

CURRENT PARISH NEWS

WEEK START SUN Dec 25, 2021

CHRISTMAS DAY

REGINA CAELI CATHOLIC PARISH

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PARISH OFFICE: TUES, WED, THURS, 9.30AM-230PM

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ALL ENQUIRIES RE BOOKING BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS & SACRAMENT OF PENANCE PLEASE CONTACT PARISH OFFICE.

ALL BAPTISM ENQUIRIES: CONTACT OFFICE

Sat 6pm, Sun @ 6.30am, 8.30am

Reconciliation Sat 5.30pm or by appt.

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. To offer financial support please contact office or you may also deposit online:**



BSB 064 786 A/c 100013354 (Please incl ref)

Gifting" boxes are installed at doors if you are wishing to support parish. Extra envelopes for

gifting available on top of gifting boxes. Gifting App is downloadable

<http://parishgiving.brisbanecatholic.org.au/>

CATHOLIC LEADER MONTHLY DEC ISSUE ~ JUST \$4

Click on links for resources & articles:

Archdiocese of Brisbane:

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

For online mass: Live web cast visit

archdiocesan website or www.archbne.org/bzw

FYI Regina Caeli delivers newsletters to those who find themselves isolated & unable to visit parish.

Children's Church will resume Feb 2022.



2021 Christmas Season Mass Times:

Fri, Christmas Eve: Carols 6pm, Mass 6.30pm

Saturday, Christmas Day: 6.30am, 8.30am;

No Sat evening 6pm Mass Christmas Day

Sunday Dec 26 : 6.30am, 8.30am;

NB! NO Weekday/Saturday Morning Masses

during time of transition at Regina Caeli, & until further notice.

Normal w/end Masses celebrated

Sat 6pm, Sun 6.30am, 8.30am



A Christmas Message...

We celebrate Christmas '21 in a world where we witness economic instability & the threat of pandemic Covid 19.

Different variants of Covid 19 keep erupting one after another & they increase the global financial instability & curtail our freedom to have smooth living. The society, family, people are torn apart. What Christmas message does that give us? Christmas always brings the message of togetherness. The spirit of togetherness lies at the heart of Christmas story. A young mother & dutiful father with their baby joined by poor shepherds, angels, & visitors from afar bring a beautiful picture of togetherness. Togetherness is the source of joy, happiness, & peace. Togetherness is the beauty of life. I can do things which you which you may not be able to do. You may be able to do things which I cannot do, but together we can do great things.

This is what happened on first Christmas day. Joseph must have felt depressed & lost hope in finding a better place for Mary to birth to her child. Mary appreciated him at least getting a cattle shed. Then the situation itself created a sense of togetherness, cattle, shepherds, angels...

as Paulo Coelho, Brazilian novelist says, 'if your wish is strong, if you do something together, then the existence will cooperate with you because, the spirit of togetherness does wonders. It unites us; it gives us security, much-needed support, & sense of belonging.' Then, the miracle will happen, Christmas will happen. God will make his tent among us; the Immanuel magic will happen. More than pandemic or natural calamities or war, what shakes our society is unstable families. Husband needs wife, wife needs husband & above all children need parents.

Family is the strong foundation of society.

It is the best place experience the togetherness.

Dear friends, Christmas is a celebration of togetherness. I think togetherness is a very important ingredient to family life. Christmas happens not in a broken family, in family where there is togetherness. Take up challenge to create atmosphere of togetherness in your family, in your parish, in your society & in the world, & celebrate Christmas with the smile of the child Jesus, love of Mary & joy of Joseph.

Please keep our communities Covid safe & adhere to all current Government restrictions. Sign in using QR Code. We have a parish QR Code for those unable to check in via their phone. Social distance. Stay home if unwell. As a precaution, we ask all attending to allow our choir to do the singing & we simply hum along or follow the words in booklet.



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A time to reset our sights



25 December 2021 Christmas

What a year it has been as the pandemic raged across the world for a second year. It's been a hard time in so many ways. But now, at last, it's Christmas and we gather to give thanks for the many graces and blessings in our lives, despite the hard times, and to rejoice in the greatest gift of all, Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us, and our world and our destiny forever changed.

The great Christian thinker of the 4th century, Athanasius, with stunning simplicity summed up what that event meant for each and every one of us, a mystery so wonderful that we hardly dare believe it: He, the Son of God, became human that we might become divine! He, truly and fully God, the eternal Word, through whom all things were made, became human, one like us in all things but sin. In becoming human he established a forevermore communion between the human and divine.

With his becoming human, our lives and our destiny were radically and forever changed. Eternal life in the bosom of God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - in communion with each other; that is our destiny. There are many things that the pandemic has brought home to us, but perhaps the most important of all is the acute realisation of our need and our longing for communion. Lockdowns, social distancing requirements, and restrictions on our gathering with family and friends have cost us dearly. How we have longed to share a meal. How we

have longed for human touch and physical expressions of friendship, affection and love. The pandemic has highlighted that we are hard-wired for connection, communication, and community.

But we are hard-wired not just for connection with each other. We are hard-wired for connection with the One who loved us into being and created us for communion. At Christmas we celebrate the gift of God's communion with us.

In establishing that communion, he came, not with pomp and majesty befitting a king, but very humbly, helpless and vulnerable as a new-born babe, to a couple far away from home and family, in a foreign place, alone, amidst strangers, in a smelly stable, with a manger for a cradle.

This babe's birth changed everything. It is meant to change us! It urges us to ponder these things in our hearts. It beckons us to reassess our values, our aspirations, the way we live our lives, how we invest our time, what we treasure, and where we place our hopes.

The pandemic has prompted us to reassess our priorities. Christmas also prompts us to reset our sights on the love that has been given to us and to give of ourselves in ever greater love and greater care for one another. May you find time to ponder these things this Christmas. And may the blessings of joy and peace abide in you throughout the year.

Anne Hunt

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Vigil Mass

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) Today you will know that the Lord will come, and he will save us, and in the morning you will see his glory.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 88)

ANTIPHON: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

RESPONSE: **For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

LECTOR: "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your dynasty for ever and set up your throne through all ages." **R.**

LECTOR: Happy the people who acclaim such a king, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face, who find their joy every day in your name, who make your justice the source of their bliss. **R.**

LECTOR: "He will say to me: 'You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me.' I will keep my love for him always; for him my covenant shall endure." **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia! Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed: the Saviour of the world will be our king. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all flesh will see the salvation of our God.

READINGS Isaiah 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25

Midnight Mass

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) The Lord said to me: You are my Son. It is I who have begotten you this day.

(Or) Let us all rejoice in the Lord, for our Saviour has been born in the world. Today true peace has come down to us from heaven.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 95)

ANTIPHON: Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

RESPONSE: **Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.**

LECTOR: O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. O sing to the Lord, bless his name. **R.**

LECTOR: Proclaim his help day by day, tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples. **R.**

LECTOR: Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad, let the sea and all within it thunder praise, let the land and all it bears rejoice, all the trees of the wood shout for joy at the presence of the Lord for he comes, he comes to rule the earth. **R.**

LECTOR: With justice he will rule the world, he will judge the peoples with his truth. **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia! Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.

READINGS Isaiah 9:1-7; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14

Dawn Mass

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord is born for us; and he will be called Wondrous God, Prince of peace, Father of future ages: and his reign will be without end.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 96)

ANTIPHON: A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.

RESPONSE: **A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.**

LECTOR: The Lord is king, let earth rejoice, the many coastlands be glad. The skies proclaim his justice; all peoples see his glory. **R.**

LECTOR: Light shines forth for the just and joy for the upright of heart. Rejoice, you just, in the Lord; give glory to his holy name. **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia! Glory to God in the highest, peace to his people on earth. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) Rejoice, O Daughter Sion; lift up praise, Daughter Jerusalem: Behold, your King will come, the Holy One and Saviour of the world.

READINGS Isaiah 62:11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20

Mass during the Day

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 97)

ANTIPHON: All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

RESPONSE: **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

LECTOR: Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **R.**

LECTOR: The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **R.**

LECTOR: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. **R.**

LECTOR: Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music. With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia! A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

READINGS Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18