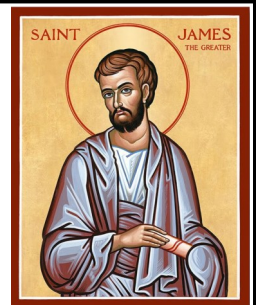


# 3RD SUNDAY ADVENT YR B 2023 17 DECEMBER

## ST JAMES PARISH COORPAROO

IS A PARISH OF ACCOMPANIMENT  
WHERE WE ENCOUNTER AND  
KNOW CHRIST, DEEPEN OUR FAITH,  
AND SERVE THE COMMUNITY



## Make Straight the Way of the Lord

**BRINGING  
HOME  
THE  
GOSPEL**

*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).*

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.



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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?

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ST JAMES PARISH COORPAROO

# Christmas novena masses

5am, 16-24 DEC  
7am on 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
All are welcome!

# Christmas Mass Times

St. James Parish Coorparoo

**24 December**  
Vigil - 5.30pm Carols followed by 6.00pm Holy Mass  
(children are invited to come in Shepherds or Angels costume)  
Night - 9.30pm Carols followed by 10.00pm Holy Mass

**25 December**  
Christmas Day - 7.00am Holy Mass  
Christmas Day - 9.00am Holy Mass

Our Saviour is Born

## This Sunday's Readings

### Third Sunday Advent YEAR B (December 17)

**First Reading** *Isaiah 61: 1-2, 10-11* *I exult for joy in the Lord.*

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me.  
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.  
'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God,  
for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,  
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels.  
'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up,  
so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

**Psalms** Luke 1:46-50, 53-54 **My soul rejoices in my God.**

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.  
He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy.

**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.*

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

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

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness,

as a witness to speak for the light,

so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light,

only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:

Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

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he came to testify  
about the  
**LIGHT**  
John 1:8

## Vinnies Christmas Appeal 2023



*The St. Vincent de Paul Society Conference, here at St. James, wish to thank our Parishioners for their valuable support during the past 12 months.*

*With your help we have assisted 1073 Companions from January to December 2023. The total value of assistance provided was \$70,330.20.*

*More recently, with your help, along with Villanova College and Loreto College, we have*

*put together 69 Christmas Hampers to help our Companions during this Festive Season. Thank you to everyone who has assisted.*

**You may wish to make a direct debit donation to**  
**BSB 064786 ACCT 100026564**  
**ACCT NAME SVDP St James Conference Coorparoo**

**THANK YOU for your generous support.**



*The Parish of St James acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the country upon which it lies and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and culture and pays respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.*



## Prayers

**Please pray for recently deceased:** Henry Zbrozyna;

Noel Hackett; Brian Kassulke; Judith De Groot; Serafin Bermudez; Cecily Hesse; Robyn Gillender; Fred Sueta.

**And these anniversaries:** Matthew Arnold; Mary & Gordon Dungan; Lourdes John; Fr McCormack; Fr Paul Seibet; Errol Rivera Bergania; Kevin & Tess Walsh; John Girard; Dolores Cruspiero.

**Please pray for these unwell:** Bryan O'Connell; Honey Binny; Michael Simpson; John Canavan; Darshika Uluwita; Lynette Edwards; Kevin Sheehan; Paul Hogan; Maylene Nator; Jocelyn Diaz Tibayan; Michael Barton; Heshala Watapuluwa; Ted Richardson; Kathleen Duffy.

**Please pray for these Baptismal children:** Milla Shrimpton.



## DECEMBER

**16 - 23** Missa de Gallo (Christmas Novena Masses) 5am mass  
**18** Monday Advent Prayer group continues – after 8am mass in Priory  
**23 / 24** Saturday 4.30–5.30pm Reconciliation; 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Advent; (Saturday Vigil 6pm; Sunday 7, 9am); No Baptisms.  
**24** Missa de Gallo Final Novena Mass within 7am mass  
**24** Sunday 7am mass; 9am mass 4TH ADVENT  
**24** Sunday CHRISTMAS VIGIL 5.30pm sing Carols; 6pm Family Mass; 9.30pm sing Carols; 10pm Mass  
**25** Monday CHRISTMAS 7am and 9am Mass  
**26** Tuesday Boxing Day (Public Holiday) 8am Mass (office closed)  
**27–29** Wednesday – Friday Masses as per usual (office closed)  
**30 / 31** Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, Joseph; Saturday 4.30–5.30pm Reconciliation; (Saturday Vigil 6pm; Sunday 7, 9am);

## Parish news

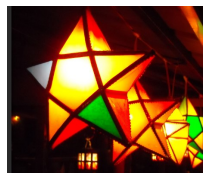
**Augustinian Magazine—Christmas edition available at church entrances.**



**Volunteers clipboard for Christmas masses available at the side entrance —a few have placed their names down; vacancies to be filled please.**

**From Children's Ministry**

Meet-up after the 9am mass on **Sunday 17 December** and rehearsal at 10am on **Saturday 23 December**.



**16th-23rd December (5am), & 24th December (7am) for Missa de Gallo (Christmas Novena Masses).**

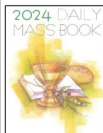
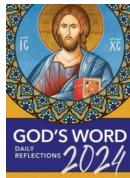
All parishioners welcome.



**Tuesday—Wednesday Adorers please take note ...**  
**19th December Adoration will go till 5pm** and conclude at that time; we have Missa de Gallo the following morning.



**God's Word 2024 Fundraiser for Young Adults Ministry.** Each book \$23. Cash only. Ask your YAM team.



**2024 DAILY MASS BOOK \$25 cash** purchase available at the side entrance.



## Community and Hospitality Ministry

After 9am Mass  
**Sunday 7th January 2024**  
 join parishioners for a Morning Tea. We invite all parishioners to bring a plate to share and enjoy moments of fellowship.

Hospitality & Community Life  
[Communitylife.stjames@gmail.com](mailto:Communitylife.stjames@gmail.com)



## Scam emails that pretend to be from our parish priests...

**From:** Fr Francis Belcina [[mailto:priestpp5@gmail.com](mailto:mailto:priestpp5@gmail.com)]  
**OR** <[churchcatholic39@gmail.com](mailto:churchcatholic39@gmail.com)> **OR** <[churchoffice935@gmail.com](mailto:churchoffice935@gmail.com)> **are examples of a spam/scam email.** Please be aware of **EMAIL SCAMS** doing the rounds, claiming to be from parish priests asking for money or other help or asking for an email in return. Check the email address! Our Clergy would never seek to contact you in this way, or require you provide them with cash or store cards to get them out of a bind. Please be vigilant. **Fr Francis's correct email address is on the back of our bulletin (+ other correct email addresses).**



*Loving God*

We earnestly pray for peace and stability in Myanmar amidst the ongoing internal conflict.

Our hearts grieve for the children and families enduring displacement, fighting with hunger and poverty.

Hear the prayer of these children and families and respond with the support they desperately need. May your love and warmth reach those who are most in need.

In your mercy, grant peace and perseverance to the internally displaced children and families, providing them with the necessary resources for survival.

We pray for the restoration of community and an end to conflict, allowing children and families to feel secure once again.

Grant families the strength and perseverance they need as they travel through these challenging times.

May your guiding light lead them towards hope and a brighter future.

*Amen.*

**Learn more about how you can partner with missionaries in Myanmar by visiting [catholicmission.org.au/myanmar](http://catholicmission.org.au/myanmar) or scanning the QR code.**

**catholic mission**  
 Reach out. Give life.



## Planned Giving for the Week of 10 December, 2023

Collection <u>Account numbers</u>	Loose money [not pledged]	Envelopes [pledged]	Direct Debit	Donation Tap	Total
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Collection Augustinian Priory</b> BSB: 064 786 Account #: <b>100019791</b>	<b>\$454.95</b>	<b>\$300</b>	<b>\$542</b>	<b>\$150</b>	<b>\$1,446.95</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Collection St James Parish</b> BSB: 064 786 Account #: <b>100018086</b>	<b>\$408.50</b>	<b>\$250</b>	<b>\$612</b>	<b>\$150</b>	<b>\$1,420.50</b>

## Parish of St James

165 Old Cleveland Road,  
Coorparoo, 4151.

### Postal:

PO Box 1051  
COORPAROO DC, QLD, 4151

Phone: (07) 3397 1671

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

Parish Priest: [pp.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:pp.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au)

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



## Primary School

92 Kirkland Ave,  
Coorparoo, 4151.

Rachelle Gibson — Principal

Liz Pashen — APRE

Phone: (07) 3457 1100

Email: [pcoorparoostj@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pcoorparoostj@bne.catholic.edu.au)

Web: [www.stjames.qld.edu.au/](http://www.stjames.qld.edu.au/)



## Administration

Parish Priest	Fr Francis Belciña OSA <a href="mailto:pp.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au">pp.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au</a>
Assistant Priest	Fr Anson Kalathiparambil OSA <a href="mailto:kalathiparambila@bne.catholic.net.au">kalathiparambila@bne.catholic.net.au</a>
Assistant Priest	Fr John Sullivan OSA <a href="mailto:sullivanj@bne.catholic.net.au">sullivanj@bne.catholic.net.au</a>
Parish Secretary	Trish Rashad <a href="mailto:osastjames@bne.catholic.net.au">osastjames@bne.catholic.net.au</a>
Business Manager	Helen Cole <a href="mailto:bm.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au">bm.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au</a>
Parish Council Chairperson	Christine Umali-Manalac <a href="mailto:ppc.stjamescoorparoo@gmail.com">ppc.stjamescoorparoo@gmail.com</a>
Safeguarding Officer	Kate Pearson <a href="mailto:lrs.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au">lrs.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au</a>

## Ministry Teams—get involved...

We offer many opportunities to multi-cultural community... Send your enquiries to the email below...	get involved and participate in our vibrant community...
Children & Families (Brent)	<a href="mailto:Families.stjames@gmail.com">Families.stjames@gmail.com</a>
Worship (Amor)	<a href="mailto:Worshipandliturgy.stjames@gmail.com">Worshipandliturgy.stjames@gmail.com</a>
Youth & Young Adults (Dew)	<a href="mailto:Youthandyoungadults.stjames@gmail.com">Youthandyoungadults.stjames@gmail.com</a>
Adult Faith Formation (Lauchy)	<a href="mailto:Adultfaithformation.stjames@gmail.com">Adultfaithformation.stjames@gmail.com</a>
Hospitality & Community Life (Veronica)	<a href="mailto:Communitylife.stjames@gmail.com">Communitylife.stjames@gmail.com</a>
Social Justice (Dan)	<a href="mailto:Socialjusticeoutreach.stjames@gmail.com">Socialjusticeoutreach.stjames@gmail.com</a>

## Counters

December 16 / 17 June & Kate

December 23 / 24 / 25 Parish Staff

Next week	4th Sunday Advent December 24	December 23 VIGIL SATURDAY 6PM	December 24 SUNDAY 7AM	December 24 SUNDAY 9AM
CHOIR (4th weekend)	St James Choir	n/a	Glenn H	
COMMENTATOR	Frank F	Leslie S	Ray M	
LECTOR	Ron S	Don T	June S	
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	Helen D Collette S Rosemarie Y	Jan L Barbara DeP Romy U	Cathy M Sean H John W	
ALTAR SERVER/S	Joe R	Brendon or Jane	Lea / Alejandra / Leo	
POWERPOINT	Lachlan	Gilbert or helper	Matthew A	
WELCOMERS	Karen +		Cathy + John + Darren	

## Masses & Services

### WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday 8am; Vigil 6pm.

Sunday 7am, 9am.

MASS SERVICES: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 8am.

MASS SERVICE: Friday 9am.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4.30—5.30pm.

PERPETUAL ADORATION: (Tuesdays 8.30am till Wednesday 8am) Vicky [brisbane.adoration@gmail.com](mailto:brisbane.adoration@gmail.com)

HEALING + ANOINTING MASS: no Anointing Mass in January 2024.

FIRST FRIDAY ALL NIGHT VIGIL: Friday 5th January 2024.

PRAYER MEETING: Every Friday (Except 1st Friday of the month) @ 7.10 pm (Rosary), 7.30 pm (Praise & Worship followed by Message)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: continues 1st and 3rd Sundays @ 9am mass. Kids Bulletin available at side entrance each week: copyright <https://thekidsbulletin.com/about/>



Welcome  
New Parishioners  
Please register  
using this QR code



## Next Sunday's Readings

### Fourth Sunday Advent YEAR B (December 24)

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.

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

