

# KEDRON BROOK CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

embracing the parishes of

**Good Samaritan & St John the Baptist**

Joined in joyfully praising and worshipping God



**17th December 2023—3rd Sunday of Advent—Year B**



## **St John the Baptist**

131 South Pine Road,  
ENOGGERA

## **Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception**

18 Halle Street,  
EVERTON PARK

## **St Carthage's**

115 Beaconsfield Tce  
GORDON PARK

## **St Columba's**

170 Kedron Brook Road,  
WILSTON

## **PASTOR**

Fr Ihemelandu Uzuegbu  
Parish Priest

## **PARISH OFFICE**

Monday—Thursday 9am—1pm  
23 Lovedale Street  
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[www.kbcatholic.org.au](http://www.kbcatholic.org.au)

## **OFFICE STAFF**

Pastoral Co-Ordinator:  
Marie-Louise Singson  
Finance: Cherylann Baxter  
Admin: Majella Adams  
Secretary: Joan Whybird

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Anne Marie Troutman  
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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The readings of the 3rd Sunday of Advent year B have the common themes of joy and encouragement. They tell us that our salvation is near and call us to rejoice. Intentionally this Sunday is called the “Gaudete Sunday”, which means the Sunday to rejoice. This is because amid the confusion and challenges of life, the rebirth and presence of Christ in one’s life is the only thing that guarantees enduring and complete happiness and peace (Jn 16:33). Furthermore, it is called Gaudete Sunday because, in the beginning of the original Latin text for today’s Mass, we have the opening antiphon: “*Gaudete in Domino semper*” – “Rejoice in the Lord always.” With this, the church welcomes the third Sunday and reminds us that we are gradually coming to the threshold of our preparation for the very joyful occasion of the birth of Jesus. Today we light the rose candle in the Advent wreath, and the priest may wear rose vestments, worn only this day and the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of lent. In the first reading from Is.61:1-2,10-11, we heard Prophet Isaiah encouraging the Jewish exiles returning from Babylon to rejoice because “Yahweh”, their God, is their strong Guide, Provider and Protector. “I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me with the garment of salvation”. Here we see that reason for the rejoicing is not due to material success but something more tangible – the abiding presence of the Lord in Isaiah’s life. The same is seen in today’s Responsorial Psalm (Luke 1:46 ff.), again Mary rejoices in the great blessing given to her, exclaiming: “My soul glorifies the Lord; my spirit finds joy in God my Saviour.”

St Paul, picked up on this too in the second reading as he advised the Thessalonian Christians to “rejoice always”. He framed the rejoicing as human effort in leading blameless, holy and thankful lives guided by the Holy Spirit as they wait for Christ’s second coming that is near. The questions are then: how can we have this joy even amid the numerous problems in life and the world? What is the basis of your joy in life?

Let us have it in our mind that Paul was not talking about emotion; emotion fluctuates and is not steady. It is like the wind or the tide of the wave, sometimes there is a low tide and other times a high tide, and no one can control one’s emotion; but one can make a decision to be happy, to rejoice, whether the tide of life is at its peak or its lowest point.

**Paul is calling us to make a decision of the will, which is a decision to let Christ be the centre of our life.**

Material success, like wealth, jobs, beauty and validation from people can bring momentary joy, but they do not last nor guarantee peace. However, the presence of God in one, with its righteousness does. My dear friends, we are called to embrace the faith we have received, the love that Christ has offered and the promised hope of eternal life as we prepare for Christ’s Second Coming. St John the forerunner of Jesus has shown us the way in humility. He assures us that it is the way to happiness. Let us make room for Christ in our lives and we will be happy and at peace.

Have a blessed week.

**Fr Ihemelandu Uzuegbu**



## 17th December 2023 — Year B — Third Sunday of Advent

<b>First Reading</b>	Isaiah 61: 1-2, 10-11 I exult for joy in the Lord.
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	Ps Luke 1: 46-50, 53-54 My soul rejoices in my God.
<b>2nd Reading</b>	1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24 May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; He sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!
<b>Gospel</b>	John 1: 6-8, 19-28 There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.

## 24th December 2023 — Year B — Fourth Sunday of Advent

<b>First Reading</b>	2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16 The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	Ps 88: 2-5, 27, 29 For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Romans 16: 25-27 The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: May His will for me be done. Alleluia!
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 1: 26-38 You will conceive and bear a son.

### MASS INFORMATION

#### MONDAY

*Immaculate Conception*

9:00am Mass

#### TUESDAY

*Immaculate Conception*

8:30am Rosary followed by

9:00am Mass

#### WEDNESDAY

*St John the Baptist*

9:00am Mass followed by adoration

#### THURSDAY

*St Columba's*

8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

8:40am Rosary

9:00am Mass

#### FRIDAY

*St Columba's*

6:30am Mass

### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

*St Columba's*

5:00pm Vigil Mass

9:30am Mass (Sun)

*Immaculate Conception*

7:30am Mass (Sun)

Followed by 24 hr Perpetual

Adoration until Mon 8:30am

Friday after 6:30am Mass *St Columba's*

*St John the Baptist*

9:00 am Mass (Sun)

5:30pm Mass (Sun)

*St Carthage's*

8:00am Mass (Sun)

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:30pm

Sunday 5:00pm

or by appointment

*St Columba's*

*St John the Baptist*

### Christmas 2023— Mass Times

Both the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Day have the same ranking and both are what we call days of obligation. The question then arises: what do we celebrate on Sunday evening?

The EVENING of Sunday 24th December will feature celebrations of the **CHRISTMAS SOLEMNITY**, and NOT the Advent Sunday.

At KBCC, the 4th Sunday of Advent masses will therefore be celebrated only on Saturday 23rd at 5:00pm and the morning of Sunday 24 December

#### Sunday 24th December

<i>Carols:</i>	<i>Mass:</i>	<i>Church:</i>
5:00pm	5:30pm	St Columba's ( <i>Family Mass</i> )
5:00pm	5:30pm	St John the Baptist ( <i>Family Mass</i> )
7:00pm	7:30pm	Our Lady of Immaculate Conception
11:00pm	11:30pm	St Columba's

#### Christmas Day Monday 25th December

<i>Mass:</i>	<i>Church:</i>
7:30am	Our Lady of Immaculate Conception
8:00am	St Carthage's
9:00am	St John the Baptist
9:30am	St Columba's

#### No Weekday Masses from

Tuesday 26th to Friday 29th December 2023

#### New Years Day Monday 1st January 2024

9:00am Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Everton Park

#### Australia Day Friday 26th January 2024

9:00am St Columba's Wilston (no 6:30am Mass)

#### 2nd Rite of Reconciliation & Confession

Tuesday 19th December 6:00pm 2nd Rite of Reconciliation  
St Columba's Church, Wilston

Wednesday 20th December Confession 9:30am St Columba's

#### KBCC Christmas Service of Carols 6:30pm

St John the Baptist Church, Enoggera

## Parish Notices

- ◇ **Please Note:** The Parish Office will be closed from 1:00pm Friday 22nd December 2023 until 9:00am Thursday 4th January 2024
- ◇ **St John the Baptist will be presenting a Christmas pageant** this year before the Vigil Mass on 24th Dec. All children are invited to attend. We will have a practice at 4:00pm on Thursday 21st December. If you are unable to attend the practice, come along as angels or shepherds. For more information phone Cecilia Formby 0447 176 760.
- ◇ **SVDP NOTES:** A basket for donated Christmas fare will be at St John the Baptist for next few weeks.
- ◇ **Expressions of interest** are welcomed for those willing to provide pastoral and spiritual care for people living with mental health challenges @ Centacare's Mental Health Hub in Fortitude Valley. If you would like to put your hand up for this ministry work (providing morning tea, companionship, prayer and mass support) alongside an existing team of pastoral carers and have Wednesday morning availability (each week), please contact Judy Norris (Director – Pastoral Ministries) on Ph 3324 3193 for more information.
- ◇ **CATHOLIC LEADERS:** Please note that as from January, 2024, our churches will no longer be receiving Catholic Leaders to sell. The Catholic Leader is moving to a subscribe only model. Once you have subscribed, your Catholic Leader will be delivered to your front door each month. Please collect an envelope from your church regarding subscription to the Catholic Leader so you can continue reading this valuable paper. Details on how you can subscribe are in these envelopes.
- ◇ **St Vincent's Brisbane** is in need of Eucharistic Ministers/volunteers for its Pastoral Care Department. Shifts would be only 1-2 hours per week. If you are able to help, please contact Volunteer Coordinator: Maureen Hansen on [maureen.hansen@svha.org.au](mailto:maureen.hansen@svha.org.au)
- ◇ **Volunteers required to assist adoration** at Everton Park Church. Please contact Fiona and Roy on 0412 802 122 'You will see the change for the better in your lives'
- ◇ **Wilston Church Morning Tea group** is searching for their next leader. Please call the Parish Office for more information.
- ◇ **Christmas Service of Carols**  
KBCC Christmas Service of Carols is on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December. We will begin with dinner together at 6:30pm followed by the Carols starting at 7:00pm. This Christmas event promises to gather and engage all four church communities. We're inviting you and your loved ones to come together and sing Christmas Carols at St John the Baptist Catholic Church. Practice sessions at Enoggera church 6:30pm, are on the Fri Dec 15<sup>th</sup>.  
**Please contact the Parish Office to RSVP by Monday 18th December, for catering purposes.**
- ◇ **Preparing for Christmas**  
Bruce Downs (The Catholic Guy) invites you to subscribe to his daily devotional emails that will help you experience God in new ways and help you in your spiritual walk. To sign up go to [https://brucedownes.org/fp\\_daily\\_reg/](https://brucedownes.org/fp_daily_reg/) and you will start receiving the Advent emails daily starting this Sunday!

### Wilston Christmas Raffle

#### LAST CHANCE TO BUY TICKETS THIS WEEKEND

First prize - B&W printer.

Other prizes include—hampers, pastry chef maker, wine glasses, salad bowls and lots more gifts.

**TICKETS \$2 EACH OR 6 FOR \$10**

Drawn by Fr Itheme this week.



### KBCC Collections 9th & 10th December 2023

	Direct Debit	Credit Card	Envelopes	Cash
<b>Enoggera</b>	\$ 252	\$194	\$ 114	\$648
<b>Everton Park</b>	<i>inc w Enoggera</i>		\$ 217	\$243
<b>Wilston</b>	\$ 1005	\$354	\$ 407	\$461
<b>Gordon Park</b>	<i>inc w Wilston</i>		\$ 181	\$ 35

#### Third Sunday in Advent - B

There was a man sent by God who came as a witness to testify to the Light so that through this person all people might believe. Is your name in the Gospel today?

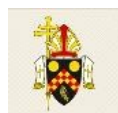


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Our parish has implemented the **Archdiocesan Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults policy**. For any matters relating to Safeguarding issues, please contact our Safeguarding representatives at

[lsr.kbcc@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:lsr.kbcc@bne.catholic.net.au)

or by contacting STOP line [AOB@stopline.com.au](mailto:AOB@stopline.com.au) or 1300 304 550 (for anonymous reports)

### **KBCC Solidarity with the Catholic Parish of St Therese, Kiritimati, Republic of Kiribati**

Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord, I would like to inform you that our community, Kedron Brook Catholic Community, has decided to journey in solidarity with the Kiritimati Catholic Parish Project on Kiritimati. This community is one of our closest neighbours in the Pacific region. In a letter from Father Tara-jake Takakia, who looks after the church, the parish is appealing to groups and individuals to support their Parish Project on Ronton Kiritimati. The project is to erect some Eco-friendly single house units or Bungalows (called Little Flower Guest House) over the lagoon in Ronton, which will serve as guest houses for tourists or fish anglers. If this dream is realised, it will be a source of revenue for the Kiritimati Parish Catholic Church. It will also provide employment opportunities to the people who will work as tour guides, boatmen, cleaners, chefs and drivers.

The first phase of the project is to construct the first five units of the "Guest House" estimated to cost \$120,000 AUD. The Catholic Parish in Kiritimati has saved \$20,000 AUD and is seeking interested donors and supporters to come to their aid to make the dream a reality by 2024-2025. As a parish community, our combined Pastoral Council, with the support of the Finance Councils, has agreed to support this endeavour and raise at least \$10,000 AUD in 2024. As a result, all money raised in our Christmas raffles will go to this project. Also, we are looking at other ways of raising the money and would appreciate donations to the Kiritimati appeal fund. *Fr Iheme*

### **The Pink Candle in the Advent Wreath**

Advent, which begins the Church's liturgical year, began on Sunday, December 3. Advent lasts the four Sundays (also weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas. The Advent season is a time of preparation for our hearts and minds for the Lord's birth on Christmas.

The wreath and candles are full of symbolism tied to the Christmas season. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolises the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life we find in Christ. The individual evergreens that make up the wreath have their own meanings. The pine, holly, and yew signify immortality and the cedar signifies strength and healing. The pine cones that decorate the wreath symbolize life and resurrection.

The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each Sunday. Three of the candles are purple because it is a liturgical colour that signifies a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice. The third candle is pink and symbolizes joy. It is called the "Shepherd's Candle," and is pink because rose is a liturgical colour for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and it reminds us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent. The white candle is placed in the middle of the wreath and lit on Christmas Eve. This candle is called the "Christ Candle" and represents the life of Christ. The colour white is for purity—because Christ is our sinless, pure Saviour.

Marie-Louise Singson  
Pastoral coordinator

Source: Religious and Theological Abstracts. Myerstown, PA: Religious and Theological Abstracts.

### **Parish Advent Preparation**

From the beginning of Advent, we will have a weekly preparation and discussion group here at the Parish Office in Wilston every Thursday morning from 10:30-11:30am or at St John The Baptist Hall, Enoggera every Wednesday at 10:00-11:00am. It is a 22-day reflection for Advent during the 2023-2024 liturgical year. It will be accompanied by the Advent resource "With Expectant Hearts" (\$6 each). Please RSVP as soon as possible.

### ***We pray for those who are unwell***

Donn Anderson, Yvonne Boyle, Christine Bunn, Kelly Burton, Wilma Burton, June Crimmen, Baby Amelia Cross, Emma Datoc, Sheila de Zilva, Biddy Dwyer, Lyn Groessler, Beryl Grunwald, Varun Gupta, Gabrielle Harris, Sherry Henricksen, Mary Hewitt, Kathleen Hicks, Colleen Jackson, Gordon Jackson, Pietro Jacuzzo, Fran Johnson, Bevan Johnson, Lesley Keleher, Troy Kemp, Raechel Mansfield, Ann Mansfield, Dawn Marano, Michael McGowan, K McCarthy, Cristina Neroni, Moira O'Sullivan, Joshua Price, Carmel Ryan, Guiseppe Santoro, Irene Savage, Thomas Savage, Bridget Simpson, Eric Spaid, Brad Tennant, Fay Tynan, Jeanette Wharton, Lynne Wilson Taylor, Kerryn Whiteside, Sr Carmel, Sr Dorothy & Zaiden.

***We extend our sympathy to all families who have recently lost a loved one***

*Joy McGowan*

***We remember those whose anniversaries of death occur about this time***

*Nola Gibney*