



PARISH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION, NORTH WODEN

Monsignor John Woods PP Phone (02) 6281 3999 Email: wodennorth@cg.org.au
Holy Trinity Church, Parish Office and Presbytery, 3 Strangways Street, Curtin
Ss Peter and Paul Church, Boake Place, Garran. <http://cg.org.au/wodennorth>

21-22 December 2024, Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year C

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH WEEKDAY AND WEEKEND MASSES, LITURGY and RECONCILIATION TIMES:

Monday	9.30am
Tuesday	9.30am
Wednesday	9.30am Lit of Word and H Comm
Thursday	5.30pm
Friday	9.30am (including Anointing on First Friday)
Saturday	Reconciliation 5.00-5.30pm; Mass 6.00pm
Sunday	9.30am and 5.30pm

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

MAY THE DECEASED REST IN PEACE AND RISE IN EASTER GLORY

Recently Deceased: Elizabeth Smyth, Kevin Andrews, Vanuatu earthquake victims, Louisa Strasser, Ivan Benkovic, Sr Paulinus Croker RSJ, John Vincent, Doreen Johns, Letitia Baz, Spanish flood victims, Carmel Bourke, Yvonne Barlow, Susie Menadue, Marcelino Gulane, Melissa McAuliffe, Mary-Ann Gormly, Michael Hermosilla, Paz Espina-Ruiz, Hugh Zockling, Maureen Grelis, Dr Frank Long, Ron Thornton, Bill Jordan, Margaret Burt, Fr John Usher, Vanessa O'Brien, Anna Vincent, Tess Caruana, Fr Brian Ebert, victims of war in Ukraine and Gaza.

Anniversaries of Death: Lyn Granlund, Brian Brown, Malcolm Blain, Joanne Binutti, Brian Brown, Chris Perkins, Peter Clarke, Margaret Frawley, Sharon Woods, Peter Marlow, Vincent and Mary Huang, Peter Mayer, Michael Morrisroe, Oreste Trinca, Pushpa Dwaly, Fr Leandro Infante, Pacifico Infante, Joe Caruana, Josh McKinnon, Anne Taylor, Benjamin and Bill Rowe, Melanie Swan, Denis Rowe.

MAY THE SICK BE COMFORTED BY OUR PRAYERS

Fr Andrew Yang, Richard Foote, Chris Feeny, Moira O'Brien, Olga Johnson, Margaret Williams, Pieter van Gent, Mark Lodder, Ted Lindsay, George Toth, Greg Nash, Romeo Cicolini, Francis Boyd, Jeannette Clarke, Jarrod Clarkson, Karen Rankin, David Garratt, Marjorie O'Connor, Matthew Dwyer, Genevieve Crane, Maureen Sewell, John Warren, Lily Lim, Donald Stott, Genoveffa Ceccarelli, Bruno Sinuelli, John Woodward, Jack Kennelly, Iole and Romeo Cicolini.

WALKING IN FAITH

Mary was a woman of faith. Ok, but what does that mean? The French philosopher and scientist Blaise Pascal said, "Faith declares what the senses do not see, but not the contrary of what they see. It is above them, not contrary to them." In the same vein is the assertion of Jesuit priest and palaeontologist Fr Pierre Teilhard de Chardin SJ that, "Faith has need of the whole truth." **Faith and reason are two sides of the one coin.** Today's First Reading designates insignificant Bethlehem as the Messiah's birthplace. Then our Second Reading calls us to prioritise an inward listening, or as St Benedict would have it, to listen "with the ear of your heart". **Faith requires a receptivity which can be especially challenging for the strong and powerful. Whereas for the truly receptive, life-giving obedience in faith is the graced fruit.** "The human life of Jesus, from its very first moment to its end on Calvary, will be a continual act of bodily obedience offered for the salvation of the world" (Brendan Byrne). **And so to today's Gospel and Mary's faith.** "Mary has surrendered in faith and obedience to the extraordinary role that [the angel] Gabriel has announced to her. In faith, too, she has obeyed the angel's additional command to go and seek out the 'sign' to be seen in the pregnancy of, at an advanced age, of her cousin Elizabeth. Biblical faith does not presuppose signs already given: it acts, goes on its journey, and then discovers signs that confirm what has been believed. This is how Elizabeth's pregnancy functions for Mary"

(ibid). When Mary greets Elizabeth with the customary 'Peace' (Shalom), the child in Elizabeth's womb (John the Baptist) leaps for joy. Already John is pointing to the Messiah's coming. "Hence Elizabeth confirms what Mary has hitherto simply believed: that she is indeed pregnant with the infant Messiah whose role and destiny Gabriel had announced. She now has the 'sign' that she was sent to find" (ibid). **Mary's faith was the channel for salvation to flow into the world. "It is people of faith who open up the word to God's power" (ibid).** The Old Testament promises of Advent find their "point of focus in the faith of Mary, the beginning and model of all subsequent Christian believing" (ibid). Indeed, Mary's faith par excellence saw the Second Vatican Council reject a separate schema for her and choose rather to present her as the Mother of the Church's faith in the Document on the Church (*Lumen Gentium*). **In other words, the faith of Mary is the model of our faith. Lord, like Mary grace us to step out in faith and be open to discerning of the signs confirming it.** Fr John

THANK YOU to all parishioners whom have graced me with your presence over the past 7 years. You have variously enriched, supported and challenged me. I am the better for having shared the journey with you. A special word of thanks to Rod, Jerome, the Social Committee, Glenn for his kind words and all others for ensuring a memorable parish gathering last Saturday night. I very much appreciated it. May the Lord continue to bless our shared journeys. Fr John

SUMMER TRANSFIGURATION NEWSLETTER is available at the exits.

ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE is available at the exits. **ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL** supports the ecumenical Christmas Bowl appeal assisting displaced persons whether from war or climate change; needy students at Bethlehem University, the La Salette Matha Province India in their work for the poor and the works of the Blessed Sacrament Fathers in the Philippines; projects in the Dioceses of Otukpo, Nigeria, Eldoret, Kenya, Thamarassery, India and orphan care in Mount Hagen, PNG; locally 'The Farm' in Galong and 'HOME' in Queanbeyan will also benefit. **Part of our Christmas collections will support the appeal. Direct donations can be made via the form at the exits.**

JANUARY ARRANGEMENTS: As Fr James Antony will be on leave to celebrate his 25th anniversary of ordination in January, weekend Masses will be celebrated by Fathers Bernie Hennessy, Mick Burke and Leonse Kurian, with Fr Mick also celebrating the Monday 9:30am Mass. Tuesday to Friday of January there will be parishioner-led Liturgies of the Word and Holy Communion. Thank you for your understanding and support.

CHRISTMAS MASSES: Vigil 6:00pm (on grounds of Holy Trinity School), then **9:00pm** in Holy Trinity Church and likewise on Christmas Day at **8:00am and 10:00am.** **NB** There is no 5.30pm Christmas Day Mass. **In foyer, indicate your willingness to assist with a ministry or 2pm set-up for the Vigil.**

2025 COLUMBAN CALENDARS available from the Parish Office, \$10 ea.

NEW YEAR'S EVE, 31 DECEMBER PRAYER VIGIL SACRED HEART CHURCH, PEARCE commencing at 8pm with Exposition and Rosary, and Rosary thereafter on the hour, and concluding with Benediction close to midnight.

SYNTHESIS REPORT OF ARCHDIOCESAN ASSEMBLY, 19 OCTOBER: Copies of the same are available at the exits.

MEDITATION GROUP: 6pm, Wednesdays. All welcome. Contact Vikki, 0437 876 487, mulvaney@netspeed.com.au.

PRAYER CIRCLE SUPPORT: Cathy Harris, 6281 2574.

Readings for next Sunday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Year C; 1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52.

LITURGICAL ROSTERS NEXT WEEK: 28-29 December 2024			
<i>5th Sun. of the month</i>	Curtin Sat. 6 pm	Curtin Sun. 9.30 am	Curtin Sun. 5.30 pm -
Acolyte	Long Nguyen	Marianne Crane	Mark Murphy
Reader	Sr Frances Fitzpatrick	Juliana Maher	Greg Nash
Commentator	Volunteer required	Denis Howden	NA
Welcomer	Sr Angela and Sr Frances	Max Grinsell-Jones	
Ministers of Comm.	Tony Butler	Jane Hunt	Marianne Crane
Communion to Sick	Warr: John Eyers	FWG: Betsy Joseph	Homes: Jane Brown
Counters	<i>30 Dec</i> Volunteers required		
Wednesday Liturgy	<i>1 Jan.</i> Prayer Leader: Margaret Ryan		Eucharistic Minister: Sr Frances Fitzpatrick