

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH, CRANEBROOK, NSW

The Net

Visit our website: www.corpuschristi.org.au

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YR C

**11TH & 12TH DECEMBER
2021**

**PLEASE CHECK THIS SPACE
NEXT WEEK FOR UPDATES TO THE
COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS.**

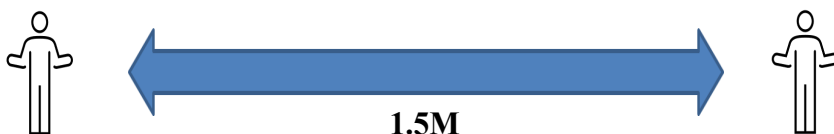


**THE WEARING OF FACE MASKS
AT ALL CHURCH SERVICES IS MANDATORY.**

We understand the inconvenience that masks may pose, but the health of our parishioners and the wider community is our highest concern. We sincerely thank you for understanding, and for playing your part in keeping our community safe.

**PLEASE PRACTISE SOCIAL DISTANCING
BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS.**

As per government regulations,
please observe the 2 square metre rule.



WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGIL 6PM

SUNDAY 7.30AM & 9.30AM

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday & Wednesday at 6pm

Thursday & Friday at 9.10am



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Facebook page for any updates.

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CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

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Office Hours:
9am - 3.30pm
(Tuesday, Thursday & Friday)

PARISH TEAM:

Fr Christopher Antwi-Boasiako -
Parish Priest

Christopher.Antwi-Boasiako@parracatholic.org
Mobile: 0415 505 594

Mrs Marie Cottee - Parish Secretary
- mc@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Sue Weekes - Office Support
- sw@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Joanne Hocking - Sacrament
Support

SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH:

Corpus Christi Primary - ph 4726 2200
(Principal - Mrs Sarah O'Rourke)

Xavier College - ph 4777 0900
(Principal - Mr Michael Pate)

Parish News

The Net

If you know of anyone who is not receiving The Net via email and they would like to, please ask them to email the Parish Office or write their details on the list in the foyer.

Christmas Eve Children's Choir

All school aged children are invited to join the Children's Choir, which will be singing at the 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve.

If your child is interested in joining the choir, please write your details on the sheet in foyer.



Children's Nativity Play...

All children are invited to participate in the Nativity Play at the 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve. If you would like your child to take part, please write your details on the sheet in the foyer.

Ministry Roster for Christmas



The lists for the ministry rosters for Christmas are now in the foyer. If you are able to assist in volunteering in the ministries of Acolyte, Reader, Commentator, Altar Server and Data Operator for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses, please put your name on the relevant list.

*** Please note that there will be a **Christmas Mass on Christmas Night at 6pm**. Please add your name to the sign on sheet in the foyer if you are able to assist with the ministries.

Ministry Rosters for January

The voluntary roster commences on
SUNDAY 26TH DECEMBER, 2021.

If you are able to assist with the Ministry Roster from that date until the end of January, please place your name on the roster sheet in the foyer.

**NEW YEARS DAY MASS
WILL BE CELEBRATED AT 9.30AM.**

**Please note that the 6pm Mass on New Year's Day is
the vigil for the
Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord.**

Notice re Parish Office Hours

**The parish office will be closed from 23rd December
and will open on Thursday 20th January.**

If you need to make contact with the parish team, please phone the office and leave a message and someone will be in touch with you asap. During January, in the case of an emergency, please phone Fr Chris on 0415 505 594.

Break Open the Word for Readers

For any readers who would like a copy of Break Open the Word for Year C, they are now available in the Sacristy. The cost is \$24 per copy. Envelopes for payment are also available in the Sacristy.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

(First Rite with visiting priests)

TUESDAY 14TH DECEMBER

7PM – 8PM

(There will be no Mass on that evening)

Christmas Masses

*Masses continue to be celebrated under
Covid-19 Restrictions.*

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES ARE:

Christmas Eve at 6pm.

In the school grounds

(Please bring your own chair)

*Young children are most welcome to dress as angels and
shepherds etc at this special Christmas vigil.*

8.30pm, Midnight Mass,

Christmas Morning at 9.30am &

Christmas Night at 6pm

In the church

***Please note that Registration is NOT required for
any of the Christmas Masses***

Bishop's Christmas Appeal

**Thank You for Supporting CatholicCare's
Houses to Homes**

Bishop Vincent, Parramatta Catholic Foundation and CatholicCare thank you for your kind-hearted generosity and support over the last few weeks.

Our Bishop's Christmas Appeal raised \$2758.65, which will help CatholicCare's Houses to Homes to provide a loving sanctuary for young mothers in crisis.

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

For anyone who hasn't had a chance to donate, please visit yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal We ask you to continue to pray for the Diocesan ministries supported by the Parramatta Catholic Foundation, including CatholicCare's Houses to Homes and the young women and children who find a safe haven in which to build better lives.

Let us Offer Gifts of Prayer:

Recently Deceased:

Deacon Owen Rogers, Rosemary Hall, Judy Baytch

And for those who are sick:

Peter Sinnett, Eleanor Albertyn,

Esther Rodgers, Kevin & Mary O'Connor, Pauline Rugg



**Could the person who has
Planned Giving envelope number 077
please contact the Parish Office.**

The Living Word

The Third Sunday of Advent - Year C

12th December 2021



First Reading

Zep 3:14-18

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud!

Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem!

The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away.

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp.

The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior.

He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

Responsorial Psalm

Is 12:2-6 R. v.6

(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.

For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.

With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. *(R.)*

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!

Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!

Declare the greatness of his name. *(R.)*

Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds, make them known to all the earth!

People of Zion, sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. *(R.)*

Second Reading

Phil 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

The Lord is near.

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 3:10-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

What, then, must we do?

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

Living the Gospel – Generosity of spirit

John's words to the crowd, the tax collectors and the soldiers are about adopting a spirit of generosity and a generosity of spirit. A generosity of spirit can be expressed simply in the attitude with which we approach other people: a positive, hope-filled and generous attitude will often turn around a potentially negative situation. As we approach the Christmas season, there is a need for practical actions of generosity as well. Those in need can approach Christmas with dread rather than joyful expectation. It can be the hardest time of year for struggling families. Acts of generosity can make all the difference.



THIRD SUNDAY
OF
Advent

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

I want you to be happy

Some people have an image of God who must be obeyed out of fear. Rules of behaviour are kept as part of a deal to avoid punishment. But St Paul was imitating God when he told the Philippians that all he wanted was their 'happiness'. God's deepest desire is that we share divine bliss. St Thomas Aquinas tells us that the goal of human life is this beatific happiness.

Of course, there is a way of life which responds to the Divine Lover. John the Baptist insists on rules of social justice, particularly those which forbid taking advantage of the vulnerable. But these are the minimum. He envisages a response of extravagant generosity. It will take Baptism in the Holy Spirit and Fire to make this possible.

This was effected by the One foretold by John. He doesn't name him, but we know it was Jesus of Nazareth who had the power to unleash such over-the-top generosity. Jesus sent his Holy Spirit at Pentecost as if in wind and fire. This created a new community which, the Acts of Apostles tells us, responded with acts of unrestrained generosity to the vulnerable and needy.

We might pause for a moment to pray for a generous spirit responding in gratitude to the Divine Lover who, as Risen Lord, has the power and will to enable us to be filled with Divine Bliss.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

We are at the midpoint of Advent. Today we celebrate *Gaudete* Sunday. The principal theme of the day is joy. According to Paul, joy is one of the fruits of the Spirit (cf. Gal 5:22). Such joy is a religious sentiment, not emotional happiness. Along with gratitude, it is the heart's response to God's goodness. Zion is told to shout for joy because it has been saved by God from its enemies and because God is in the midst of the people. The psalm response proclaims the same message; the reading from Philippians announces that the Lord is near. This is cause for joy.

Advent is a time for joy, not primarily because we are anticipating the anniversary of the birth of Christ, but because God is already in our midst (Immanuel). The readings for this Sunday assure us that God is with us, not as a judge but as a Saviour. We rejoice over the saving acts of God that make us confident of God's care and unafraid of whatever may cross our paths. We rejoice in the peace of God that surpasses all understanding. Advent joy is like the delight that fills a woman who has just given birth, even if it occurred in the throes of birthpangs. Advent joy springs from the realisation that the presence of God in our midst can so transform our lives that the promises of peace and security will be fulfilled. Advent joy is the way we live in the tension between already and not yet.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December

Intention for evangelisation - Catechists



Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.



REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

Questions for Adolescents

- * What experience has prompted the people to ask John, 'What must we do?'
- * How would you summarise John's response to their question?
- * Why might people have thought that John the Baptist was the Messiah that they were awaiting?
- * How can you respond to John's call for generosity and justice?

Questions for Adults

- * How do you think the crowd, tax collectors and soldiers reacted to John's words to them?
- * Have you ever experienced a real 'change of heart'?
- * Apart from charitable giving, how can generosity be expressed?
- * In what aspect/s of your life do you need to adopt a more generous spirit?
- * What does it mean to you to be 'baptised in the Holy Spirit'?

This is an opportunity for parents to discuss today's Gospel with your children. The following questions and worksheet are a beginning point to assist with the discussion.

- * In the gospel story, what did John the Baptist say to do with your coats and your food?
- * How can sharing things with others help us to prepare for Christmas?
- * What can you share with others this week?

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What must we do?

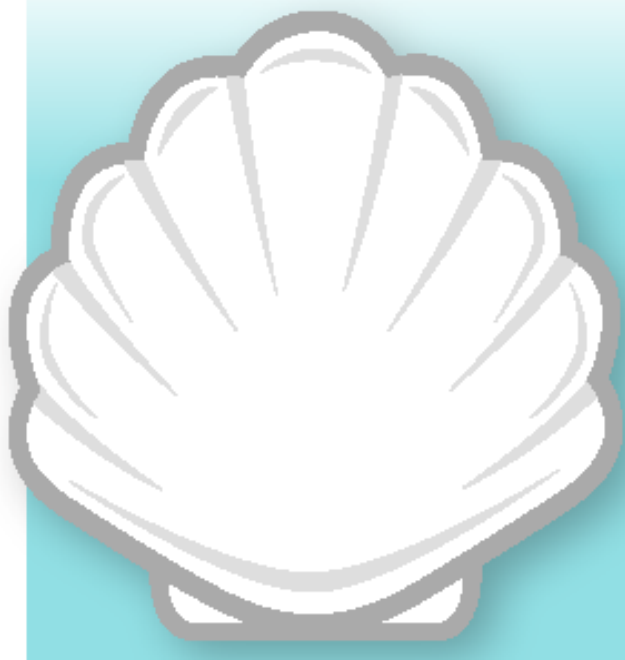
3rd Sunday of Advent, Year C



John, the son of Zechariah baptised people in the River Jordan to prepare them for the arrival of God's chosen one, Jesus. Draw John baptising one of the people in the river.



John the Baptist had great respect for Jesus. He told people, "Someone more powerful is going to come, and I am not good enough even to untie his sandals." Write down in the shell how you can show your respect for Jesus.



Water is used in the sacrament of Baptism as a symbol of life and purity. Below there are clues to six hidden words that are all symbols used in Baptism and Mass.



G	F	A	Y	I	H	I	Q	K
F	T	M	W	J	O	Q	G	W
D	G	P	V	Z	Z	U	F	I
Z	G	W	A	T	E	R	I	N
Z	G	X	P	K	F	T	R	E
Q	E	S	L	U	Q	H	E	N
Q	D	K	C	R	O	S	S	X
Q	A	Q	K	U	G	H	M	B
N	C	A	N	D	L	E	B	J
B	H	B	R	E	A	D	D	Q

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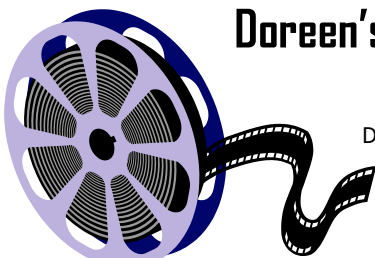
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Solutions

3rd Sunday of Advent, Year C

Water is used in the sacrament of Baptism as a symbol of life and purity. Below there are clues to six hidden words that are all symbols used in Baptism and Mass.



G	F	A	Y	I	H	I	Q	K
F	T	M	W	J	O	Q	G	W
D	G	P	V	Z	Z	U	F	I
Z	G	W	A	T	E	R	I	N
Z	G	X	P	K	F	T	R	E
Q	E	S	L	U	Q	H	E	N
Q	D	K	C	R	O	S	S	X
Q	A	Q	K	U	G	H	M	B
N	C	A	N	D	L	E	B	J
B	H	B	R	E	A	D	D	Q