



Catholic Parish of St. Canice

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

8 December 2013

Parish Directory
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NSW 2011
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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

Second Sunday of Advent

Adventus Domini

The word for our season, Advent, comes from the Latin *Adventus Domini* - the coming of the Lord. Originally it referred not to the period of preparation but to the feast of Christmas itself, the day of the Lord's birth among us. It was only over time that the word *adventus* assumed a new, distinctly liturgical meaning and came to be applied to the four weeks of preparation leading up to Christmas and of expectation of the glorious return of Christ.

Nowadays, the Church sees Advent as evoking 'the coming of Christ in all its aspects, past, present and future:

"The risen and living Christ experienced in the reality of history (the One who was); in the mystery of the word, sacrament and service (the One who is); and the expectation of his glorious return (the One who is to come)."

(Source book for Sundays & Seasons)

To the one who is, who was and who is to come, we say:

"Maranatha, Come Lord Jesus/we welcome you."

Fr Chris

Only god is, only God knows,
only God can do anything.
This is the truth, and with the
help of my faith I discover this
more deeply every day. God
alone rules the cosmos, only
God knows when I shall die,
only God can convert China.
Why try to take on
responsibilities that are not
ours, why be amazed if Islam
has not yet discovered Christ,
or if millions of our brethren
adhere to Buddhism and are
spiritually satisfied? The hour
will come, and that in no way
depends on me...

Carlo Caretto

God of the Impossible



Entrance Antiphon

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

Entrance Hymn: No 285 (Gather) O Come, O Come Emmanuel (v.1&2)

Opening Prayer

Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company.

First Reading: Isaiah 11: 1-10

On that day: A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; the shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Response 8:30am, 6pm and 10.30am:

Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Second Reading: Romans 15: 4-9

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name."

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 3: 1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, John said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? "Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Offertory Hymn: No 468 (Gather) I Heard the Voice of Jesus

Communion Antiphon:

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

Communion Hymn: No 449 (Gather) Be Not Afraid

Recessional: No 285 (Gather) O Come O Come Emmanuel (v.3&4)

Let us pray for:

Recently Deceased: Julie Kelly, Max Redden, Fr Emmett Costello sj, Eliseo Cancio, Carmen Dougall, Maureen Ramsey.

Anniversaries: 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 McLnerney, Bernard McCauley.

Next Week's Readings: 15 December 2013

First Reading: Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10
Second Reading: James 5: 7-10
Gospel: Matthew 11: 2-11

Roster for Eucharistic Celebration

14-15 Dec 2013	Vigil 6pm	8.30am	10.30am
Greeters	G Losurdo	A Hurst	M Musgrave
Reader	W Fothergill	M Topui	M Walsh
Ministers of the Eucharist	As available	As available	S Buckingham B Campbell B Clulow C Coggins

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.

Last Saturday our singing group, together with some students from **St. Vincent's College** sang carols at a luncheon for Seniors at the local Community Centre that **Rotary** put on each year. This was the 18th year of the luncheon and we have sung at each gathering. It was great to have the girls from St. Vincent's and hopefully they will join us again next year.



Parish Notices

Preparing for Christmas.....by talking to one another, and listening harder to what the Sunday liturgies are telling us during Advent. On the four Sundays of December, in the Annexe, [from 9.30am until 10.25am](#), we will discuss the Mass readings, asking questions each Sunday: [Second Advent Discussion](#), 8 December 2013 in the Annexe, 9.30 am. All welcome. Sharing that is simple, homely, prayerful. Please join us.

Pascal's Farewell Recital - St Canice's Catholic Church—Sunday 22 December 2013 – 4pm . Stay tuned..!

The Royal Commission into Child sexual abuse begins to look at the Church this week. We may be in for some unpleasant surprises. The Truth Justice Healing Council have issued a statement of its submissions to the Commission. It is included as a separate sheet in the bulletin this week.

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*: www.vatican.va/holyfather/apost_exhortations

Jesuit Refugee Service: One of our refugees, Simon, who lived in Blaiket whilst the Jesuit Refugee Service helped him through the process of obtaining Australian Citizenship, is now working in the area and is looking for shared accommodation. At the moment he lives in the western suburbs and it takes a couple of hours to get to the city. Simon is well known in the parish and worked as a volunteer cleaning the Church whilst he lived here, we would have no hesitation in recommending him. Please contact Elizabeth in the parish office on (02) 9358 5229 if you can assist. Thank you.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas activities: Greetings to all Vinnies members, supporters and friends. As in the past, the St Canice's Conference of the Society of St Vincent de Paul is distributing Christmas hampers to a number of local people, with the difference this year that we are wrapping them and writing out Christmas cards for the recipients. This will take place on the front porch of the Church after the 8.30am Mass on Sunday 15th of December. We would greatly welcome your help in this process. If you wish for any more information about this or any of our other activities, please ring Mick on 0414853650.

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.

St Vincent's Private Hospital, Darlinghurst: Volunteers required for several departments for 3 hours per week, Monday to Friday. Interested persons please call Slavica on 8382 6449 or email skochovska@stvincents.com.au for information.

Adult Education Sessions: Sister Elizabeth Crilley rsj: Mary MacKillop Place, Mount Street North Sydney: Topic: *Introduction to Guided Meditation*: Date: 9 December 2013: 11am-1pm. Telephone: (02) 9929 7344. Cost: \$10. You are very welcome.

An evening of beautiful music, readings and prayer for your participation. Presented by the [Grail Singers](#) in St Mary MacKillop Chapel, Mount Street, North Sydney (close to North Sydney station). [Wednesday, 11 December at 7.30 pm](#). All freely welcome to this time for reflection in the bustle of Christmas preparations.

Pilgrimages 2014: Fr Wim Hoekstra, Parish Priest of Glenbrook, is organising two pilgrimages in 2014: from July 7 to 23 taking in France and Italy (Paris, Lisieux, Lourdes, Rome, Assisi, Siena, Florence) and from September 19 to October 4 (September school holidays) for Israel and Jordan. Information afternoon: [9 February 2014](#). For further details, contact Fr Wim on 4739 8928 or wim@stfinbars.org.au or check the website at www.stfinbars.org.au. Limited places available.

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>

