



## Catholic Parish of St. Canice

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

### Parish Directory

St Canice Parish  
28 Roslyn Street, Elizabeth Bay  
NSW 2011

[www.stcanice.org.au](http://www.stcanice.org.au)  
Tel: 9358 5229 Fax: 9358 3170  
[parish@stcanice.com.au](mailto:parish@stcanice.com.au)

### Parish Priest

Chris Jenkins, SJ  
[chrisjenkinssj@hotmail.com](mailto:chrisjenkinssj@hotmail.com)

### Parish Secretary

Elizabeth Strutt  
[elizabeth@stcanice.com.au](mailto:elizabeth@stcanice.com.au)

### Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council

Caroline Coggins  
[carolinecoggins@exemail.com.au](mailto:carolinecoggins@exemail.com.au)  
Tel: 0407 575 557

### Director JRS

Aloysius Mowe SJ  
[director@jrs.org.au](mailto:director@jrs.org.au)

### Associate Director JRS

Dr Maryanne Loughry RSM  
[maryanne.loughry@jrs.org.au](mailto:maryanne.loughry@jrs.org.au)

### Jesuit Mission (National Office)

[www.jesuitmission.org.au](http://www.jesuitmission.org.au)

### Jesuit Refugee Service - Australia

[www.jrs.org.au](http://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

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

***“And falling to their knees they did him homage” (Matthew 2:8)***  
***“Mary treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart” (Luke 2:19)***

God's coming is for all peoples, of every nation, of every class. The stories of the shepherds and of the Magi, rulers from the East, illustrate this. The shepherds, a despised class, are the first to be visited by the angel, the Magi adore, Mary ponders these things in her heart. Advent is a time to ponder, to wonder and adore.

The earliest recorded Greek historian, Herodotus, who lived 500 years before Jesus was born, describes the birth of a child in Greece. The local tyrant was told of this child's birth and that the child would overthrow him. The tyrant sent six of his guards to murder the child. They were instructed to greet and congratulate the mother, then to beg to hold the child. The first guard to receive the child was to hold it aloft, then dash it to the ground. The first guard obeyed instructions, but the child smiled when lifted up, so he passed the child to the second man. The child smiled on him, too, so he passed him to the third.

Finally, the child was held by the sixth man and smiled again. The six then confessed to the mother, warning her to hide the child. She hid him, in a box and called him Cypselos, “the boxed one”, who grew up safely, then overthrew the tyrant.

The Christ child is also powerless and through his powerlessness overcomes all the powers of evil. As St Paul says, “God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.” (1 Corinthians 1:25). We know the words; how are we to learn the implications? Is it good to stare at this child and ponder, as Mary did.

The power of “Almighty” God is the power of love, which invites, but never coerces. This love, whether we are conscious of it or not, is the longing of our hearts, the source of all our desire and restlessness. “Eternal God” is the God who is always present to each of us in every mood, state and circumstance. “The Prince of peace”, Isaiah's title for the promised Messiah, is the one who affects all creation, so that lion lies down with the lamb, all people and all things “are reconciled through him and for him”. (Colossians 1:20)

Ponder, but include our present reality, which is the only place in which any of us can meet God. What on earth can we do? The problems are too vast: as an individual I feel helpless. This is a most valuable lesson, a breakthrough to the Good News, for “God's power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.” (Ephesians 3:20)

The God, made manifest in Jesus, whom the kings adored, and who led Mary to ponder, is as present to each of us now as he was then. O God, show us your face.

***Gerard W. Hughes sj***  
***God of Surprises and God in all Things.***



### Entrance Antiphon

**Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.**

Entrance Hymn: No 285 (Gather) O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verses 5 & 6)

### Opening Prayer

**Pour fourth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.**

### First Reading: 2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.' But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus, the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from the following sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever".'

Responsorial Psalm: No 50 (Gather)

**For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

### Second Reading: Romans 16: 25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!**

### Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are here to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said to me be done to me.' And the angel left her.

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

Communion Antiphon: **Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.**

Communion Hymn: No 547 (Gather) Hail Queen of Heaven

Recessional Hymn: No 407 (Gather) Praise to You, O Christ Our Saviour

**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 Speigel, 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: 28 December 2014**

First Reading: Genesis 15: 1-6; 21: 1-3  
 Second Reading: Hebrews 11: 8, 11-12, 17-19  
 Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40

**Roster for Eucharistic Celebrations**

27-28 Dec 2014	Vigil 6pm	8.30am	10.30am
<b>Greeters</b>	M Topui	V Latkich	S Barnes
<b>Readers</b>	S Wittenoom	H Campbell	J Crone
<b>Ministers of the Eucharist</b>	As available	As available	C Coggins M Musgrave M Woodburne S Woodburne

*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**. \$1.00 each and they are 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.

### Parish Calendar - 2014

#### Advent meditations

From Sunday 30 November:

9.40am -10.20am.

Contact : [carolinecoggins@exemail.com.au](mailto: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 .

**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](mailto:admin@holyc.org.au), 02 9747-4291, or download from [www.holyinnocentscroydon.org.au/news-and-events/parish-pilgrimage](http://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!**

