

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Luke 1:46-50, 53-54; Response: Isaiah 61:10)

ANTIPHON: My soul rejoices in my God.

RESPONSE: My soul rejoices in my God.

LECTOR: My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour. He looks on his servant in her nothingness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **R.**

LECTOR: The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name! His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him. **R.**

LECTOR: He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty. He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy. **R.**

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

TODAY'S READINGS Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

NEXT WEEK (4th Sunday Advent, Year B) 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Ps 88; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

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your day with
The Majellan*

Figuring out Families

Listen to our latest podcasts where we talk to marriage counsellor Derek Boylen in a special Focus Series about families and issues affecting couples and families. The podcasts cover a range of topics including the importance of Communication, Setting Goals, Dealing with Difficult Family Members, Faith and Spirituality and Keeping Fun and Romance Alive. To listen go to: www.majellan.media/figuring-out-families/

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Loving the unborn child



13 December 2020 3rd Sunday Advent Year B

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say rejoice. The Lord is near." These words introduce the Mass on the third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday (gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin). On this Sunday, we rejoice in knowing that at Christmas God comes near to us in Jesus.

St John the Baptist announces the meaning of this arrival. Last of the great prophets, he prepares the way for Jesus with his baptism of water, a sign that God will soon reconcile the world. He calls in the voice of one crying out in the wilderness and makes his prayer and fasting in testimony to the light on the horizon. In Jesus, we find the great joy of our heart's deepest desire, and in St John we discover genuine humility and faithfulness.

The Church has long honoured the importance of St John the Baptist. In fact, we commemorate his death as well as his birth with feast days. But we miss St John's significance for us if we focus only on his relationship with Jesus and not ours with him as well. He models for us the beauty of seeing and witnessing to the light. His humility does not depend on his status or relationship with others; it stems from his steady awareness of God.

Sometimes we need reminders of God's transformative reality in our lives and the encouragement to prepare ourselves well for recognising God's presence. Such reminders

often happen naturally when we prepare for the birth of a child. A pregnancy can bring great joy as well as deep longing and expectation. The parents fall in love with the child well before the day of arrival.

Their lives change because of their love. They make space for someone new in their home; they start to plan differently for the future; they celebrate the advent of a new horizon in the wider circles of their families and friends. The birth brings profound meaning to the lives of many people well before it happens.

When I told my mother-in-law that I could hardly believe how much I loved the child in my wife's pregnant body, she told me that I could now understand how much my parents loved me. Most of us are loved by someone in this unbelievably powerful way. Advent allows us to see one another in this way of being loved. The passers-by on the street, the neighbours next door, the colleagues at work – they are all children of God and powerfully loved. And when we see them in this way, we recognise a deep reality of who they truly are.

St John the Baptist calls us to rejoice for what God does for us in Jesus. He calls us to prepare ourselves for recognising God's presence and for living in a world of people who are unfathomably loved.

Christiaan Jacobs-Vandegeer

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CURRENT PARISH NEWS

WEEK START SUN **DEC 13, 2020**
3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

REGINA CAELI CATHOLIC PARISH

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PARISH OFFICE: TUES, WED, THURS, 9.30AM - 2.30PM

JEANNE SCHNEIDER M: 0414 836 071

ALL ENQUIRIES RE BOOKING BAPTISMS,

WEDDINGS, FUNERALS & SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

PLEASE CONTACT PARISH OFFICE.

NEXT BAPTISM ENROLMENT TALK SUN FEB 7, 2021
AT 4PM IN PARISH HALL. NO APPT NECESSARY!

Sat ~ 9am, 6pm;

Sun ~ 6.30am & 8.30am

Mon & Wed ~ 6.30am;

Tues & Fri ~ 9am

Public Holidays ~ 9am



Thank You ...to all who support Regina Caeli in any way, be it practically or financially. All assistance is valued & important. For new practical helpers contact p/office. For financial support facilities please contact office or you may also deposit online: BSB 064 786 A/c: 006171102 (Please incl ref) or Parish Giving app available now & supports our parish [downloadable to your phone]

'Passing the plate' is prohibited at the moment, hence, "gifting" boxes are located at all doors if you are wishing to support parish financially.

Spare envelopes available for your convenience <http://parishgiving.brisbanecatholic.org.au/>
Click on links for resources & articles:

Archdiocese of Brisbane:

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/>

Webcast : www.archbne.org/bzw

The Catholic Leader & Catholic Kool Kids [CKK]

Visit parish website under: "Stay Connected"

Regina Caeli Parish will deliver newsletters to those who may find themselves isolated and/or unable to visit parish itself. Contact us for an email copy or hardcopy delivery to home.



YEAR **B**



SPEND TIME WITH GOD EVERY MORNING

Sign up to receive the Daily Gospel Reflection. These reflections are mailed to your inbox at 6am daily (Mon-Fri) & are just a 3 minute read that could be done over

breakfast, intended to invite you into prayer. Written by Catholic lay people (men & women from Evangelisation Brisbane), for Catholic lay people about gospel of the day to help you start your day with God. Subscribe by simply scanning the QR code or via Evangelisation Brisbane <https://evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/daily-reflections/>



Mass of Reconciliation

RECONCILIATION prior to the 2020 season of Christmas, Tuesday December 15 @ 7pm

Volunteers needed for all Christmas Masses as Sacristans, Readers & Helpers to assist 'Sign In' and co-ordinate safely those attending Christmas Masses. To help us plan ahead, if you are available & happy to assist please add your name to helper sheet in foyer.



Gift a 2021 Columban Calendar to someone special for Christmas this year. On sale in Foyer just \$10!



2020 Christmas Mass Times

Mass of Reconciliation

Tuesday Dec 15, 7pm

Thursday Dec 24, Christmas Eve

6pm Carols & Mass 6.30pm

Friday Dec 25

Christmas Day

6.30am & 8.30am

New Year's Day 2021,

Friday 9am



The 'New Norm' 20 11 2020

- ◆ Sanitise your hands
- ◆ Sign In
- ◆ No Hymn books used.
- ◆ Sanitise your space with wipes on exit
- ◆ Social Distancing (1person or family / 2m²)
- ◆ Stay home if unwell
- ◆ Sign of Peace spoken greeting only
- ◆ Gifting boxes available all doors for donations
- ◆ Take newsletter home with you



With easing of restrictions, comprehensive contact tracing details are paramount. If you attend any Church Services, we are required to have a telephone and an email/postal address for all attendees. Many have registered some time ago, but details are not up to date. Please confirm your details by adding email & postal address to attendance sheets. This applies to all Masses & importantly, includes Christmas Masses.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Joyce Byrne, Bianca Capelli, Clare Dugger, Dan Egan, Bart Gaffney, FT 'Bill' Hanley, Lucy Houghton, Dominic VU, **ANNIVERSARIES:** Mr & Mrs Andruczyk, Louise & Maurice Chappuis, Bill Cummins, Roy Gleadhill, John Scott Tom Sternfeldt, Helen Shaw **SPECIAL INTENTIONS:** Joshua Chester, Pat Cochrane, Veronica & Cathy Comiskey, Neil Cremin, Pat Dugger, George D'Allura, Loye Gardiner, Paul Heathwood, Allaura Hows, Kath Keogh, Nicky Logan, Paddy Logan, Katie Loveday, Trish McConnell, Fr Ron Mollison, Marie-Louise O'Brien, Pam O'Reilly, Peter Owen, Peter Reid, Wal & Joyce Smith, Lester Steen, Nathaniel Williams, Zelina & family

RECESSIONAL WE ARE CALLED

V1 Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God!
We are called to act with justice. We are called to love tenderly. We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.
V2 Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
so hatred and blindness will be no more!

PROCESSIONAL PREPARE THE WAY

V1 There was a man of God whose name was John. He came to speak for the light. The voice of one in the wilderness; 'Prepare the way of the Lord.'

Prepare the way of the Lord...prepare...prepare....

V2 Mountains and hills shall be brought to the ground, the winding paths be straightened and all on earth shall see his face; Prepare the way of the Lord.

OFFERTORY BLEST ARE THEY

V1 Blest are they, the poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow, they shall be consoled.

Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you. Holy are you! Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God.

V2 Blest are they, the lowly ones, they shall inherit the earth. Blest are they who hunger and thirst, they shall have their fill.

COMMUNION JOYFUL IN HOPE

V1 Joyful in hope your people pray.
Joyful in hope we're on our way.
Though the road may not be clear.
We believe Lord you are near
in the smile and open heart of a friend.

V3 Mary, so open to the Lord.
When you answered 'Yes', our hope was restored.
Though you couldn't understand,
in trust you took God's hand, so joyful in hope, we live again.

AV Prepare a way for the Lord.
Make straight his paths, put down the sword.
For the night is almost gone
and the light is drawing on,
so joyful in hope we await the Lord.

REFLECTION AS GENTLE AS SILENCE

V1 Oh the love of my Lord is the essence of all that I love here on earth. All the beauty I see, God has given to me and he giving is gentle as silence.

V2 Every day, every hour, every moment have been blessed by the strength of God's love.
At the turn of each time, God is there at my side with a touch that is gentle as silence.

V3 There've been times when I've turned from your presence, and I's walked other paths, other ways. But I've call on your name in the dark of my shame, and your mercy was gentle as silence.

