

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PARISH

Rochedale Springwood

Since 1974

955 Rochedale Rd, Rochedale

Fourth Sunday of Advent

18th December 2022

Readings: Isaiah 7:10-14 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-24

God showed his love through his Son

*We are celebrating the fourth Sunday of Advent this weekend, only one week away from Christmas. As we have been preparing ourselves well for this solemnity through the season of Advent, we must be feeling God's love more deeply and have greatly strengthened our love for God and other people. Let us continue to do so in this last week of Advent. Below is an **excerpt of the Letter to Diognetus**. It is a 13th century manuscript discovered in Constantinople in 1436. The Letter is a Christian apologetic work dating from the 2nd century. The author and the recipient are unknown. The Letter is valuable as showing the nature of Christian belief in those very early days. Enjoy reading.*

Fr Baiyi

No man has ever seen God or known him, but God has revealed himself to us through faith, by which alone it is possible to see him. God, the Lord and maker of all things, who created the world and set it in order, not only loved man but was also patient with him. So he has always been, and is, and will be: kind, good, free from anger, truthful; indeed, he and he alone is good.

He devised a plan, a great and wonderful plan, and shared it only with his Son. As long as he preserved this secrecy and kept his own wise counsel he seemed to be neglecting us, to have no concern for us. But when through his beloved Son he revealed and made public what he had prepared from the very beginning, he gave us all at once gifts such as we could never have dreamt of, even sight and knowledge of himself.

When God had made all his plans in consultation with his Son, he waited until a later time, allowing us to follow our own whim, to be swept along by unruly passions, to be led astray by pleasure and desire. Not that he was pleased by our sins: he only tolerated them. Not that he approved of that time of sin: he was planning this era of holiness. When we had been shown to be undeserving of life, his goodness was to make us worthy of it. When we had made it clear that we could not enter God's kingdom by our own power, we were to be enabled to do so by the power of God.

When our wickedness had reached its culmination, it became clear that retribution was at hand in the shape of suffering and death. The time came then for God to make known his kindness and power (how immeasurable is God's generosity and love!). He did not show hatred for us or reject us or take vengeance; instead, he was patient with us, bore with us, and in compassion took our sins upon himself; he gave his own Son as the price of our redemption, the holy one to redeem the wicked, the sinless one to redeem sinners, the just one to redeem the unjust, the incorruptible one to redeem the corruptible, the immortal one to redeem mortals. For what else could have covered our sins but his sinlessness? Where else could we, wicked and sinful as we were, have found the means of holiness except in the Son of God alone?

How wonderful a transformation, how mysterious a design, how inconceivable a blessing! The wickedness of the many is covered up in the holy One, and the holiness of One sanctifies many sinners.

Note: Next weekend we will have the special Christmas newsletter so today's edition covers dates & information for 2 weeks.



PARISH PRIEST

Fr Baiyi Gong

Email: pp.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

Phone: 3341 4421 (Parish Office)

After-hours emergencies: 0481 975 660

MISSION STATEMENT

"Saint Peter's Parish is a community who lives in faith of Jesus Christ and, moved by the Spirit, continues to grow in our love for God and all people."



December		In our parish this week
Mon	19th	8.00am Mass
Tue	20th	8.00am Mass
Wed	21st	6.30am Mass 7.00pm Choir Practice for 9pm & 9am Christmas Masses
Thu	22nd	No Mass
Fri	23rd	9.00am Rosary 9.30am Mass 6.00pm Church Christmas Decorating
Sat	24th	10.00am Pageant & Choir Practice 5.00pm Reconciliation 6.30pm Christmas Family Mass 9.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass
Sun	25th	Christmas Day 9.00am Mass only (Please note No 6pm evening Mass)

Please see page 4 of this newsletter for what's on in our parish **26th Dec to 1st Jan.**

Books for sale

Heart of the Disciple - \$5

Break Open the Word 2023 - \$20 - a fabulous resource for those who are Ministers of the Word.

God's Word 2023 - \$15 - Liturgical diary with all of the daily readings for 2023 plus daily reflections. Great Christmas gift!

The Catholic Leader - December edition - \$4 (Gerard is on the cover!)

Those who have died: Matthew Arnold, Rachel McCrow, Alan Dare, Kay Topping, Clyde Spearitt, Gerard Gillen, Graham Swan, Mary Joseph, Denis Lyons

Book of Life & Mass Requests:

James Glancy, Clare Breen, Kevin Mullins, Sr Philomena Lyons, Ken White, Alexander Forbes, Thomas Doherty, Helen Lawlor, Ronald Kennedy, William 'Bill' Carver, Leo Lawlor, Jeffrey Lawlor, Mary Blattman, Patricia Holzknacht, Jodie Louise Ryan, Vera Adcock, Hilary Dempsey, Maurice Malloy, Patricia Holzknacht, Jodie Louise Ryan, Vera Adcock, Hilary Dempsey, Maurice Malloy, Leonard Stitt, John Bray, Christine Fitz-Gibbon, Jan Cuskelly, Betty Simpson, Betsy May Burton, Flo Beechworth, Warren Jackson, Joan Marrianan, Jennifer Ann Lee, Ronald Connors, Kathleen Murray.

Please pray for those who are sick, especially:

Diane Land, Isabelle Mosteart, Patricia Green, Reg Van Rooyen, P.J. Paul, Maureen Flynn, Ray Kelley, Lien Pham (Maria), John Donohue, Harriet Ling, Steph and Les O'Gorman, Kaye & Len Torrens, Rhonda Lawson, Margaret Woltmann, Sr Lila Galvin, Margaret Linnett, Meryl Elliott Mitchell, Robert Fuchs, Teresa Leong, Mel Singh, Pat McDonnell, Katie Costello, Kathy Jensen.

Please contact the Parish Office via phone or email to add names to the list for Prayers for those who have died or who are sick. Please ensure you have the permission of the person who is sick to make their name public prior to contacting the Office.

PARISH OFFICE

955 Rochedale Rd, Rochedale
Open: Mon—Fri 8.15am-1.15pm

Phone: **3341 4421**

Website:
www.stpetersrochedale.org.au

Facebook: 
stpetersrochedaleparish

Secretary:

Julie Hondroudakis
Email:
stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

Co-ordinator of Lay Ministries:

Josephine Cullen
Email:
lm.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au
Mobile: 0419 733 878

Youth Ministry Co-ordinator:

Chloe Chivers
Email:
youth.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Craig Acret
Phone: 3341 4800
Email: prochedale@bne.catholic.edu.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELP CENTRE

Phone: 1800 846 643

Readings for the next 2 weekends:

Christmas Day - Isaiah 52:7-10 Hebrews 1:1-6 John 1:1-18
New Years Day - Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Numbers 6:22-27 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:16-21

A Night of Carols: Everyone is welcome to come along this Saturday 17th December 7pm (after 6pm Mass) on the grassed area beside the church. The youth will lead us in singing the carols. BYO picnic rug or chair. Tea, coffee and cocoa provided.



Calling Christmas Musicians: We would love to have you sing or play at Christmas. If you are attending 9 pm or 9 am Masses at Christmas, please come along to practice this Wednesday 21st December at 7pm. If you can play or sing at the 6.30pm Family Mass, please attend the Pageant Practice.



Christmas Church Decorating: Please come along and help decorate our Church home at 6pm this Friday 23rd December. We have lights, tree and tinsel to put up! Many hands make light work, so we hope to see you there! Some people experienced with climbing ladders required for the Christmas lights.

Children's Pageant Practice is at **10am** on Christmas Eve for the 6.30 pm Mass that night. All children who would like to be part of the pageant must attend the practice. We need children to play Mary, Joseph, angels, shepherds, kings... and we need readers, musicians & singers. Contact the Parish Office on 3341 4421 for more details.



Christmas Masses:

Christmas Eve Saturday 24th December

6.30 pm (Family Mass with children's pageant) & **9.00 pm** (Vigil)

Christmas Day Sunday 25th December **9.00 am** only

Please note: there will be no evening Mass on Christmas Day.

Feast of the Holy Family this year will be celebrated on Friday 30th December with Mass at 9.30am.



Faith Matters: Incarnation

In the Incarnation, God assumed a body and became a man. This breathtaking event permanently removed God from the detached status of a theological abstraction. In assuming human nature Jesus hid His divinity to become one with us and to elevate humans to share in the divine life (2 Pet 1:4) and become God's family (1 Jn 3:1). Intimate communion with God becomes possible in Jesus. The divine Word embraced all humanity when he assumed a human body. The staggering reality of the Incarnation is that the God-man made our divinization possible. In assuming a body God made it possible for humans to become like him by elevating us to share in his nature (2 Pet 1:4)! This idea is captured in the beautiful prayer the priest prays at the offertory of the Mass as he adds a little water to the wine: "By the mystery of this water and wine may we share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity." This stupendous reality is experienced through our bodies.

WISHING ALL PARISHIONERS A HAPPY AND HOLY CHRISTMAS AND MANY BLESSINGS THROUGH 2023

from the St Peter's Faith Enrichment Ministry

Entertainment Memberships:

Support St Peter's Parish Fundraising and get access to \$1000's worth of discount offers and 2 for 1 deals at a huge number of dining, retail, tourism and accommodation businesses. You can purchase a single city (\$69.99) or Multi City subscription (\$119.99) which gives 12 months access to 21 cities across Australia and New Zealand. St Peter's Online Order Page <https://subscribe.entertainment.com.au/fundraiser/2224e97>

Roster: 24th & 25th December

Mass roster: Special rosters for Christmas Masses

– please contact the Parish Office if you can help

Cleaning Group 5: Neil M, Judith L, Kathy W, Julie H, Telesia N, Dona T

This week, 18th – 24th December:

Sacristan: Prashanthi Selvarathnam

Counting: Carl's Group

Youth Update

New members always welcome!

✉ youth.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au 📷 @rochedaleyouth

A Night of Carols is coming up on 17th of December, where the youth sing Christmas Carols for our parish! Very excited to see you all there!

Young adults! Our Christmas Party is on Saturday 17th December after the carols! We are going to kick on afterwards, so make sure to have a plate of food to share!

Youth will be taking a short break over the Christmas holidays, but we will be back on 4th and 5th February for young adults and high schoolers!

Merry Christmas everyone! Have a safe and happy holidays!
God Bless, Chloe



St Peter's Planned Giving:

We would be very grateful, if you are able, to support the Parish financially. There are several options.

Via Direct Bank Transfer: To direct transfer your Planned Giving to our bank account, our BSB is 064-786 and Account number is 100000067. Please use your surname and Planned Giving (or PG) as reference.

Envelopes, Credit Card or Direct Debit: Please contact the Office to set these up.

'Parish Giving' App: The logo to look for in the app store is a yellow and white cross forming a circle on a purple background. See our parish website for detailed 'User Guides'.

Tap & Go Donations: No cash at Mass? Try our donation terminal near the main doors: \$10 donation per swipe to support St Peter's Parish.

Roster: 31st Dec- 1st Jan	Saturday 6pm Mass	Sunday 9am Mass	Sunday 6pm Mass
Mass Co-ordinator	Mark Connolly	Francis Yoo	Kate Guy
AV Operator	Tristan Edison	Mick Denton	Mike Collier
Readers	C. David Crowley 1. Sharon Fong 2. Joseph Varkey	C. Alan Vigor 1. Jonathan Vigor 2. Eric Quan	C. Megan Carroll 1. David Roati 2. John Blake
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Shelagh Ballment Joyce Lyster Carl de Mello	Stephanie Lenihan Rob Meulman Trish Meulman	Cesarina Gigante Ann Maree Collier Malcolm Carroll
Musicians	Rita Bishop	Tim Hondroudakis	Ihsan Laksmana
Cleaning Group 6: Julie & Basil Britto.			
Cuppa & Chats after Mass : Fr Baiyi's farewell weekend - Parishioners requested to bring a plate to share.			
This week 25th -31st Dec:	Sacristan: Peter Jeong & Helena Cha		Counting: Bob's group



Are you new to our Parish? WELCOME!! WELCOME!!

We'd like to formally greet you, so please contact the Parish Office on **3341 4421** or stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

OTHER PARISH CONTACTS

Care & Concern: Transport: 0450 287 902

♥ Co-ordinator: Lynn White 0403 051 103

♥ Memorial Wall & Gardens:

Mal Jensen 0411 641 312

♥ Evangelisation Task Group Facebook

♥ St Peter's Catholic Parish Evangelisation

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

Representative: Malcolm Carroll 0410 193 569 or sgrep.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

STOpline: 1300 304 550

Social Justice Group Facebook

St Peter's Rochedale Social Justice Group

St Vincent de Paul:

New members: John Blake 0411 196 775

Dec/Jan		In our parish next week	
Mon	26th	St Stephen (Public Holiday) No Mass	
Tue	27th	St John (Public Holiday) No Mass	
Wed	28th	The Holy Innocents 6.30am Mass	
Thu	29th	No Mass	
Fri	30th	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph 9.00am Rosary 9.30am Mass	
Sat	31st	Fr Baiyi's Farewell weekend 5.00pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday followed by Cuppa	
Sun	1st Jan	Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God Fr Baiyi's Farewell 9.00am Mass followed by Cuppa 6.00pm Mass followed by Cuppa	

The Parish Office will be closed between Christmas and New Year.

Farewell Fr Baiyi: Fr Baiyi's last weekend with us as Parish Priest will be 31st December & 1st January. Please join us for a cuppa after each Mass that weekend to bid him farewell. If you can come along, please bring a plate of food to share.

Welcome Fr Johny: Fr Johny Edapulavan CMI, our new parish priest, will be with us for the weekend of 7th & 8th January. On Monday 9th January Fr Johny celebrates 25 years of priestly ordination and had already planned holidays from 12th January before he received his posting to St Peter's. After each Mass on the weekend of the 7th & 8th January, please join us to welcome Fr Johny and congratulate him on 25 years of serving the Lord as an ordained priest. We will also be wishing him well for his holidays. Fr Johny will return to St Peter's in February.



DID YOU KNOW?

Advertise Your Business Here

This is a great opportunity for any parishioners in our congregation who would like to advertise their business or workplace in the Parish Newsletter. Your business will be showcased on our website, facebook, emails to parishioners as well as hard copies available at the church each week.

If you are interested in promoting your business in our community and new estate please contact Jo in the Parish office for pricing and more details.

Planned Giving: Envelopes for 2023 are ready for collection.

House-sitting: Would you like your home, garden and pet minded while you are away? A parishioner's family is coming to Brisbane from 6th - 28th January and would love to stay in a home in our parish area. Please call Carmel on 0431375065.

St Peter's Pilgrimage to the Holy Lands October 2023:

If you would like to join us or to receive more information, please contact **Stephanie Lenihan** at salenihan@hotmail.com or mobile: 0413 268 860. Numbers need to be finalised soon so please contact Stephanie asap.

Make an offer on items in the LOST PROPERTY BOX

The items in the lost property box in the church are up **for sale**.

The proceeds will be given to St Vinnies.

No reasonable offer refused. Please check out the multiple umbrellas and waater bottles now for sale when next you are at the church.

Around the Archdiocese

Palms Australia - Reach Beyond: You've got a lot to give beyond Christmas gifts. Roll up your sleeves, make a difference overseas. Do you require professional renewal, or are you seeking a retirement challenge?

Communities abroad are asking for qualified and experienced Australians able to mentor their people in education, health, administration, trades, agriculture and more.

Imagine yourself re-engaging your vocational passion in Africa, Asia or the Pacific. Since 1961 Palms Australia has been recruiting Australians able to offer mentoring that will allow overseas counterparts opportunities otherwise unattainable. Sharing your skills will strengthen the capacity of workers overseas to serve their communities for generations to come, long after you return home. Communities in American Samoa, Cambodia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Zambia are seeking to fill a variety of roles.

Enquire about those roles via www.palms.org.au or by calling 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567.

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