

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PARISH



Rochedale Springwood
 955 Rochedale Rd, Rochedale 4123
 Phone: 3341 4421 (Parish Office)



PARISH PRIEST

Fr Johny Edapulavan CMI
 Email: pp.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au
 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."

First Sunday of Advent (Year C) 1st December 2024

Readings: Jeremiah 33:14-16 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2 Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

The Symbolism & Tradition Behind the Advent Wreath and Candles

The wreath and candles are full of symbolism tied to the Christmas season. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life we find in Christ. The wreath itself, which is made of various kinds of evergreens, signifies continuous life. Laurel signifies victory over persecution and suffering. The four candles on the Advent wreath represent the light of Christ entering the world. One candle is lit each Sunday, marking the progression of the four weeks of Advent.

What do the colours of the candles represent? Three candles are purple, and lit on the first, second, and fourth Sundays of Advent. They represent a time of prayer, penance, sacrifice, and spiritual reflection. The fourth candle is pink and lit on the third Sunday of Advent. This candle represents joy and marks a shift in the tone of Advent from penitential reflection to joyful anticipation, inviting believers to rejoice as Christmas draws nearer.

Each candle represents a theme for each week of Advent — hope, peace, joy, and love. **The First Candle**, called the **Prophecy Candle**, represents hope and the anticipation of Christ's coming, recalling the prophecies about the Messiah and the hope He brings to the world. The **Second Candle**, called the **Bethlehem Candle**, symbolizes peace and preparation, reflecting Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem and the peace that Christ's birth brings. The **Third Candle** (pink candle) is called the **Shepherd's Candle**, and represents the joy felt at the birth of our Lord, as well as the joy we have in anticipation of His return. The **Fourth Candle**, called the **Angel's Candle**, symbolizes love and the message of God's love that the angels announced at Christ's birth.

Christmas is just around the corner, only four weeks away from the coming of the Lord. The word "Advent" means "the coming". It has a note of constancy about it... not "he has arrived," but "he is arriving," he is near, he is at the door, he is waiting for you. His coming, of course, is the coming of the Child at Christmas: the coming of the Saviour, Emmanuel, God with us. And he comes as an infant, born in a humble village of Bethlehem. And this is God's coming into history.

In this season, we recall the first coming of God into our midst. We remember that moment in which Jesus humbled himself and became man. He became one with us because of his desire to save us. While we recall the first coming, we are also reminded about the second coming of Christ. We anticipate it, but the knowledge of this future event is beyond our capabilities. The exact time of arrival can never be predicted. No technology presently available, although advanced, can determine it. It will remain ever elusive. Consequently, Christ suggests to us some proper attitudes. Firstly, Christ proposes us to "stay awake". Secondly, Christ suggests we should "be prepared" for his coming. May the urgent call of the Advent season for vigilance and preparedness, convince each one of us not to postpone our conversion, and not to postpone our hearts. Let us resolve to make the rest of our lives the best we can!

Fr Johny Edapulavan CMI

In our parish this week: December 2024

Monday 2	Tuesday 3	Wednesday 4	Thursday 5	Friday 6	Saturday 7	Sunday 8
8.00am Mass 10.30am Funeral Mass of Gabriele Gigante	St Francis Xavier 8.00am Mass with children 12.00pm Home Communion Ministers Mting 6.30pm Grade 6 Graduation Mass	6.30pm Adoration 7.00pm Mass	<i>Parish Office closed</i>	8.30am Rosary 9.00am Adoration 9.30am Healing Mass 10.45am End of School Year Mass	St Ambrose 5.00pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass	Second Sunday of Advent (Year C) 9.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass



Rosedale Vinnies' Christmas Appeal

'The Lord hears the cry of the poor' (See Ps 34:7)

Share God's gifts of love & hope at Christmas by giving:

☒ **Donations of Cash or Gift Cards from:**

Woolworths, Drakes, Coles, K Mart, Big W

☒ **Donations of Christmas Goodies:**

Christmas Puddings or Children's Toys for All Ages

Gift Cards or Cash - pin in marked envelopes to the
"VINNIES' GIVING TREE".

Christmas Goodies - place at the foot of the tree.

OR handed in to the Parish Office
by **Sunday 8th December, 2024**



From Rosedale St Vincent de Paul (Vinnies) Christmas Cards & Columban Calendars – For Sale

From **Saturday 30 November to Sunday 15 December**, the Piety Stall will be selling Christmas Cards and Columban Calendars on the verandah at each Mass.

Cards will be **\$4:00** for a pack of 5.

Calendars will be **\$11.00** each. **Sales are cash only.**

There also will be Stocking Fillers available for sale at the same Masses. Cash Only.

Christmas Masses:

Christmas Eve Tuesday 24th December

6.30 pm (Family Mass with children's pageant)

& 9.00 pm (Vigil)

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

Children's Christmas Pageant Leaders needed: Please contact the Parish Office if you would be able to assist with the Children's Pageant at the 6.30pm Family Mass on Christmas Eve. We would love a mix of experienced and new helpers!



Those who have died: Gabriele Gigante (*Cesarina's father*), Kevin Garr, Patricia Jones, (*Carmel Northey-Cherrett's Aunt*), Patricia Cussans (*Dawn Evans' Sister in Law*)

Book of Life & Mass Requests: Len Louis, Kathleen Walsh, Mario Gatbonton, Mona McKenna, Vince Fitzsimon, Evelyn Ellwood, Mabel MacDonald, Bernard Luton, Sophie Robinson, Bernard Montegrando, Marie Maguire, Ruth Ballment, Clyde Spearitt, Kay Topping, Les Harris, Silvia Milaudi, Eddie McDonnell, Alfie Healan, Michael Bahn, Bobby Smith, Bernie Minton, Bill Smith, Otilie Brandt

Please pray for those who are sick, especially:

Jamal Chalhouh, Jim Collins, Ann Gooiker, Ian Forno, Robert Cussans, Yolanda Timkoe, Rikki-Lee Curran, Valerie Isaac, Brother Amos, Ameka, Mitchy, Kerriane Meulman, Kent McMahan, Phyllis Mayer, Nan Hauff, Janet Hicks, Maxine Macdonald, Joy de Souza, Sandra MacDonald, Don Tallon, Kevin Collier, Ray Parker, Phillip Van Rooyen, Olga Mariani, Patricia Green, Reg Van Rooyen, Mel Singh, Rhonda Lawson, Sr Lila Galvin, Kathy Jensen, Steph & Les O'Gorman, Teresa Leong, Pat McDonnell, Katie Costello.

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.



**Readings for next weekend:
Second Sunday of Advent (Year C)**

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

2 Peter 3:8-14

Mark 1:1-8

CHRISTMAS BRUNCH hosted by Care & Concern in support of St Vinnies in the Parish Centre. All those who have booked for the brunch this **Saturday 30th November**, please aim to arrive 10.10am for 10.30am start. Finishes at 1.30pm. Tickets \$15 if you haven't already paid. Brunch, Carols Sing a long, trivia, raffles & Christmas Craft stall. (Please be prepared with cash). Contact Lynn 0403051103 for any queries or if you find that you cannot attend. This will allow others on the waiting list to be invited. Thank you.



Flowers in the Church - a thank you and an Advent message

The beautiful flowers donated this year for our Church have been much appreciated. They help to remind us of God's glory and the beauty of creation. Thank you to those who have generously donated flowers!

During this Advent Season, we will move to a light purple colour for our church banners and **we will not use flowers** until the Christmas season. This is to make our focus on the Advent Wreath with its special symbolism for the season. Thank you for your kind understanding.

Books for sale in the church or Parish Office

God's Word 2025 - \$20 - Liturgical diary with all of the daily readings for 2025 plus daily reflections.

HOPE Reigns Advent Books - \$5 - Group and Individual Reflections for Advent 2024.

Break Open the Word 2025 - \$26 - a fabulous resource for those who are Ministers of the Word.

Mass Ministers: The new rosters for January to March 2025 will need to be compiled soon. Could all those who minister in any way at weekend Masses, please advise any dates that you will be unavailable either by email to Belmira or on the yellow slips on the table near the doors in the church. Thank you all!

PARISH OFFICE

955 Rosedale Rd, Rosedale
Open: Mon—Wed 8.15am-1.15pm
Closed on Thursdays
Open: Fri 8.15am-1.15pm
Phone: **3341 4421**

Website:
www.stpetersrochedale.org.au
Facebook: stpetersrochedaleparish

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

Co-ordinator of Lay Ministries:

Belmira D'Souza
Email: layministry.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Michael McInerney
Phone: 3341 4800
Email: prochedale@bne.catholic.edu.au

ST PETER'S OSHC

Phone: 3219 7672
Email: co.rochedaleoshc@catholicearlyyedcare.qld.edu.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELP CENTRE

Phone: 1800 846 643

FAITH MATTERS: First Sunday of Advent 30 Nov/1 Dec

Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man. Luke 21: 36.

Our candles of sorrow and solace at the Feast of Holy Souls, become candles of anticipation and hope as we enter the Season of Advent. The evergreen circle of the **Advent Wreath** symbolises life everlasting. A candle is added and lit for each week of the Advent season, the shades of purple, lavender and pink marking the weeks of our expectant preparation. The Advent wreath lights our way of Hope.

Each Advent we experience the herald, the waiting, the anticipation, and the wonder in the birth of Christ who comes to us as the 'Light of the World'.

Returning to the 'ordinary', the usual, the measured and expected patterns of life, how do we carry the Light of Christ, high on our lampstand giving light to our fragile and fallen world? How do we become bearers of the light for ourselves and others?

Through the Word of the Gospels and the Witness of our actions, Pope Francis invites us to spread the Christ-light:

Like the Magi, we too are called to allow ourselves to be fascinated, attracted, guided, illuminated, and converted by Christ: He is the journey of faith, through prayer and the contemplation of God's works, who continually fills us with joy and wonder, an ever-new wonder. That wonder is the always the first step to go forward in this light.

We Pray - Lord of expectation and promise, we stand on the threshold of your coming among us. We pray in hope for your grace and presence, that we will recognise you in those around us.

Pope Francis (2018). *Gaudete Exsultate: On the call to holiness in today's world.* Strathfield, St Pauls, p.13

Vinita Hampton-Wright (2018) *Advent again: time for practising hope.* Ignatian Spirituality. Loyola Press.

Faith Enrichment Ministry

RCIA: In recent weeks Janelle Luchetti and Jim Wright have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist. We welcome Janelle and Jim wholeheartedly into full communion with the Catholic Church, and into our Parish of St Peter. During 2024, their families - Janelle, Greg and Freddie, and Jim, Vivienne and David, have come to find their place in our community. Please keep these families in your prayers. Our journey of faith continues together as we pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit to 'set ourselves close to Jesus as living stones, building a spiritual house of worship and community'.

Christian Religious Instruction (CRI) Needs YOU!
Do you have a heart for local mission – reaching those literally in your own backyard?

Why not consider going back to school in 2025?

In Queensland State Schools we have the wonderful privilege of being able to volunteer to teach children within the Christian Religious Instruction program. Volunteers from many different Christian denominations form a team to teach CRI at Rochedale State School. As a CRI teacher or helper, you can read the Bible and share the gospel message clearly through our curriculum which has full lesson plans, student workbooks and online resources. All that is needed is 30 minutes a week to teach, some time to prepare, 3 online training modules, a Blue Card and a letter from our parish priest.

We always need and welcome new volunteers of all ages and all walks of life to our group and I can confirm that it is such a rewarding outreach ministry of our church. Maybe you would consider joining us?

If you would like more information please contact our CRI coordinator or myself:

Sonia Kenny soniajkenny@gmail.com or 0422 068552

Rita Bishop ritajbishop@yahoo.com or 0408154751

Roster: 7th & 8th Dec	Saturday 6pm Mass	Sunday 9am Mass	Sunday 6pm Mass
Mass Co-ordinator	Chrysanth Jesuthasan	Baji Itteera	Helen Graczyk
AV Operator	Callista Jesuthasan	Eric Quan	Jonathan Vigor
Readers	C. Mal Jensen 1. Lyndal Bray-Claridge 2. Peta Grandin	C. Del Reynolds 1. Fion Fiju 2. Lauren Cocks	C. Raylee Burns 1. David Roati 2. Anne Fry
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Ann Maree Collier Shelagh Ballment Joseph Varkey	Anne Scanlon Shilgy Matthew Swapna Joseph Deseree Quan Julie H	Laly Chackoo Cesarina Gigante Malcolm Carroll
Musicians	Elizabeth Fort	Rita Bishop	Elizabeth Fort
Cleaning Group 3: Lance George, Liberty de Jesus			
Cuppa & Chats after Mass : Following 6pm Mass on Sat 7th December: Care & Concern			
This week 1st - 7th Dec	Sacristan: Suma Joseph		Counting: Carl'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: 0413 268 860

♥ Co-ordinator: Lynn White 0403 051 103

♥ Memorial Wall & Gardens:

Mark Connolly 0434 147 835

♥ 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: Kevin Fry 0417 002 782

Help needed:

Church Cleaning Ministry: Recently 2 of our Church Cleaning Ministers have had to withdraw from the Ministry for personal reasons thus leaving one of our groups in need of new members as they are down to 2 people. We aim for 4 or 5 people to a group so that the duties are shared. If you would be able to help out once every 5 weeks on either a Saturday morning or Friday afternoon, please contact the Parish Office.

Duties include vacuuming, mopping, dusting the church and Parish Centre and cleaning the Parish Centre kitchen and church toilets. Most people give an hour to an hour and a half of their time. This is a lovely way to support our Parish Family.

AV Operator during weekend Masses: We are in need of a few more AV operators at all of the weekend Masses. We currently have only 6 people on this Ministry and it would be great to have a few more. This role involves turning the AV and computer system on and off and clicking the powerpoint slide over throughout the Mass using the prompter. Please speak to one of the AV operators at Mass for more information or contact the Parish Office.

Entertainment Memberships: **This Christmas, Let the Adventures Begin! **

Make every outing special with an Entertainment Membership! Enjoy **over \$20,000 in savings** on the best restaurants, activities, and more! When you purchase a Single City Membership, you'll get a **FREE Multi City Upgrade** + a **\$30 Gift Card** as a special Christmas bonus!

Give the gift of experience this year and keep the fun going into 2025! **Hurry, offer ends soon!**

Help boost St Peter's fundraising. St Peter's Online Order Page is <https://subscribe.entertainment.com.au/fundraiser/2224e97>

Youth Update

New members always welcome!

✉ youth.stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au 📷 [@rochedaleyouth](https://www.instagram.com/rochedaleyouth)

Seeking volunteers or beneficial ideas on growing our youth ministry:

Do you have a passion for promoting the Catholic faith to our young people?

Do you have any great ideas for ways to engage our primary school, high school and young adults?

Are you a parent or grandparent or a young adult yourself who would like to be involved?

Please contact the Parish Office on 3341 4421 or via email stpetroch@bne.catholic.net.au



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.

These businesses support our parish, please support them.

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CATCH OUR BUS

Enquire at JTA.link/STMC

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