



Catholic Parish of St. Canice

We acknowledge the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians on whose land this Church was built
14 December 2014

Parish Directory

St Canice Parish
28 Roslyn Street, Elizabeth Bay
NSW 2011

www.stcanice.org.au

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Parish Priest

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Parish Secretary

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Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council

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Director JRS

Aloysius Mowe SJ
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Associate Director JRS

Dr Maryanne Loughry RSM
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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

**“The Lord is coming from heaven in splendour to visit people,
and bring them peace and eternal life.”**

Entrance Antiphon, Third Sunday of Advent

For 2,000 years Christians have prayed for peace and have hailed Christ “Prince of Peace”. All peoples, including arms manufacturers, claim to long for peace, yet over the centuries there has been a massive increase in war casualties. In the 1700s there were 7 million killed; in the 1800s, 19.4 million; in the 1900s, 109 million. Civilians comprised half of the casualties from the 1700s until they rose sharply in the 1900s. They were reckoned to be 74 per cent in the 1980s (Walter Wink, *The Powers That Be: theology for a new millennium*).

This Sunday is “*Gaudete Sunday*”: it is meant to cheer us up at the prospect of Christmas, not depress us with reflections on war, so why start with war casualties? Because Christ’s teaching on peace is revolutionary, rejected by the nations, including our own, considered utterly impractical, subversive and a threat to national security.

The Romans had a saying, “to preserve peace, prepare for war”, advice that has been followed faithfully by Christian and non-Christian nations until our day. National security has become the new idolatry, eroding our freedom, diverting our wealth from life-giving projects for the poor and the desperate into weapons that destroy our brothers and sisters and poison the earth that sustains us all.

“To preserve peace we must make ourselves, as far as possible, invulnerable”. As a nation we are agreed on this. No political party stands any chance of election unless it supports our nuclear defence policy.

Nuclear weapons are designed not for defence but for first strike. We have forgotten that “deter” has the same root as terror. Have we become “terrorists” on such a scale that mass terrorism is now considered respectable? Let us make this respectability more explicitly by asking the question that Dorothy Day put to America: “What is the difference between throwing innocent people into blazing ovens and throwing blazing ovens at innocent people?”

And what is the peace that Christ brings? Jesus appeared in the Upper Room on Easter Sunday evenings and greeted his disciples with “‘Peace to you’ and showed them his hands and his side” (John 20:20). Christ’s peace comes through vulnerability: peace, as the word is generally understood, comes through invulnerability. Christ tells us we must withstand evil; he does not tell us to be doormats, but we must love our enemies and our method of resistance must express that love. This peace of Christ is costly to the giver, life-giving to the receiver, a source of great joy to both.

May Your peace, Lord, disturb us all and bring us out of our darkness into Your light.

Gerard W. Hughes sj

author of God and Surprises and God in All Things.



Entrance Antiphon

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

Entrance Hymn:

No 285 (Gather) O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verses 3 and 4)

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 a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.

First Reading: Isaiah 61: 1-2, 10-11

The spirit of the Lord God has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up the hearts that have been broken; to proclaim liberty to the captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim the year of the favour from the Lord. 'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels. 'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

Responsorial Psalm:

No 250 (Gather) **My soul rejoices in my God.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything - hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil. May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

Gospel Acclamation

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

Gospel: John 1: 6-8, 19-28

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straightway for the Lord.' Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you unknown to you and the one who is coming after me and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

Offertory Hymn:

No 179 (Gather) Baptised in Water

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 418 (Gather) Laudete Dominum

Recessional Hymn:

No 463 (Gather) Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Let us pray for:

Recently Deceased: Dorothy Antico, Sue Bloomfield, Josephine Moron, Michael Deloughery, Johann Schoditsch, Tom Claffey, Janet O'Connor, Terry Millington, Paul Lynch, Marjorie Douglas, Bill Pincuis, Fr Laurie Christie, Lawrie Kennedy, Bobby Gordon, Harry Burke, Tim McEniery, Edith Meth, Robert Barnes, Peter Ferguson, Richard Heekis, Simon Bleasel, Winston Lindsay.

Anniversaries: Alfredo and Angela Viola, Ken East, Mario Juka, Thomas Eugene Hemera, Mary Fear, Fr. Donal Taylor sj, John McAuliffe, Brian Cassidy, Arthur Kavanagh, Fortunato Edmond Mallia, Vic Zaknich and Mara Separovich. Helen McCarthy, Irene Harding, Jadvyga Venclovas, Antanas Svedas, Bridget Ohlsson, Angela Viola.

Recently ill: Jo Spiegel, Jane Bernstam, Jack Wilson, Richy Howard, Tim McCarthy, John Giblin, Dennis O'Brien, Jack Wilson, Rosa Maria, Cath Raper, Dorothy Harding, Elizabeth Lynch, Jill Rolfe, Zoe Dudley, Lee Tillam, Paul Taylor, Desmond Whelan, Geraldine Kavanagh-Ohlsson, Cythnia Daniel, Tony Musgrave, Wayne Laphorne, Richard Ellul, Eric Robinson, Siena Mainali, Brian Loughry, Alex Pemberton, Carlie Soussa, Davina Kohler, Colin Walke, Helen, Margaret Shoditsch, Elisa Pier De Siun Young, John Myers, Jeannette McSwini, Rosemary Nugent, Robert McCormack, Jean McInerney, Bernard McCauley.

Next Week's Readings: 21 December 2014

First Reading: Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

Second Reading: Romans 16: 25-27

Gospel: Luke 1: 26-28

Roster for Eucharistic Celebrations

20-21 Dec 2014	Vigil 6pm	8.30am	10.30am
Greeters	W Fothergill	H Campbell	P Benson
Readers	P Campbell-Hardwick	A Hurst	B Campbell
Ministers of the Eucharist	As available	As available	S Buckingham T Hunt K Walsh M Walsh

Advent Reflections

9.40 am

Sundays
in Advent



You are invited to join in our Advent Reflections of the Scripture Readings each Sunday morning leading up to Christmas - in the Annexe of the Church Hall

Parish Notices

The **Jesuit Refugee Service** has this year produced a **beautiful Christmas card**. They are \$1.00 each and we have them available in the parish office or from the Piety Shop in the church at the Sunday Masses. All funds raised will be donated to the works of JRS.

St Canice's St Vincent de Paul Conference News: If you are interested in being involved in this valuable work, please contact Mick McIntyre on 0414853650 for more details. Vinnies Christmas cards are available at the church shop after Mass. Please watch out for our future bulletin notices regarding collections of goods after Masses for Christmas hampers to be distributed throughout the Kings Cross area over Christmas because this year we are approaching this collection differently, and more comprehensively, than in recent times. More of that in the weeks to come. *Stay tuned!*

Parish Calendar - 2014

Advent meditations

From Sunday 30 November:

9.40am -10.20am.

Contact : carolinecoggins@exemail.com.au

Second Rite of Reconciliation

Tuesday 23 December 2014 - 7pm

The Christmas Story - Catholic Students Art Exhibition. Open to the public from Monday, 01 December in the Crypt of St Mary's Cathedral. Over 90 inspired artwork pieces showcasing the creative talent of young Catholic students from Years 5 and 6 presented in an exhibition - *The Christmas Story*. Monday to Thursdays: 10am to 4pm .

CHRISTMAS Carol Service – Friday, 19 December 7.30pm. The Cathedral's spectacular service of readings and Christmas Carols with the renowned St Mary's Cathedral Choir, in the presence of Archbishop Fisher. The evening will consist of a rich selection of traditional Christmas carols, readings and choral music sung by the Cathedral Choir.



Pathways of St Paul: Join parishioners from Holy Innocents' on a 20 day Pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey, departing Monday 20 April 2015. Walk in the footsteps of St. Paul, visit the places where he lived, worked and was imprisoned. Also visit island of Patmos, where St John wrote the book of Revelation, Basilica of St John built over the tomb of "The Divine" Apostle and the "House of Mary" where it is said Mary spent the later years of her life. For Itinerary Brochure and Booking Form please contact Fr. Peter Krigovsky, admin@holyc.org.au, 02 9747-4291, or download from www.holyinnocentscroydon.org.au/news-and-events/parish-pilgrimage

Lights of Christmas 2014 illuminate St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney's oldest and grandest Cathedral.

An open and encompassing event for the whole community. Lights of Christmas welcome everyone to reflect and celebrate Christmas.

Lights of Christmas will run from 9 – 25 December, 2014, commencing each evening at 7:30pm with a choir performance. The light show comes on just after dusk and stays on until midnight. Enjoy!

