

# ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PARISH

Rochedale Springwood

Since 1974

955 Rochedale Rd, Rochedale

## Second Sunday of Advent

4th December 2022

Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-9 Matthew 3:1-12

### A voice of one crying in the wilderness

A commentary on Isaiah by Eusebius of Caesarea

*The Gospel reading for this weekend is about St John the Baptist, preaching to people about the one who follows him, that is, Jesus, and preparing them for the coming of Jesus. His voice is the voice crying in the wilderness, prophesied by prophet Isaiah. By listening to this Gospel reading, let us prepare ourselves well, too, for the celebration of the first coming of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Below is an article by Eusebius of Caesarea, commenting on the quote of Prophet Isaiah in the Gospel. I believe that it is very helpful for us to understand the meaning of the whole Gospel reading for this second Sunday of Advent. Enjoy Reading.*

Fr Baiyi

*The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight the paths of our God.* The prophecy makes clear that it is to be fulfilled, not in Jerusalem but in the wilderness: it is there that the glory of the Lord is to appear, and God's salvation is to be made known to all mankind.

It was in the wilderness that God's saving presence was proclaimed by John the Baptist, and there that God's salvation was seen. The words of this prophecy were fulfilled when Christ and his glory were made manifest to all: after his baptism the heavens opened, and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove rested on him, and the Father's voice was heard, bearing witness to the Son: *This is my beloved Son, listen to him.*

The prophecy meant that God was to come to a deserted place, inaccessible from the beginning. None of the pagans had any knowledge of God, since his holy servants and prophets were kept from approaching them. The voice commands that a way be prepared for the Word of God: the rough and trackless ground is to be made level, so that our God may find a highway when he comes. *Prepare the way of the Lord:* the way is the preaching of the Gospel, the new message of consolation, ready to bring to all mankind the knowledge of God's saving power.

*Climb on a high mountain, bearer of good news to Zion. Lift up your voice in strength, bearer of good news to Jerusalem.* These words harmonise very well with the meaning of what has gone before. They refer opportunely to the evangelists and proclaim the coming of God to men, after speaking of the voice crying in the wilderness. Mention of the evangelists suitably follows the prophecy on John the Baptist.

What does Zion mean if not the city previously called Jerusalem? This is the mountain referred to in that passage from Scripture: *Here is mount Zion, where you dwelt.* The Apostle says: *You have come to mount Zion.* Does not this refer to the company of the apostles, chosen from the former people of the circumcision?

This is the Zion, the Jerusalem, that received God's salvation. It stands aloft on the mountain of God, that is, it is raised high on the only-begotten Word of God. It is commanded to climb the high mountain and announce the word of salvation. Who is the bearer of the good news but the company of the evangelists? What does it mean to bear the good news but to preach to all nations, but first of all to the cities of Judah, the coming of Christ on earth?



#### PARISH PRIEST

Fr Baiyi Gong

Email: [pp.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto: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	5th	8.00am Mass
Tue	6th	8.00am Mass 6.30pm Alpha
Wed	7th	<b>St Ambrose</b> 6.30am Mass
Thu	8th	<b>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - No Mass</b>
Fri	9th	9.00am Rosary 9.30am Mass 4.00pm Young Adults Bible study
Sat	10th	5.00pm Reconciliation 2.30pm-5.00pm Alpha Retreat 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday with Cuppa & chat to follow
Sun	11th	<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b> 9.00am Mass (No children's liturgy) 6.00pm Mass

### Christmas Gifts with a Christian Flavour:

SVDP Piety Stall Trolley, with some Christmas Gift ideas, will be at the front door of the church at Masses this weekend for you to purchase items for family & friends this Christmas.



**Advent Reconciliation** Monday 12th December 7pm to 8.30pm. There will be 4 priests offering Individual Reconciliation. Please book in for a timeslot with this QR code.



**Those who have died:** Gerard Gillen (*Fr John's brother*), Graham Swan, Mary Joseph (*Fiju Jose's mother*), Denis Lyons (*Carmel Brougham's brother*), Kathy Pickering (*Janice Mason's mother*)

### Book of Life & Mass Requests:

Bernard Luton, Sophie Robinson, Bernard Montegrando, Marie Maguire, Ruth Ballment, Les Harri, Les Harris, Silvia Milaudi, Eddie McDonnell, Alfie Healan, Michael Bahn, Bobby Smith, Bernie Minton, Bill Smith, Ottilie Brandt, Vincent Blundell, Charlie Fry, Anastasia Medcraf, Desmond Van Der Haar, Mary Becker, Clifford Sharp, Frederick Taylor, Hazel Taylor, Luise Warwas.

### Please pray for those who are sick, especially:

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 next weekend:  
**Third Sunday of Advent (Yr A)**  
Isaiah 35:1-6,10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11

**LETTER BOX DROP** Can you help with our 'Christmas Greetings and Mass Times' letter-drop? Please take some leaflets from outside the Church if you are able to deliver them in your street or local area.



The cards are all packaged up with maps covering areas including the new Rochedale Estates to welcome any new residents to our church. Please select your preferred map and card bundle and get some exercise while you spread the word about St Peter's. There are also some loose flyers if you just want to take one for yourself, a family member or friend.

**St Vinnies Christmas Appeal: Last weekend to bring your donations!!** Please remember **gift vouchers or cash** donations for the St Vinnies' Giving Tree! (Please, no food items or gifts) Bring your donations to Mass or the Parish Office **until Sunday 4th December.**



Give the gift of hope this Christmas to those less fortunate in our local area. Thank you for your support.

**Alpha** will resume on Tuesday 6th December at 6.30pm followed by the retreat on Saturday afternoon 10th December from 2.30pm.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word** will resume in February 2023. Thank you to all the leaders, parents and children who have participated in 2022.

**Columban Calendars for 2023** available for purchase from the Piety stall - \$10 each.

**Christmas Cards** also available - 5 cards in a pack for \$2.50.



### Books for sale in the church or Parish Office

**Heart of the Disciple** - \$5 - a 28 day prayer and reflection resource for Advent or anytime.

**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.

**The Catholic Leader** - November edition - \$4



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

**The final high school youth group of the year** is on the 3rd of December! We are going bowling at 5pm, make sure to let Chloe know if you are coming!

**Young adults**, bible study is back on Friday the 9th of December, starting at 4pm in the Parish Centre!

**A Night of Carols** is coming up on the 17th of December, where the youth sing Christmas Carols for our parish! Let Chloe know if you would like to join us!

**Faith Matters: Prayers for Christmas**

**John 1:1-14 (And the Word was made flesh)**

Father, from all eternity your Word is with you, and is you; and all that is came into being through your Word. Yet, in the fullness of time, this same word became flesh; one like us, and lived among us, the glory of a father's only Son, full of grace and truth. May we, once again this Christmas, come silently in wonder and awe as your life and light, is given to us: Jesus the Lord. Through Christ our Lord. Amen  
*(The Jesuit Institute – Prayers for Christmas)*

**A Gift of Christmas**

What shall we present to you, O Christ, for your coming to earth for us? Each of your creatures brings you a thank-offering: the angels - singing; the heavens - a star; the wise men - treasures; the shepherds - devotion; the earth - a cave; the desert - a manger: but we offer you the virgin-mother.  
*(The Jesuit Institute From the Orthodox Liturgy)*

**Entertainment Memberships:** Hurry! Cyber week Sale! Order your Entertainment Membership before 12.00pm, Monday 5th December AEDT during our Cyber Week Sale and you will get **25% off any membership purchased!** Now you can enjoy 25% off or 2 for 1 at your favourite local restaurant, takeaway or activity, for less! Simply order online through us and 25% off will be deducted out the checkout! Hurry as this offer is only available for a limited time. And of course 20% of the membership goes to St Peter's Parish Fundraising. St Peter's Online Order Page is <https://subscribe.entertainment.com.au/fundraiser/2224e97>

**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: 10th & 11th Dec	Saturday 6pm Mass	Sunday 9am Mass	Sunday 6pm Mass
Mass Co-ordinator	Mark Connolly	Stephanie Lenihan	Jo Cullen
AV Operator	Eric Quan	Mick Denton	Mike Collier
Readers	C. Peta Grandin 1. Lyndal Bray-Claridge 2. Joseph Varkey	C. Pauline Angus 1. Alan Vigor 2. Jonny Vigor	C. Anne Fry 1. Malcolm Carroll 2. Edmund Lai
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Sharon Fong Shelagh Ballment	Joan de Netto Julie Hondroudakis Anne Scanlon	Megan Carroll Kate Guy Ann Maree Collier
Musicians	Rita Bishop	Tim Hondroudakis	Liz Fort
Cleaning Group 3: Julie & Basil Britto			
Cuppa & Chats after Mass : Saturday 10th Dec: 6pm Mass: Care & Concern team			
This week 4th -10th Dec:		Sacristan: Celine Phillips	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](mailto: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](mailto: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

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

Our pilgrimage which was meant to take place in 2020 is on again. We will now be travelling with Harvest Pilgrimages in **October 2023**.

If you would like to join us or to receive the link to the pdf document with the itinerary please contact **Stephanie Lenihan** at [salenihan@hotmail.com](mailto:salenihan@hotmail.com) or mobile: 0413 268 860. As we need to provide numbers to Harvest asap, please contact Stephanie asap.

## Please check the LOST PROPERTY BOX

Are you missing anything that you may have left at the church?

We have 8 Umbrellas, 5 Water Bottles,  
2 Glasses in cases, 1 glasses case,  
1 Teddy, 1 Bunny and a  
Child's Jacket Size 10

all waiting for their owners to collect them.

Last chance to check out the **Lost Property Box** on the church verandah.

There are also **multiple platters and containers** in the Parish Centre kitchen left from various functions. Please check and collect any that belong to you.

If these items are not collected soon they will be sold and the proceeds given to St Vinnies.

**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/7th January to 27th/28th January and would love to stay in a home in our parish area. Please call Carmel on 0431375065.

## Around the Archdiocese

**Palms Australia - Reach Beyond:** You've got a lot to give beyond Christmas gifts.

In January you can prepare for mission at home or abroad.

Palms Australia has trained Australians to live and work within cultures and communities overseas since 1961. Now four days of that training will be available for parishioners interested to assist harness the diverse gifts of our community and make it stronger.

**At Home:** Palms' Neighbours Without Borders program (January 7 – 11) will "focus on building communities that are welcoming to all, with particular attention to those on the margins of society and the church" as urged by the recent Plenary Council.

**Overseas:** Completing a further four days (January 12 – 15) will prepare you to meet one of the many requests Palms has from communities in Africa, Asia and the Pacific who need educators; health professionals; administrators and others to assist build on the strengths of their people who otherwise have little opportunity for training.

Enquire about Palms Orientation for mission via [www.palms.org.au](http://www.palms.org.au) or call 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567.

## Advertise Your Business Here

Don't Miss out!! Business advertising – 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.

## Some Advent & Christmas Date Claimers

**A Night of Carols:** Everyone is welcome to come along on Sat 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.

**Children's Pageant Practice** is at 10 am 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. We would appreciate if parents could complete an expression of interest form asap so that we can prepare. 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.

**Planned Giving:** Thank you to all who have been participating in our Parish Planned Giving Program via any of the various means available. A special thank you to those who have decided to join or to increase their giving in response to the Finance and Planned Giving reports recently. It is very much appreciated.

**Planned Giving Envelopes for 2023 are ready for collection at Masses from this weekend.**

As part of the response, we have increased the donation value on the **Tap and Go** donation point machine at the entrance to the church **from \$5 to \$10 per tap.**

We hope that you can appreciate our reasons for the increase.

*These businesses support us, please support them.*

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