboard, side entrance of church.

\* QLD may have opened her borders, and we are very thankful for that. But please know that some restrictions to numbers are still in place and protocols on sanitation still apply.



Farewell Sunday 6pm mass—final Sunday 6pm this weekend. All Friday masses in 2021 will be 9am.



**Vinnies Christmas Appeal**  
SUPPORTING FAMILIES THROUGH A CHRISTMAS LIKE NO OTHER

\* You may wish to make a direct deposit to:  
BSB: 064786; ACCT: 100026564  
ACCT NAME: SVDP St James Conference

Coorparoo.

THANK YOU for your generous support!

## John Bate's Farewell Liturgy

Recently, the staff and students celebrated with a thanksgiving Farewell Liturgy for John in the church. During the celebration, each class presented John with a special memento that demonstrated the connection they had with John.



## DECEMBER

12/13 Saturday 4.30-5.30pm Reconciliation (book through Eventbrite); Year B 3rd Sunday Advent

12-20 No Christmas Cheer this year, due to CV19 conditions.

15 - 23 CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASSES, "Simbang Gabi"

(to be co-ordinated by St James parishioners)  
7pm except Saturday 6pm

19/20 Saturday 4.30-5.30pm Reconciliation (book through Eventbrite); Year B 4th Sunday Advent

24/25 Christmas masses Vigil; Midnight; 9am.

26/27 Saturday 4.30-5.30pm Reconciliation (book through Eventbrite); Year B Holy Family

28-30 Monday-Wednesday 8am services will be Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service led by Dcn Tuan Anh.

## JANUARY (no Anointing Mass in January)

1 Tuesday Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God 8am mass only

2/3 Year B Epiphany of the Lord

4-8 January, Augustinian Australian Province Gathering [Communion Service on these weekdays]

5-10 Parish secretary on annual leave (volunteers will monitor our parish office phone)

## Today's Readings

3rd Sunday Advent

First Reading Isaiah 61:

1-2, 10-11 I exult for joy in the Lord.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24 May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reading John 1: 6-8, 19-28 There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me. 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).

## Parish news

St. Vincent de Paul Society  
Christmas Cards and  
Calendars available for purchase from St Vincent de Paul

the front of the church ...

Christmas cards \$3

Franciscan calendars \$8

Columban calendars \$10



**That Catholic Shop.** That Catholic Shop is an exciting development for Aid to the Church in Need Australia. This year do some Christmas shopping on the online store and support the works of ACN to keep the faith alive. Please visit [www.thatcatholicshop.com](http://www.thatcatholicshop.com)



Aid to the  
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

Global Gifts – This Christmas, bring hope and joy to the world's most vulnerable. Caritas Australia – end poverty, promote justice, uphold dignity.

The gift of education; food; protection. There are some global gift cards available at side door.

Order online at [www.globalgifts.org.au](http://www.globalgifts.org.au) or call 1800024413



## 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 Priest:** 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
Assisting Deacon	Dcn Lê Tuấn Anh (Tuan Anh) OSA	3397 1671
Parish Secretary	Trish Rashad	3397 1671
Parish Council Chairperson	Ray Mitchell	3892 1682
Finance Committee	Mark Garden	mrkgarden9@gmail.com
Pastoral Care	Parish Office	3397 1671
Safeguarding Officer	Kate Pearson	capearson @optusnet.com.au

## Counters:

**December 12 / 13** Lorie & Lea

**December 19 / 20** Greg & Kate

NEXT WEEK December 19 / 20	SATURDAY 6 PM (SIGN AT DOOR)	SUNDAY 7AM (SIGN AT DOOR)	SUNDAY 9AM (SIGN AT DOOR)
COMMENTATOR	Sylvia P	Don T	Kate P
LECTOR	Anne C	Berenice T-F	Marina Y
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION (2)	Collette S Priya	Yen Mai Vu Jan L	Carmel T Yen N
HOSPITALITY	None	during	CV19
ALTAR SERVER/S	Joe	Gene	Leah
POWERPOINT	Cecilia	John D / Gilbert	Di / June S
MARSHAL	Dew / Karl M / Lorie	Brendon G / Trish R	Doreen C / Cathy M

## Mass Times & Services:

**WEEKEND:** Saturday 8 am; Vigil 6 pm (marshal required)  
Sunday 7 am, 9 am, 6 pm (marshal required each mass)

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

**RECONCILIATION:** Saturday 4.30—5.30 pm...by appointment only.

**ADORATION:** Thursday 8 am (postponed until further notice)

**ALL NIGHT VIGIL:** Friday 8th January 2021.

**NEXT HEALING MASS:** Friday 5th, February 2021 at 9am.

**NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY** (at this stage).

## Next Sunday's Readings:

**4th Sunday Advent**

**First Reading** 2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16 The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

**Second Reading** Romans 16: 25-27 The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

**Gospel Reading** Luke 1: 26-38 You will conceive and bear a son.

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

