

**Third Sunday of Advent
YEAR A**

December 15 2013

Australians actually dream of a white Christmas?

For those many citizens originate from countries other than northern Europe, it is hard to claim new images in our celebration of the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

To see and ears to hear, we might detect in our early Australian summer and our social rituals hints of the true meaning of Christmas.

A time of waiting. School leavers wait for exam results. Children wait for Santa. Parents wait for loved ones to come together for Christmas. Tired workers wait for the long weekend to rest and recharge. During these weeks, we wait for life to unfold and ourselves to be nourished.

The liturgical season of Advent is a time of waiting. Jacarandas and agapanthus, in their vibrant purple, remind us that something, someone is nigh. Advent encourages us to learn to wait for more, for mystery to be made manifest. Unrecognised or forgotten for whom we wait, for whom we long, and whom we desire.

Not the kitsch, saccharine lady in blue, but the earthy, gutsy, young woman whose life begins in a stable and ends with equal ignominy on a hill, is the one who brings our saviour and life-giver, doesn't come separate from the real stuff of our daily lives but comes in the flesh, in our flesh.

Decorated by candlelight, school concerts and end of year functions in December. A Christmas story is a key chapter in a story about God and humanity; a love story that is often forgotten.

Don't call it the silly season. Could anything be 'sillier' than God choosing to be one who is so mysteriously and variably bypasses the accepted ways and the proper people. Jesus is born in a stable with shepherds – the outcasts of society. Wise men make a treacherous journey to the East with nothing to guide them but a star.

The Eastern Cross reminds us that the birth which we celebrate at Christmas is not the one reserved only for children. The cross is the Christian sign of paradox. The one whose life begins in a stable and ends with equal ignominy on a hill, is the one who brings our saviour, life, death and resurrection reveals that, despite the pain and suffering of the world, that God is *Emmanuel* – *God with us*. The God, for whom we wait this Advent, is the one who brings us God for us. It is a love story still being written.

(Adapted by Sister Helen from writings of Patty Fawcner SGS)

the Worker Church
 100 Commercial Parade,
 Southport
Sunday Mass
 7.00 am
 9.00 am
Weekday Mass
 Monday-7.00am
 Tuesday-7.00am

Guardian Angels' Church
 99 Scarborough St
 Southport
Saturday
 6.00pm
Sunday Mass
 7.00 am
 10.00 am
Weekday Mass
 Friday - 12.30pm
Reconciliation
 Saturday - 4.30pm

Mary Immaculate Church
 31 Edmund Rice Drive
 Ashmore
Sunday Mass
 8:30 am & 6.00pm
Korean Mass
 Sunday 3.00pm
 Every last Saturday 6pm
 Tuesday 7pm
Weekday Mass
 Tuesday - 9.00am
 Thursday - 5.30pm

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WEEK—THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT
Our week begins with “Gaudete Sunday.” Gaudete means “rejoice” in Latin. It comes from the first words of the Entrance antiphon on Sunday. The spirit of joy that begins this week comes from the words of Paul, “The Lord is near.” This joyful spirit is marked by the third candle of our Advent wreath, which is purple and the rose coloured vestments used at the second part of Advent begins on December 17 this year, in 2013 it is Tuesday of the Third Week of the eight days before Christmas, the plan of the readings. The first readings are still from the infancy gospels. The gospels are from the infancy of Matthew and Luke. We read stories of faithful men who prepared the way for our salvation. We move through the joy. We move through this part of the waiting world that rejoices because we are prepared us to believe the reign of God is at hand and so we consciously ask:
“Come, Lord Jesus, and remove the sadness that hinders us from your joy and hope which his presence will bestow.”

WEEK OF RECONCILIATION
will be held tomorrow, **Monday, December 16,** at the Mary Immaculate Church, Ashmore. This is an opportunity to encourage parishioners towards “full, conscious and active participation”. In this Second Rite, parishioners are encouraged to pray, sing, reflect on the word and participate in prayerful dialogue with God and the priest, and to acknowledge their sin to Christ in the presence of the priest, and form the reconciliation and give thanks for returned.

THE WORD
People have not yet collected the “Break Open the Word” book. If you would like to purchase one, please contact the Parish Office at a cost of \$14.

KEY
If you are a member of the Parish Office at a cost of \$14.

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The Parish Office at a cost of \$14.

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CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES
Tuesday December 24
Guardian Angels Church: 6.00pm and
Mary Immaculate Church: 6.00pm Children

Christmas Day
St Joseph the Worker Church: 7.00am and
Guardian Angels Church: 7.00am and
Mary Immaculate Church: 8.30am

Thursday December 26 Boxing Day
St Joseph the Worker Labrador
Make sure you collect your Christmas Mass cards from the table at the Church entrance

FAREWELL TO A MAN OF HIS TIME
Last Friday evening, December 6, we saw the gathering of parishioners for a social event at the Parish for many, many years if not ever. This was the annual Parish BBQ which also doubled as a celebration for our three Priests. The most accurate count made indicated that 437 parishioners and their families attended plus children and the volunteer workers enjoyed a relaxing evening, and were able to meet old and new acquaintances. The food once again was absolutely mouth watering and \$2 for a glass of wine was very popular. When it came to the dessert which was made and baked the dessert and ‘farewell cake’ was donated by the volunteers of Angel’s ‘farewell cake’ was a small cake with inscriptions for the priests can take to the house for themselves. The evening was entertained early in the night with Carol singing. Lord and his family thrilled us with their talents in folk dancing, followed by a recital by young Max on his clarinet. Later in the evening some of our parishioners kicked up their heels to the music of the band and Roll band. The sad part of the evening was when Father Bohlscheid was asked to present Father Peter from the Parish to mark his eight years as Priest. Max said it was a Pleasure and Honour to speak on behalf of the Parish. We are here to say Christmas BBQ but to say farewell to our time with us who have all been taken from us in the past week. We thanked Father Geoffrey and Father Robert for their time with us and being a great support to Father Peter. We recalled some of the history of the parish. Father Bohlscheid administered the parish since 2005. Father Peter was a little tired, a vacuum existed in the Parish when Father Peter arrived he breathed a new life and fresh spirit into the community, he installed into us over the eight years the responsibilities that we, as individuals have taken on and our community. Max made the point that Father Peter was a successful tribe in history has always had a Father Peter has the gift of talking to us not just as a priest but as a man. We thank him for developing a feeling of brotherhood in our parish. For being faithful to us. For being a good listener to us. For being so respectful to us. and for his sense of humour and wonderful smile. He has been a good listener, taking advice when necessary, he has been a good networker and with minute detailing, a sense of humour, a very tolerant person with the ability to listen to all walks of life. I am sure all parishioners will have their heart for Father Peter—a special bond—a relationship not often experienced with a priest. We are so close to him. So after eight years we are profusely sorry to see him go. We wish him well in his new assignment. The parishioners of the eleven churches of the Parish. All present arose as one to afford a standing ovation.

A special thank you to Eddie Dermarco for his help in setting up the MC for the evening and his tireless work during the week to get things organised.

Today we welcome into our God's Family

Bobby Lee Killoch-Noble son of Keith Noble and Sarah Killoch
Lucinda Joy Wallbridge daughter of
Matthew and Abbie Wallbridge
Oliver Hans Harich son of Paul and Melissa Harich
Dexter Kibby and Boston Kibbey sons of
Vanessa and Dominic Kibbey

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THOSE WHO HAVE JOURNEYED TO THE FATHER.

DECEASED: John Towers, Madge O'Toole, George Gale, Alma Quinn, Dorothy Murphy
John O'Neill, Mark O'Neill, Wayne Kelly, Mario Mendicino, Norman Hodgetts, Filomena Jaca,
n, Margaret Davis

PRAYERS AND FRIENDS WHO ARE SICK AND IN NEED: Christine Wheldon, Lynn Rann, Dian
n, Bong, Tanie and Gie Ubaldo, Babes Valenzuela, Vicky Smith, Lee Henry, Mary Porrill, Peter
ewis, Kitty McIntosh, Susanne Howarth, Patrick Guillon, Phyllis Miller, Jim Donaldson, Julie R
Stowers, Ross McAlpine, Gary O'Connell, Carter Family, Jack McAlpine, Joe Buttigieg, Phillis El
l Zinkel, Marie Hancock, Natasha Byrne, Ron and Evelyn Martinac, Laurie, Emelita and Ad
Caroline Pember, Michael Skinner, Tim, Tracy and Vicki Howard, Angela Taylor, Gary Burdett,
ewis, Zenaída Irisary, Joan Smith, Joan Martin, Marie Allen, Colette Shevlin, Cyndy Fenner-Smi

For people protection and grace. Give them health of mind and body. Amen

FILE

...walked into a building.....You'd think at
...n would have seen it.

...y some camouflage trousers the other day
...l any.

...t stop singing "The Green, Green Grass of
...unds like Tom Jones syndrome."

... "it's not unusual".

FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

...ne generous people who have offered their
... Christmas Masses. We have a great

...rs over the Christmas period so it is
...ve are ready to make them feel welcome.

...n each of the churches of those who have
... Please if you are available, fill in the empty
...abeth will collect the sheets after the last
...ch church. Thank you in anticipation.

PRACTICE FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

...parts in the "Christmas Story" or parts for
... Christmas Eve are invited for their final
...day 23rd December, 3pm -4.30pm in Mary
...urch.

...ing in the band on Christmas Eve are also
...o this practice on Monday 23rd December
... Sister Helen.

EVE CHILDREN'S MASS

Ushers are needed at for the 6.00pm
Mass at Mary Immaculate on Christmas Eve.
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PARISH DATE CLAIMERS FOR 2013

First Sunday of each month, Morning Tea at
after 8.30am Mass at St Joseph the Worker, La

Each First and Third Sunday of the Month,
Charismatic prayer Meeting, Guardian Angels

Bridge, every Wednesday 10.00am to 1.00pm
Room at Mary Immaculate. Beginners welcome

Southport Parish Book Club. Meet in the mee
Mary Immaculate on the 1st Monday of the mo

10.00am to 12 noon.
SPY. Southport Parish Youth. Meet in
meeting room at Mary Immaculate on

Friday of each month. 6.30pm


Monday, **December 16.** Second Rite of Reconci
5.30pm Mary Immaculate Church.

Thursday, **December 19,** Children's Advent Ad
Day

Thursday, **June 12, 2014.** Confirmation
Sunday, **June 15, 2014.** First Eucharist

ST STEPHEN'S CATHEDRAL ANNUAL FESTIVAL

St Stephen's Cathedral Annual Festival of Scrip
Carols for Advent and Christmas; will be held

Wednesday December 18 at 7.30pm. This tradi
service contains your favourite carols to sing as

vent and Christmas music for massed choir. Th
car park will be available from 6.30pm. Everyo
Welcome entry is free. Enquiries 3324 3030.

PIETY STALL

Have you visited our well stocked Piety Stall lat
They have a tremendous range of goods,
Christmas Gifts. Just arrived latest version of

Jerusalem Bible—Daily Mass Books for 20
Stoles, and many other baptism gifts— Don't
2014 Columban Calendar, the perfect gift for a

FR. MAC'S HEAVENLY PUDDINGS

Fr Mac's Heavenly Puddings
sale at all churches

They make a great Christ
friend.

Not many left so be quick
Price is the same as last y

\$15



THE HOLY LAND

Priest Father Jan, will be accompanying a
Pilgrimage tour as Spiritual Chaplin to

and the Holy Land. Departing August 22.
at \$9,999. More information later.

HYMNS

THE WILDERNESS

*Wilderness calls to
...ding on the edge of
...ert sand and mountain
...ning, make your way.*

the Lord will say,
for all his people.
er far for those who know
g in our land. **R**

id mercy have met,
e have embraced here.
all spring from the earth
s down from the sky. **R**

ADVENT CANDLE

my soul in stillness waits,
s in you

My Soul in Stillness Waits 280

Lord, my soul in still - ness

ly my hope is in you.

AL PSALM

save us.

AMATION

a, Alleluia, Alleluia!
id sun of justice,
darkness.

a, Alleluia, Alleluia!

SSION

Q-(Verse 3)

, people of God.
t song!
ome the Christ.

be heard,
fire:
of the Lord,
of the Lord.
the rich
the lion,
of the Lord,
of the Lord. **R**

Capo 3: (Bm) (F#m) (Gmaj7) (Em7) (F#m)
Dm Am Bbmaj7 Gm7 Am

Lord, _____ come _____ and save _____

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of your
glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name
of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

When we eat this bread and drink
this cup we proclaim your death O
Lord, until you come again.

AMEN

Amen, Amen, Amen

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, grant us peace.

COMMUNION PROCESSION

OPEN THE HEAVENS

Refrain
Open the heavens, Lord,
Come to your people,
Hide not your face, O God.
Open the heavens, Lord.
Come to your people,
Open the heavens and come.

Look on the sheep of your pasture,
Lord.
Water your vineyard again.

Scattered and broken, return to our
aid,
open the heavens and come. **R**

Lift up your eyes to the heavens
today.
Listen to hear when he comes.
Know that salvation will break like
the dawn,
Open the heavens and come. **R**

WAIT FOR THE LORD

Wait for the Lord, Whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: be strong, take
heart!

(Refrain repeated)

THE WORD OF THE LORD FOR NEXT SUNDAY Isiah 7:10-14 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-24

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RECESSIONAL

THERE IS A LONGING

Refrain:
**There is a longing in our
O Lord,**

For you to reveal your se
There is a longing in our
for love we only find in y

For healing, for wholeness.
Hear our prayer
In sickness, in death:
Be near, hear our prayer,

PRAYER

Incline Thine ear to our
O Lord, we beseech Thee

and make light the dark
minds by the grace of Th

Who livest and reignest.
Father, in the unity of th

God, world without end.

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