

**1ST SUNDAY
ADVENT
YR B 2017
2 / 3
DECEMBER**

The Parish of St James

Coorparoo

**An Augustinian Parish:
member of Brisbane East Deanery.**



Moderator's Musings

Greetings in the Lord.

We are blessed with a beautiful gift from the Lord in the person of Bro. Dang, who is sharing with us the joy of being ordained as Deacon by our Archbishop Mark Coleridge. It's always a privileged moment to share our joy and communion in the Lord with our leader and guide, Archbishop Mark Coleridge. The Parish of St James extends to you a hearty and warm welcome to our communion and worship. Please keep Dn. Dang in your prayers as he approaches the sacred moment of Ordination to the Priesthood in 2018.

I take this opportunity to thank Paul Devlin and Mark Neander who come to the end of their term as the members of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC). Paul chaired the PPC for the past four years and Mark and Celeste Neander were very central to all the events PPC put forwarded in our Parish. Thank you for your generous and loving contribution to the Parish of St James. May God shower his abundant blessings on you now and always. The parish looks forward to your inputs for its spiritual growth in the coming years. Ray Mitchell is appointed as the new Chair. Please extend a warm welcome to Ray and wish him all the best in his office as Chair of PPC.

This weekend marks the beginning of Advent and a new liturgical Year, 'Year – B'. Advent season has two dimensions: one is that we remember the birth of Jesus, two thousand years ago in Bethlehem, and the decisive moment in the history of humankind where God took human flesh in the child Jesus, born in Bethlehem, through the Virgin Mary. An event of its own, without any parallel in the history of humankind. In its second dimension, Advent Season invites us to look toward his second coming, as he promised to come again at the end of time.

The challenge of this season is to get ready and be prepared like the vigilant virgins who took oil with them, as they await in the dark of the night for the bridegroom. When Jesus was born at Bethlehem, the King, the Scripture Scholars, Religious Leaders and the busy business men of the time were not able to comprehend the mystery of incarnation and turned their back to child Jesus, even to the point of denying a space for him to be born, ignoring him and even seeking to kill him. The good news of the birth of Jesus was revealed to the shepherds, living at the edge of the society, rejected and despised, but with a longing for freedom and justice. It teaches us a lesson, that all the power of authority, knowledge and money may not suffice us when it comes to know God, born in the person of Jesus. In the eyes of the world it is incomprehensible and unintelligible. But to we who believe, it is the power and wisdom of God. Getting ready for this event means double checking the knowledge, authority, riches that we possess. Let us compare and contrast King Herod, who was a Jew and who tried to kill Jesus, with the Magi, the three Kings, who were not Jews and came to worship him. Power, knowledge and riches are not bad in themselves. But we have to check whether they blind us or enlighten us.

May this Advent Season help us to be humble, to acknowledge Jesus who was born a child in Bethlehem and let us pay heed to Jesus' words, "When you did this to the least of my brothers and sisters, you did it to me." This is the way Christ wants us to prepare for his Second Coming. **"Surely some revelation is at hand; surely the Second Coming is at hand,"** reminds William Butler Yeats. Shall we prepare ourselves?

Peace and Joy,
Fr. Jaison OSA.

TODAY'S READINGS:

First Reading *Isaiah 63: 16-17; 64: 1, 3-8* Oh, that you would tear the heavens apart and come down. **Second Reading** *1 Corinthians 1: 3-9*



The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord. **Gospel Reading** *Mark 13: 33-37* Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.

Please pray for recently deceased: Celena McGovern; William Maher; Robert McNab; Alan Doiz; Keith Bretherton; Peter Farrelly.

And these anniversaries: Thomas Lunney; Giovanni Turrini; John Girard; Joanne Downey; Ray Killin.

Please pray for these unwell: June Spencer; Fr Simon; Anthony Tassone; Fr Joe Walsh OSA; Luke Farrelly; Tina Raineri; Fr Laurie Mooney OSA.

Please give prayers and welcome to these Baptismal children:

Horatio Hill. It is customary to re-light your child's baptism candle each birthday



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

Social Justice



25th anniversary of PM Keating's Redfern

Speech...We non-Aboriginal Australians should perhaps remind ourselves that Australia once reached out for us. Didn't Australia provide opportunity and care for the dispossessed Irish? The poor of Britain? The refugees from war and famine and persecution in the countries of Europe and Asia? ... the problem starts with us... it begins, I think, with that act of recognition: it was we who did the dispossessing. We took the traditional lands and smashed the traditional way of life. We brought the diseases. The alcohol. We committed the murders. We took the children from their mothers. We practised discrimination and exclusion. It was our ignorance...

SIGNIFICANT DATES — DECEMBER:

Saturday 2: International Day for Abolition of Slavery.

Sunday 3: Int'l Day of Persons with Disabilities.

1874: Battle of the Eureka Stockade.

Tuesday 5: International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development.

World Soil Day.

Wednesday 6: St Nicholas (Santa Claus)

Thursday 7: International Civil Aviation Day.

Planned Giving for the Week ending 26th November, 2017 (WEEK 4 OF MONTH)

Collection	Loose money [not pledged]	Envelopes [pledged]	Direct Debit	Credit card	Total
1 st Collection Augustinian	\$676.05	\$612.50	\$170	\$275	\$1483.55
2 nd Collection Parish	\$349.20	\$527.50	\$190.70	\$235	\$1302.40

Parish news

Dear parishioners, thank you for your generous support and contributions to our Thanksgiving Program. In this time of multi-maintenance programs of our parish, please consider Direct Debit or Credit Card donations as the offering you make to our parish, especially our new members who have recently joined our community. We ask you to consider and contact our parish office.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS Co-ordinator: Kevin

(ph 3847 5778) Sunday, December 3rd: The Church year. This meeting is in the Library of St James' School (Kirkland Ave, Coorparoo) after 6pm mass.



Parishioners, please pray for our parish as we move forward with our maintenance program of the church: toilet & community facilities; round church windows; church sound system.

Offering envelopes are available at both church entrances. We have received \$1176.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION SUNDAY, 3 DECEMBER 2017 (RETIRING COLLECTION). THE COLLECTION ALLOWS THE HOLY FATHER TO RESPOND TO THE MOST NEEDY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, TO OFFER TIMELY, EFFECTIVE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO OUR SUFFERING BROTHERS AND SISTERS.

Fr Saldie and Dn Dang will go to Sydney with two of our young parishioners to take part in ACYF (Australian Catholic Youth Festival), from 6th - 10th December.

NEXT ANOINTING MASS: Friday 8th December, 2017 at 10am (no 8am mass this day). (moved from 1st December due to the end-of-year liturgy for St James School)

Book of the Word - Lectors, please know the 2018 Book of the Word has now arrived and is in the Sacristy. Fr Jaison has bought 4 of these (one for each mass Lector) for your preparation. These can be taken out of the Sacristy the week before you read (for practise purposes) and returned straight after your mass reading. In this way, the next on roster will have the book available for them. Alternatively, you may go to our parish website for this Sunday's readings. The St James parish website information is retrieved directly from the Universalis website - www.universalis.com



St James parish would like to say thank you to Dino from Andersens Flooring. Dino replaced the mat at the front of the church, and we thank him for his generosity to us.



* Pope Francis' historic visit to Myanmar
* Syrian refugee ordained to serve in Brisbane, with wife and young sons by his side

\$2 both entrances

* Brisbane has new parish to care for one of state's fastest-growing regions
* Thriving parish in another growth area prepares new college for Gold Coast
* Myanmar and Bangladesh

Christmas ribbons - these ribbons will be available shortly in the church (on the table in front of the Sanctuary - each family will take a ribbon home and write on this ribbon a Christmas prayer (Love; Peace; ...) and also, your Family Name. As you come for Christmas mass, please place the ribbon in the manger which will be kept in front of the altar. Do this before the beginning of mass as during mass, the priest will lay baby Jesus on top of your petition ribbons.



Christmas Cards and Calendars will be available for purchase from St Vincent de Paul at the front of the church, prior to mass.

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



CHRISTMAS APPEAL "RESTORE HOPE THIS CHRISTMAS"

DONATIONS such as food, etc. can be left in the box at the front door of the Church. If you wish to give a financial donation, envelopes for this purpose are available at the door or on the seats. Any donations received by mid-December will be greatly appreciated as the Christmas Hampers will be delivered shortly after.

Visit the Jesse Tree with Christmas tags for gift giving, front of altar. THANK YOU for your generous support.

Join us for "Christmas Cheer" 2017...

Saturday 16th December after 6pm mass

Sunday 17th December after 7am - 9am - 6pm masses

Christmas Novena Masses - 9 day preparation for Christmas...

Friday 15th - Saturday 23rd December - weekday masses at 7pm...

Novena will be held on weekend at regular 6pm masses.

Theme: "Come, Lord Jesus."

Christmas Celebrations for St James Parish 2017...

Thursday 14th December - 7pm - 2nd Rite of Reconciliation

Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve - 7am; 9am; 7pm Family Mass (not 6pm)

Sunday 24th December - 11.30pm for Midnight Mass (sing Carols before)

Monday 25th December Christmas Day - 7am and 9am Mass **There is NO 6pm Mass**

Sunday 31st December - 7am, 9am, 6pm Mass - Feast of the Holy Family

Monday 1st January - 8am and 6pm Mass - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God



Archdiocese news

SEE NOTICEBOARD...Position Vacant - Parish Youth Ministry Worker, applications are open for a position at the Mother of Mercy Parish, Hendra Northgate Hamilton. AND...UNITE YOUTH AND ADULT MINISTRY invites applications for the position of Youth and Young Adult Ministry Coordinator, Sunnybank.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM - AIRS 3 December 2017 This week on the Journey, the first Sunday of Advent, Fr Richard Healy reflects on the Gospel of Matthew and encourages us to be alert and on guard! Our music this week is at the top of our game, put it all together and you have an inspiring show about faith, hope, love and life. Go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.