



# Cannon Hill Catholic Parish

Incorporating

St Oliver Plunkett Church & Holy Family Church

Cannon Hill

Tingalpa



Under the Pastoral Care of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

*The community of the Cannon Hill Catholic Parish acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which our parish stands.*

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

17th December 2023

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Today, the third Sunday of Advent is called **'Gaudete Sunday'** which means **'Joy' or 'Rejoice'**. The opening antiphon for today's liturgy asks us to **Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice**. This theme is echoed in today's second reading from the first Letter to the Thessalonians. Indeed the Lord is near. Today, on our Advent Wreath we light our pink candle to mark this day of joy. Joy is the central message of our readings and prayers this Sunday, and indeed the whole of Advent and the celebration of Christ.

The first words that Mary hears when she is told that she is going to be the mother of Jesus are, **'Rejoice, so highly favoured.'** Mary is to be filled with joy because God has called her by her name and her son will be the long awaited Messiah. When she goes to see Elizabeth her cousin, she breaks into song, singing out loudly, **'My souls proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my saviour'**. Mary does not keep her good news or her joy to herself, she freely shares them with Elizabeth and the whole world. When the angels appeared to the shepherds, they heard this life-giving message, **'Do not be afraid, I bring you news of great joy.'** The good news of Jesus' birth is meant not only for the shepherds, it continues to be good news for each of us today.

Up until recently we prayed these words after the Our Father, *'as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.* Although no longer used, this is still central message of Advent. We are called to wait for the birth of Jesus and we are to wait in hope joyfully. As we wait, we are not to be afraid, anxious or worried; we are to wait in joyful hope, because, as the opening antiphon tells us, **'The Lord is very near.'**

Like Mary who shared her joy with Elizabeth, today each of us is asked to be a person of joy and we are asked to share our joy with others. There are many people, some of whom we may even know, who have little reason to be joyful at this time of the year. As Mary did with Elizabeth, may we follow her example and share our joy with all those we meet during these last few days and weeks of Advent.

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to continue our reflection on the person and mission of John the Baptist. Today we depart from the Gospel of Mark and read a selection from the Gospel of John. The Gospel for today combines a brief passage from the prologue of John's Gospel with a report about John the Baptist. As in Mark's Gospel, the Gospel of John contains no birth narrative. Instead, John's Gospel begins with a theological reflection that has come to be called the **"prologue."** This prologue places the story of Jesus in its cosmological framework. It speaks of Jesus' existence with God since the beginning of time. In John's Gospel, Jesus is presented as the fulfilment of the Old Testament and the culmination of the Word, the light that is coming into the world's darkness.

Following this prologue, John reports on the ministry of John the Baptist. We learn about the attention that John the Baptist received from the Jewish authorities. Messengers from the Jewish priests, the Levites and the Pharisees question John about his identity and the meaning of the baptisms that he is performing. John's Gospel uses these questions to establish the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. John the Baptist is not the Messiah, nor is he Elijah or the Prophet. In John's denials, we hear echoes of the kind of messianic expectations that were common in first-century Palestine.

The only affirmative response that John the Baptist gives is when he quotes the prophet Isaiah. Upon answering the next question, John announces that the saviour they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognized. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: **Jesus has already come into the world as our Saviour.** During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognize Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfil the promise of salvation. We pray that we will continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day.

**Have a Blessed Sunday and I wish you all a Wonderful Week. Fr Basti OMI**

**Psalm:** My soul rejoices in my God.  
**Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia!  
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
He sent me to bring Good News to the poor.  
Alleluia!

**Readings for next week:**  
**1st Reading:** 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16  
**Psalm:** Psalm 88:2-5, 27, 29  
**2nd Reading:** Romans 16:25-27  
**Gospel:** Luke 1:26-38

## COMING MASSES, MEETINGS & EVENTS

### Regular Mass & Service Times:

#### Weekday Mass:

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday - 9am at St Oliver Plunkett  
Thursday - 9am at The Holy Family Church

#### Weekend Mass:

Saturday - 6pm at St Oliver Plunkett  
Sunday - 8am at The Holy Family Church  
Sunday - 9.30am at St Oliver Plunkett

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 5-5.30pm St Oliver Plunkett

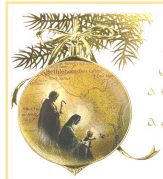
Eucharistic Adoration—1st Friday of the month  
following 9.00am Mass, St Oliver Plunkett.

Baptisms—2nd & 4th Sundays of the Month held during  
9.30am Mass, St Oliver Plunkett.

Children's Liturgy of the Word—1st Sunday of the month  
during the 9.30am Mass, St Oliver Plunkett.

Welcome Mass for Families receiving Baptism—  
1st Sunday of the month at 9.30am, St Oliver Plunkett,  
followed by Morning Tea in the Parish Hall.

Wednesday 20th December, Last Advent Reflection,  
6.30pm, St Oliver Plunkett Church.



### CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

**Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve**  
Christmas Vigil Mass, 6pm, St Oliver Plunkett  
Church, Carols start 5.30pm.

**Monday 25th December Christmas Day**  
Church of the Holy Family, Mass 7.30am.  
St Oliver Plunkett Church, Mass 9am.

**Tuesday 26th December Feast of St Stephen**  
St Oliver Plunkett Church, Mass 9am.

**Sat. 30th & Sunday 31st December Feast of the Holy Family**  
Vigil Mass, 6pm, St Oliver Plunkett  
Church of the Holy Family, 8am. St Oliver Plunkett Ch. 9.30am  
**Monday 1 January New Year's Day** Mass for Solemnity of Mary,  
Mother of God, Mass 9am, St Oliver Plunkett Church.

### REGULAR MEETINGS

**Mon: Cannon Hill St Vincent de Paul Conference—**  
Fortnightly @ 6.15pm Contact Paul 0418 750 367

**Tue: Parish Leadership Team—**Fortnightly at 6.30pm  
Next Meeting: 6.30pm, 19th December 2023

**Wed: Parish Liturgy Meeting—**Monthly at 4.30pm  
Next Meeting: 4.30pm, 31st January 2024

**Thu: Parish Finance Council Meeting—**Bimonthly at 4.30pm  
Next Meeting: 4.30pm, 15th February 2024



“Goodness is hidden, silent; it requires slow and continuous excavation. Because God’s style is discreet. He does not impose himself. He is like the air we breathe - we don't see it but it allows us to live, and we realize it only when it's missing .”  
- Pope Francis

### GOSPEL

John 1:6-8, 19-28

**'There stands among you the one coming after me'**

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness,

as a witness to speak for the light,  
so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light,

only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:  
Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you - unknown to you - the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.



### Sunday 24th - Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

6.00pm at St Oliver Plunkett Church,  
Carols from 5.30pm

This is a special child friendly service with a children's space, a gift for every child & maybe even a jolly surprise visitor!

Children can dress up as angels or shepherds & are welcome to join in the nativity play.

Please contact the Parish office if your child would like to feature in the play — they don't need to learn lines, costumes can be provided & minimal rehearsal is needed.

**Strengthen the Household of Faith** Jesus asks us to demonstrate our love for Him through our generosity to others. In our everyday lives, He calls us to share our gifts. "Amen I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25: 40) A gift in any amount given through your Will strengthens our household of faith. For more information about how you can leave a legacy to Cannon Hill Parish, call Catholic Foundation, 3324 3200 or call the parish office.



**HOLY CROSS FUNERALS**  
The only funeral service owned and operated by the Catholic Church  
Ph: (07) 3293 0555 Web: [www.holycrossfunerals.com](http://www.holycrossfunerals.com)



# PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



## OUR SICK *Contact Parish Office for names to be included in this list. Names will be taken off after a short time unless otherwise instructed.*

Marion White, Carmel Pender, Michael Simpson, Mary Stevenson, John la Spina, Lani Clow, Darryl McNally, Rob Connolly, Beryl McNally, Von Leeman, Brian McGrath, Gabriel Adams, Darren Wilson, Lorretta Stephenson, Imelda Khoo, Brian Crimmins, Danni Manix, Veronica Roberts, Angela White, Robbin Firth, Sigrid Russell, Jo Lohrisch, Ken Drego, Robin McComb, Melisa Duffy

## RECENTLY DECEASED

Giordano Mauro. Maria Gomez.

## ANNIVERSARIES

June Lambourne

## BAPTISMS

Anyah Codinera, daughter of Roel & Joann Codinera  
Amelia & Noah Kappu, daughter & son of Cameron  
& Katherine Kappu

### Mass Intentions - Week beginning 19th December 2023

Tuesday 9am - For the Youth  
Wednesday 9am - For Care of our Common Home & action on Climate Change  
Thursday 9am - For the Sick and those in Aged Care  
Friday 9am - For World Peace

**Weekend Masses offered for the intentions of all in the Parish**

**\*\* Mass intentions to be advised the week prior to request\*\***

**ADVENT REFLECTION** You are warmly invited to join the Parish Advent Reflection at St Oliver Plunkett Church, this is the last reflection prior to Christmas.

**Wednesday 20th Dec., 6.30pm**

**A TIME TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND FIND A DEEPER MEANING OF THE SEASON.**

**FAREWELL & THANK-YOU** to Fr Basti will be arranged in the New Year. Date to be advised. Anyone wishing to contribute to a farewell gift will be able to do so as a collection will be taken up the weekend of 20th/21st January. Fr Basti will leave for W.A. to continue his Ministry in the Oblate Parish in Freemantle. Fr Basti's last weekend Masses in the Parish will be 27th/28th Jan.

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS** during Christmas & New Year period. The Office will close from Friday 23 Dec. to Tuesday 23 Jan. However, the office will open on Wednesdays during this period, Jan 3, Jan 10th & Jan 17th, 9am-12pm. Normal hours resume Tuesday 23 Jan. Fr Basti will be available at all times via Parish mobile on 0493 096 073.

**CATHOLIC LEADER** From 2024 the print edition of the Catholic Leader will move to a home delivery subscription-only model. To subscribe contact the Catholic Leader phone 3324 3555 or on-line at <https://catholicleader.com.au/subscribe/> or Subscription Envelopes also available at the main doors. Thank you for your faithful support of the work of The Catholic Leader

**The National Oblate Youth Encounter is back again in January 2024!**

The theme for this NOYE will be "You are the light of the world". We invite young people (yr 12-30 years old) to come and explore this theme whilst sharing in the charism of St Eugene & the Oblates.

**WHEN:** 4th-7th Jan, 2024

**WHERE:** Mazenod College, Victoria

**COST:** \$100—Victorians, \$50 Interstate



**FOR MORE INFO & TO REGISTER VISIT:  
WWW.OBLATEYOUTH.COM.AU**

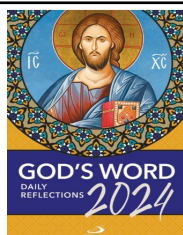
**WITH THANKS FROM the Cannon Hill St Vincent de Paul Conference** for your generous support of the Christmas Appeal. The amount collected currently stands at \$2,000. The money you provided will assist local families under financial and emotional stress this Christmas. **THANK YOU. We wish you many blessings this Christmas & a Peaceful New Year.**

**WEDNESDAY MORNING TEA AND CHAT** will be held this coming Wednesday, 20th December following 9am Mass. The following Wednesday, 27th December there will be NO tea held due to the Christmas holidays. Morning Tea will resume again on Wednesday 3rd January. Please feel free to join us anytime.

## VOLUNTEER FOCUS—Children, Adults at Risk and Parish Finance



To further simplify the life of our Parish volunteers, any of you that still require a criminal history check to fulfill your role (if you work with children or vulnerable adults or are involved with financial transactions) are no longer required to provide four different forms of ID. The new AFP checks only require that you provide 100 points of ID to complete the process. New criminal history checks will still be required every three years. Thank you to everyone who has completed a criminal history check in the past to enable them to perform their valued roles in the Parish.



**GOD'S WORD 2024** Would you like to keep the Word of God close to your heart in your daily life? If so, you may wish to purchase a copy of the Daily Reflections incl. Scripture readings of the day from the Jerusalem Bible. To purchase a copy please sign the sheet at the main doors, or let the Parish Office know. Cost \$23.

Please contact the Parish Office 3899 2837 if you or someone you know is sick and would appreciate a visit by Fr Basti. Please leave a message if the office is unattended or for an urgent response call Fr Basti 0493 096 073.

**MURRI MINISTRY CHRISTMAS APPEAL** in support of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community; supporting families and the homeless.

Seeking donations of

Non—perishable Christmas food items

Tin Ham, Tin Fruit, Chips, Nuts,

Christmas Pudding, Custard, Lollies, Jellies,

Table Decorations. Toiletry items

These donations can be delivered to

Murri Ministry, 5 Abingdon St., Woolloongabba or

Phone 3891 1931, Ravina Waldren: 0408 707 101

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



# Missionary Oblates Of Mary Immaculate

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Meno Basti Jayantha OMI (pp.cannonhill@bne.catholic.net.au)

PARISH SECRETARY: Mary Ginty (cannonhill@bne.catholic.net.au)

ADMIN SUPPORT: Ronda Vorrasi (sacramental.cannonhi@bne.catholic.net.au)

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE: Ronda Vorrasi (Ph: 0456 535 091)

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM: Sachin Rasquinha, Paul Vorrasi, Briony Russell, Aaron Tippetts, Norma Martiri, Ronda Vorrasi

## CANNON HILL CATHOLIC PARISH

Yuggera and Turrbal Country.

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

Holy Family Church: 41 Belmont Rd, Tingalpa Q 4173 (enter via 56 Palgrave St, Tingalpa)

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 9.00am - 2.30pm

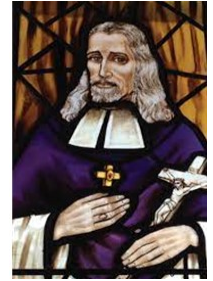
Phone: (07) 3899 2837 | Mobile: 0493 096 073 (after hours)

Web Page: <https://www.cannonhillparish.org.au/>

Facebook Page: Cannon Hill Catholic Parish | WhatsApp: 0493 096 073

MASS & RECONCILIATION TIMES as per the left hand on the inside page

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS: by appointment only at St Oliver Plunkett Church



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

During Advent we celebrate and prepare to remember

Jesus' entry into the world at Christmas and the hope that He brings to the world.

### HOW DO I SHARE MY FAITH?

#### ABOUT THE REAL MEANING OF CHRISTMAS?

- Is there someone at your parish who will be alone on Christmas Day? Could you invite them to Christmas lunch?
- Are you able to advertise Christmas Mass times at your workplace, or on the community billboard at your local shopping centre?
- When you are doing your Christmas shopping could you affirm the staff on the check-out? Let them know they are doing a brilliant job.
- Will you be alone on Christmas day? If you are up for it, could you volunteer to help at a homeless shelter or nursing home? Bringing some Christmas cheer to other lonely people might bring joy to your own heart.
- Are you carrying a hurt or grudge with a family member? Is there any chance you can find some way to be reconciled? If this would be really difficult, then pray through the season of Advent that God will help you to find the right words and the right time to make your peace.
- When was the last time you celebrated the sacrament of Reconciliation? If you are carrying a burden then why not give it up to God in this beautiful sacrament? A heart that's at peace will no doubt be reflected in your actions.
- Would you feel comfortable inviting someone you know who has stopped going to Mass to Christmas Mass? Offer to pick them up maybe.

Extract from *The Bridge* newsletter - a resource for Australian Catholics striving to share their faith, more info. <https://nce.catholic.org.au>



Shout out to our parish choir, who just recently performed a concert at Azure Blue Nursing Home, sharing some Christmas Cheer with the residents.

### Iona College Catholic Boys College

Principal: Mr. Trevor Goodwin

Rector:

Phone: (07) 3893 8888

Email: [admin@iona.qld.edu.au](mailto:admin@iona.qld.edu.au) Website: [www.iona.qld.edu.au](http://www.iona.qld.edu.au)



### St Oliver Plunkett Catholic Primary School

Principal: Mr. Greg Cran

APRE: Ms Hannah Goodwin

Phone: (07) 3902 2100

Out of School Hours Care: Phone: (07) 3899 0952



**PRIVACY ACT** The privacy of all individuals with whom the Cannon Hill Catholic Parish interacts is very important to us and we are committed to protecting all personal information. As part of the Archdiocese of Brisbane WE MUST ABIDE BY AND ADHERE TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PRIVACY ACT, THE AUSTRALIAN PRIVACY PRINCIPLES 7. Policy available at <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/privacy-policy/> or on request.