



18 DECEMBER 2016
4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT- YEAR A

St. Bernardine's Church, Regents Park
 Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Park Ridge
 St. Catherine's Church, Jimboomba

Parish Office Hours:

Monday to Friday 8.30am -3.00pm
Phone: 3884 7600; **Fax:** 3800 2646
Emergency Number: 3884 7600
Email: stbernardines@bne.catholic.net.au
www.stbernardinesparish.com.au

Administrator:

Fr John Panamhottam

Administrative Officer

Safeguarding Officer

Mrs Kelly Levave

Pastoral Associate:

Mrs Jean Tamblyn
 Email: pastoral.stbern@bne.catholic.net.au

Finance Officer

Mrs Barbara Malicki
 Email: finance.stbern@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Liturgy Coordination

Parish Liturgy Team

St. Bernardine's Parish Primary School

Principal: Mr Nick Gallen
 Phone: 3800 1854

St. Bernardine's Parish School

Outside School Hours Care

Coordinator: Mrs Mandy Petrie
 Phone: 3806 9940

Emmaus College, Jimboomba

Principal: Mr Kevin Schwede
 Phone: 5547 9990

St Vincent de Paul Society

St Bernardine's Conference

For assistance, phone 5561 4702

St Catherine's Conference

For assistance, phone 3010 1096



*The name of Jesus is the glory of preachers,
 because the shining splendour of that name
 causes God's word to be proclaimed and heard.*

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The gospel readings of the coming year come from Matthew. Today's reading, concerning 'how Jesus Christ came to be born', expresses the faith in the Incarnation of the community for which Matthew wrote. This community of Jewish Christians were anxious to persuade those with whom they had shared the traditions of Israel to believe in Christ as the 'fulfilment' of 'the Law and the prophets' (Mt 5:17).

Whereas, the more familiar story of Christ's birth, in Luke's gospel, is centred on Mary, the mother of the Saviour, Matthew's account – so remarkable in its accord is essentials with Luke's account – is told from the point of view of Joseph, the one who was destined to be the foster father of the Saviour. It is through Joseph that the Davidic lineage of the child to be born - so important in the hopes of Israel - is proclaimed. Finding his betrothed to be with child, Joseph 'being a just man' considered divorcing her quietly. Some scholars see profound significance in Matthew's reference to 'justice' (i.e. fidelity to the traditions of Israel): the implication that before the divine mystery that confronted him – probably through his being informed by Mary – Joseph's first reaction was a sense of unworthiness. His reluctance was only overcome by a divine call that led him to take up the immense responsibility that was to be his.

- From a homily on the Gospel by Fr John Thornhill sm

Gathering Hymn	GA285 O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verses 1 & 2)
Psalm Response	Let the Lord enter; He is King of Glory
Recessional Hymn	GA285 O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verses 3 & 4)

MASS TIMES

ST. BERNARDINE'S CHURCH

25 Vergulde Road, Regents Park



Mon 19th Dec 7.30am
Wed 21st Dec No Mass

Sat 24th December 5.15pm Reconciliation
Sun 25th December

Note : Christmas Mass times over the page for all our Mass Centres.

ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH

74-76 East Street, Jimboomba

Thus 22nd Dec 8.00am
Sat 24th Dec.....8.00pm
Sun 25th Dec.....No Mass

OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION CHURCH

Corner of Stoney Camp Road and Mt. Lindesay Highway, Park Ridge

Sun 25th Dec 7.30am

ST. PAUL DE CHARTRES CHAPEL

12-16 Fedrick Street, Boronia Heights

Mon 19th Dec 8.00am
Tues 20th Dec 9.00am
Wed 21st Dec 9.00am

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sunday 18th December

4th Sunday in Advent-Year A
 Hospitality After 6.00pm Sat. Mass~ St Bernardine's Church
 Hospitality After 7.30am Mass~ St Bernardine's Church

6.30pm "Simbang Gabi" (Misa de Gallo)
 ~ St Bernardine's Church

Monday 19th December

10am-11am Prayer Group ~ St Bernardine's Church

Tuesday 20th December

10.00am Legion of Mary ~ The Hut
 7.00pm Flame of Love Prayer Group

Thursday 22nd December

9.30am Craft Group ~ Logan West Library



Today's Readings:	Next Week's Readings:
Isaiah 7:10-14	Isaiah 9:1-7
Romans 1:1-7	Titus 2:11-14
Matthew 1:18-24	Luke 2:1-14

The Joys - and the Mercy of Christmas

During the past 12 months, the Pontiff has explored the themes of Mercy both in words and in actions.

As we anticipate the end of Advent and the celebrations around the birth of our Saviour, it is a good time to remember the three keystones of mercy which Pope Francis outlined in his many catecheses during the year.

They are:

- Foregiveness
- Optimism
- Welcoming

In this period of anticipation in the calendar of the Church, as we await the arrival of the Messiah, it might be a good time to reflect on those three merciful actions named by Pope Francis and see how you can translate his words into your actions.

Christmas Blessing

May there be peace in your family and joy in your coming together.

May you grow in gratefulness and simplicity.

May the wonder and awe of children be awakened within you.

May you greet each person like another Christ.

May the hope of this sacred season settle in your soul.

May the coming year be one of good health for you.

May you go often to the Bethlehem of your heart and visit the One who brings deep and sustaining peace



(From The National Office for the participation of Women in the Catholic Church)

PARISH NOTICES

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

St Bernardine's Church Saturday 24th December

Carols from - 5.30pm
Christmas Eve - 6.00pm Children's Mass

Carols from 11.30pm
Midnight Mass- 12.00am

Sunday 25th December Christmas Day - 9.00am

St Catherine's Church Saturday 24th December

Carols from 7.30pm
Christmas Eve- 8.00pm

(No Mass Christmas Day)

Our Lady of the Assumption Church Sunday 25th December

Christmas Day - 7.30am

Isaiah 9:6 ⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

"Simbang Gabi" (Misa de Gallo)

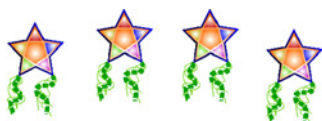
The Catholic Filipino Australia Chaplaincy invites you to the annual Filipino tradition of

"Simbang Gabi" this weekend

6.30pm Sunday 18th December 2016 at St Bernardine's Church.

Please bring a plate of food to share.

Thank you



Please note the Parish Office will be closed from
Dec 24th/ Dec 28th 2016.

A Very special "THANK YOU" to you all and to all Ministries within our St Bernardine's Parish. Thankyou for all your generosity and support during 2016.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

*"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."*

Christmas is a feast of the heart. Christmas causes us to open our hearts, and to open our heart is to begin to live.

When we open our hearts to God and to one another, we will experience something of 'great joy' the angels announced to the shepherds.

Joy is the fruit of love. Joy is an overflowing heart.

May the great joy and peace of Christmas be ours today.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Thank you for your kind and generous support of our parish throughout 2016

Fr. John Panamthottam

&

St Bernardine's Parish Administrative Staff

A Farewell message from Fr John

After my brief time here at St Bernardine's, St Catherine's and Our Lady of the Assumption, as Parish Administrator, it is time for me to say farewell. I have felt very welcomed. I have been supported by your prayers and have appreciated your generosity of spirit.

My last day at the parish will be Christmas morning after Mass.

Fr John Conway has been officially appointed by the Archbishop to be Parish Priest effective from late February 2017

Before Fr Conway arrives, Fr Hyacinth Udah will be in residence as the Parish Administrator.

*Yours in Christ
Fr John*



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ABN: 43 166 646 199

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Please note the Harvey's Towing Accounts Department will be taking a break during

The festive season, closing 3.00pm on Friday 23rd December 2016

And re-opening at 8.00am on Monday 9th January 2017. For urgent enquiries during the period,

Please contact our Operations department on 07 3297 0911 or operations@harveystowing.com.au

"Harvey's wish you a Merry Christmas and look forward to working with you in 2017"



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