

PARISH OF ST JOHN'S WOOD / THE GAP



Parish of St John's Wood/The Gap

WELCOME

RECONCILIATION

Mater Dei

Saturday 5.00-5.20

St. Peter Chanel

Sunday 4.30-4.45

BAPTISMS

Mater Dei

3rd Sunday

St Peter Chanel

4th Sunday

Baptism preparation
details available on
our website under
Parish Activities

PARISH SCHOOLS

Mater Dei
Primary School

Phone: 3514 4100

St Peter Chanel
Primary School

Phone: 3300 1202

PARISH COUNCIL

Kylie Gaul

(Chairperson)

kylie.brian@bigpond.com

New Parishioners

WELCOME

Please complete the form
in the newsletter.



Website: www.stjohnswoodthegap.net.au

Facebook page: [StJohnsWoodTheGapCatholicChurch@St John's Wood / The Gap Parish](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsWoodTheGapCatholicChurch)

Facebook group: St John's Wood / The Gap Parish

Parish Office: PO Box 408, The Gap, Qld 4061

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 8.30 am—3.00 pm

Contact: Phone: 3300 6099 Fax: 3300 6255

Churches: Mater Dei : 16 Philomene Drive, Ashgrove

St Peter Chanel: 41 Chaprowe Road, The Gap

Parish Priest: Fr. Vu Dinh Tuong mdei@bigpond.com

Parish Manager: Richard James manager.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Secretary: Caryn Lee thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

Sacramental Program enquiries only: ps.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au



Please note the Parish Office will be closed between Christmas and New Years (Last day Friday 23rd December 2016 reopening on Tuesday 3rd January 2017).

SUNDAY 18th December 2016

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Disrupted Life

We often have dreams big and small and we would like to peruse our own dreams. Some people dream about doing something but dreams just come and go and we dream again about something else and we let it go again and that person becomes a dreamer simply because they never take time to act it out. Others dream and start to carry out their dreams but give up half way and their dreams go into eternity. Only a few people are able to make their dreams become real in reality and they enjoy the fruits of their dreams.

There are a few people in the history of salvation who have had their dreams disrupted by God for the better cause. They gave up their own dreams and took up God's dreams for a specific purpose that God asked them to take part in, the saving salvation plan God had for mankind. The first person who comes to mind is Mary who vowed to live a life of chastity but she had changed her way of life after the Annunciation. After saying 'yes' to God's messenger to be the Mother of Jesus her life changed forever. Elizabeth, Mary's cousin, probably had a dream for her son- John the Baptist- to be a priest like his father but she gave up her dream and let John do whatever God called him to be - to be the forerunner of the Lord. The Bible didn't say what dreams Joseph had for his life but certainly God's messenger took time to convince him of marriage to Mary. Joseph said 'yes' to the messenger and it was not an easy task for Joseph to carry out. It came to the point where he quietly lodged an application to divorce Mary and again the messenger of God intervened and Joseph had accepted to carry out his role as the earthly father of Jesus.

Many of us who try to follow God's will in our lives and we all know about the general call God calls us to be - to be an agent of God's love for the world and spread the message of God's love for all those who come across our path. However most of us struggle hard to work out a specific call God calls us to be as an individual. In living out the call of the Gospel we sometimes are certain about our vocation and yet other times we are unsure about it and that is the experience Joseph had in his own life. In times of doubt about our vocation we need to act like Joseph after finding a possible solution Joseph did not rush to carry it out but kept pondering about it. It crept into his sleep and Joseph couldn't sleep because something was not right that his heart was not at rest. Through pondering and prayer about it Joseph received God's guidance and he obeyed God's will.

Sometimes sickness and social conditions prevent us to follow our own dreams. Today many religious vocations are short by the authority of anti Catholicism, pressure from peer groups and lack of encouragement from family. Sickness and accidents prevent many to continue the profession they once had. What we need to remember is that once we come to the end of a no through road, there is another road ready for us and those who keep looking will eventually find it.

Vudinh Tuong

**Next Week's Readings:
The Nativity of the Lord**

First Reading
Isaiah 52:7-10

Second Reading
Hebrews 1:1-6

Gospel
John 1:1-18

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

The virgin will conceive.

Responsorial Psalm:

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

Gospel Acclamation:

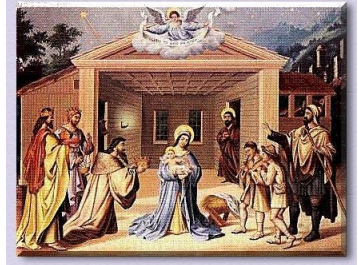
Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God-is-with-us.

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 1:18-24

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.



Prayers for the Sick

Jane McMahon
Robert Wirth

Recently Deceased

Lorraine Schmiede

Anniversaries

Gladys Robinson
Jack O'Shannessy
Daphne Trudgian
Jim Macpherson
Michael Marnane
Glencie Graham
Sister Desley Robinson



MONEY
COUNTERS

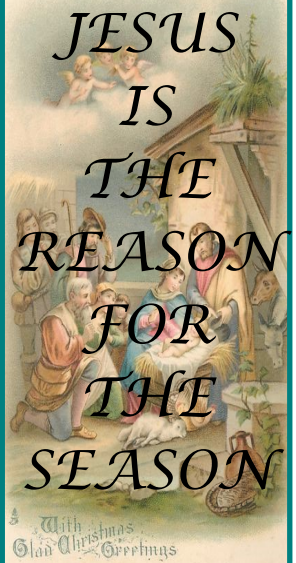
**2017 Collection
Counters Roster**

A huge thank you to our 13, 2016 collection counters for your efforts each week during the year.

Please advise Richard James at the office if you are available for 2017 and an invitation is extended to anyone who would like to participate in this parish ministry. The new roster will commence on Monday 06/02/17. Kev Kelly (Co-ordinator)

2017 Cleaning Roster

The Parish is in desperate need for volunteers to join the cleaning roster for next year. If you can help out, please contact the Parish Office.



Please let us know about the sick

Every so often we learn of people confined to their home for quite a while or even transferred to permanent care in a hospice or nursing home.

We would like to bring the sacraments to them so please let the Parish Office know if family members are so confined.

Please contact the parish office: 3300 6099 or Vi Hall: Mob: 0409 894 904

Rosary

Rosary will be held at 7:30pm on Monday 19th December 2016 at Leo Dempsey's house, 58 Romea St, The Gap



Rosary

If you would like to pray the Rosary in your home please contact **Bruce Bonney** Phone: 3300 2959

Wine Sales

Looking for Christmas gift ideas or maybe just for yourself. Our Wines from Seven Hills winery in SA are available for purchase. Merlot and Riesling \$15 per bottle or \$160 per carton of 12. Money raised goes towards families in need in our Parish. Please contact the parish office.



Help for Christmas Masses - Mater Dei

Help is needed for the outdoor 5:30pm Carols and 6:00pm Mass on Christmas Eve. If you can help, please see the sign up sheet at the door of MD church. Help is needed with set up and also putting away after mass. Please BYO chairs as chairs will be limited.

Could children please come dressed as angels, shepherds and wise men to be part of acting out the gospel for the 6pm Christmas Eve Mass. **Help** is also needed to organise this. Practice is after 9:30am Mass this Sunday 18th December. Please see Mary Davidson or Therese Taylor at the stage area of the MD school on Sunday.

Coordinator, ministers of communion, altar servers and singers are needed for the 9:30am Mass on Christmas Day at MD.

Thanks you The Liturgy Committee.

PARISH FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

Raffle Tickets!

PRIZES COMPRISE OF HAMPERS EACH CONTAINING DIFFERENT ITEMS

TICKETS \$2 EACH OR 3 FOR \$5

AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE PARISH OFFICE OR AFTER EACH WEEKEND MASSES

THE RAFFLE WILL BE DRAWN ON THE LAST NIGHT OF THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

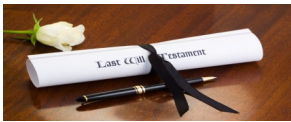


Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Mater Dei Church
Monday 7pm-10pm
Friday 9.30am-10pm

BEQUEST OR WILLS

All parishioners are asked to consider including our parish St John's Wood/The Gap in your will.

One of the greatest contributions you can make to our parish is to ensure a legacy of faith for the young and to provide proper care for the old.



NEW PARISHIONER CONTACT FORM

Family Name: _____
 Other Names: _____
 Date of Birth: _____
 Marital Status: _____
 Spouse Name: _____
 Spouse's DOB: _____
 Children & DOB's: _____

 Address: _____
 Home Phone: _____
 Mobile: _____
 Email: _____

Tick to commence Parish Planned Giving

Please place this completed form in the collection plate or email your details to the Parish Office at: thegap@bne.catholic.net.au or contact the Parish Office on 3300 6099.

Longreach Drought Appeal:

Proceeds from the Plant Stalls held at Mater Dei and St Peter Chanel in November: \$530

The painting, "Brumbies" was sold by Silent Auction for \$400.

Proceeds have been sent to St Brigid's Parish, Longreach.

Thank you all for your generous support of the fundraisers during the year.
 Elizabeth and Moira

Ignite Youth Summer Camp



The Ignite Youth 2017 Youth Summer Camp is being held on **11am Thursday 12th January-3pm Sunday 15th January** at Mapleton for all teenagers in grades 7-12 in 2017.

For more information please check their website:

<https://igniteyouth.com/summercamp>

Please contact the Parish office for funding.

The Parish is After a House to Rent

The Parish is looking for a house to rent for Claire's Cottage group, which is a place for respite for young adults with disabilities. If you have or know someone who has a 3 or 4 bedroom house to rent for a 6 to 12 month lease, please contact the Parish Office on 3300 6099.



The Heart of Christ

The heart of Christ! His mind so wise!
 That Jesus comes so small!
 So shepherds at His cradle fall,
 So Kings, so potentates will ramble
 Over sand dunes, mountains scramble
 over.
 Donkeys braying, cattle mooing.
 Landlord helpful, harried, shoeing
 Joseph, Mary; they not doing
 Other than what every father,
 Mother try: welcome, carve a
 Niche for newborn, and give praise to God
 on High.
 Only then, rest beside a stable wall, on
 hay or straw,
 In peace at last as traipse and labour o'er.
 And you, their loved one,
 Settle down, midst mess.

The mystery:
 Left is crown, majesty, glory and might,
 To gift us, each one,
 Through This First Christmas Night.

Bobbie de Jager

Mons Repos Turtle Encounter with Claire's Cottage



Enjoy a trip to Bundaberg on the Queensland Rail Tilt Train staying 3 nights. Trip includes a turtle encounter, a tour of the Bundaberg Ginger Beer Barrel & Rum Distillery, Bert Hinkler hall of aviation experience, Bundy Belle River Cruise up the Burnett River and the Fairy mead house sugar museum tour.

When: **Friday 3rd March 2017 @ 9.00am**
 How much: **\$700.00 per person twin share**

To make this trip possible we will need a minimum of 6 people, a deposit of \$200.00 is required no later than 31 December to secure a spot.
 Full payment will then be due by 3rd February 2017.

For more information please contact Claire on 0413 270 167



Christmas Mass Times

Saturday 24th December
 – MD Church 5:30pm Christmas
 Carols followed by 6pm Mass
 – SPC Church 6:30pm Christmas
 Carols followed by 7pm Mass

Sunday 25th December
 – SPC Church 8am Mass
 – MD Church 9:30am Mass

Monday 26th December
 – SPC Church 9:30am Mass

Extra New Years Mass

Monday 2nd January
 – SPC Church 9:30am Mass



MASS TIMES	MATER DEI	ST PETER CHANEL	FEAST DAYS/NOTES
Monday 19/12			Parish Christmas Concert and BBQ 5:30pm (SPC)
Tuesday 20/12	9:00am		Parish Christmas Concert and BBQ 5:30pm (SPC)
Wednesday 21/12		9:00am	Parish Christmas Concert and BBQ 5:30pm (SPC)
Thursday 22/12		9:00am	Parish Christmas Concert and BBQ 5:30pm (SPC)
Friday 23/12	9:00am		
Saturday 24/12	5:30pm Carols 6:00pm Vigil Mass	6:30pm Carols 7:00pm Mass	
Sunday 25/12	9:30am	8:00am	The Nativity of the Lord

Christmas in our Parish Begins This Sunday

Our Christmas festival will run for 5 nights commencing this Sunday 18th December and finishing Thursday 22nd December at SPC Church Hall, with a Christmas hamper raffle being drawn on the last night.

Singers booked for the nights are as follows:

- Sunday 18th December - **Parish Group Choir (both SPC & MD)**
- Monday 19th December – **Jubilee Singers followed by Samford Community Choir**
- Tuesday 20th December – **Peace ‘n’ Choir**
- Wednesday 21st December – **Denise Parker & Peter Monaghan**
- Thursday 22nd December – **Brisbane Ukulele Musicians**

Each night the BBQ will commence at 5:30pm (6:00pm on Sunday) with the concert to begin at 7:00pm.

Each evening will have children activities from 6:00pm-7:00pm together with a Christmas movie.

Come along for a fun night of great company and entertainment.



Prayers for the sick:

When there is a request to pray for a sick person their names will be in the Prayers of the Faithful for 2 weeks and in the Bulletin for 2 weeks. If you wish to continue after that, please contact the parish office.

Names of recently deceased will be on the prayer list for 2 weeks

The Editor retains the right to edit any items that are submitted to the bulletin.

The cut off for the Parish Bulletin is Wednesday 3pm.

If you have any queries please contact the Parish Office on: 33006099

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 250 Enoggera Road, Newmarket.. Qld 4051

A VOCATION VIEW:

Fourth Sunday in Advent - A

A VOCATION VIEW: Vocations from God are not always clear. Not all of us are like Joseph who had an angel appear to him saying: "Take Mary as your wife, and fear not." However, God still speaks – "Do not be afraid."



HOLY CROSS FUNERALS

The only funeral service owned and operated by the Catholic Church

Ph: (07) 3293 0555 Web: www.holycrossfunerals.com

