



Catholic Parish of St. Canice

We acknowledge the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians on whose land this Church was built.

15 December 2013

Parish Directory
St Canice Parish
28 Roslyn Street, Elizabeth Bay
NSW 2011
www.stcanice.com.au
Phone: 9358 5229
Fax: 9358 3170

Parish email:
parish@stcanice.com.au

Parish Priest
Chris Jenkins, SJ
chrisjenkinssj@hotmail.com

Parish Secretary
Elizabeth Strutt
elizabeth@stcanice.com.au

Director Jesuit Mission
Phil Crotty SJ
Phil.crotty@jesuitmission.org.au

Director JRS
Aloysius Mowe SJ
director@jrs.org.au

Associate Director JRS
Dr Maryanne Loughry RSM
maryanne.loughry@jrs.org.au

Jesuit Mission (National Office)
www.jesuitmission.org.au

Jesuit Refugee Service—Australia
www.jrs.org.au

Mass Times
Sunday – 8:30am & 10:30am
Tuesday to Friday - 7:00am
Saturday – 9.00am Vigil - 6:00pm

Public Holidays – 9:00am

Reconciliation
Before Vigil & Sunday masses or on request

Anointing
Healing Mass 11:00am - First Friday of each month otherwise by request

Third Sunday of Advent

By the Witness of Life

John the Baptist is the last of the Old Testament prophets and the first witness to Jesus as the Messiah, the chosen one of God. Today we read about him in gaol, witnessing to the power of God in his life, even to the point of death. This Advent we too await the coming of the Messiah into our world once again at Christmas - his presence we are called to witness to, just as John did in his prison cell.

The Gospel must be proclaimed above all by witness. Christians bear witness in the heart of their community by understanding people and accepting them; by sharing life and destiny; by solidarity with all who work for what is good and noble. Christians bear witness radiating their faith simply, unaffectedly; by values that go beyond the values of the age; by hope, in what is still unseen, or scarcely to be imagined.

Through such unspoken witness, Christian put questions into the hearts of those who see the way they live.

'Why are they like this?' they ask. 'Why do they live like that? What inspires them? Who inspires them? Why are they among us?'

Witness such as this proclaims Good News silently but powerfully.

This is where evangelisation starts. (Evangelii Nuntiandi 20, 21).



Agnolo Allori (Bronzino) St John the Baptist

Fr Chris

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

Entrance Hymn:

No 414 (Gather) Sing A New Song Unto The Lord

Opening Prayer

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.

First Reading: Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Response 8:30am, 10.30am

Lord, come and save us.

Second Reading: James 5: 7-10

Be patient, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good New to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 11: 2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples who said to Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Offertory Hymn:

No 429 (Gather) In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

Communion Antiphon:

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Communion Hymn:

No 489 (Gather) The Beatitudes

Recessional:

No 404 (Gather) Christ Be Our Light

Let us pray for:

Recently Deceased: Sr. Gemme Castello *rsj*, Dorothy Halpin, Julie Kelly, Max Redden, Fr Emmett Costello *sj*, Eliseo Cancio, Carmen Dougall, Maureen Ramsey.

Anniversaries: Dan O'Brien, Helen Munro (Smith), Thomas Eugene Hemera, Mary Fear (Graham's sister), Father Donal Taylor *sj*, Arthur Joseph Kavanagh, Fortunato Edmond Mallia, Helen McCarthy, Kathleen Marie Quinn, Martin F X Quinn.

Recently ill: John Dah Dah, Claire Givney, Davina Kohler, Dorothy Loughry, Carmel Walke, Helen, Margaret Shoditsch, Elisa Pier De Siun Young, John Myers, Jeannette McSwini, Rosemary Nugent, Scott Mitchell, Robert McCormack, Jean McInerney, Bernard McCauley.

Next Week's Readings: 22 December 2013

First Reading: Isaiah 7: 10-14
Second Reading: Romans 1: 1-7
Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-24

Roster for Eucharistic Celebration

21-22 Dec 2013	Vigil 6pm	8.30am	10.30am
Greeters	W Fothergill	H Campbell	P Benson
Reader	J Higgins	A Weeks	B Campbell
Ministers of the Eucharist	As available	As available	T Hunt K Walsh M Walsh M Woodburne

Lights of Christmas – St Mary's Cathedral. The spectacular laser light story of Christmas is once again on at St Mary's Cathedral starting every night at 8.30pm until midnight right through to and including Christmas Day night. Everyone is welcome to this free public event in the Cathedral forecourt where there will also be different choirs performing from 7.30pm. Bring family and friends and come and enjoy this year's theme "Lighting the World".

Invitation to Visit our website: For more information about St Canice's please visit our website www.stcanice.org.au. Therein, you can access details about our heritage, the people of our parish and the key events that are taking place.

The **Meditation Group** will continue meeting in the Parish House every Monday evening from 6pm - 7pm. All are welcome. Parking will be available in the car park at the back of the church.

We are looking for assistance in cleaning the Church. If you are able to assist we would love to hear from you. Please contact the Parish Office or email elizabeth@stcanice.com.au. Thank you.

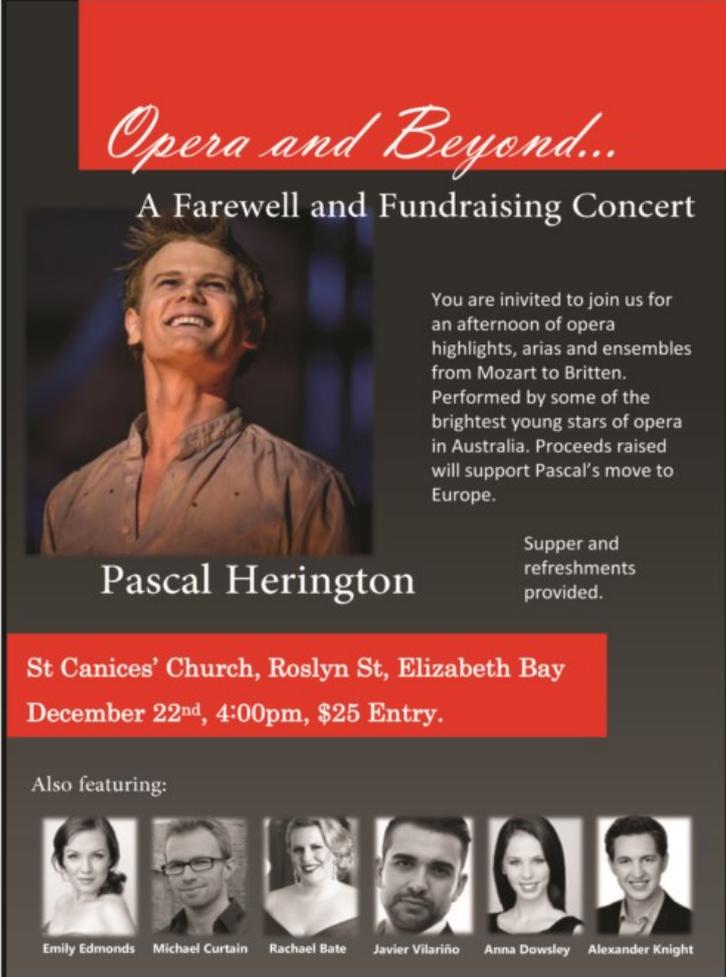
Win a trip to Rome for two and support the Priests Retirement Fund: Be part of the raffle with a fantastic first prize: two tickets to attend the Canonisation of Pope John Paul II and Pope John XXIII in late April 2014 including airfares, accommodation, tours and most meals. Join the 10-day Harvest Pilgrimages tour of Rome and the Vatican - first prize valued at \$10,000 including \$500 spending money. Second and third prizes: \$500 shopping vouchers. All profits of the raffle will go to the **Priests' Retirement Foundation** and while tickets are not on general sale until January 2014, you can buy tickets online NOW or phone to order. www.prf.org.au or tel: 1800 753 959. Tickets start at \$2 each.

World Day Of Migrants and Refugees 2014. 19 January 2014 is World Day Of Migrants And Refugees. The theme is: "Migrants and Refugees: Towards a Better World". The text from the Holy Father Pope Francis and the text can be found on the Pontifical Council website www.pcmigrants.org.

Parish Notices

Preparing for Christmas..... Third Advent Discussion, 15 December 2013 in the Annexe, 9.30am - 10.25am. All welcome. Sharing that is simple, homely, prayerful. [Please join us.](#)

**Pascal's Farewell Recital:
Sunday 22 December 2013
4pm.**



Opera and Beyond...
A Farewell and Fundraising Concert

You are invited to join us for an afternoon of opera highlights, arias and ensembles from Mozart to Britten. Performed by some of the brightest young stars of opera in Australia. Proceeds raised will support Pascal's move to Europe.

Supper and refreshments provided.

Pascal Herington

St Canices' Church, Roslyn St, Elizabeth Bay
December 22nd, 4:00pm, \$25 Entry.

Also featuring:

					
Emily Edmonds	Michael Curtain	Rachael Bate	Javier Vilariño	Anna Dowsley	Alexander Knight

Our beautiful **Christmas decorations** for many years have been made possible by the generosity of Gerhard who is unavailable this year. Parishioners who may wish to contribute to the decoration of the church this Christmas in any way, please contact [Barbara Campbell](#) on 0421 732 473 as soon as possible. Thank you.

The Vatican has invited Catholics throughout the world to share the experiences and challenges of modern family life. It has called for submissions to help the Church develop its pastoral response to the needs of the family ahead of the Extraordinary Synod on the family to be held in October 2014. The Australian bishops are making the questions available online in the hope of reaching as many Catholics as possible; I urge you to take advantage of this unique opportunity to let your voice be heard in Rome. It may only be a whisper but many whispers together make a chorus. Visit www.sydneycatholic.org to complete the survey online or return by post to Family Synod 2014, Life, Marriage, Family Centre Level 11 Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney 2000. *Fr Chris.*

Link to Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation: *Evangelii Gaudium*: <http://www.stcanice.org.au/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/APOSTOLIC-EXHORTATION-EVANGELII-GAUDIUM-OF-THE-HOLY-FATHER-FRANCIS.pdf>

Letter from our Sister Parish in Railaco: Sister Rita writes of recent events at the Railaco Jesuit Mission Station in East Timor. Please refer to the following link to read Sister Rita's letter to us: <http://www.stcanice.org.au/wordpress/?p=2027>.



Letter from Railaco

18 November 2013
Sister Rita writes from Railaco on behalf of the Team at the Jesuit Mission Station

Volume VII: No 5