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| *Walking Together* | **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**](http://cg.org.au/wodennorth)**23-24 December 2023, Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year B** |

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

Monday9.30am Curtin **CHRISTMAS MASSES:**

Tuesday9.30am Curtin *Sunday 24 December*

Wednesday 9.30am Curtin (Lit of Word and H Comm) - Vigil Mass, 6pm

Thursday 5.30pm Curtin - Night Mass, 9pm

Friday 9.30am Curtin (including Anointing on First Friday) *Monday 25 December*

Saturday Reconciliation 5.00-5.30pm; Mass 6.00pm Curtin- Dawn Mass, 8am

Sunday 9.30am and 5.30pm Curtin - Morning Mass, 10am

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

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

**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**: Carl Webb, Susie Coles, Kevin Wellspring, Adam Suckling, Wolfgang Hoeful, Sr M Barbara Fogarty, rsj, Hennie Timmerman, Kathleen Stewart, Seamus O’Kane, Josefa Pivar Sullivan, Patricia Belden, Michael Morrisroe, Kathryn Keane, Victims of Israel-Palestine war, shooting victims of Maine, USA, Rob Docker, Frank Boyle, Libby Roberts, Peggy Denny, Peter Hewitt, Mary McNamara, Denise Lynch, victims of war in Ukraine and victims of COVID.

**Anniversaries of Death**: Desmond Lilley, Joanne Binutti, Dave Powers, Judith Whittaker, Christopher Perkins, John Holtzapffel, Sharon Woods, Peter Majer, Peter Marlow, Mary Huang, Adam Ryan, Oreste Trinca, Gaetano & Diomina De Simone, Frank Smith, Josh McKinnon, Vincent Huang, Jerome Woods, Anne Taylor, Giovanni Mammoliti, Melanie Swan, Marc Kelaart, Pat & Jack Ryan, Gerard Smith, Paul Murphy, Charlie Morella, Marjory Swan, Brian Kain, and victims of COVID.

**MAY THE SICK BE COMFORTED BY OUR PRAYERS**

Elizabeth Pukl, Steve Bray, Denise Gregory, Anthony Watt, Lorraine Davis, Greg Nash, John Warren, Lily Lim, Donald Stott, Genoveffa and Anco Ceccarelli, Bruno Sinuelli, Richie Noonan, John Woodward, Maria Gallo, Troy Anderson, Maureen Adam, Bill Grant, Tom Brewer, George Toth, Kathleen Belfanti, Stephanie De Jongh, Jack Kennelly, Susie Menadue, Ljubica Gotovac, Jose Arquero, Olga Johnson, Patricia Zorzi, Wendy Altimore, Iole Cicolini, Carolyn Wightman, Greg Geering and those afflicted with COVID.

**GOD IS FAITHFUL**

**One more sleep until Christmas.** The Season of Advent is fast drawing to a close. The preparations are all made. Things are looking good. That same feeling was experienced by King David who oversaw the unprecedented good fortunes of his people. Indeed, in our First Reading David, ensconced in his fine house, notes that ‘the ark of the covenant’ or the symbol of God’s presence in their travels and challenges is still housed in a tent. He determines to build a temple for the Lord. *“Man proposes but God disposes” (St Thomas a Kempis).* **And so, through the prophet Nathan, David is told that God will create a royal line that will be the abiding guarantee of God’s peace and security.** David’s son, Solomon completed a magnificent temple in 949BC. **However, following the division of the kingdom, and the conquest and exile by the Assyrians of the inhabitants of northern kingdom of Israel (721), and the same fate for the inhabitants of the southern kingdom of Judah at the hand of the Babylonians (587), the promise of a Davidic dynasty *“would live on simply as the object of the hope for a Messiah” (Brendan Byrne).*** This was soeven with the return to the promised land of the survivors of the Babylonian exile, and their rebuilding the Jerusalem temple (520-515), thanks to the direction of Cyrus king of Persia who had conquered the Babylonians. The hopes for a Messiah of the line of David endured through periods of rule by the Greeks, the Egyptians, the Selucids and the Maccabean revolt before the Roman occupation (63BC). The expected Messiah *“was not* *a divine figure but a virtuous and just ruler of David’s line who would restore freedom, justice and prosperity” (ibid****).* Fast forward to today’s Gospel and we hear of a teenage peasant’s encounter with an angel.** *“What is being signalled here (in imagery and form taken from the Old Testament annunciations of birth – especially those of Samson and Samuel) is a sudden intervention of the divine into human affairs, something that cannot be told literally and realistically . . . The child to be born from her will be God’s Son in a unique way, vastly outstripping conventional messianic expectation. The God who did not wish to dwell in a house built by David will come to dwell among us in the person of a son of David whose reign will not end” (ibid).*  **We began Advent looking to the ‘end times’ or the fulfilment of our salvation in Christ. We conclude Advent identifying with the hopes of the Chosen People who had waited close to a thousand years since the reign of King David. God is faithful.** Indeed, *“with the Lord, ‘a day’ can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day” (2Pet 3:8).* **And so having ‘prepared a way’, we look to the birth of the promised one of David’s line, *Emmanuel*, ‘God-with-us’; all of us and for all time!** Fr John

**CHRISTMAS MASSES**: With tomorrow, Mon 25 being Christmas Day, there will be **NO** 5.30pm Sunday Mass this evening. **Christmas Masses in Holy Trinity Church will 6pm and 9pm Christmas Eve and 8am and**d **10am Christamas Day**. NB There is no Christmas Day evening Mass. **Please indicate on the foyer sheets if you could assist with a liturgical ministry at a Christmas Mass and, or the church set-up from 2pm today.**

**ARCHBISHOP CHRISTOPHER’S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE is available at the exits.**

**ARCHBISHOP’S CHRISTMAS APPEAL** willsupport the needy in refugee camps adjacent toUkraine, Afghanistan, Syria, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia and Myanmarthrough theecumenical Christmas Bowl, as well as the Ukrainian Catholic Church, students at Bethlehem University, church outreach to the poor in India, church projects in the Diocese of Otukpo, Nigeria, and health provision in the Solomon Islands. **Thank you in anticipation of your support.**

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY** thanks you for your donations of food items which along with contriburtions from our parish schools allowed them to distribute Christmas hampers to grateful local folk. Thanks to members of our parish conference which works year round. Inquiries re membership can be directed to Tony, 6285 2828.

**CATHOLIC MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS** are invited to join the **Raphael Network**, which blends psychology with Christian anthropology and Catholic teaching. Enjoy online talks, an annual retreat, and peer support on this hub for holistic well-being, referrals, and resources. More information at  [www.raphaelnetwork.org.au](http://www.raphaelnetwork.org.au/)

**CATHOLICCARE ARANDA AND CAMPBELL RETIREMENT VILLAS have several vacancies.** ContactDominica McNamara, Retirement Villas Manager at property.management@catholiccare.cg.org.au or 6162 6100.

**SYNOD ON SYNODALITY REFLECTION** by Vatican Correspondent Austen Ivereigh available at the exits.

**EUTHANASIA:** The Australian Bishops have released a document, ***‘To Witness and to Accompany with Christian Hope’***to assist those journeying with folk considering voluntary assisted dying. Copies available at the exits.

**THE CANBERRA OFFICE OF THE MARRIAGE TRIBUNAL** invites any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process to make contact on **6239 9813 or** tribunal@cg.org.au

**2024 Columban Art Calendars** available from the Parish Office. Cost $10.00

**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, Year B, Gen 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Heb 11:8,11-12,17-19, Lk 12:22-40.

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| **LITURGICAL ROSTERS NEXT WEEK**: 30-31 December |
| ***5th Suny of the month*** | **Curtin Sat. 6 pm** | **Curtin Sun. 9.30 am** | **Curtin Sun. 6 pm -**  |
| **Acolyte** | Long Nguyen | Marianne Crane | Darryl Kite |
| **Reader** | Sr Frances Patrick | Juliana Maher | Greg Nash |
| **Commentator** | Loriean Quipot | Denis Howden  |  |
| **Welcomer** | Sr Angela & Sr Frances | Max Grinsell-Jones | Kim Hoffmeier |
| **Ministers of Comm.** | Tony Butler | Jane Hunt | Marianne Crane  |
| **Communion to Sick**  | Warr: Helen C Welsby | FWG: Sr Angela & Sr Frances | Homes: Margaret & Ted Frawley |
| **Counters** | ***2 Jan .*** | Margaret & Ted Frawley |
| **Wednesday Liturgy** | ***20 Dec.*** | Prayer Leader: John O’Connor | Eucharistic Minister: Marianne Crane |