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EMBRACING THE COMMUNITIES OF:
 St Mary's - South Brisbane;
 St Ita's - Dutton Park;
 St Francis of Assisi - West End &
 Our Lady of Perpetual Succour - Fairfield.
 Under the care of the Capuchin Franciscan Friars



Fourth Sunday of Advent
 22 December 2019 - Year A

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On this fourth Sunday of advent the gospel is about the life situation of Mary and Joseph before the birth of Jesus. Both are called, in different ways, to a very great trust, and to have faith in God's promises. Joseph and Mary have their own unique annunciation. Mary had to face an enormous challenge to her faith and trust in God and to the faith of her family and Joseph, the man she chose to marry. She was asked to assume a burden of tremendous responsibility. It had never been heard of before that a child could be born without a natural father. Mary was asked to accept this miraculous exception to the laws of nature. That required faith and trust in God and in his promises. Second, Mary was not yet married. Pregnancy outside of wedlock was not tolerated in those days. She was asked to assume a great risk. She could have been rejected by Joseph, by her family, by all her own people. Mary knew that Joseph and her family would not understand without revelation from God. She nonetheless believed and trusted in God's promises.

Joseph, a just and God-fearing man, did not wish to embarrass or punish his espoused wife, Mary when he discovered that she was pregnant. To all appearances she had broken their solemn pledge to be faithful and chaste to one another. Joseph, no doubt took this troubling matter to God in prayer. He was not hasty to judge or to react with hurt and anger. God rewarded him not

only with guidance and consolation, but with the divine assurance that he had indeed called Joseph to be the husband of Mary and to assume a mission that would require the utmost faith, confidence, and trust in Almighty God. Joseph believed in the divine message to take Mary as his wife and to accept the child in her womb as the promised Messiah. Lord Jesus, you came to save us from sin and the power of death. May I always rejoice in your salvation and trust in your divine plan for my life.

God bless you and have great weekend,
 Fr. Joshy Parappully OFM Cap
 Parish priest



Rest In Peace

Fr Peter Grice passed away peacefully on Monday evening 17 December.
 A Requiem Mass will be held at St Francis of Assisi Church, West End, Monday 23rd December 2019 - 3.00pm

We invite all parishioners to join with us for Fr Peter's Funeral and refreshments in the hall after the mass.

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."
MATTHEW 6:33

PRAISE & WORSHIP TALKS AND HEALINGS

Facilitated by Steffanie Le

SATURDAY 4 JANUARY 2020 6 PM 47 DORNOCH TERRACE WEST END

Awaken TOGETHER IN CHRIST

"I have pain constantly but after Healing tonight I had no pain."
 Apolinar

Awaken.org.au
 Awaken Community
 admin@awaken.org.au

The Catholic Leader: Keeping faith with you

- The Catholic Leader wishes all readers a joyful, holy Christmas and a happy New Year. Our office will close from December 20 until January 6, and our first edition next year is dated January 12.
- Cairns Bishop James Foley will retire due to ailing health after 27 years and is expected to cease duties early next year.
- Farmer Lyle Winks sits down with radio personality Donna Lynch to discuss his life on the farm in drought conditions and the hope to come at Christmas.
- Joseph Leeds tells his story about a run-in with hard drugs and a near death experience, saying he is only alive today as a product of God's mercy.

Find your copy at the back of the Church for \$2.

Come for a **SPIRIT FILLED NIGHT OF WORSHIP**

Facilitated by Steffanie Le

FRIDAY 10 JANUARY 2020 7 - 9 PM

Nibbles & refreshments provided
 RSVP by Wednesday 8 January 2020

Suggested donation
 \$30 Family \$10 Adults \$5 Children

St Francis Hall 47 Dornoch Tce
 WEST END, 4101

Awaken TOGETHER IN CHRIST

MASS TIMES

St Mary's Church (20 Merivale St. South Brisbane)
 Mon-Fri: 7am; Sat: 8am (Rosary after Mass)
 Sunday: 9am and 5pm
 (Anointing 1st Friday of each month)

St Francis' Church (47 Dornoch Tce., West End)
 Sunday: 9am

St Ita's Church (Pope St., Dutton Park)
 Saturday (Vigil): 5pm; Sunday: 8.00am

Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour (Victoria St., Fairfield)
 Sunday: 7am (Anointing: 1st Sunday)

PARISH OFFICE
 47 Dornoch Terrace, West End, Qld 4101
 Postal: PO Box 3857, West End, Qld 4101
 Emails: southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au
stitaspar@bne.catholic.net.au
Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 9am - 2pm
Telephone: (07) 3844 2744
South Brisbane website: www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au
FB: <https://www.facebook.com/stmaryssouthbrisbane/>
Dutton Park website: www.duttonparkcatholic.org.au
FB: <https://www.facebook.com/Dutton-Park-West-End-Catholic-Parish-296189547643180/>
Parish Priest: Fr. Joshy Parappully OFM Cap
pp.southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au
Parish Pastoral Co-Ordinator: Sr Salvacion Bunao SFI
Parish Secretary: Bernadette Maguire
Sacramental Administrator: Niken Westerman
Parish Youth : hello@risingyouthministry.org
Safeguarding Officers:
 St Ita's Church: Liam O'Rourke 0411 033 321
 OLPS Church: Nora King 0481 139 070
 St Francis of Assisi Church: Liam Cunnane 0477 306 166
 St Mary's Church: Chris Bolger 0407 480 205
 Awaken: Dianne Ezzy 0411 869 017

CONFESSION

St Mary's Church:
 Fri: 7.30am—8am Sat: 8.30-9.00am; Sun: 4-4.45pm

St Ita's Church: Sat: 4-4.50pm

ST ITA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
 247 Gladstone Rd, Dutton Park, Qld 4102
Phone: (07)3838 8400
Email: pduttonpark@bne.catholic.edu.au
Web: www.stitasduttonpark.qld.edu.au

Parish Activities in 2019

BAPTISMS

Saturday | 9.30am | monthly

1st Saturday St Francis'
2nd Saturday St Mary's
3rd Saturday St Ita's

Family preparation sessions on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 9.30am. Bookings essential.

ADORATION

Sunday: 4-5pm St Mary's Church

DIVINE MERCY

Sunday: 4.15pm St Mary's Church

PRAYER AND QUIET REFLECTION

Monday to Friday: 12-2pm at St Mary's Church

AWAKEN: TOGETHER IN CHRIST

1st Saturday of the month at 6pm
 St Francis Hall, 47 Dornoch Terrace, West End
 website: awaken.org.au

ST FRANCIS TABLE—Ministry to the Elderly

Monday: 10am -1pm
 St Francis Hall, 47 Dornoch Terrace, West End

ANointing OF THE SICK MASS

1st Friday of the month | St Mary's Church 7am
 1st Sunday of the month | OLPS Fairfield 7am

PARISH MORNING TEAS

Every Sunday St Mary's (and Feast Days)
 1st Sunday of the month
 OLPS Fairfield after 7am Mass
 St Francis Church after 9am mass

FAMILY MASS

4th Saturday of the month | St Ita's Church 5pm
 (school term only)

RISING YOUTH MINISTRY RYM

3rd Sunday of the month | St Francis Hall 1.30-3pm

NEW PARISHIONERS

We would like to help you feel at home in the Parish. Would you please make yourselves known to our Priests and to the parishioners who greet you as you arrive. Welcome leaflets with basic information about the parish are also available either at the door of the church or by contacting the parish office. Thank you for becoming part of our community.

READINGS AT MASS

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Is 45: 8

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

First reading Isaiah 7:10-14

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:
 'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign.

It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us."

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 23(24):1-6

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

Second reading Romans 1:1-7

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be

an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God who, according to the human nature he took was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation Matt 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;
 His name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.
 Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 1:18-24

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph; being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:
 The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us.' When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

Communion Antiphon Is 7: 14

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

Next Sunday's readings: 1st reading: Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14; 2nd reading: Col 3: 12-21; **Gospel:** Mt 2: 13-15, 19-23

Excerpts from the *Roman Missal* © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL) and "Excerpts from Universalis © 1996-2017 Universalis Publishing Limited: see www.universalis.com.

This Week's Liturgical Calendar (Psalm Responses)

Monday 23rd:

R/ Lift your heads high and see; your redemption is near at hand.

Tuesday 24th:

R/ For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Wednesday 25th: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

R/ For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Thursday 26th: St Stephen (Feast)

R/ Into your hands, O Lord, I entrust my spirit.

Friday 27th: St John (Feast)

R/ Let the just rejoice in the Lord.

Saturday 28th: The Holy Innocents (Feast)

R/ Our soul has escaped like a bird from the hunter's net.

Parish Office Christmas Closure



The Parish Office will be closed from 12noon Tuesday 24 December 2019 and will re-open on Monday 6th January 2020



Note: 6 - 17 Jan office hours will be 9am- 12noon

St Francis Table - Ministry for the Elderly

A big thank you for everyone who helped this ministry throughout the year, also who helped in preparation for last week Christmas celebration.

The day was enjoyed by all.

St Francis Table will resume on Monday 27 January 2020.



Sacramental Program Date Claimers 2020

- Penance (Reconciliation) - For Year 5 or older
 Wednesday, 11 March - 6pm (all Churches at St Ita's)
This sacramental program is now open for enrolment.
 Enrolment forms and cover letter are available on our websites www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au or www.duttonparkcatholic.org.au
 Closing date: Thursday, 20 February.
 Information night: Thursday, 27 February - 6pm at St Ita's
- Confirmation - For Year 3 or older (Save the date only)
 Wednesday, 17 June - 6pm (St Ita's)
 Sunday, 21 June - 10am (St Francis of Assisi & St Mary's)
- First Holy Communion - For Year 4 or older (Save the date only)
 Saturday, 12 September - 5pm (St Ita's)
 Sunday, 13 September - 9am (St Francis of Assisi)
 Sunday, 20 September - 9am (St Mary's)

For more information and enquiry contact the Parish Office on 3844 2744 or email sacramental.duttonpark@bne.catholic.net.au

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve Tuesday 24th December

St Ita's 5pm Mass (4.30pm Carols)
Indonesian 7.30pm Mass (7pm Carols)
St Mary's 7pm Mass (6pm Carols & children's nativity)



Christmas Day Wednesday 25th December

OLPS Fairfield 7am Mass
St Ita's 8am Mass
Indonesian 10.30am Mass
St Francis 9am Mass (8.30am Carols)
St Mary's 9am Mass
St Mary's 5pm Mass



Join us for PRAISE & WORSHIP, TALKS & HEALINGS

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (Mat 6:33)

Saturday, 4 January 2020 - 6pm and also on Friday Evening 10 January for a night of Worship 7-9 St Francis' Hall, 47 Dornoch Terrace, West End

For more information email admin@awaken.org.au website awaken.org.au

Christmas Eve at St Ita's

If your family (children, parents, grandparents) would like to participate in the Christmas Eve mass at St Ita's (singing, reading, playing an instrument, carrying a candle, dressing as an angel/shepherd or coordinating children), please contact; Sr Loretta (ursulin@bigpond.net.au), Sarah (atchison.sarah@gmail.com) or Liam (lorourke@watpac.com.au).

There will be a short practice on Monday 23 December at 3:30pm to distribute readings and play through music. On Christmas Eve, Carols commence at 4:30pm with mass at 5pm.

ST Mary's Notice

St Mary's Church will closed for prayer and quiet reflection from Monday, 16 December 2019 and will re open on Monday, 13 January.

St Mary's Christmas Vigil Mass

Please join us for supper after the Mass on Tuesday, 24 December. Please bring a plate of food to share.



Thank you

The St Francis of Assisi Conference of the Society of St Vincent de Paul wishes to thank parishioners of Dutton Park Parish and St Mary's Parish for their very generous contribution to the Christmas Hamper appeal. As a result, the Conference will be delivering more than 70 hampers (assisted over 190 people) on the Saturday before Christmas to disadvantaged people in the suburbs of West End, Highgate Hill, Dutton Park, and Fairfield, who will now be having a more joyful Christmas than otherwise. Your material support and prayers for our work, at this time and throughout the year, is greatly appreciated.

- John O'Gorman, Conference President

Cathedral Guides & Welcomers

We invite you to an information session on Thursday 7 February 2020 at 10.30am to discover the delights of volunteering with the Cathedral Guides & Welcomers. The meeting will be held in the Hanly Room of the Francis Rush Centre. If you enjoy meeting people; love your Cathedral and revel in good art and juicy history, the rewards of becoming a volunteer with the Cathedral Guides and Welcomers is beyond measure. A comprehensive training program is offered, please contact the Cathedral on 3324 3030 or email deveryc@bne.catholic.net.au, by Friday 25 January 2020.