



Mother of Good Counsel Parish

(embracing the areas of Innisfail, Mourilyan, South Johnstone & Babinda)

Parish Priest ~ Fr Kerry Crowley

Assistant Priest ~ Fr Nathan McKay

PO Box 64, Innisfail QLD 4860

Tel: 4061 6633

Fax: 4061 7634

PO Box 17, Babinda QLD 4861

Tel: 4061 6633

email: innisfail.parish@ Cairns.catholic.org.au

Parish website www.gcp parish.org.au

Parish Bulletin Sunday 18 December 2016

PARISH CHURCHES

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Mother of Good Counsel 90 Rankin St, Innisfail

Sat, Vigil Mass 6.30pm

Sun, 9am

3rd Sun, Monthly 11am,
Italian Mass

St Rita of Cascia 5 Green St, South Johnstone

Sun, 7am (every 1st, 3rd & 5th
Sunday)

Christ the King 10 Harbour Rd, Mourilyan

Sun, 7am (every 2nd & 4th
Sunday)

St Rita of Cascia 15 Church St, Babinda

Sat, Vigil Mass 6.00pm

Sun, 8am

PARISH SCHOOLS

Good Counsel College 66 Owen St, Innisfail

Ph: (07) 40635300

Web: www.gcc.qld.edu.au

James Roberts (Principal)

Good Counsel Primary 96 Rankin St, Innisfail

Ph: (07) 40612994

Web: www.gcps.qld.edu.au

Liam Kenny (Principal)

St Rita's Primary 8 Green St, South Johnstone

Ph: (07) 40642153

Web: www.stritascps.qld.edu.au

Vicki Conomo (Principal)

St Rita's Primary 7-13 Church St, Babinda

Ph: (07) 40671467

Web: www.stritasbabinda.qld.edu.au

Judy Billiau (Principal)

A man of honour

Joseph could not ignore Mary's pregnancy, but he had an exceptional large-heartedness, so that he preserved a future for Mary even though she had apparently wronged him.

If he had gone to sleep in a frame of mind to avenge his honour, he would not have been ready to have the deepest levels of his consciousness stirred in the way God wanted. In the deep sleep of a just and good man, Joseph was enlightened as to the divine dimension of Mary's pregnancy. The old cycle of human history, literally generation after generation, was being broken.

Something utterly new had happened.

You and I are just as likely to receive an intuition as to God's plan for us in the depths of sleep: who we really are, who we are destined to be, where we fit in to God's plan for transforming the whole of creation. When we get these instructive moments in our sleep, what can we do when we wake up? We can do what Joseph did: get up and do what is needed to fulfil the message.

We could pause for a moment to thank Joseph for showing what dreams can be made of. Tonight might be the night!

©Michael Tate



TODAY WE CELEBRATE

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

YEAR A



Blest are you enthroned in majesty,
praised and lifted above all for ever!

Blest are you beyond the stars,
acclaimed and honoured for ever!

(from Daniel 3)

The Pastor's Pen

I left **unprepared** for my walk on Monday morning (with no umbrella) and shortly into the walk over the Geraldton Bridge I felt a few spots, then a few more, and you guessed it, a heavy downpour--- four months since such an experience and the only option, with pride at stake, to continue to complete the task of my early morning exercise. Part way around the Ovals of Innisfail State College I met an elderly lady out with her Walker, she was well **prepared**, suitably dressed in her rain coat, she greeted me, "Isn't it wonderful!" to which I agreed, in my drenched and **unprepared** state!

What has been your experience of Advent this year? No doubt like me you have been challenged with end-of-the-year functions, an overload of events and things to do, when the sobering message in this Season in the life of our Parish Community and Church is: 'to prepare a way for the Lord.' This is a time of growing in awareness of key truths of our Christian Faith, the End Times and the Second Coming of the Lord and the opportunity to **prepare** to celebrate worthily His coming on earth, His birth day.

This weekend flags a special invitation to utilise the time we have left: let's make a Novena (of nine days) to **prepare** creatively for the Lord's coming!

Fr Kerry

Parish Office

Office Hours for next week are:

Monday 19 December, Tuesday 20 December **10am - 3.30pm**

Wednesday 21 December **9am - 12.30pm**,

Thursday 22 December **10am - 3.30pm**,

Friday 23 December **9am - 12.30pm**

Fr Nathan

Fr Nathan will celebrate Mass at Silkwood, South Johnstone and El Arish this weekend.

Cairns Diocesan News

Christmas Edition now available in all churches.

Christmas Mass Times

<i>Christmas Eve Saturday 24 December</i>	<i>Christmas Day Sunday 25 December</i>
Innisfail ~ Vigil 6.30pm; Midnight Mass (Christmas Carols 11.30pm) Babinda ~ Vigil 6.00pm	Mourilyan ~ 7am, South Johnstone ~ 8am; Babinda ~ 8am; Innisfail ~ 9.00am

Christmas Eve – Vigil Mass 6.30pm

Calling for all parts: Joseph, Mary, shepherds, angels, animals! Come and be part of the real meaning of Christmas. Practice for the Children's Gospel will be **Wednesday 21st December commencing at 3.30pm** in Mother of Good Counsel Church, Innisfail.

Contact - Maria on 0448 716 271, or Angie Sheerans on 0409 871 636

Volunteers needed

Midnight Mass - If you will be attending this Mass and can assist with these Ministries: Hospitality, Reader, Eucharistic Ministers, Collectors please either contact Barbara on 4063 2527 or the Parish Office on 4061 6633.

Christmas Day 9am Mass - If you are normally rostered for Ministry on this day, the roster is as normal. If you will be away and you are normally rostered please contact the Parish Office on 40616633 as soon as possible as replacements will need to be found for your ministry.

Special Collection – All Christmas Masses Diocesan Christmas Charities Appeal

The Annual Christmas Charities Collection taken up across the Diocese will support many needs such as ..

ACBC, Apostleship of the Sea, Bishops Disaster Relief, Centacare Cairns, Cherish Life Cairns Branch, Christmas Bowl Appeal, Endeavour Foundation, FNQ Youth Assistance Fund, L'Arche Australia, Marriage Encounter, National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council, Qld Churches Together, Rosie's Youth Mission Inc, Royal Flying Doctor Service, St Vincent de Paul Society

Diocesan Christmas Information: Christmas Mass times for the whole Diocese are available by phoning 4051 1990: or on the website www.cairns.catholic.org.au

St Rita's Parish, Babinda

Weekend Masses

Fr Andrew Dembicki will celebrate Mass this Saturday evening whilst Fr Bill will celebrate Mass on Sunday morning.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday 20 December ~ 4pm - 5pm
in the Prayer Room, Parish Centre

Wedding Anniversary

Owen and Lorna Jones celebrated their **71st Anniversary of Marriage** last Tuesday on the Feast of St Lucy. We offer them our prayers and best wishes.



Retired Priests

In case you wish to offer Seasons Greetings to any of our Retired Priests I have listed below their Phone No's:

Frank Crane 4041 1512

Tyrone Deere 0429 003 356

Bill Grundy 4067 1088

Ivan Hernon 3880 2059

John O'Connor 4068 0085

Gerry O'Connor 4062 1126

John Newman 0409 064 123

Holiday Roster – Be prepared!

At this time of the year our Church roster often suffers. Between now and school resuming, we ask ALL MINISTERS to come to Mass prepared for ministry and to volunteer their services to the Commentator before Mass.

Preparing for Christmas Family Prayer

Please collect a copy of this leaflet from the door of the Church. This sheet includes Christmas Home Blessing, Christmas Manger Blessing and Christmas Tree Blessing.



Secretary - Parish Pastoral Council

Would you consider assisting the Parish Pastoral Council in the role of Secretary? The Council has 10 meetings a year, 5.15pm - 7pm at the Parish Centre.

For details Fr Kerry or the Parish Office ☎ 40616633.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/

gcparish.org.au

Catholic Leader

In this issue:

- ◆ It's 12 months away but young Brisbane Catholics are beginning preparations for the start of the Church's Year of Youth in Australia
- ◆ Brisbane Catholic primary school student bowled over at receiving Prime Minister's NAIDOC medal

Next Week in the Parish (Innisfail)

Thursday 22 December @ 10am - Rosary & Prayer
for Priests - Prayer Room, Parish Centre

Carols by Candlelight

East Palmerston & Nerada Progress Association together with Q.C.W.A invite everyone to join them for:

Carols by Candlelight at East Palmerston Hall
Monday 19 December 2016 @ 7pm

Please bring a plate to share for supper!

Symbols and Images

One of the common ways for God to communicate with human beings, as related in the Hebrew Scriptures, is through dreams - Abraham, Jacob, Joseph and Hannah are famous examples. In this text, God communicates the importance of this child and the integrity of his mother to Joseph using God's favoured method. Being intuitive to the voice of God is an important aspect of faith. (Source: *The Summit*)

Time for a Laugh

"What's wrong, Bubba?" asked the pastor.

"I need you to pray for my hearing," said Bubba.

The pastor put his hands on Bubba's ears and prayed. When he was done, he asked, "So how's your hearing?"

"I don't know," said Bubba. "It isn't until next Tuesday."

<i>Church & Toilet Closing Roster Week commencing 18 December</i>	<i>Church Cleaning Roster - Mourilyan</i>	<i>Altar Linen Roster 19 December</i>
Graham Celledoni	Lorna Croatto	Norah Dunn

PLAN GIVING-Innisfail, Mourilyan, Sth Johnstone:
Envelopes \$2834.27 Loose \$482.70

Responsorial Psalm (Innisfail): Let the Lord enter, the Lord, the King of Glory.

Responsorial Psalm (Sth Johnstone): As per Advent Hymn sheet

Responsorial Psalm (Babinda) : Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

Gospel Acclamation Verse: The virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God-is-with-us.

Recently Deceased

Carmelo GIARDINA (Italy - brother of Assunta Uchino & Joe Giardina), Eva JACKSON

Anniversaries

Brendan O'KANE, Alf WELLS, Quintilia MAGNANINI, Fr Tomas ORMAZABEL, Giuseppa CALTABIANO, Annie CROWLEY, James BUTLER, Louis COLETTI, Nola TOMOR, Vito FIAMINGO, David JOY, Tom JOHNSTON, Concetta ZAPPALA, Edward HARRINGTON, Susan O'BRIEN, Bess CLEARY, Rose-Anne KAHL, Robert DEVEREAUX, Martin HITCHINGS, Reg WESTCOTT, James BRADY, Sarina CAVALLARO, Tony ANDREWS, Santo & Alfia REITANO, Santo REITANO, Angelo PENNISI, Teresa REA, Gaetano TRAVIA, Sebastiana CRISTAUDO, Maria CAVALLARO, Howard LONG HONG, May GIBSON, Frank SENDRA, Fr James BOLTON OSA, Angelina CALTABIANO, Geroge DONELEY, John BISBAL, Laurie BREEN, Giovanna SCIBERRAS, Fr Edward KENRICK OSA, Fr Patrick DOYLE OSA, Nesta WALLIS, Francis CALTABIANO, Florence SCULLEN, Maria MARTINAC, Ellen LAWTON, Lidia DESTRO

WEEKDAY MASSES

MONDAY 19th	8.00am Innisfail
TUESDAY 20th	8.00am Innisfail
WEDNESDAY 21st	8.00am Innisfail 5.00pm St Rita's, Babinda
THURSDAY 22nd	8.00am Innisfail
FRIDAY 23rd	8.15am St Rita's, Babinda 9.00am Villanova
SATURDAY 24th	10.45am Warrina

PLEASE REFER INSIDE FOR CHRISTMAS TIMES

RECONCILIATION: (Innisfail) Saturday 11.30am; RECONCILIATION: (Babinda) Before Mass

SUNDAY MASS TIMES & ROSTER FOR WEEKEND 24/25 DECEMBER 2016					
24/25 DECEMBER 2016	6.30pm Sat Innisfail	Midnight Innisfail	7.00am Sun Mourilyan	8.00am Sun Sth Johnstone	9.00am Sun Innisfail
COMMENTATOR	A. Sheerans	B. Bortolanza	N. Smith	PLEASE CHECK WITH ROSALI AND ADVISE IF YOU ARE AVAILABLE FOR MINISTRY ON CHRISTMAS DAY 8AM MASS	S. Todd
READERS	Youth Reader		J. Shang		M. Hogan
CIBORIUM	P. Cassar		////////////////		M. Gangi
CHALICES	Contact: Angie Sheerans		L. Croatto		M. Sorbello D. Wheeler
HOSPITALITY	S. Hoad, S. Cristaudo, J. Cristaudo	R. Lankinen	R. Bandiera		M. Nolan
MUSIC	Youth Group	Christmas Choir	////////////////		Volunteer please

BABINDA MASS TIMES & ROSTER		
17/18 DECEMBER 2016	Vigil 6.00pm Saturday	8.00am Sunday
READER	L. Musumeci	M. Preuss
CHALICES	S. Baldi D. Baldi	E. Wiles J. Hyland
24/25 DECEMBER 2016	Vigil 6.00pm Saturday	8.00am Sunday
READER	S. Fontana	R. Price
CHALICES	L. Musumeci A. Sciacca	M. Preuss A. Densmore

Social Justice Diary

- 18 Dec: *International Migrants Day.*
1894: South Australian Parliament the first in Australia to give women the right to vote.
- 20 Dec: *International Human Solidarity Day*
- 21 Dec: 1991: Dissolution of the USSR and the founding of the Commonwealth of Independent States including Russia.
1993: Native Title Bill pass by Australian Senate.
- 23 Dec: 1901: Immigration Restriction Act (White Australia Policy Enacted)
1996: Wik High Court decision.