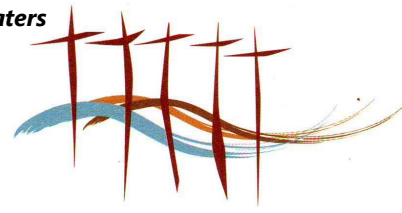


# BURLEIGH HEADS CATHOLIC PARISH

- **BURLEIGH WATERS - MARY, MOTHER OF MERCY CHURCH, 3 Sunlight Dr, Burleigh Waters**
- **BURLEIGH HEADS - INFANT SAVIOUR CHURCH, 4 Park Av, Burleigh Heads**
- **PALM BEACH - OUR LADY OF THE WAY CHURCH - Eleventh Ave, Palm Beach**
- **MIAMI - CALVARY CHURCH - Redondo Av, Miami**
- **MUDGEERABA - ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH - Wallaby Dr, Mudgeeraba**



**PARISH OFFICE:** Mon - Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm

**3 Sunlight Dr, Burleigh Waters**

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**PARISH PASTORAL TEAM:**

Fr Morgan Batt - *Parish Pastor*

Fr Stanley Orji - *Associate Pastor*

Fr Dantus Thottathil, MCBS - *Associate Pastor*

Parish Business & Finance Manager

Mr Jim Littlefield [manager.burleigh@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:manager.burleigh@bne.catholic.net.au)

## Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas

Year B: 2 Sam 7:1-5,8-12,14,16; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

Is 62:11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20;

Is 9:1-7; Titus 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14



## Parish Weekly Diary....

### Monday, 25 December

#### *The Nativity of the Lord*

7.00am **Mass** - Burleigh Heads

7.00am **Mass** - Palm Beach

8.30am **Mass** - Miami

8.30am **Mass** - Mudgeeraba

10.00am **Mass** - Burleigh Waters

### Tuesday, 26 December

#### *St Stephen*

7.30am **Mass** - Burleigh Waters

### Wednesday, 27 December

#### *St John*

7.00am **Mass** - Miami

9.30am **Mass** - Ozanam Villa

5.30pm **Mass** - Palm Beach

### Thursday, 28 December

7.00am **Mass** - Burleigh Heads

5.30pm **Mass** - Mudgeeraba

### Friday, 29 December

9.00am **Mass** - Robina Hospital

12 noon **Mass** - Burleigh Waters

### Saturday, 30 December

8.00am **Mass** - Burleigh Heads

5.00pm Sacrament of Penance - Palm Beach

5.15pm Sacrament of Penance - Burleigh Heads

### Saturday, 30 December

#### *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

Sat 5.00pm **Mass** - Miami

Sat 6.00pm **Mass** - Palm Beach

Sat 6.15pm **Mass** - Burleigh Heads

### SUNDAY, 31 December

#### *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

7.00am **Mass** - Burleigh Heads

7.00am **Mass** - Palm Beach

8.30am **Mass** - Miami

8.30am **Mass** - Mudgeeraba

10.00am **Mass** - Burleigh Waters

5.30pm **Mass** - Burleigh Waters

MASS TIMES are available on our Website -

[www.burleighheadscatholic.com.au/Masstimes](http://www.burleighheadscatholic.com.au/Masstimes)

## RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION:

We welcome our visitors and ask all to respect the Universal Church practice of receiving the Lord's Body and Blood: the Body of Christ is received on the hand or the tongue and the Blood of Christ is received by drinking from the chalice. We kindly ask you to refrain from dipping the host into the chalice if this is your custom.

It will be 2023 before Christmas Eve again falls on the Fourth Sunday of Advent and the conjunction of these two solemnities seems to heighten the revelation of God's mystery. Already, in the Old Testament, God tells King David that the Divine preference is to always dwell among the people despite David's thinking that a brick and mortar house should be built for God who never asked for one. And so, this Christmas Eve, let us ponder the mystery of the Word becoming flesh and dwelling among us.

Our second reading today is the closing of Paul's letter to the Romans. The passage is a doxology and such prayers are common in our liturgical celebrations. Both the Hebrew and Christian scriptures frequently break out in doxologies. The word "doxa" is usually translated as "glory."

The scriptures give glory when God's power and holiness shine through people and events.

Doxologies are our prayerful responses to the experience of God in our lives. When we perceive God's splendour -- we give glory. Sometimes God's glory comes in a cloud, 32 or shines forth in the Temple (cf. Ex. 29: 43; Numbers 16:19; Isaiah 6; and many psalms). When we behold God's

continued next page ...

glory we profess a doxology: “Glory to God” - “Praise God,” etc. Note the number of times we use “glory,” or similar words of praise, in today’s Eucharistic celebration..

In Romans, Paul has emphasized God’s glory shining forth in Christ’s life, death and resurrection. When we come to faith and perceive that glory we, in turn, give glory to God. In response to the mystery of God revealed in Christ, the Holy Spirit stirs up praise in us, helping us put into words what is inexplicable. In the gospel stories people break out spontaneously into doxologies when they encounter God’s glory in Christ’s words and works. At our Christmas midnight liturgy we will hear Luke’s narration of the appearance of the heavenly hosts to the shepherds. The angels will shine with the “glory of the Lord” and will give praise to God (Luke 2:14) for what God is doing in the birth of the saviour.

Frequently in his letters Paul will break out in a doxology (e.g. Eph. 3: 20-21; Phil: 2: 5-11) as he does today in his closing words in Romans. In the letter Paul has given us a glimpse into God’s power and mercy manifested in Jesus. He encourages us to reflect on and recognize for ourselves God’s wonderful works of grace in our own lives and then to give glory to God. Our responsibility, he tells us (Rom 12 ff.) is to live lives that reflect the glory we have received through Christ. In other words, our very lives should become a doxology as we “glorify God in our human bodies” (1 Cor. 6: 19).

Thus, the letter to the Romans ends as it began (1:2-5) proclaiming God’s plan of salvation which the prophets promised and was fulfilled in Christ -- a plan now made known through Paul’s “proclamation of Jesus Christ,” now “made know to all nations.” Give glory to God because God has reached out to save all humanity (and creation itself) through Christ.

The gospel scene that announces the coming birth of the saviour has been frequently portrayed. The Renaissance artist Fra Angelico has a lovely painting of the Annunciation which now hangs in San Marco’s museum in Florence. The museum was a Dominican priory and Fra Angelico painted religious themes on the cell walls of the friars, especially the novices, to help them contemplate and study the mysteries of faith. In the painting Mary is seated on a wooden bench in a portico. Her demeanour is peaceful and her garments neat. There is sunlight and the angel is magnificent! Much in the scene would encourage a life of quiet and prayer. But, while we don’t live in the same setting as those friars did, still Fra Angelico’s painting can still a restless soul and open us to the mystery of God -- if only for a few moments in a hectic life.

But there is something else suggested in this gospel today -- and it isn’t so peaceful. Notice the opening verses. The angel is sent “to a town in Galilee called Nazareth”. Sounds harmless enough, doesn’t it? But Galilee was a troublesome place, where the vast majority of the people were very poor peasants. In Galilee, insurrections and nationalism frequently bubbled to the surface. Galileans were a suspect people and their land a place where people struggled for freedom. It was in Galilee that God chose to take flesh; Jesus was a Galilean.

Mary lived in a troubled land. What was she doing before the angel Gabriel arrived? Fra Angelico has her tranquilly seated, as if she were meditating. Some painters have her kneeling on the floor in a prayerful position. But maybe she was kneading bread, stitching clothes, or trying to start a cooking fire. Perhaps she had been at her door and heard rumours of still one more insurrection in her land. We certainly don’t want Mary’s life to seem artificial, or foreign to what we moderns experience. We don’t want to abstract her from our similar daily experiences and concerns.

One more look at the passage shows that “she was greatly troubled” at Gabriel’s announcement. And “she pondered what sort of greeting this might be.” The angel has to quickly reassure her, “do not be afraid.” She must have been afraid! Mary’s Galilee was a conflicted land and her responses show her own inner confusion and doubt. But she doesn’t get a road map from the angel to clear up the present and tell her where the future would take her. Instead, she must make room for God in her life and trust. Which is what we must do too, when we say our own “Yes” (FIAT) to God.

As the new Parish Priest, in the short few weeks I have been here I constantly give thanks for the ministry and work so many hundreds do in our Parish. I give thanks to the Mums and Dads and significant other Parents who constantly love and enable their families. All our families are different but we are under the mantel of Mary our Mother and infused with God’s Spirit.

Many Christmas Blessings and Peace on earth to those of Good will. From the Parish Staff, Fr Stanley, Fr Dantus, Fr John Maher, and Padre Morgan.

| Christmas Mass Times      |  |  |  |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|
| <u>Sunday 24 December</u> |  | <u>Monday 25 December</u>                    |  |
| 5pm                       | Calvary Church, Miami                  | 7am  | Infant Saviour, Burleigh Heads         |
| 6pm                       | Mary, Mother of Mercy, Burleigh Waters | 7am  | Our Lady of the Way, Palm Beach        |
| 6pm                       | Our Lady of the Way, Palm Beach        | 8.30am                                       | Calvary Church, Miami                  |
| 7pm                       | St Benedict's, Mudgeeraba              | 8.30am                                       | St Benedict's, Mudgeeraba              |
| Midnight                  | Mary, Mother of Mercy, Burleigh Waters | 10am   | Mary, Mother of Mercy, Burleigh Waters |
| Midnight                  | Infant Saviour, Burleigh Heads         | <b>** PLEASE NOTE: <u>NO</u> 5.30pm Mass</b> |  |

# Parish News and Happenings

Fr Stanley Orji has been appointed Associate Director of Vocation Brisbane and Sacramental Administrator of St John's Wood, The Gap.

Fr Dantus Thottathil has been appointed Administrator of Stanley River Parish.

We will farewell Fr Stanley and Fr Dantus on 31 December at 10am Mass at Mary, Mother of Mercy Church.

Fr Stanley will leave the parish on 6 January and Fr Dantus on 14 January.

Fr Ladu Yanga and Fr Saji George will join us on 6 January.

Testimonial envelopes for Fr Stanley and Fr Dantus are available at each church.

- **SAFEGUARDING** - **Parish Implementation progress.** Our Volunteer Registration continues - please keep sending your forms in. Remember to fill in your volunteer ministry and sign all three places of the Declaration, Code of Ethical Behaviour and Privacy acknowledgement. All volunteers are asked to fill out the volunteer registration form. Thanks to all who are helping what this large and important task.
- **MUSIC MINISTRY** - Organists, musicians, singers and interested parties are invited to attend the next Music Meeting on Wednesday 10 January at 9.30am in the Community Centre, Mary, Mother of Mercy Church. **OPEN INVITATION** to all music ministers to **LUNCH** at Burleigh Bears Sports Club, Christine Avenue, 12 noon, following the meeting on 10 January.
- **ST TERESINHA'S JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL OSSU - Stage 2.** Donation cards are now in our churches as we start the journey to stage 2 of this project in our sister Parish in Timor Leste. Your support for this project will help pay for more toilets and washrooms, three new classrooms, a new computer learning centre and a new library. Please take a donation card from the stand at the door of the church. An opportunity to visit St Teresinha's is being planned for May 2018. Enquiries Sue and Bren Milsom 5522 4880.
- **CHRISTMAS VIGIL** - children are invited to come in costume to create a live nativity scene (Mary, Joseph, angels, shepherds, wise people) at **6pm, Mary, Mother of Mercy Church** and **7pm, St Benedict's.** Please arrive early for a quick practice.
- **COLUMBAN CALENDARS AND CHRISTMAS CARDS** - available from Piety Stalls. Calendars \$9 each and packs of 8 Christmas Cards \$3.50.
- **THE CATHOLIC LEADER** - Tribute to the late Bishop John Gerry ... Five-year-old Catholic girl's first haircut to be another child's Christmas gift ... Farming family devastated by the death of a parent and whose home was damaged by fire will find stockings full on Christmas day, thanks to a Catholic charity ... Terry Lees reflects on taking time to 'feel the love' of Christmas.

- **CHRISTIAN MEDITATION** will resume on Thursday 1 February at the home of Kay Harding at 6pm. Further details from Paul 5593 3794.
- **VOLUNTEER HOSPITAL PASTORAL CARERS** - Expressions of interest for training as a volunteer hospital pastoral carer are being sought for training in 2018. Centacare Pastoral Ministries offers scholarships for training in return for a one morning per week commitment for a minimum two year period. Pastoral care teams in hospitals are highly valued by patients, staff and management. Pastoral care is a very rewarding volunteer role and if you would like to know more please contact [judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au](mailto:judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au) Phone 3324 3193.
- **CHERISH LIFE QLD** is open to people of all faith backgrounds. The common bond of members is the regard for human life from conception to natural death. The Gold Coast branch meets monthly on the first Tuesday of each month from 6.30pm at St Brigid's Parish Centre, Nerang (39-49 McLaren Rd). Further information Fiona - 5578 1513 - 0457 781513.
- **ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL APPEAL** - Envelopes are available at the door of the Church or the Piety Stalls. Your generous support to assist the local poor is greatly appreciated. Envelopes can be placed on any collection plate or mailed to the address on it. Thank you.
- **ST VINCENT DE PAUL** would appreciate **USED STAMPS** which can be left at Piety Stalls. Many thanks to those already contributing.
- **TWO MINUTE HOMILIES** - Priests from around the Archdiocese are preparing "Two Minute Homilies" and uploading them on social media platforms on a weekly basis. To view or listen to a podcast visit <http://brisbanecatholic.org.au/multimedia/two-minute-homilies/> at your leisure.

## PLANNED GIVING LAST WEEK - ☺

CODE: ☺☺ = very good;  
☺ = good;  
☺ = hangin' in there;  
☺ = help!

Counting roster this week: Burleigh Heads

## BAPTISMS

We welcome to our faith community Ryan and Mia who were baptised last week.

## SICK & SPECIAL NEEDS

Your prayers have been requested for Michael Allan, Patricia Ashton, Taylor Austin, Glenys Bailey, Demosthenes Baldovino, Leigh Boulcher, Loretta Brennan, Sylvia Brewer, Noeleen Brown, Jacob Burgstaller, Lily Burgstaller, James Burke, Diane Busutil, Deborah Campani, Ben Clarke, Carmel Clifford, Maryanne Condon, John Costigan, Chris Curran, Joan Dale, Graham Dall, Edna Devlin, Joseph Dick, Patricia Dowling, Fr Des Fitzgerald, Des Fox, Lance Fry, Norma Greenland, Geromy Grima, Fred Grioli, Robert Harvey, Vera Havlik, Claude Hayson, Cheryl Hingerty, Jean Hokin, Lucy Holland, Patricia Holmes, Angelika Huber, Harry Hunter, Norman Ingle, Sydney Jones, Annette Kassulke, Margaret Kennedy, Jayce Kilfoy, Pasquale Leonello, Tina Mass, Denis McEnery, Anne McInnes, Peter McMurray, John Mooney, June Newdick, Mary Nutter, Mary O'Brien, Sr Annette O'Connor, Dianne O'Connor, Paul O'Connor, Eileen O'Neill, Michael Onn, Sean O'Reilly, Maureen O'Sullivan, Noel O'Sullivan, Anne Owens, Lucky Papas, Joan Parker, Mike Parker, Anna Pereira, Phyllis Pola, Donna Redman, Peter Reid, Lance Robinson, Reg Rowan, Imelda Rundall, Dennis Samson, William Sheehan, Max Smales, Peter Smith, Pacing Soriano, Isaac Stafrace, Andrew Supple, Carmel Taylor, Dean Taylor, Lisa Taylor, Fr Keith Teefey, Lourdes Toledo, Nemcio Toledo, Sarra Tyler, Lena and Frank Usaj, Marie Walker, Norma Ward, Sylvia Wesley, Dan Wilson, Warren Wilson, Graham Zender, Norah Zipf, the sick of our Parish and all in need of God's healing Spirit.

## DECEASED

Masses have been requested for the recently deceased and for friends and relatives whose anniversaries occur about this time: Bishop John Gerry, John Adams, Patrick Monisse, Clorene 'Billie' Supple, Keith Supple, Lorraine Noyes, Morrie Byrne, James Vincent McCahon, deceased members of the Munday family.

*May the choir of angels come to greet you ...  
May you find eternal life.*



# Liturgical Music for Fourth Sunday of Advent

## INTRODUCTORY RITES:

### Gathering:

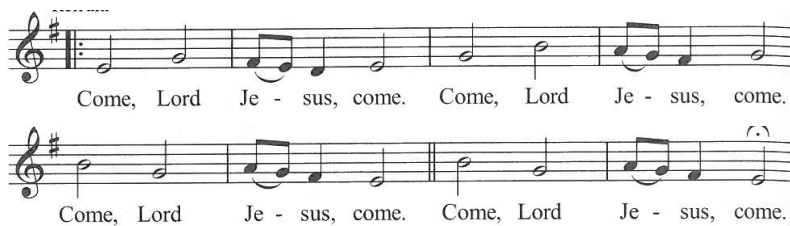
#### Let There Be Peace On Earth

Let there be peace on earth  
and let it begin with me.  
Let there be peace on earth,  
the peace that was meant to be.  
With God as our Father, we are family.  
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me,  
let this be the moment now.  
With ev'ry step I take,  
let this be my solemn vow:  
to take each moment and live each moment  
in peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

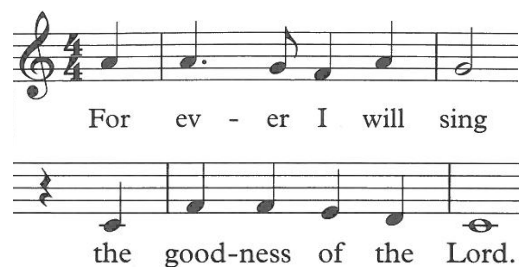
© 1983, Sy Miller and Jill Jackson, Jani-Lee Music

### Lighting of Advent Candle:



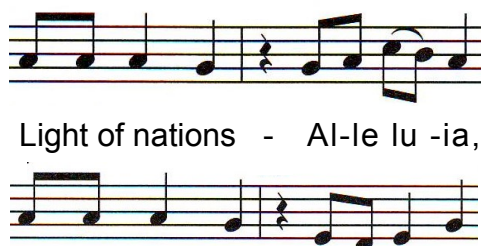
## LITURGY OF THE WORD:

### Psalm Response:



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### Gospel Acclamation:



Light in darkness - Ma-ra-na -tha

Risen Saviour - Alleluia - Lord of glory - Maranatha  
You we long for - Alleluia - You we thirst for - Maranatha  
Here among us - Alleluia - Living in us - Maranatha

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST:

### Communion: Emmanuel

'Emmanuel', 'Emmanuel',  
his name shall be 'Emmanuel',  
'God with us', revealed in us.  
His name shall be 'Emmanuel'.

'The Prince of peace', 'the Prince of peace',  
his name shall be 'the Prince of peace';  
peace he gives that knows no end.  
His name shall be 'the Prince of peace'.

'Eternal God', 'eternal God',  
his name shall be 'eternal God';  
Lord of all, his kingdom come.  
His name shall be 'eternal God'.

### Thanksgiving: The Magnificat

My soul proclaims the Lord, my God,  
my Spirit sings God's praise.  
God looks on me, and lifts me up,  
and gladness fills my days.

All nations now will share my joy,  
for gifts God has outpoured;  
the little ones God has made great;  
I magnify the Lord.

God's mercy is for evermore.  
God's name I praise again.  
God's strong right arm puts down the proud  
and raises lowly ones.

God fills the hungry with good things,  
the rich are sent away.  
The promise made to Abraham  
is filled by God each day.

Praise God the Father, God the Son,  
and God the Spirit: Praise.  
May every tongue and nation raise  
and endless song of praise.

## CONCLUDING RITES

### Dismissal: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O day-spring, come and cheer  
our spirits by your advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.*

O come, desire of nations, bind  
in one the hearts of humankind.  
Bid ev'ry sad division cease  
and be yourself our Prince of Peace.

