

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.

Father Tuong and the Parish
wish all the teachers and
children a safe and happy
Christmas holiday break.



Wishing you a
happy and safe
festive season.

Website: www.stjohnswoodthegap.net.au

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

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 9th January 2018.*

SUNDAY 3rd December 2017 - First Sunday of Advent

Being More Human



Every year at the beginning of Advent, the Church starts a new Liturgical year to prepare our mind and heart for the coming of our Saviour. Advent is calling for something fresh and something new and we need to look deep into our lives to welcome the freshness and the newness to make change accordingly. It is not the freshness and newness of the liturgy that brings the change but it is the coming of Jesus, the birth of Jesus that brings the freshness and newness. The Advent liturgy annually reminds us of the recurring birth of Jesus who is the only Son of God, who becomes a human person; who comes to live amongst us; who comes to share our earthly journey and who makes our faith journey become noteworthy to the Father. It is Jesus who shows us the new meaning of love and sacrifice, who makes us His friends and asks God the Father to 'consecrate our lives to his truth' Jn 17:17. It is Jesus who brings the heavenly music to our world through the singing of the angels from on high and it is Jesus who makes a new meaning of the human race through His death and resurrection.

The beginning of the Liturgical year begins with the preparation of our lives to welcome the birth of Jesus. It calls us to change our ways of life to adopt a new life, starting with the baby Jesus who was born in the middle of winter, in the wilderness and amongst animals. The birth of Jesus warms up the frozen relationships of the human race caused by sin. It is frozen because people turned away from the God of their Ancestors to idolatry worship. It is frozen because people wandered away from God and ignored the prophets' callings to return to God's way of love and mercy. It is frozen because people relied on their own wisdom rather than humbly accepting the way of the Lord. The birth of Jesus calls to make corrections of the atrocity darkness of wilderness of a human heart. A wilderness is home for the hostile and cruel attitudes and antagonistic environments where mercy is absent and compassion is null. The birth of Jesus calls us to restrain the animals' behaviours approaching and replacing it with more human relationships, avoiding dealing with each other with claws, feasts, grunts and harsh words but compassion, love and forgiveness as the way of life. The birth of Jesus calls us to reshape our lives in accordance with the life of baby Jesus who was humbled to come into our world to be one of us and redeemed us with his life and blood on the cross. It calls us to recognize that God is amongst us and we need to see the goodness of God in each one of us. God's goodness in each one of us is life giving, infused in us as a free gift for us to enjoy life, to live in God's grace and peace given to us freely and we should learn from it to give it freely to others in the name of Jesus. It calls us in giving thanks to God for sending His only Son to live amongst us, to show us the way of love and mercy, to guide us in our pilgrimage towards God's kingdom.

The Advent calls us to 'be watchful' about our relationships to God and to others; to leave a wild life behind and to adopt a new way of life preaching by Jesus who is 'the way, truth and life' Jn 14:6.

Vudinh Tuong

**Next Week's Readings:
Second Sunday of Advent**

*First Reading
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11*

*Second Reading
2 Peter 3:8-14*

*Gospel
Mark 1:1-8*

Prayers for the Sick

Stefan Golebiowski
Carolyn Webster
Andrew Dudgeon
Catherine Smith
Michele Henselien
Catherine Murphy
John Perks
Elizabeth McInerney

Recently Deceased

Noela Harrison

Anniversaries

Terry Mahoney
Scott Mahoney
Tony Mulrone
Anne Baker
Frank Southwell
Meta Truscott
Alfo Paiva
Milroy Perise

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

Anyone who would like a visit from Father Tuong before Christmas, please contact the parish office on 3300 6099 before Friday 15th December.

Rosary

Rosary will be held at 7:30pm on Monday 4th December 2017 at Leo & Pat Mead's house, Ashgrove
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 63:16-17, 64:1, 3-8

Oh, that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Mark 13:33-37

Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.



UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Date	Mater Dei	St Peter Chanel	Notes
December 2017			
Tues 12/12/17	7:30pm		Mass of Forgiveness - MD
Sun 17/12/17		5:00pm Mass 6:00pm BBQ	Christmas Festival Begins 6:30pm-7:00pm Combined SPC / MD Choir 7:10pm – 8ish Brothers James Singers
Mon 18/12/17		6:00pm BBQ	Christmas Festival 6:30pm-7:00pm Samford Community Choir 7:10pm – 8ish Jubilee Singers
Tues 19/12/17		6:00pm BBQ	Christmas Festival 6:30pm-7:00pm Steven Foley & Friends 7:10pm – 8ish Going for a Song
Wed 20/12/17		6:00pm BBQ	Christmas Festival 6:30pm-7:00pm Peace 'n' Choir 7:10pm – 8ish NUMB BUMS (Brisbane Ukulele Musicians Society)
Thurs 21/12/17		6:00pm BBQ	Last night of Christmas Festival 6:30pm-7:00pm Denise Parker & Peter Monaghan 7:10pm – 8ish Tatty Tenors
Sat 23/12/17	5:30pm		Normal MD Mass
Sun 24/12/17	9:30am 5:30pm Carols 6:00pm Vigil Mass Outside	8:00am 6:00pm Carols 6:30pm Vigil Mass	Normal Masses (NO 5:00pm Mass) Christmas Eve Masses
Mon 25/12/17	9:30am	8:00am	Christmas Day Masses
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 5:00pm Mass

January 2018

Mon 01/01/18	9:00am Mass		New Years Day Mass
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Now Available to Purchase From Each Church & Parish Office

Christmas cards - pack of 8 \$4. Holy Prayer Cards - pack of 10 \$3. 2018

Columban Art Calendar \$9 each. Advent Calendars - \$5 each.

Five Minutes with the WORD (Advent) - \$4. Little Blue Book (Advent & Christmas Season) - \$5.00

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.

2018 Collection Counters Roster

A huge thank you to those volunteers who count the weekend collections. Through their generosity we were able to form 4 teams resulting in once a month duties. The new roster will commence the first week in February 2018. If you do not wish to be on this roster, please advise Richard at the office. New volunteers are most welcome. Please contact Richard if you would like to join the counters roster. Thanking all volunteers once again.
Kev Kelly

SPC Church Cleaning Roster 2018

The new SPC church cleaning roster for 2018 is currently being prepared. If you would like to join or come off, please contact the Parish Office.



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 or contact the Parish Office on 3300 6099.



St Vincent de Paul Christmas Giving Tree

The Parish Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society thanks everyone who generously donated to our Christmas Appeal. Your generosity helps us to continue helping the needy in the Parish. We invite you to take a card from the Christmas Giving tree which is located in each church, which suggests gifts to give needy families in our parish. Gifts are required to be returned under the Giving Tree by Saturday 16th December.



The Annual Peter's Pence Collection

This weekend is the Peter's Pence Collection which is an annual collection of the Catholic Church around the world. The collection allows the Holy Father to respond to the most needy throughout the world, to offer timely, effective emergency assistance to our suffering brothers and sisters. In the Archdiocese of Brisbane, we take this collection up as a retiring collection.



News from the Archbishop

Archbishop Mark Coleridge has announced that **Fr Stanley Orji** will be appointed as Associate Director of Vocation Brisbane and Sacramental Minister to our Parish with effect from 6 January 2018 for a term of 3 years.

News from Mater Dei School



Ms Madonna Sleba has been appointed as Principal of St Saviour Primary School in the Diocese of Toowoomba from the commencement of 2018. Mrs Donna Jones will become acting Principal in 2018. Donna has been Acting Principal at St Anthony's School at Kedron this year. She is looking forward to working with the community in 2018. The position of a permanent principal will be advertised during 2018.



Claire's Cottage Fundraiser

As a fundraiser, Meat U @ Home Butchers at The Gap Village is offering a Christmas special deal where 80% of the price goes to Claire's Cottage. For \$115 you can purchase a free range Christmas bundle comprising of 1/2 woodsmoked ham, whole chicken, boneless pork leg (all free range). For details, please see the printouts at the back of the church and place orders directly with Meat U @ Home Butchers.

News from Claire's Cottage.....

Claire's Cottage has arranged with Stepz Fitness Ashgrove a fitness program especially designed for Claire's Cottage with their very own personal trainer, Jason. It is a great way for young people with disabilities to have a workout especially designed for them to keep them fit and active. Also coming up next year, Claire's Cottage is offering cooking classes in conjunction with Mt St Michael's College. This is a great opportunity for young adults with disabilities to acquire life cooking skills or just for fun. If you are interested in either of these events, please contact Claire McCourtie from Claire's Cottage 0413 270 167.

Can you Help?

Volunteers are needed for the Christmas festival. Volunteer sign up forms are located at the back of the church if you are able to help out on any of the nights or for set up /clean up. Donations for the Christmas hampers are also needed. If you have any gifts you would like to donate, please drop off to the parish office.

Thank you.

Help for Christmas Masses At Mater Dei

Help is needed for the outdoor 5.30pm Carols and 6pm Mass on Sunday, Christmas Eve.

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

Thank you The Liturgy Committee
 Mater Dei

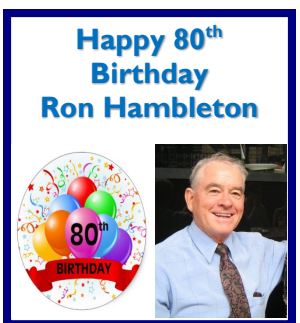
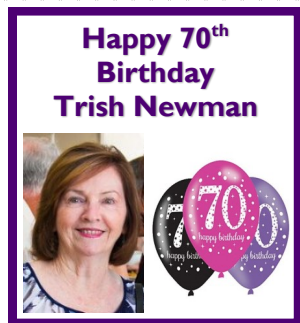
SPC CHRISTMAS EVE MASS PLAY

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

SPC Liturgy Roster

The new roster for coordinators, readers, ministers of communion & computer have now been distributed. Copies available in SPC sacristy.



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

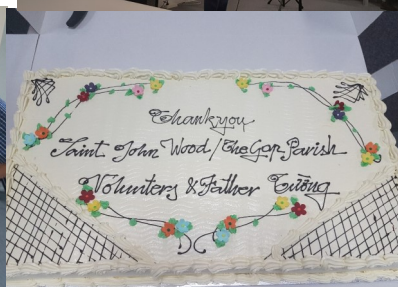
The Editor retains the right to edit any items that are submitted to the bulletin.

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 04/12			Regis Mass
Tuesday 05/12	9:00am		
Wednesday 06/12		9:00am	
Thursday 07/12		9:00am (Healing Mass)	Saint Ambrose
Friday 08/12	9:00am		The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Saturday 09/12	5:30pm mass		
Sunday 10/12	9:30am Mass	8:00am Mass 5:00pm Mass	Second Sunday of Advent

Thank you to all volunteers who turned up to the Parish Volunteer's BBQ last weekend. It was great to see so many faces and the Christmas light display was spectacular as always. Thank you Cameron Eaton for presenting Father Tuong with the beautiful portrait you painted of him. Thank you Chelsea Clark for presenting Father Tuong with the wonderful collage of photos and notes of parish children. Thank you Kylie Gaul, Chelsea Clark, Dorene Parsonage and Chris Jackson from the parish council and Peter Maher and helpers for doing an outstanding job setting up and preparing everything for the night. A special thanks to the 'Veranda Band' who entertained and played great music. Also thank you Peter McMahon for the successful launching of the Parish History Book. Copies are available to purchase from the parish office for \$20.00.



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