

St Peter's Catholic Parish

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PARISH PRIEST

Fr Baiyi (By-ye) Gong

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Phone: 3341 4421 (Parish Office)

For after-hours emergency

call the Parish Mobile: 0481 975 660

DEACON

Rev. Mike Jones

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ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Bronwyn Buckley

Phone: 3341 4800

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ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELP CENTRE

Phone: 1800846643

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."

Third Sunday of Advent (Year A)

15th December 2019

Readings: Isaiah 35:1-6,10

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

RCIA gathering at St Teresa Spirituality Centre

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) team has been very strong in our parish. Let us give thanks to God for this team, coordinated by Mary Naughton. Each year for the past few years, we have always had a number of catechumens and/or candidates. Our catechumens and candidates, their sponsors, and RCIA team members are on the journey together, happily moving towards the important celebration of the sacraments for catechumens and candidates. These sacraments were instituted by Jesus Christ our Lord, for the spiritual benefits for all those involved. Catechumens usually receive all the three sacraments of initiation during the Easter Vigil Mass. For candidates, who have been baptised within another Christian tradition, there is more flexibility about when they receive the relevant sacraments. For each stage of their RCIA journey, the parish organises special liturgies to celebrate their faith development.

Last Saturday, our RCIA team organized a special gathering particularly for the candidates of this year, so they could receive the sacrament of Reconciliation. **This sacrament helps us to reflect on our past lives, express our repentance to God and pray for his forgiveness. Reconciliation also offers us an opportunity to be with God, feeling his merciful heart and loving care. Through this sacrament, we reconcile ourselves to God and to one another. We restore our relationship with God and with one another, because no longer are our sins distancing us from our creator and other people.** For anyone who is going to receive this important sacrament, he/she needs to be well prepared. In addition, an environment that is quiet, reflective and beautiful, can be very helpful, too.

Thus our RCIA team carefully selected the St Teresa Spirituality Centre on the bay at Ormiston for this purpose. This centre used to belong to the Carmelite sisters, who still live in the monastery adjacent to the centre. It is now owned and operated by the Archdiocese. Every year, the clergy of the Brisbane Archdiocese gather there for retreats or other spiritual activities. The centre is close to the water, with trees and garden spaces that make it very tranquil and relaxing. In the morning session, Deacon Mike offered a reflection and then, we enjoyed morning tea together. A liturgy of the Word was followed by individual reconciliation, for all of our candidates and some team members. **This sacred sacrament brings inner peace to hearts and minds and delivers a time of blessing and fruitfulness.** We were finished at about 12:30pm and everything went smoothly and well, thanks to everyone involved.

My dear friends, like the candidates and our RCIA team members, you too can experience a wonderful time during the celebration of the sacrament of reconciliation. As I did last week, I continue to encourage you to receive this sacrament before Christmas. **Remember, we are celebrating the second rite of reconciliation this Monday, 16th December 2019, at 7:30pm. Let us gather together, in reflection and prayer, to spend some quality time with God.**

Fr Baiyi

Readings for next weekend: Fourth Sunday of Advent—Year A

Isaiah 7:10-14

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-24

IN OUR PARISH THIS COMING WEEK:

MON 16th Dec	8.00am Mass 7.30pm Community 2nd Rite of Reconciliation
TUE 17th Dec	8.00am Mass 8.30am St Vinnies Hamper sorting 4.00pm St Vincent de Paul meeting 7.00pm RCIA
WED 18th Dec	6.30am Mass
THU 19th Dec	No Mass 8.30am St Vinnies Hamper packing
FRI 20th Dec	9.00am Rosary 9.30am Mass 11.00am Funeral of Gaye Hamell
SAT 21st Dec	2.00pm Korean Background Parishioners' Lunch 5.00pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
SUN 22nd Dec	Fourth Sunday of Advent 9.00am Mass with RCIA Sacraments 6.00pm Mass

Calling all Musicians and Singers: The practice for the Christmas Masses will be held this Sunday 15th December at 10:30am. Peter's. Any queries- please phone Elizabeth on 3341 0852.

Community 2nd Rite of Reconciliation for Advent Monday 16th December at 7.30pm. Please come along. We have 3 priests. As well as Fr Baiyi, we will have Fr John Khoai and Fr Harry Chan OFM to assist.

RCIA: Next Sunday at the 9am Mass, Harrison Porter, Deb Meggs and Jess Smith will be received into the Catholic Church and will be Confirmed and make their First Eucharist. Please remember them in your prayers and make them feel welcome in our great St. Peter's community.

Christmas Decorating: We would love your help with decorating the Church for our Christmas Masses! All are Welcome. We will be decorating on Monday 23rd December at 6.30pm.

Thank You: A Very Big Thank you to everyone who supported Care & Concern's Christmas lunch in support of St Vinnies on Saturday. Thankyou to our amazing committee members, to Mel, Volunteers who all worked tirelessly, to Rita & the Treetops choir, Fr Baiyi, Julie and Jo, for all your efforts, and to those who gave of their time and donations of food and money. It was a great afternoon! Many thanks to all of our Committee members & volunteers who bless our ministry with their time, kindness and generosity throughout the year.

Annuals available on the table near the doors.

God's Word 2020 (\$11) All the readings for every day of the year as well as reflections.

Break Open the Word 2020 (\$18) is an invaluable resource for anyone in the Reading Ministry but also for those in the Music Ministry and Liturgy Group.

Youth Update: **High School:** Thank you for everything this year! We have loved every moment of our Saturday nights! We are taking a break for the school holidays and will return on the 1st of February.

Congratulations Deacon Mike

Deacon Mike's 10th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate will be celebrated this Sunday 15th December at the 6pm Mass. We are so blessed to have Deacon Mike in our parish so please come along to celebrate. Cuppa and chat to follow.

St Vinnies' News: For Sale from the Piety Stall:



New books, prayer cards, statues.

Columban Calendars for 2020 \$8.

Christmas Cards—pack of 8 for \$4.

Also, some single cards \$0.50 each.

Hampers: Last weekend for donations of non perishable food and gifts for our Christmas hampers for the needy. Place your donations in the baskets near the Baptismal font.

We need volunteers for sorting donations this Tuesday 17th December 8.30am and for packing hampers on Thursday 19th December 8.30am.

Many helpers needed! All Welcome.

Faith Matters! Third Sunday of Advent How might we bring JOY to the world?



The theme of this Third Sunday of Advent is one of JOY. The Church names this Sunday '**Gaudate**' Sunday; *Gaudate* being a Latin word that means Rejoice!

Pope Francis reminds all that it is the '**Sunday of Joy.**' His reminder is to focus on all the '**good things life has given you**' instead of worrying and stressing about 'all the things you still haven't done to prepare for Christmas.'¹

Let us be encouraged by these inspiring words about JOY.

Mother Teresa - '**Joy is a sign of generosity.** When you are full of joy, you move faster and you want to go about doing good to everyone.'²

Pope Francis - '**Joy is the air Christians breathe.** Joy cannot be purchased or forced. It is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. Joy is peace, peace that is deeply rooted, peace in the heart, the peace that only God can give.'³

The Prophet Isaiah - '**They will come shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces.**'⁴

The well-known Christmas carol '**Joy to the World**' invites us to name the '**wonders of his love**' that we see and experience and that make our hearts '**sing with sounding JOY!**'

On this Gaudate Sunday, let us think about:

- What brings you deep JOY?
- How might you bless others with the gift of JOY?
- How do you receive the gift of JOY from others?

O Loving God, help us be people of JOY who walk in the light of the Lord. Amen.

1. Pope Francis, Mass at Casa Santa Marta, 28 May, 2018.

2. Mother Teresa (1997) (Compiled by Jaya Chaliha & Edward Le Joly), *The Joy in Loving: A Guide to Daily Living With Mother Teresa*, Penguin, India, p. 267.

3. Pope Francis, Mass at Casa Santa Marta, 28 May, 2018.

4. Isaiah 51:11

Faith Enrichment Group

St Peter's Planned Giving via Direct Bank Transfer:

If you would like to direct transfer your Planned Giving to our bank account, our BSB is 064-786 and Account number is 007021101. Please use your surname and Planned Giving (or PG) as reference.

Some Advent & Christmas Date Claimers

St Vinnies' Hamper Sorting & Packing
 Tuesday 17th & Thursday 19th Dec from 8.30am
Choir & Musician's Practice:
 10.30am Sunday 15th December
Community 2nd Rite of Reconciliation:
 7.30 pm Monday 16th December
Practice for Children's Pageant at 6.30pm Mass will
 be held at 10.00am on Monday 23rd Dec
Decorating the Church 6.30pm Monday 23rd Dec
Christmas Masses:
Christmas Eve Tuesday 24th Dec
 6.30 pm (Family)
 & 9.00 pm (Vigil)
Midnight Mass
Christmas Day Wednesday 25th Dec 9.00 am
New Year's Day Wednesday 1st Jan 9.00am only



**Mass Co-ordinators, Readers, Communion Ministers
 AV Operators & Altar Servers are needed for all**

Christmas Masses. If you know which Mass you
 will be attending please consider if you can volunteer to
 help out in any way. Write your name on the sheets on
 the table near the main church doors.

Children's Pageant Practice is at 10 am on Monday
 23rd December for 6.30 pm Mass Christmas Eve. All
 children who would like to be part of the pageant please
 come along. The Practice usually lasts for an hour and a
 half. We need children to play Mary, Joseph, angels,
 kings, shepherds... We also need readers. Parents
 welcome! Help welcome!
 Contact Jo Cullen on 0419733878 for more information.

Musicians and singers practice for the 6.30pm Mass
 please also attend the pageant practice at 10.00am on
 Monday 23rd Dec. Practice for the other Masses will be
 held this Sunday 15th December at 10.30am.

St Peter's Pilgrimage to the Holy Land Recently 4 spots have become available on our September 2020
 tour. If you are interested in joining us please contact Stephanie Lenihan asap. Mobile 0413268860
 Email salenihan@hotmail.com Don't miss out on a once in a lifetime opportunity to travel with your fellow
 parishioners and see where Jesus lived and carried out his ministry.

Planned Giving Envelopes for 2020 are available for collection this weekend.

Christmas Lights: Lovely display in several homes cnr Warnambul & Adelong Rds, Shailer Park.

See the Noticeboard for Invitations from around the Archdiocese

Lights of Christmas: December 11 - 24, 6.30pm - 10.30pm on the lawn at St Stephen's Cathedral. The lights
 of Christmas is a free event open to the public that will delight families with a wonderful sound and light show.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Those who have died: Brant Jones, Maria Chu, Elizabeth Ribic

Book of Life & Mass Requests: Margaret Lynch, Margaret Bradley, Hanorah Henderson, Rod Caligari,
 Udhav Mone, Emily Jane Mahony, Sarah Hamill, John Pulley, Maria Riccobon, James Glancy, Clare Breen,
 Kevin Mullins, Sr Philomena Lyons, Ken White, Alexander Forbes, Thomas Doherty, Helen Lawlor

Please pray for those who are sick, especially: Diego Tagini, Winston van Rooyen, Oliver Akomolafe,
 Elmore Kotzur, Michael O'Grady, Joseph Peki, Vickie Routledge, Alan Camp, Ian Thompson, Kevin Kelly,
 Edna Bultitude, Vilma Ghouse, Callum Poynter, Sue Power, Rebecca Power, Rex Bowen, Catherine Nystrom,
 Kevin Hargrave, Joyce Byrne, Simon Hinton, Ray Parker, June Richards, Brad Richards, Barrie Martin,
 Marcos Mendoza, Gwen Green, Esme Jensen, Fabio Viola, Michael Harkin, David Richardson, Kaitlin Bakker,
 Karen Johnston, Warren Williams, Vivian Kennedy, Danny Costello, Benny Santanaraj, Lexie Harding,
 Violet Adamson, Max Drummond, Lori Hodder, Ramona Cruz, Kieran McKenna, Trevor Parker,
 Sesinando de Leon Jnr, Sandra Murphy, Sylvia Privitera, Johnny Summers, Hamish Stuhmeke,
 Bonnie Dematillar, Ursula Williamson

Prayer requests should be recorded on the form on the back table of the church nearest to the lectern.

Please ensure you have the permission of the person who is sick to make their name public.

21st & 22nd Dec	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 6pm
Mass Co-ordinators	Mark Connolly	Lydia Chew	Anne Fry
AV Operators	John Donohue	Julie Hondroudakis	Mike Collier
Readers	C. Neil Ballment 1. Monika Svarc (Jnr) 2. Lyndal Bray-Claridge	C. Megan Philpott 1. Maria Chamberlain 2. Alan Vigor	C. John Blake 1. Aurelie Twidale 2. Daniel Twidale
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Deacon Mike Jones Danny Vaihu Trish Meulman	Alan Scanlon Bev De Paola Diane McKeone Jo Cullen	Jim Nathan Anne Scanlon Steph Lenihan
Altar Servers	Talia, Rene	Finn, Leo, William	Eza, Eugene, Euha
Musicians	Eliz	Carmel	Eliz

Church Cleaning: Group 1 Sue & Donald Fernando, Murray Wickman, Jenifa & Suresh

Children's Liturgy: None **This week: Sacristan: Mel McKay** **Counting: Bob's Team**

Cuppa: Sunday 22nd Dec after 6pm Mass: Kate Guy, Malcolm Carroll, Helen Graczyk

Are you new to our Parish? WELCOME!! We'd like to formally greet you, so please complete a 'New Parishioners Card' at the back of the Church and place it on the collection plate or hand it to Fr Baiyi or to one of the Parish Councillors.

Other Parish Contacts:
Care & Concern: Transport: 0412 267 337
 Co-ordinator Lynn White 0403 051103
Family Group Facebook: St Peters Rochedale Family Groups
Memorial Wall & Gardens: Mal Jensen 0411641312
St Vincent de Paul: New members: John Blake 0411 196 775

Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Representative: Malcolm Carroll 0410 193 569 or sgrep.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au
Social Justice Group Facebook: St Peter's Rochedale Social Justice Group
Rosary Group: Fridays 9:00am (1st Fridays 8.30am)

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