

# 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](http://www.stjohnswoodthegap.net.au)

**Facebook page:** StJohnsWoodTheGapCatholicChurch@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 Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018. The Last newsletter for 2017 will be the Christmas weekend and the next issue will be the weekend of 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> January 2018.*

*SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup> December 2017 - Third Sunday of Advent*

## The Light

To be a truthful witness for the truth one needs to be honest to oneself; otherwise it is very hard for others to know s/he has made a truthful statement or just sheer fiction. Truthfulness is rather important in court for a judge to form his/her opinions on the matter and that may affect the lives of others. To safeguard the truthfulness of the statements made, the judge would require witnesses to make an oath that is to say the truth, all truth, nothing else but the truth and that is the best they can require of the witnesses.

John the Baptist came to the world to testify for the truth. He has gone further to say that witnessing for the truth is only an initial phase of his mission; the actual mission was rather an unusual statement when John said that he is a witness to speak for "The Light". When evidence is lacking people are summoned to be witnesses in court in the hope that they may throw more light on the matter in the open. Witnesses may be able to throw more light on the matter and that is all they can do. John the Baptist was the only one who was bold enough to declare that he was a witness to speak for 'The Light'. It is possible to deviate the truth or just say some of the truth. However it is impossible to show half of The Light. No matter how small a light is; it can always show light in darkness and it generates heats to make it show even more light. The job to cover light is rather hard because a person needs to control both the light and the heat the light generates. Light gives joy to our eyes and lightens our hearts and that is why people who go camping would enjoy camp fires at night. Light doesn't invade other lights but will consume whatever on its way.

John the Baptist used the image of a light to talk about Jesus who is both the Truth and The Light for the world. When The Truth and The Light combines together it is undefeatable because The Light always reveals the truth. The second Sunday of Advent John was calling the people to prepare the ways for the Lord. This Sunday John declared he was a witness to speak for The Light. Those who welcome The Light will see the world in a new vision, their hearts change to a new way and enjoy the new life. It is interesting to notice that people who listened to John and believed will move forward to a higher level to welcome Jesus, The Light for the world; while people who refused to believe in John would go backward to the Ancient prophets. The priests and the Levites and their leaders from Jerusalem thought John was the prophet Elijah or one of the prophets returned. When they asked him to identify himself, John told them that he was not one of the prophets but he was the one the prophet Isaiah had prophesied:

*"A voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord." Jn 1:23*

They pressed on as to why he was baptising since he was supposed to not do it. John replied:

*"I baptise with water; but there stands among you unknown to you the one who is coming after me, and I am not fit to undo his sandal strap." Jn 1:26-27*

Learn from John to be a witness to speak about The Light. To do it effectively we need to do it in a spirit of prayers and joy and recognize the power of God's Spirit in our lives.

Vudinh Tuong

**Next Week's Readings:**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
*First Reading*  
 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

*Second Reading*  
 Romans 16:25-27

*Gospel*  
 Luke 1:26-38

**Prayers for the Sick**

Stefan Golebiowski  
 Carolyn Webster  
 Andrew Dudgeon  
 Catherine Smith  
 Michele Henselien  
 Catherine Murphy  
 John Perks  
 Lorraine Stevens  
 Bernard O'Shannessy

**Recently Deceased**

Elizabeth McInerney  
 Shelagh Colley  
 Keith White

**Anniversaries**

Cyril Galvin  
 Daphne Trudgian  
 Jim MacPherson  
 Michael Marnane  
 Jack O'Shannessy  
 Lawrence O'Shannessy  
 Arnold Amabile

**Please note:** we cannot add a name to the sick list or recently deceased list unless advised by a family member direct.

**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: 0477 894 904**

**Rosary**

Rosary will be held at 7:30pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at Bruce & Val Bonney's house, The Gap. Call Val Bonney for details 0417 631 246



**Rosary**

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

**First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11**

I exult for joy in the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm:**

My soul rejoices in my God.

**Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

**Gospel Reading: John 1:6-8, 19-28**

There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.



**UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

Date	Mater Dei	St Peter Chanel	Notes
<b>December 2017</b>			
Sat 23/12/17	5:30pm		Normal MD Mass
Sun 24/12/17	9:30am 5:30pm Carols 6:00pm Vigil Mass	8:00am 6:00pm Carols 6:30pm Vigil Mass	Normal Masses (NO 5pm Mass) Christmas Eve Masses
Mon 25/12/17	9:30am	8:00am	Christmas Day Masses NO 5pm Mass
Tues 26/12/17		9:30am Mass	
Sat 30/12/17	5:30pm		Normal MD Mass
Sun 31/12/17	9:30am	8:00am	NO 5pm Mass
<b>January 2018</b>			
Mon 01/01/18	9:00am Mass		New Years Day Mass

**Return to the Father**

Bishop John Gerry, Emeritus Auxiliary of Brisbane, died peacefully at 7am on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December in Holy Spirit Hospital.

- Vigil Liturgy 7pm Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at St Bridget's Church, Red Hill.
- Funeral Mass 11am Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December at St Stephen's Cathedral. Rite of Committal will follow at 2:30pm at Nudgee

**Farewell Donations for Father Tuong**

With Father Tuong leaving us at the end of the year, we have been asked by some parishioners what they can do or get for Father Tuong as a farewell gift. The parish has opened up a bank account exclusively for Father Tuong to use as he wishes. If you would like to make a donation details are:

**Account Name: Donations Fr Tuong**

**BSB No.: 064-786**

**Account No.: 007121108**

**Bank: Commonwealth Bank**

Otherwise money can be left at the parish office in an envelope for Father.



**Did you know the Parish of St John's Wood/The Gap has a Facebook page?**

Please like our Facebook page. It is a great way to keep informed of our Parish activities and be involved in our Parish community.

**Facebook page:** StJohnsWoodTheGapCatholicChurch@St John's Wood / The Gap Parish



Exposition of the Blessed  
Sacrament  
Mater Dei Church  
Monday 7pm-8pm  
Friday 6pm-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](mailto:thegap@bne.catholic.net.au) or contact the Parish Office on 3300 6099.

## Gifts for sale at the SPC Piety Stall

The SPC Church piety stall will open during the Christmas festival. Gift prices range from \$3 to \$30.

# menCONNECT

## Date Claimer

Our first Gathering is on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2018

The focus will be **“Mind, Body, Soul, Relationships, Meaning & Purpose”** with **Gary Stone** presenting.

Gary is well known to the men of St John's Wood / The Gap and beyond. He has a great message for men of all ages.

Come along in February 2018. **Put this date in your diary.** As in past years this is a half day event.

**Time = 7 am to 1 pm**

### Help for Christmas Masses MD

Help is needed for the outdoor 5.30pm Carols and 6pm Mass on Sunday, Christmas Eve. Sunday after 9.30am mass Christmas Eve at 10.30am – help needed to erect the Mater Dei stage, put up the Black Curtain, bring out the altar and put out chairs etc. All needs to be put away after the 6pm Mass.

There will be some chairs provided. **BYO chairs** if possible.

Children to come dressed as angels, shepherds and wise men to be part of acting out the gospel for the 6pm mass. **Help** needed to organize this. Please contact Mary Davidson Ph.3366 5103. On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec all meet at the stage area of the MD School for a practice.

Ministers – Coordinator, Ministers of Communion, Altar Servers, & Singers - are needed for the 9.30am Mass on Christmas Day at Mater Dei.

Please indicate on the sheet at the door of the church where you can help or contact Tricia Wogan Ph.33004773 Email [tricia.wogan44@gmail.com](mailto:tricia.wogan44@gmail.com)

Please see A4 handouts at the back of the church for more information.

Thank you The Liturgy Committee Mater Dei

### SPC CHRISTMAS EVE MASS PLAY

Fr Tuong is writing a Christmas play for the children to act out at SPC Christmas Eve Mass. It is just acting roles, no speaking so little preparation will be required. If your children would like to be involved please contact Michelle [themeads@gmail.com](mailto:themeads@gmail.com)

# YEAR OF YOUTH 2018



The St. Vincent de Paul depot is short of furniture and has exhausted emergency funds to purchase furniture. They particularly need beds, wardrobes, lounge suites and chests of drawers. If you can help then please call 1800 846 643. They will collect from your place. Many thanks for your continued support.



## Wine & Port 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 for carton of 12. Also available Port for \$20 a bottle.

Money raised goes towards families in need in our Parish. Please contact the parish office.

### 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

MASS TIMES	MATER DEI	ST PETER CHANEL	FEAST DAYS/NOTES
Monday 18/12			Christmas Festival
Tuesday 19/12	9:00am		Christmas Festival
Wednesday 20/12		9:00am	Christmas Festival
Thursday 21/12		9:00am	Last Night of Christmas Festival
Friday 22/12	9:00am		
Saturday 23/12	5:30pm mass		
Sunday 24/12	9:30am Normal Mass 5:30pm Carols 6:00pm Vigil Mass (Outside)	8:00am Normal Mass 6:00pm Carols 6:30pm Vigil Mass	Fourth Sunday of Advent
Monday 25/12	9:30am	8:00am	Please note no 5pm mass at SPC

## Our Christmas Festival is here!!!

### Christmas in our Parish 2017

Commencing Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December and finishing Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December, with a Christmas hamper raffle being drawn on the last night.

Performers booked for the nights are as follows:

- Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December  
- **Parish Group Choir (both SPC & MD) / Brothers James Singers**
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December  
- **Samford Community Choir / Jubilee Singers**
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
- **Steven Foley & Others / Going for a Song**
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December  
- **Peace 'n' Choir / Brisbane Ukulele Musicians Society "NUMB BUMS"**
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December  
- **Denise Parker & Peter Monaghan / Tatty Tenors**

Each night the BBQ will commence at 6:00pm with the first performance from 6:30pm to 7:00pm and the second performance from 7:10pm to 8:00pm.

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.

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250 Enoggera Road, Newmarket.. Qld 4051

### Michael Messery

(Advanced certificate of horticulture)  
(Associate diploma of science-horticulture)

- Landscaping
- Gardening
- Mowing

Ph:3300 0572  
Ph:0407 645 559



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