

# St Peter's Catholic Parish

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### PARISH PRIEST

Fr Baiyi (By-yee) Gong

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Phone: 3341 4421 (Parish Office)

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call the Parish Mobile: 0481 975 660

### DEACON

Rev. Mike Jones

Mobile: 0400 559 177

### PARISH OFFICE

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### ST PETERS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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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 B)

### 17th December 2017

Readings: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28

### The need for the sacrament

We are celebrating the second rite of Reconciliation on Tuesday evening at 7:30pm. Before that, I would like to invite you to fresh your catechesis about the sacrament of Reconciliation. Below is a part of a chapter of the textbook for RCIA published by our Archdiocese, titled *At Home With God's People*. It explains well why it is important and helpful to confess our sins to God through a human being. Before Easter this year, I distributed it in our parish and invited you to read it. Now I am doing it again and I really would like all of you to take it seriously: read it, understand it and follow it. I hope I can see all of you on Tuesday evening. *Fr Baiyi*

A basic question which is often asked concerns the necessity of this sacrament. Why not confess our sins directly to God? Why go through a priest or any human being? The answer to this question is already contained in what has been said earlier, but perhaps three points might be emphasised by way of summary:

1. It is appropriate and even necessary to repent directly before God for one's sins. When Catholics participate in this sacrament, they are in fact expressing their repentance to God and seeking to be reconciled to God. However, it is also part of Catholic belief that there is a divine purpose behind the giving to particular persons in the community the authority to forgive sins in God's name. It is another aspect of God's 'incarnational' way of relating to human beings: **using people to continue the divine work on earth is part of the way God works**. When our sins are forgiven by one who has been set apart by the Church to represent Jesus Christ, we experience the mercy of Jesus himself through that person.
2. The confession of sins to a person reminds us of the social dimension of sin. **When someone sins, the sin not only offends God, but it also has an effect, either directly or indirectly, on other people**. The priest who grants God's forgiveness not only represents Jesus Christ, but also the whole Christian community, the Church. The priest therefore has the authority to reconcile a sinner to the Church, the Body of Christ.
3. **The Priest is often able to counsel and encourage the penitent**, or even pray with the penitent for the healing of some area of brokenness in the person's life. Jesus often uses his representative, the priest, to minister to people's needs in remarkable ways through the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Finally, like all the sacraments, the sacrament of Penance or Reconciliation is an act of worship in which we praise God. In this particular sacrament, we praise God for great mercy. It is surely the most natural thing for the reconciled sinner to do. The whole family or community has cause to celebrate. What we were or did no longer isolates us; instead of shame and guilt and scandal, there is only joy, peace and the experience that we are loved by God and the community.

*[From "At Home with God's People: Our Catholic Faith" @ Evangelisation Brisbane, Archdiocese of Brisbane revised edition 2016 (Used with Permission). Bold type added by Fr Baiyi]*



**IN OUR PARISH THIS COMING WEEK:**

<b>MON 18th Dec</b>	8.00am Mass
<b>TUE 19th Dec</b>	8.00am Mass 7.30pm Community 2nd Rite of Reconciliation
<b>WED 20th Dec</b>	6.30am Mass 7.30pm Choir & Musician's Practice for the 9pm & 9am Christmas Masses
<b>THU 21st Dec</b>	
<b>FRI 22nd Dec</b>	9.00am Rosary                      9.30am Mass
<b>SAT 23rd Dec</b>	10.00am Practice for Children's Christmas Pageant & Mass including Readers, Musicians and singers 5.00pm Reconciliation 6:00pm Vigil Mass for 4th Sunday of Advent
<b>SUN 24th Dec</b>	<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> 9.00am Mass 10.00am Decorating the church for Christmas <b>Christmas Eve</b> 6.30pm Christmas Eve Family Mass 9.00pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass <b>Christmas Carols 15 minutes before each Mass</b>
<b>MON 25th Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b> 9.00am Mass (Carols 15 minutes before Mass)

**Children's Pageant Practice** is at 10 am on **Saturday 23rd December** for 6.30 pm Mass on Christmas Eve 24th December  
All children who would like to be part of the pageant please come. The Practice lasts for an hour and a half usually. We need angels, kings, shepherds... We also need readers. Parents welcome! Help welcome! Contact Jo Cullen on 0419733878 for more info. Musicians and singers for the 6.30pm Mass please also attend this practice at 10.00am on Saturday.  
**Planned Giving Envelopes for 2018** ready for collection.  
**Home Communion Ministers Rosters** ready for collection.



**Communal 2nd Rite of Reconciliation for Advent:**  
this Tuesday 19th December commencing at 7.30pm.  
We thank the 2 priests who are coming to help Fr Baiyi:  
Fr Neville Yun and Fr Harry Chan OFM

**Advent Wreath:** The candles on the Advent Wreath will be lit at each weekend Mass until Christmas. Volunteers will be needed to light the candles.



**Volunteer Mass Co-ordinators, Readers, Communion Ministers & 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 back table.

**LETTER BOX DROP** Can you help with our 'Christmas Greetings and Invitation' letter-drop? Please take some leaflets from outside the Church if you are able to deliver them in the new Rochedale estates area. There may be people new to the area who may not yet have discovered our lovely Parish family. Please mark



which street you are doing on the map provided.

**Christmas Decorations:** We would like every family to bring along a small Christmas decoration which we will use to decorate our tree on Christmas Eve. Put your name on your decoration and you can take it home again after Christmas.



**Christmas Decorating:** We would love your help with decorating the Church for Christmas! This year is tricky with 24th December being both the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve. We will decorate the church after 9am Mass (which will be the last Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent as the evening Masses will be Vigil Masses for Christmas).

So please come on **Sunday 24th December at 10am**. There are lights to put up, the tree to decorate and general draping with material. (We need people who are able to use ladders with ease also!) We look forward to seeing you there.

*Thank You, St Peter's Liturgy group.*

**Calendar:** Reminder to all ministry group leaders: please send in your groups' dates for any events, meetings etc for 2018 so we can prepare a parish calendar of events.

**Bishop John Gerry** died peacefully in Holy Spirit Hospital this week after a short illness.

\*A Funeral Vigil Liturgy will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 20, 2017 at St Brigid's Church, 78 Musgrave Rd, Red Hill

\* A Solemn Funeral Mass will be held at 11am on Thursday 21, December at the Cathedral. Light refreshments will follow in the Hanly Room. Please note there will be no parking available in the precinct on the day. A webcast will also be available live on the day and on demand afterwards on the Archdiocesan website and Archdiocesan You Tube Channel.

**Readings for next weekend: 4th Sunday of Advent (Yr B)** 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16  
Romans 16:25-27                      Luke 1:26-38

**Christmas Date Claimers**

**Community 2nd Rite of Reconciliation:**

7.30 pm Tuesday 19th December

**Choir & Musicians' Practice**

7.30pm Wednesday 20th December

**Practice for Children's Pageant for Christmas Eve:**

10.00 am Saturday 23rd Dec.

**Christmas Masses:**

**Christmas Eve** Sunday 24th Dec

6.30 pm (Family)  
& 9.00 pm (Vigil)

**Christmas Day** Monday 25th Dec

9.00 am only

**New Year's Day** Monday 1st Jan

9.00am only



**Beautiful Vinnies Christmas cards for sale after Mass. Pack of 8 for \$4.**

**Vinnies News:**



1. Thank you for your generous response to our appeal for donations of groceries and Christmas gifts for our hampers. This is the last weekend for donations but we still need your help as volunteers for sorting donations this Tuesday 19th December 9.30am and for packing hampers on Wednesday 20th December 8.30am. Help with delivering the hampers later in the week will also be needed. Please see one of the St Vinnies team on Tuesday or Wednesday if you would like to help with deliveries. We appreciate your help in this important ministry.

2. Columban Calendars for 2018 also available (cost \$9).

**Break Open the Word 2018:** \$18 each. An invaluable resource for anyone in the Reading Ministry but also for those in the Music Ministry and Liturgy Group.

**God's Word 2018** —is a Liturgical diary which has the readings for every day from the New Jerusalem Bible, inspiring reflections on the readings of the day. A great resource for yourself or it would make a fantastic Christmas gift—special deal \*\* still only \$10!

**Planned Giving Commitment:** Please support our Planned Giving to keep our parish functioning fully: Traditional cash envelopes or a monthly Credit Card payment, weekly, monthly or yearly Direct Debits and **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.

**Social Justice News:** We have past copies of *New Internationalist* magazines to give away. This magazine covers a variety of Social Justice issues Please take any that you would be interested in reading. Look in the red box at the back of the church. *Erika on behalf of the SJG*

**YEAR OF YOUTH 2018 :** "You ask me whether I am in good spirits. How could I not be so? As long as Faith gives me strength I will always be joyful!" – *Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati 24 years old Young adult social activist*

**Invitations from around the Archdiocese:**

**Advent Gospel Reflection with Dr Antonia Pizzey.** Dr Antonia Pizzey Lecturer from ACU will share her wisdom about St Mark and his Gospel. Final session Tuesday 19th December at 7:00pm. The Workshops will take place at Our Lady of the Assumption Church at Park Ridge. Tea and coffee will be available and if people could bring a small plate to share for supper that would be appreciated. Gold coin contribution would be appreciated to offset costs. Please contact St Bernadine's Parish office, Regents Park for more information on 07 3884 7600.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Those who have died:** Michael Bahn, Terri Mills, Noel Christie, Kevin Desbois, Eliza Calabia, Joan Hine

**Book of Life & Mass Requests:** Muriel Jean Wiseman, 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, Ronald Kennedy, Bill Carver, Leo Lawlor, Mary Blattman

**Please pray for those who are sick, especially** John Green, Edmund Ho, Tricia Dowing, Kathleen Anderson, Kevin Dingwall, Anthony Van Rooy, Evelyn Scanlon, Alan Camp, Ramona Cruz, Ursula Williamson, Kieran McKenna, Sesinando de Leon Jnr, Rev. Dcn. Peter Olsen, Trevor Parker, Sandra Murphy, Fabio Viola, Michael Smith, Peter Harris, Sylvia Privitera, Andrew Briskey, Pat Mildren, Elmore Kotzur, Flex Dance, Monica Ah Koy, Kevin Kelly, Annette Sparks, Hamish Stuhmeke, Joe Wegener, Bonnie Dematillar, Johnny Summers

**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.**

**Roster 23rd & 24th December 2017**

Co-ordinator		Readers		Communion	Altar Servers	Musicians
Sat 6:00pm	Diane Land	C 1 2	Lyndal Bray-Claridge Michael Claridge Geoff Hondroudakis	Diane Land Shelagh Ballment Ann Maree Collier	?	Liz
Sun 9:00am	Grace Tuazon	C 1 2	Stephanie Lenihan Julie Hondroudakis Marilyn Mills	Deacon Mike Jones Joan D'Netto Kevin Healan	?	Tim
Sun 6.00pm	No 6pm Sunday Mass	C 1 2	See volunteer sheets for Christmas Eve Masses	See volunteer sheets for Christmas Eve Masses		

**Church Cleaning:** 1 Micheal Denton, Roy Steinwede, sue & Donald Fernando, Murray Wickman

**Children's Liturgy:** none      **This week: Linen:** Mel McKay      **Counting:** Bob's team

**Cuppa:** after the 6pm Mass on Sun 24th December: Joan d'Netto, Anna Carver, Anne Scanlon



## Other Parish Contacts

Care & Concern: Transport: 0412267337  
Co-ordinator Lynn White 0403 051103

Family Group Facebook:

St Peters Rochedale Family Groups

Memorial Wall & Gardens: Les O'Gorman 3341 3862

Rosary Group: Fridays 9:00am (1st Fridays 8.30am)  
Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Representative:  
Malcolm Carroll 0438 949 099 or mcarroll580@gmail.com  
Social Justice Group Facebook:  
St Peter's Rochedale Social Justice Group

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