

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (2:1-14)

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn.

In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

Christmas Message

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Greetings of Love, Joy and Peace. December month reminds and gives us a big picture of Advent and Christmas. The word "Advent" means "coming." In Advent we celebrate the various comings of Jesus: We commemorate his coming at Bethlehem two thousand years ago; we celebrate his Second Coming at the end of the world, and his coming to us in time - in our baptism and in the reception of his sacraments, such as the Holy Eucharist and especially this Christmas. The Church urges us to open our hearts to receive him with faith, hope and love.

Jesus, as our Saviour, brought the "Good News" that our God is a loving, forgiving, merciful, rewarding God and not a judgmental, cruel, punishing God. He demonstrated by his life and teaching how God our Heavenly Father loves us, forgives us, provides for us, and rewards us. All his miracles were signs of this Divine Love. Jesus' final demonstration of God's love for us was his own death on the cross to atone for our sins and to make us children of God. Each Christmas reminds us that sharing love with others is our Christian privilege and duty, and every time we do that, Jesus is reborn in our lives. Let us humbly admit the truth with the German mystic *Angelus Silesius* "Christ could be born a thousand times in Bethlehem – but all in vain until He is born in me." Hence, let us allow Jesus to be reborn in our hearts and lives, not only during Christmas, but every day, so that he may radiate the Light of his Presence from within us as sharing and selfless love, expressed in compassionate words and deeds, unconditional forgiveness, the spirit of humble service, and overflowing generosity.

So, as we celebrate the birth of Christ this Christmas, let joy be born in our hearts not just this Christmas day, but the whole year; not just the whole year, but our whole lives. Let us inspire this world, that can seem so lost in darkness, with the light of Christ in the light of our joy. Let us welcome family and friends. Let us welcome strangers and travellers in our midst who may join with us to celebrate the Eucharist. Make room in the pews; greet them with a welcoming smile and gracious hospitality those like Mary and Joseph, who are seeking room in the inn. Let us not send them away to be born in a manger like the baby Jesus.

I would like to take a moment to wish you a very Merry Christmas. During this season, we will be celebrating Hope, Peace, Love and Joy; I pray that all four of these would fill your life in every way this Christmas and beyond. I am grateful to God. This Christmas, as in all previous years, we celebrate "Immanuel"- God with us. Without Christ's presence among us we would be lost. Through God's presence working within us we are being healed, transformed, reconciled and made whole. I sincerely apologise, knowingly or unknowingly my word or deed caused you unhappy and pain during this year 2022 I beg your pardon. I wish and pray that you may have fantastic Christmas and prosperous new year 2023. With much love and prayer.

Yours in infant Jesus,

Fr. Roy John Elavumkal SMM



*Fr Roy and the office staff wish you all
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year 2023*



Parish Bulletin

The Nativity of the Lord

24/25 December 2022

*Today a savior has
been born for you.*



I BRING YOU NEWS OF GREAT JOY

We share the joy of the angels and the shepherds as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Saviour of the world. He is one with us, in times of darkness and hardship, in joy and celebration.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Psalm 2:7

Let us rejoice in the Lord,
for our Saviour has been
born in the world. Today
true peace has come down to
us from heaven

*.MERRY.
Christmas*

Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1-7

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt, and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of Hosts will do this.

PSALM 95:1-3, 11-13

**R: Today is born our
Saviour, Christ the Lord.**

O sing a new song to the
Lord, sing to the Lord all the
earth. O sing to the Lord,
bless his name. **R**

Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his
glory and his wonders among
all the peoples. **R**

Let the heavens rejoice and
earth be glad, let the sea and
all within it thunder praise,
let the land and all it bears
rejoice, all the trees of the
wood shout for joy at the
presence of the Lord for he
comes, he comes to rule the
earth. **R**

With justice he will rule the
world, he will judge the
peoples with his truth. **R**

SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

God's grace has been revealed,
and it has made salvation
possible for the whole human
race and taught us that what we
have to do is to give up
everything that does not lead to
God, and all our worldly
ambitions; we must be self-
restrained and live good and
religious lives here in this
present world, while we are
waiting in hope for the blessing
which will come with the
Appearing of the glory of our
great God and saviour Christ
Jesus. He sacrificed himself for
us in order to set us free from all
wickedness and to purify a
people so that it could be his
very own and would have no
ambition except to do good.

St Joseph's Catholic Church
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Parish Office Hours
Mon to Fri 9:30am – 12:30pm
Ph: (08) 8431 6932
info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

Parish Secretary
Melissa Hernandez – Tue-Fri
Police Checks Unit
Hiacinta Msomi – Sunday
Planned Giving Coordinator
Helen Mysak – Monday
WHS Officer
Angela Girolamo – Thursday
Sacristan
Weekdays: Michael Pierce
Sundays: Terence Yeow & Roger Worth


Mass Times
Sunday 9:30 am
Saturday Vigil Mass 6:30 pm
Tuesday to Friday 9:15 am
Confessions
Saturday 6:00 pm
Rosary
Tues to Fri 8:45am
Adoration of the Eucharist
Friday before Mass 8:30am
Novena to St. Joseph
Wednesday after Mass

St. Joseph's Primary School
Principal - Adrian Grbin
Ph: 8431 2834
Knights of the Southern Cross
Michael Boyle Ph: 8337 3270
Parish Pastoral Council
Chairperson – Alan Tyson
Ph: 0412 389 875
Youth Representative
Nancy Ngure Ph: 0431 896 610
Child Safety & REC
Anne Dudzinski Ph: 0418 847 804

LOVE HEALS

| Rosters for 31 Dec 22/ 1 Jan 23 Solemnity Mary, the Holy Mother of God | |
|---|--|
| Time | Commentator / Readers |
| 6:30pm | Jim Litchfield Dorothy Pierce, Kaylee-Jade Litchfield |
| 9:30am | Nick McCabe Henry D'Assumpcao, Clare Boyle |
| Children's Liturgy | - |
| Count team | Peggy Buckler Gareth West Doreen Ryan Wendy Rahaley |
| Altar | 25th Dec to 22nd Jan Sarita Ingham Bronwyn Gleeson |
| <i>All those who have volunteered please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start time and report to the commentator for that Mass</i> | |

| SUNDAY COLLECTION SUMMARY | 17/18 DECEMBER |
|---|--------------------|
| First Collection | \$ 591.30 |
| Planned Giving (Envelopes & Electronic) | \$ 2,399.65 |
| Open Plate | \$ 330.60 |
| TOTAL | \$ 3,321.55 |



Pope Francis
@Pontifex

The Holy Spirit gives us the ability to recognize God's fatherhood. We have a tender, affectionate Father who loves us, who has always loved us. When we experience this, our hearts melt, and doubts and fears dissolve. Nothing can resist this love.



Please remember in your prayers

We pray for those listed and all the deceased relatives and friends of our Parishioners.

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary of death: Domenica, Vincenzo & Pasquale Forgione; Zeferinom Maria & Angela Ricciotti

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; present them to God the Most High.

Sick: We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish and our relatives and friends who are unwell.

Special Intention:

ADDRESS OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS TO THE ROMAN CURIA FOR THE EXCHANGE OF CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Benediction Hall Thursday, 22 December 2022

God became a Child, and that Child, once grown, let himself be nailed on a cross. There is nothing weaker than one who is crucified, yet that weakness became the demonstration of God's supreme power.

In forgiveness, God's power is always at work. May *gratitude, conversion and peace* thus be the gifts of this Christmas.

Watch the full message:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/events/event.dir.html/co>



Christmas Day
December 25, 2022

Help the shepherds find their way to Bethlehem to see Baby Jesus.

The First Christmas

AT THAT TIME THE ROMAN EMPEROR, WHO WAS THE RULER OF ALL THAT AREA, MADE EVERYONE REGISTER IN THEIR HOME-TOWNS.

The emperor declares that everyone must register in their home town!

MARY AND JOSEPH WENT TO BETHLEHEM. MARY WAS GOING TO HAVE A BABY VERY SOON.

I'm sorry this is such a long journey for you!

BECAUSE NOBODY HAD ROOM FOR THEM THEY FOUND A STABLE FOR SHELTER.

I guess this will have to do.

THAT NIGHT BABY JESUS WAS BORN.

SUDDENLY ANGELS APPEARED TO THE SHEPHERDS OUT IN THE FIELDS. Today a saviour is born.

THE SHEPHERDS CAME TO SEE AND WORSHIP THE NEWBORN SAVIOUR.

There was a whole army of angels!

EVERYONE WAS AMAZED AT WHAT THE SHEPHERDS SAID. MARY KEPT ALL THESE THINGS IN HER HEART AND ALWAYS REMEMBERED THEM.

WHY DO YOU THINK GOD CAME INTO THE WORLD AS A POOR AND TINY BABY WHEN HE COULD HAVE COME AS A POWERFUL KING? JESUS BECAME LITTLE SO THAT HE COULD SUFFER WITH US AND SO WE COULD LOVE HIM AS SOMEONE LIKE OURSELVES. HOW CAN YOU SHOW YOU LOVE JESUS TODAY ON HIS BIRTHDAY?

Parish Announcements

Christmas Special Collection - 24th and 25th December Appeal for Aboriginal Catholic Ministry

The Otherway Centre is the home of the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry (ACM) and the cultural hub of Centacare. Money raised from the appeal will fund activities that bring the community together and provide vital healing and yarning opportunities to strengthen cultural and spiritual connections. Located at Stepney, the Centre has been supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the wider community for more than 30 years.

ADORATION - Saturday 31st December 2022

We will have an hour of Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament to thank for the Year 2022 and welcome the New Year 2023. Adoration will start at 5:30pm followed by Holy Mass at 6:30pm. All are welcome!

2022 Christmas message from Archbishop Patrick O'Regan

He reflects on the role of St Joseph and shares with us a beautiful image found at St Joseph's Chapel on the Mary Mackillop Precinct. Showing St Joseph as protector, encourager and reassurer of the Child Jesus. Watch the full video on the link below

[2022 Christmas message from Archbishop Patrick O'Regan - YouTube](#)

THANKS AND WELCOME

As we thank the year 2022 and welcome the new year 2023, with immense joy and gratitude to God almighty we acknowledge all the blessings that we have received this year. With deep sense of gratitude, I acknowledge the selfless service and commitment of Mr. Paul Roocke past 13 years as the Chair of the parish finance council. Sincere Thanks to him for all that he has been to the parish. I am extremely happy to welcome our new Parish Finance Chair Mr. Edward Konieczny who was our former Parish pastoral council deputy Chair. I congratulate and appreciate for his good will to take up this position in the parish. I wish and pray all the very best and God's blessing. *Fr. Roy John Elavumkal SMM*

Mass of the Feast - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Friday 30th December 2022 at 9:15am

Mass of the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Saturday 31st December 2022 at 6:30pm

Sunday 1st January 2022 at 9:30am

Mass of the Solemnity of The Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday 7th January 2023 at 6:30pm

Sunday 8th January 2023 at 9:30am

Parish Office will be closed for Christmas Holidays on 23 December 2022 and reopen 5 January 2023

ATTENTION PLEASE

- NO BULLETIN ON WEEKEND 31 DEC 2022 / 1 JAN 2023
- NO HOLY MASS ON TUESDAY 27 AND WEDNESDAY 28

Mask Mandates have been lifted by the State Government. Although the mandates have been lifted, we highly recommend you continue to wear a mask while inside the Church. **Our Parish is committed to Health and Safety**