

Second Sunday of Advent

Year C

SUNDAY December 9 2012

Advent - What do we anticipate in Christmas, when it doesn't feel like Christmas at all?

The period of advent is when we anticipate the coming of the Messiah of whose birth we celebrate on Christmas day. The way Christmas is being celebrated has changed so far in some part; but the central message of Christmas remains the celebration of the birth of Christ.

In Nigeria where I have come from, my experience of Christmas is filled with excitement and joy. I could picture the amazing lights of fireworks at night as it shoots to the sky. I could imagine myself counting the stars at night as they shine. Listening to Christmas songs and watching good Christmas movies. As a child, I always thought of Christmas as a period when I receive so many toys and gifts; when I will be taken to different places for sight-seeing, and when I will meet some of my cousins that I have not seen for a while and the whole family will celebrate.

However, last year's Christmas was my first Christmas here in Australia; it was the first Christmas I celebrated away from home, without my immediate family. Apart from being the first Christmas that I celebrated away from home, it was a Christmas that was filled with nice feelings of joy and beauty. The magnificent and beautiful ways different houses are being decorated with Christmas lights were just amazing. The gentle breeze the flows at nightfall, the beautiful stars that shine brightly at night, and the beauty of the full moon; all these gave me the feeling of my Christmas that I had once experienced in my country; the feeling of excitement and joy, and it made me to feel at home.

Notwithstanding all these, we are not to be caught up with this aspect of Christmas celebration alone. In other words, the celebration of Christmas is not for us to be focused only on the material dimension. It is a period when we reflect deep into the core meaning of the source of our salvation; how the birth of the new born child shaped our salvation. It is a period when we look deep within ourselves and think of the way we might put a smile on the faces of other people who are less fortunate to celebrate the Yuletide magnificently. We light candles, set up well decorated Christmas trees with lights, go to Christmas parties, and kids get excited to receiving some chocolates; but there is more to it than that. There are some people who don't feel like it is Christmas at all. They seem to have lost the vibe of Christmas celebration and its excitements.

The question that becomes necessary for us at this point is how we can incorporate the less fortunate around us in the joyful celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. Christmas is a period of joy and celebration; the joys and celebrations will become meaningful in our lives when we not only support each other materially but also spiritually. I believe that through this, we will be enriched with the gifts and blessings that comes with Christmas, and thereby contribute in promoting peace, joy and goodwill in the world.

Dominic Daniel Orichukwu (3rd year seminary student).

St Joseph the Worker Church

44 Imperial Parade,
Labrador

Sunday Mass

7.00 am
8:30 am

Weekday Mass

Monday -7.00am
Wednesday-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

Fr. Peter Dillon PP
Dean:
South Coast Deanery

Fr Jason Middleton
(Associate Pastor)

Leeanne Human
(Parish Manager)

Sr Helen White RSM
(Sacramental Coordinator)
07 55 102 296

Sr Elisabeth
Keane IBVM
(Pastoral Associate)

Daloras Howes
(Parish Secretary)

Donna Stubbins
(Admin Assistant)

Aquinas College
07 55 102 888
Maryanne Finder
(Principal)

Guardian Angels'
School
07 55 100055
Terry Gimpel
(Principal)

De Paul Villa
07 55 827 250
Julie Madden
(Director of Aged Care)

De Paul Manor Estate
07 55 827 999
Bob Birrer
(Village Manager)

Parish email address
info@scp.org.au

Parish fax number
07 55 102 244

Newsletter Editor
Contact Parish
Office 55102222
dalorash@scp.org.au

2nd Rite of Reconciliation

In our Parish will be held on **Thursday 20th December** at **5.30pm** (instead of the usual 5.30pm Mass) in Mary Immaculate Church, Ashmore. This liturgy is to encourage parishioners towards "full, conscious and active participation". In this 2nd Rite, parishioners listen to the readings and psalm, sing, reflect on the word and homily, engage in prayerful dialogue with God and the presider, examine their consciences, acknowledge their sin to Christ in the person of the priest, and form the reconciling community to welcome back and give thanks for returned penitents.

NEW ministry- "Musical Playgroup" starting Feb 2013!!

This new ministry is being set up by 3 Mothers from the Parish to offer support for parents/carers; and music & play for children 0-5 years! Open to all in our parish and wider community- please spread the word. Affiliated with Playgroup QLD Assn.

When: **Thursdays 9:30am-11:30am** starting mid **February 2013**

Where: "The Annex" , St Joseph the Worker Church, Labrador.

Interested Parents/Grandparents/Carers with children, or Volunteers willing to serve morning tea/ bake for the group.. Please Contact:

Theresa Vossen ctvossen@me.com 0423743616

Christmas Masses:



Special rosters are to be prepared for the Christmas Masses – with people unavailable over the Christmas period it is necessary to prepare a different roster. We need ministers to supply for the following Masses:

SOUTHPORT; MONDAY 6PM; VIGIL
MIDNIGHT MASS
CHRISTMAS MORNING 7AM;
CHRISTMAS MORNING 10AM;

LABRADOR: CHRISTMAS MORNING 7AM
CHRISTMAS MORNING 8.30AM

ASHMORE: CHRISTMAS MORNING 8.30AM.

Please would you let Sister Lis know if you are able to minister as an Usher, Altar Server, Reader or Minister of the Eucharist, Welcomer, Collectors. As you can see there are a large number of spaces to fill so your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

Please contact Sr Lis at the Parish Office – 5510 2222 or lis@scp.org.au

Thank you in anticipation of your generous response!

Christmas Vigil Mass at Mary Immaculate Church

All school aged children in Southport parish who would like to participate in the **6pm Christmas Eve Mass** at Mary Immaculate church are invited to come along for a fun day of preparation.

When: Tuesday, 18th December

Where: The Parish Resource Centre at Ashmore

Time: 9am -3:00pm

Children please bring along your snack, lunch, a water bottle and lots of energy.

Parents are asked to contribute \$8 towards materials.

All children need to register before the 9th December by completing a registration form available on-line or from our parish office **Sister Helen helenw@scp.org.au**

Welcome to New Associate Pastor

Father Geoffrey Michael Baron was born 69 years ago to loving parents who wanted him to be a doctor. That idea vanished when he was 12 and one of his fingers was stitched up by the local GP after a fight with his younger brother. Geoff went to the diocesan seminary aged 17, survived the 8 years there and was ordained for the Melbourne Church at 24. His brother joined the Dominican Order, was ordained and is also a forensic psychologist. They don't fight now.

Fr Geoff arrived at his first parish full of fervour ready to convert the world - which yet. He was a curate for 16 years in various parishes and often felt intimidated by the parish priests he worked for, When he became a PP at 40, he understood why! Early in his priesthood, he acquired a facility with the Italian language and for consuming great amounts of pasta and home-made red wine. This meant he became one of the acknowledged Italian priests in Melbourne, and many of his 12 appointments were in Italian parishes.

Fr Geoff was drawn into radio work for 11 years compering the "Catholic Hour" on 3AW. At the same time he began what became a 33 year stint as a regular celebrant for channel 10's "Mass for You at Home" He was involved with various ministries and committees at Melbourne Archdiocesan level, including helping to organise the papal visit in 1986.

He has no interest in any football team of any code but recognises the AFL as the only legitimate code. He can't make head nor tail of rugby.

Music, ancient and modern, keeps him sane as do long morning walks along the beach, where possible. Southport looks enticing from that point of view. Years of long walks prepared him for the longest walk of his life - 800 kilometres across the north of Spain to Santiago de Compostela. He did that in 29 days and only arrived back 4 weeks ago.

Fr Geoff, though a Melbourne priest, is on loan to the Brisbane Archdiocese. Having worked 3 years on the Sunshine Coast, a six-month stint at Hendra, he looks forward to pastoring on the Gold Coast.

Break Open the Word

The copies of 'BREAK OPEN THE WORD' have arrived. Please would you put the \$15 in an envelope (addressed to Sr Elisabeth) with your name and the church you attend on the front, and place it on the collection plate, and I will return your copy the following week. For those who have already paid your books will be in the church you attend today.

Novena & Mass- St Joseph The Worker Labrador

There is a Novena at 6pm followed by Mass on the first Wednesday of each month, however in Dec the Mass will be on the **second Wednesday 12th Dec at 7pm.**

Sunday Mornings - TV Mass

Following a recent news item it was thought that Mass for You At Home on Sunday Mornings on channel 10 was to be cancelled, however we have been informed that after a large number of complaints by regular viewers.

for those people who live in metropolitan viewing areas (Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne etc) "Mass for you at Home" remains unchanged at its starting time of 6.00am Sunday morning on Channel 10 and has been on air for over 40 years. Please check your local guides to make absolutely sure of programming channels and times.



Today we welcome into our Parish Family

Siena Grace Kenneally daughter of Shane Kenneally & Kim Murphy

Zoe Catherine Ross daughter of Andrew & Skyw Ross

Rheanna Marie Rollon daughter of Wenefredo Talay & Richie Mananghaya

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Bob Amos, Belinda Boucher-Smith,

ANNIVERSARY: Wayne Kelly, Darwin Melvold

ALL PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS WHO ARE SICK AND IN NEED: Lyn-Marie Tuivasa, Fay James, Marc Ramirez, Elena Sercombe, Julie Watkins, Neil Cormick, Chris Strasznski, Patricia Gledhill, Martin Cafferty, Judy Crane, George Ovens, Brian Smith, Phillip Jones, Teddy Greenhalgh, Joe Salas, Patricia Davitt, Garry O'Connell, Alice Ferrero, Pamela May, Graham Patterson, Paul Millgate, Christine Wheldon, Jacob Redman, Isla Dodge, Ken Knowles, Jacinta Crohan, Margaret Young, Sheila Grieve, Ray Jarrett, Carmel Donnelly, Anne Volp, Bill Farmer, Pricilla Bussac, Andrew McCurdy, Nicole Elliott, Lisa Magill, Marie Hancock, Michael Hammond, Brent Pratt, Carol Little, Joan Martin, Vickie Hall, Teresa Taylor, Angela Taylor, Gie Ubaldo, Mary Ng, Frank Bosmans, Tim Howard, Brian Kerwin, Bernadette Towson, Terry Buggy, Tracy Howard, Kitty Ferguson McGeown, Michael Skinner.

Lord Grant your people your protection and grace. Give them health of mind and body. Amen.

Assistant Chaplains (P/T)

The Ecumenical Tertiary Chaplaincy Committee is seeking suitable applicants for the position (s) of Assistant Chaplain to work at the Nathan campus of Griffith University (approximately 5 hours per week – negotiable) and/or the Kelvin Grove campus of Queensland University of Technology (approximately 14 hours per week- negotiable). These are part-time positions for 15 weeks per semester in 2013.

For further information, please contact:

The Chair: Scott Frame, 28 Semillon Street, Thornlands, Q 4164. ph 0404 080 004.

scott.frame@aue.salvationarmy.org

Applications close Monday 21 January 2013.

ZERO GRAVITY 2013: "THE BRAVE"

A dynamic Catholic summer camp for teenagers in Grade 8 -12 in 2013

Run by Emmanuel Youth Outreach (EYO)

Thursday 10 – Sunday 13 January 2013

QCCC Tamborine, 255 Beacon Rd, North Tamborine.

Join with 200 teenagers and youth leaders for four huge days with inspiring speakers, awesome music from Emmanuel Worship, crazy outdoor activities and plenty of opportunities to discover more about your faith and what it all means. Registration \$285 (family rate \$245) **before 12 December**, plus optional transport.

See full info and download the brochure at **www.eyouth.com.au** or contact Luke Plant on (07) 3217 5199, email luke@eyouth.com.au.

PARISH DATE CLAIMERS FOR-2012

1st & 3rd Thursday each month Lectio Divina

Cenacles 6-7pm in the Mary Immaculate Library.

First Sunday of each Month: Morning Tea at the "Annex" St Joseph the Worker, Labrador after 8.30am Mass

Each First and Third Sunday of the Month: Charismatic Prayer Meeting, Guardian Angels Church, 11.30am

December 18, Tuesday: Advent Adventures, Activity Day for children

HAPPY HOLIDAYS to families with students in both our schools.—may these holidays hold many memories to be cherished.

Confirmation and First Eucharist 2013

Our parish will celebrate Confirmation on **Thursday 23rd May 2013** in Mary Immaculate church Ashmore. Children will receive their First Eucharist on **Sunday 26th May**. Parents wishing to prepare their children for Confirmation and First Eucharist next year are encouraged to bring their children to Mass on Sundays. The children are invited to join in Children's Liturgy of the Word every Sunday during school terms. The annual enrolment ritual for Confirmation and First Eucharist will be at 8.30am Mass on Sunday 3rd March at Mary Immaculate church. Families are asked to make these three important dates in their 2013 planner. Sister Helen

Helpers needed for 6pm Christmas Eve Mass at Ashmore

The children need more helpers for **24th December** at Mary Immaculate church. Six adults will be needed to be ushers before Mass and during Communion. Seven adults will be needed as special ministers. Eight adults are invited to be collectors at that special Mass. Any family members who could help arrange chairs and prepare Mary Immaculate church at 11am on Monday 24th December will be very welcome!

Please contact Sister Helen helenw@scp.org.au to volunteer for Christmas Eve at Ashmore.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

Thank you Parishioners for giving such a generous start to our St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal! There are many families in our area "doing it tough" and your gifts will bring some joy to those who have and expect so little at this time of year. Your Appeal envelopes can be returned to the plate, Parish Office or posted to us at any time. Please take home a gift tag from the Christmas tree as a guide for the gift needed for a child. Gifts and any special Christmas hamper foods can be left in the Gift Bins under the trees, and are cleared by Vincentian. The Christmas hampers will be packed and given to those in need **December 20th to 22nd**. Thank you for helping those in need - your own joy and gratitude will be felt so much more deeply when you give to others.. Blessings to you and your families from our two St Vincent de Paul Conferences.

HYMNS



PREPARE THE WAY

There was a man of God
whose name was John.
He came to speak for the light.
The voice of one in the wilderness:
"Prepare the way of the lord"

Refrain:

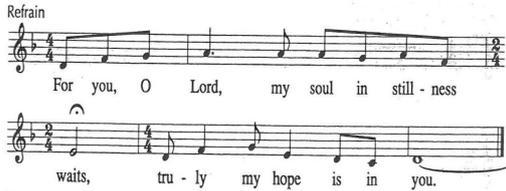
**Prepare the way of the Lord.
Prepare the way of the Lord.
Prepare the way of the Lord.
Prepare the way of the Lord.**

Mountains and hills shall be brought
to the ground,
the winding paths be straightened
and all on earth shall see his face;
prepare the way of the Lord. **R**

He's the lamb of God and you must follow
him
who takes the sin of the world,
for he has come to give you life.
Prepare the way of the Lord. **R**

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

My Soul in Stillness Waits 280



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord has done great things for us; we
are filled with joy.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! alleluia! Alleluia!
**You are Lord, our justice and our
mercy. Show us how to live.
Lord Jesus, come!**
Alleluia, alleluia! alleluia! Alleluia

**THE WORD OF THE LORD FOR
NEXT SUNDAY**
Zephaniah 3:14-18
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:10-18

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GIFTS PROCESSION

THERE IS A LONGING

Refrain:

**There is a longing in our hearts,
O Lord,**

For you to reveal your self to us.

**There is a longing in our heart for
love we only find in you, our God.**

For wisdom, for courage, for comfort:
hear our prayer. In weakness, in fear:
be near, hear our prayer, O God

HOLY HOLY HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of your
glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Bless'd is he who comes in the name
of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION:

Save us Saviour of the world
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.

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

MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS

- Marty Haugen

**Refrain: For you O' Lord, my soul
in stillness waits.
Truly, my hope is in you.**

Oh Lord of Light, our only hope of
glory.
Your radiance shines in all who look
to you.
Come light the hearts of all in dark
and shadow.

Oh Spring of Joy, rain down upon our
spirits.

Our thirsty hearts are yearning for
your Word.
Come, make us whole; be comfort to
our hearts.

Oh Root of Life, implant your seed
within us,
and in your advent draw us all to you.
Our hope reborn, in dying and in rising.

Oh Key of Knowledge, guide us
in our pilgrimage.
We ever seek, yet unfulfilled remain.
Open to us the pathway of your peace.

Come, let us bow before the God
who made us.
Let every heart be opened to the Lord,
for we are all the people of His hand.

Here we shall meet the maker of the
heavens,
creator of the mountains and the seas.
Lord of the stars, and present to us now.

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**

RECESSIONAL ADVENT LITANY

Word of healing, Alleluia.
Heal our sorrow, Maranatha!

Word of comfort, Alleluia.
Bring us hope now, Maranatha!

Word of gladness, Alleluia.
Fill our hearts now, Maranatha!

Word of wisdom, Alleluia.
Come renew us, Maranatha!

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