

## MASS TIMES

9am Friday

8am Sunday

## RECONCILIATION

7:45am Sunday

or by appointment



# ST LUKE'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

**Parish Priest** Monsignor Peter Meneely VG

**Rev Deacon** Peter Pellicaan

**Parish Office** 3324 3222 | [stlukes@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stlukes@bne.catholic.net.au)

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year A

22 December 2019

### First Reading *Is 7:10-14*

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.' Then Isaiah said: 'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

### Responsorial Psalm *Psalms 23:1-6*

*(R.) Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.*

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm. (R.)
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things. (R.)
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. (R.)

### Second Reading *Rom 1:1-7*

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures. This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about

Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

### Gospel Acclamation *Mt 1:23*

Alleluia, alleluia! A virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us. Alleluia!

### Gospel *Mt 1:19-24*

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

### Reflection by *Fr Michael Tate*

Joseph could not ignore Mary's pregnancy, but he had an exceptional large-heartedness, so that he preserved a future for Mary even though she had apparently wronged him. If he had gone to sleep in a frame of mind to avenge his honour, he would not have been ready to have the deepest levels of his consciousness stirred in the way God wanted. In the deep sleep of a just and good man, Joseph was enlightened as to the divine dimension of Mary's pregnancy. The old cycle of human history, literally generation after generation, was being broken. Something utterly new had happened. You and I are just as likely to receive an intuition as to God's plan for us in the depths of sleep: who we really are, who we are destined to be, where we fit in to God's plan for transforming the whole of creation. When we get these instructive moments in our sleep, what can we do when we wake up? We can do what Joseph did: get up and do what is needed to fulfil the message. We could pause for a moment to thank Joseph for showing what dreams can be made of. Tonight might be the night!



# HYMNS

## ENTRANCE

285

### O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

**(repeat)**

O come, Thou Day-Spring, come  
and cheer  
Our spirits by Thine advent here  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of  
night  
And death's dark shadows put to  
flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

**(repeat)**

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

**(repeat)**

## OFFERTORY

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### Here I Am, Lord

Here I am, Lord. It is I Lord.  
I have heard you call-ing in the  
night.  
I will go, Lord, where you lead me.  
I will hold your peo-ple in my  
heart.

Whom shall I send? **(Refrain)**

I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in dark-ness now  
My hand will save.  
I who make the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them?  
I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my peo-ple's pain.  
I have wept for love of them.  
They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
Give them hearts for love alone.

**(Refrain)**

I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them.  
My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide,  
Till their hearts be satisfied.

**(Refrain)**

## THANKSGIVING

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### The Lord's My Shepherd

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;  
he makes me down to lie  
in pastures green; he leadeth me  
the quiet waters by.  
My soul he doth restore again,  
and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness,  
e'en for his own name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through death's  
dark vale,  
yet will I fear none ill,  
for thou art with me; and thy rod  
and staff me comfort still.  
My table thou hast furnished  
in presence of my foes;  
my head thou dost with oil anoint,  
and my cup overflows.  
Goodness and mercy all my life  
shall surely follow me;  
and in God's house forevermore  
my dwelling place shall be.

## RECESSIONAL

### How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God,  
When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all  
The works Thy Hand hath made,  
I see the stars,  
I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout  
The universe displayed,

When through the woods  
And forest glades I wander  
I hear the birds  
Sing sweetly in the trees,  
When I look down  
From lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook  
And feel the gentle breeze,

Then sings my soul,  
My Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art!  
How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul,  
My Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art!  
How great Thou art!

When Christ shall come,  
With shouts of acclamation,  
And take me home,  
What joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow  
In humble adoration  
And there proclaim,  
"My God, how great Thou art!"

Then sings my soul,  
My Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art!  
How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul,  
My Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art!  
How great Thou art!

# NOTICES

## *A note from Monsignor Meneely*

*I would like to wish the St Luke's family, our parishioner's and their loved ones, a very blessed Christmas and a safe and happy New Year. A special thank you also to our marvellous team of St Luke's volunteers, your servant hearts are much appreciated.*

*I will be taking a period of sabbatical leave after Christmas. I have asked Deacon Peter Pellicaan to oversee administration of the parish during my absence. If you need any assistance whilst I am away, please contact Deacon Peter, or Sarah / Tina at the parish office. You and your families will be in my prayers as we enter the New Year. Many Blessings, Monsignor Peter.*

## ~ Christmas Collections ~

**All our collections over Christmas will be directed to the drought support group run by Sr Christine Henry:**



**OUR DROUGHT STRICKEN FARMERS OF THE DOWNS AND WEST REGION NEED YOUR HELP TO KEEP GOING, OUR COMMUNITIES NEED THEM.**

Downs & West Community Support is a ministry of Sisters of Charity Community Care Limited.

Its aim is to raise the awareness of the effects of sustained drought conditions impacting families living on the land and in small rural towns. We seek practical support and concrete action from those who are in a position to share resources and collaborate to reach more people in need.

While our pastoral and emotional support is ongoing, your generous assistance will help purchase essential provisions and organise gatherings for farming families in rural and remote communities.

Please **DONATE** to this very worthy cause by going online to [www.downsandwestcommunitysupport.org/donate](http://www.downsandwestcommunitysupport.org/donate) (for credit card or direct deposit donations) or send a cheque to **PO Box 6613 Mitchelton QLD 4053**

Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.



PO Box 6613, Mitchelton QLD 4053  
Mobile: 0414 324 682  
Email: [info@downsandwestcommunitysupport.org](mailto:info@downsandwestcommunitysupport.org)  
[www.downsandwestcommunitysupport.org](http://www.downsandwestcommunitysupport.org)

GENEROSITY – RESPECT – AWARENESS – COMPASSION – ENCOURAGEMENT



## **Christmas Eve Mass**

Tuesday 24 December 5pm  
Followed by light refreshments

## **Christmas Day Mass**

Wednesday 25 December 8am

## **THE CATHOLIC LEADER**

**Available from the churches this weekend for \$2**

This week's edition includes:

- Cairns Bishop James Foley to retire.
- Australian bishops have re-committed themselves to an evangelisation focus.
- Interview with Farmer Lyle Winks, discussing drought conditions and the hope to come at Christmas.

## **SAINT OF THE WEEK - SAINT STEPHEN**



St Stephen was the first deacon chosen by the apostles soon after the death and resurrection of Jesus. He took care of the needs of Greek-speaking widows among the Christian community in Jerusalem, and he was also known as a zealous preacher.

But his preaching was considered blasphemy by the Jewish council and he was stoned to death in c.35 AD. Stephen became the first martyr for Christ and even as they threw stones at him, he asked God to forgive his attackers for their sins.

**lights**  
OF CHRISTMAS  
CATHEDRAL OF ST STEPHEN

6:30pm carols  
7pm light show  
(every 12 minutes)

11 - 24  
December

FREE

Gather on the lawn at St Stephen's Cathedral to celebrate the joy of Christmas with an extraordinary sound and light show. The Lights of Christmas is a free event open to the public that will delight families with music, food and children's activities every evening 11 - 24 December, 6:30 - 10:30pm.

## **Contact Local Safeguarding Representative**

Mrs Sarah Martelli

3324 3222 | [martellis@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:martellis@bne.catholic.net.au)

**Anonymous STOPLine | 1300 30 45 50**

*If you have an item you would like considered for the newsletter please contact the Parish Office.*

# THE ORDER OF MASS

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

*In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.*

**Amen.**

### Penitential Act

*Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge  
our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the  
sacred mysteries.*

**I confess to you almighty God  
and to you my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to  
do,  
through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault (*striking the  
breast*)  
therefore I ask the blessed Mary ever-virgin,  
all the angels and saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

*May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our  
sins, and bring us to everlasting life.*

**Amen.**

### Gloria (when spoken)

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.  
We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.  
**Amen.**

## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, (*all bow*)  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and is seated  
at the right hand of God the Father almighty,  
from there he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. **Amen.**

### After the Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## The Mystery of Faith

1. We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection,  
until you come again.
- OR: 2. When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
until you come again.
- OR: 3. Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

*The Lord be with you.*

**And with your spirit.**

*May almighty God bless you  
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*

**Amen.**

*Go forth, the Mass is ended.*

**Thanks be to God**