



A weekly lantern of grace guiding our parish through the days ahead.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A

14TH DECEMBER 2025

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word meaning “rejoice.” This Sunday is so named because “Rejoice” is the first word in the entrance antiphon for today's Mass taken from Philippians 4:4,5: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.” Some people mark this Sunday on their Advent wreath with a pink candle instead of a purple candle. This Sunday is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near.

This week's Gospel Reading continues our Advent reflection on the person and message of John the Baptist. Last week we heard John speak about his relationship to the coming Messiah, Jesus. This week, we hear Jesus' message to John the Baptist, now in prison, about the signs of the kingdom found in Jesus' ministry and Jesus' assessment of John's role in the Kingdom of God.



St. John the Baptist in Prison, Visited by Salomé,

Drawing possibly by Guercino (Giovanni Francesco Barbieri, 1591–1666),

Mid 17th century, brown ink and iron gall ink with brown wash

© Princeton University Art Museum. Gift of Nathan V. Hammer

See art reflection here: <https://tinyurl.com/bdzzff9z>

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of John's arrest in chapter 14:3-12. In today's Gospel, John sends word to Jesus from prison, asking if Jesus is the Messiah for whom he has been waiting. Jesus responds by pointing to the miracles that he has worked and invites John and the other hearers to make their own determination. In his next breath, however, Jesus praises John for his role in preparing the way for Jesus. Then Jesus says that all of those who work for the Kingdom of God will be as great as John and even greater.

Jesus' message to John about the signs of the kingdom being performed recalls the salvation described by the prophet Isaiah. This passage is a reminder that the beginning of salvation is already mysteriously present to us, but also yet to be fulfilled. Salvation is already in our midst as manifest in the miraculous deeds of Jesus and in the Church. But salvation is also to be fulfilled in the coming reign of God. Even as we observe our world today, we can find glimpses of God's work among us. Even more, we help to prepare the way for God's kingdom by our words and our deeds. This message is indeed a cause for rejoicing.

Source: Loyola Press

13th December 2025 - St Lucy. St. Lucy, also known as Santa Lucia, was a young Christian martyr from Syracuse in Sicily, revered for her unwavering faith during the early 4th century. According to tradition, she dedicated her life to God and refused marriage, which led to her persecution and death during the Diocletian persecutions. She is often associated with light—her name meaning “light” or “brightness”—and is frequently depicted holding a lamp or with radiant eyes, symbolizing spiritual illumination. St. Lucy remains a beloved figure in many cultures, especially in Scandinavia, where her feast day is marked with festivals of candles and hope.

ADVENT 2025



Hope, Peace, Joy, Love

This Third Sunday of Advent, we light the third of four candles: the Candle of **JOY**.

As we enter this sacred season, we prepare our hearts to remember Christ's coming at Christmas and the hope His presence brings to our world.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS - 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading - Isaiah 7:10-14

The virgin will conceive.

Responsorial Psalm - 23:1-6

R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

Second Reading - Romans 1:1-7

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 1:18-24

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

MASSES & MEETINGS

Cannon Hill - St Oliver Plunkett Catholic Church:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday - 9:00am

Saturday - 6:00pm; Sunday - 9:30am

Tingalpa - Holy Family Catholic Church:

Thursday - 9:00am; Sunday - 8:00am

Reconciliation: Saturday, 5:00pm - 5:30pm - St Oliver Plunkett Church

Prayer Intentions Prayer Group: Every Friday at 9.30am - St Oliver Plunkett Church (exc. during Lent).

Eucharistic Adoration: 1st Friday of the month following 9:00am Mass at St Oliver Plunkett Church (except during Lent).

Baptisms: 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month held after the 9:30am Mass at St Oliver Plunkett Church. (*Welcoming Mass combined with the Baptism Mass.*)

Little Lanterns Liturgy: 1st Sunday of the month (except January) during the 9:30am Mass at St Oliver Plunkett Church. All primary school-aged children are welcome to attend.

Parish Morning Tea: 1st Sunday of the month following Mass at both Churches; Every Wednesday after 9:00am Mass in the Parish Hall.

THIS WEEKEND..

13 DEC - SAT: St Lucy (Memorial)

14 DEC - SUN: Third Sunday of Advent; Baptisms (SOP).

COMING UP...

17 DEC - WED: Advent 2nd Rite Reconciliation, 6pm, SOP

18 DEC - THU: Adore Programme, 6:00pm, Parish Hall.

20 DEC - SAT: Christmas dinner, 6:00pm, Parish Hall.

24 DEC - WED: THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD DAY

VIGIL(SOL); Office closes for 3 weeks.

25 DEC - THU: THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD DAY (SOL)

26 DEC - FRI: Feast of Saint Stephen, the first martyr;

Boxing Day - Public Holiday.

27 DEC - SAT: Feast of Saint John, apostle, evangelist.

28 DEC - SUN: Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

01 JAN - THU: New Year's Day Mass; Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, St Oliver Plunkett Church, 9am.

REGULAR MEETINGS

MON: Cannon Hill St Vincent de Paul Conference

Fortnightly at 6:15pm

Next meeting: **Monday, 22nd December**

Contact: Paul 0418 750 367

TUE: Parish Leadership Team

Fortnightly at 6:00pm

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, 16th December**

WED: Parish Liturgy Meeting

Monthly at 4:30pm

Next Meeting: **Wednesday, 28th January**

THU: Parish Finance Council Meeting

Bi-monthly at 4:30pm

Next Meeting: **Thursday, 12th February**

Plate Collections - 7th December

1st Collection (Oblates): **\$567.75** | 2nd Collection (Parish): **\$412.75**

Thank you for your ongoing support.

THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL - MATT 11:2-11

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

First Reading - Isaiah 35:1-6, 10:

God himself will come and save us.

Responsorial Psalm - 145:6-10 R. Lord, come and save us.

Second Reading - James 5:7-10

You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 11:2-11 *Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?*



"The 'yes' of the Mother of the Lord is wonderful, but so also can ours be, renewed each day faithfully, with gratitude, humility and perseverance, in prayer and in concrete acts of love, from the most extraordinary gestures to the most mundane and ordinary efforts and acts of service,"

Pope Leo XIV, 8th December 2025

Mass Intentions

Week beginning 14th December - 9 am

16/12 Tuesday: Mazenod College, WA

17/12 Wednesday: Vocations

18/12 Thursday: Fremantle/Care Centre

19/12 Friday: Cannon Hill Parish

Weekend Masses offered for the intentions of all in the Parish

OBLATES ADVENT ADORE PROGRAMME

The last Oblates Adore session will be held on **Thursday, 18th December**, in the parish hall. Join us for dinner at 6pm, followed by a reflection based on the upcoming Sunday Gospel. Please bring a plate to share. If you can't attend the meal, you are welcome to the reflection at join at 7pm.

Advent Second Rite of Reconciliation

Join us on **Wednesday, 17 December at 6 pm** at St Oliver Plunkett Church for the Advent Second Rite of Reconciliation. This communal celebration includes an examination of conscience and the opportunity for individual confession. Families are encouraged to attend as we join together in a time of reflection and renewal in preparation for the coming of Christ.

PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

OUR SICK

Please contact the Parish Office if you or someone you know is sick and would appreciate a home visit. **We pray for those in the community who are sick. May the healing spirit of Christ bring them comfort and hope.**

Damon Stokes; Eli Jorna, Marina Gilbert, Edgar Tan, Vincy Law Tan, Sam Swann, Athol Young, Ken Drego, Karen Marrinan, Carol-Ann Marrinan, Jeanette Hill, Lucia Giaccio, Rob Connolly, Ashley Anthony, Daniel Normyle, Jo Lorsch, Lani Clow, Carol Flannigan, Catherine, Elizabeth and Monika, Harry Lynas, Michael Simpson, John la Spina, Von Leeman, Imelda Khoo, Lorretta Stephenson, Brian Crimmins, Angela White, Mary Stevenson, Veronica Roberts, Melisa Duffy.

Names will remain on Our Sick list until advised otherwise. Please submit any items for the newsletter, including sick, recently deceased and anniversaries, by Thursday morning at the latest (preferably via email). Thank you.

ANNIVERSARIES

June Lambourne; Iris Moulden



BAPTISMS

We are delighted to welcome **Xander Miles, Freya Shore and Billie and Scottie Woods** as their baptisms are celebrated in our parish this Sunday. *May God's peace, joy, and protection be with them and their families on this joyous occasion and throughout their lives.*



ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL THANK YOU!



Thank you from the Cannon Hill St Vincent de Paul Conference for your generous support last weekend. The total amount collected will be announced in the coming weeks. Your contributions will help local families experiencing financial and emotional hardship this Christmas. We wish you every blessing this Christmas and a peaceful New Year. You can still donate directly: BSB: **064-786**, Account: **100026570**
Account Name: SVDP St Oliver Plunkett Conference Cannon Hill.

CHP CHRISTMAS DINNER

You are invited to share the fun and fellowship of Christmas over dinner following the **6pm Vigil Mass on Saturday, 20th December.**



Join your fellow Parishioners for a simple meal of baked ham, roast turkey and vegetables as we look back on 2025 and look forward to the season of Christmas. Please let the Parish Office know if you would like to attend.

That Catholic Shop

Christmas gifts with a difference. Proceeds of every purchase at **That Catholic Shop** help Christians who are suffering, oppressed or persecuted and assist the work of *Aid to the Church in Need*.
<https://thatcatholicshop.com>

NAVITY DISPLAYS AND CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT LOCAL SHOPPING CENTRES

Parishioners are encouraged to contact Centre Management at local shopping centres, such as Westfield Carindale, CH Kmart Plaza and Wynnum Plaza, to express gratitude, offer support, and encourage future displays, Christmas music, and carollers.



PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS BREAK

The Parish Office will close from 2.30pm **Christmas Eve** and will reopen on **Tuesday, 20th January**. Father Vasanthan will be available at all times via the Parish mobile phone on 0493 096 073.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Wednesday, 24th December: Christmas Eve Vigil
6pm at St Oliver Plunkett - Christmas Carols at 5.30pm.

Thursday, 25th December: Christmas Day
7.30am at Holy Family Church; 9am at St Oliver Plunkett

Saturday, 27th December & Sunday, 28th December:
Feast of The Holy Family, normal Mass times.

Thursday, 1st January: New Year's Day Mass, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
9am at St Oliver Plunkett Church. **NB. NO 9AM MASSES ON 24TH & 26TH DEC**



CANNON HILL CATHOLIC PARISH



OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday: 9.00am - 2.30pm

ADDRESS

St Oliver Plunkett Church & Parish Centre
21 Beauvardia St, Cannon Hill Q 4170

Church of the Holy Family

41 Belmont Rd, Tingalpa Q 4173
(enter via 56 Palgrave St)

CONTACT

Phone: (07) 3853 7490 (NEW)

Mobile: 0493 096 073 (after hours)

WhatsApp: 0493 096 073

EMAIL

cannonhill@bne.catholic.net.au

WEBSITE

www.cannonhillparish.org.au

FACEBOOK

Cannon Hill Catholic Parish

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr Vasanthan Anthonipillai
pp.cannonhill@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Secretary: Norma Martiri
cannonhill@bne.catholic.net.au

Administration Support: Ronda Vorrasi
sc.cannonhill@bne.catholic.net.au (NEW)

Local Safeguarding Rep: Ronda Vorrasi
Mobile: 0494 166 815

Parish Leadership Team:

Sachin Rasquinha, Ronda Vorrasi, Guy Elliot, Aaron Tippetts, Michael Hill



MISSIONARY
OBLATES
of MARY IMMACULATE

From the moment the Oblates arrived in Fremantle in 1894, they have dedicated themselves to the mission of the Church in Australia. They dedicate themselves to serving the poor in parishes, schools, prisons, among the youth and with those on the streets. The Oblates preach Christ to the poor and the most abandoned and have served them in Australia for more than 100 years.

To learn more go to www.omi.com.au

DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME

Thank you for your generous support, which impacts the lives of those we serve. Your donations directly foster the growth and prosperity of our community and sustain our ministries. Donations can be made via the EFTPOS terminal at the church entrance (split between 1st and 2nd collections) or through our secure online direct debit system (call the Parish Office to organise). Please consider including our *Perpetual Endowment Fund* in your Will to help continue our mission for future generations. For more Bequest info. contact the Catholic Foundation on 3324 3200 or call the Parish Office. Donate using the QR Code or go to <https://tinyurl.com/parish-donate>



OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS



SHALOM WORLD

Heartwarming Christmas shows, inspiring talks, joyful music, and stories of hope — for every age.



SCAN TO WATCH FOR FREE!

shalomworld.org/christmas

No pay walls. No ads.
Just Christmas with Jesus

Let's keep in touch in 2026



If you have not already done so, please register in Flocknote to connect with the parish and receive important updates. Your information is kept secure and private.



www.cannonhillparish.flocknote.com/register



Rosies - Friends on the Street

Rosies provides street outreach for the homeless, disadvantaged and isolated. Your support ensures that Rosies can continue helping people who are doing it tough. Please help by filling the red bin in the foyer at St Oliver Plunkett Church (see lid for items needed). Thank you for your support! Find out more here: <https://rosies.org.au/>



HEARTS FOR MISSION APPEAL

TURN FAITH INTO ACTION

We invite you to make a difference to our Missions which provide food, shelter and education to communities in need.



WEBSITE



bit.ly/mamiomi

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bit.ly/MAMINewsletter

MAKE A CONTRIBUTION



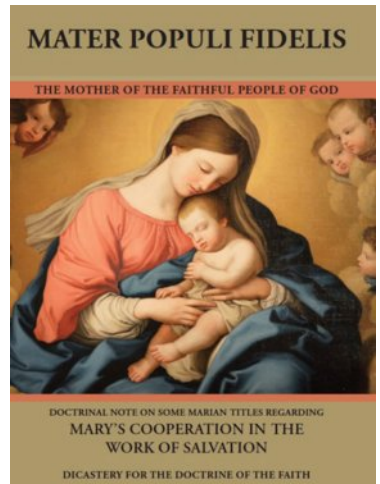
bit.ly/mamidonate

Missionary Association of Mary Immaculate (03) 9805 8888
mami@oblates.com.au

MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

MATER POPULI FIDELIS

Doctrinal Note on Some Marian Titles Regarding Mary's Cooperation in the Work of Salvation
RRP \$12.95



While emphasising that Marian devotion is “a treasure of the Church”, this document from the Vatican’s Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith considers certain Marian titles related to Mary’s cooperation in the work of salvation. It addresses certain titles which have caused serious confusion, while encouraging Catholics to come to Mary as “Mother of the Faithful People of God”.

Mater Populi Fidelis provides a significant biblical foundation for devotion to Mary, as well as marshalling various contributions from the Fathers, the Doctors of the Church, elements of Eastern tradition, and the thought of recent Popes. Order here:

<https://tinyurl.com/4utjttr>

