



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH

in the care of the Carmelites since 1937

www.mtcarmelcoorparoo.org.au

church: 312 Cavendish Road, Coorparoo 4151

office: 2 Norfolk Street, Coorparoo 4151

Sunday
25th December
2016



Christmas
Day

Waiting one day in a physiotherapist cubicle separated from others by a paper-thin partition, I overheard a conversation that is insightful for this reflection. The Physiotherapist and patient were reflecting on the arrival of their second child. One was saying that prior to the birth of his second child he was concerned because he did not think he could love another child as much as he loved the first – his love for his first was so great. He reflected that once he saw his second child it was not an issue. He was changed and so was his loving and love. This is the invitation we receive each Christmas – to grow our love, our hope, our joy.

At Christmas, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus – the little baby born in Bethlehem to Mary and her husband Joseph. We are awestruck that our God of Love chose for His Son, to be born as a helpless, though no doubt cuddly and gorgeous, baby. We clearly proclaim God has become a child. As Paul often reminds us God emptied himself and became a man, born as a tiny baby. Yet we know too that a child awakens in us a sense of a future, a hope, a newness. This confidence of trust and future are interlocked with our Faith as we gather to remember the child born in Bethlehem. We are freed from those things that hold us back – our fears, our failures and mistakes. As Pope Francis invites us: "*Let us abandon all fear and dread for these do not befit men and women who are loved. Instead let us live the Joy of encounter with the Grace that transforms all.*"

We have completed our time of waiting – Advent – when we reflected on the themes of hope, peace, joy and love. These come to fruition in the great blessing of Christmas.

Today's readings clearly mirror this journey of reflection and hope.

Isaiah writes of *our gladness being greater and our joy increasing*. The Psalm and the second reading alert us to the response that must come from being loved by God and loving God in return. The Psalm identifies *justice and truth* in our relationship with God and our neighbour. Paul's letter to Titus is the reminder to *live a good life, to be people who are zealous in good deeds*.

(cont'd page 1)

Carmelite Prior & Parish Priest: Fr Wayne Stanhope O.Carm
Carmelite Community: Fr Jerome Watt O.Carm
Fr Augusto Da Costa Galhos O.Carm
Fr Fausto Tilman de Araujo O.Carm

Office: Donna Moloney (Administration)
email: mtcarmel@bne.catholic.net.au
office hrs: 8:45am-3:15pm Mon-Fri
phone: 33971587

Jenette Free (Finance)
finance.mtcarmel@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekends

Saturday Vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 8.30am & 5.30pm

(note no 5.30pm mass on New Year's Day)

Weekdays: Monday to Saturday 9am

A Mass of Anointing is held on the first Wednesday of every month at 10am followed by morning tea.

Reconciliation:

Saturdays 9.30am - 10am

Rosary: Mondays - after 9am Mass

Next Sunday's Readings 1 January 2017 New Year's Day

Num 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

(Reflection cont'd)

This Christmas we are invited to recognise the Child within us, to rediscover the joy in our life, to be people of the light not darkness. The angels' message to the shepherds encourages us - 'do not be afraid.' The gift of life, a child is born. Rejoice and live!

*This Christmas, may you be blessed
With the spirit of Christmas, which is peace
With the joy of Christmas, which is hope
And the heart of Christmas, which is love.*

Madeleine Sayer, Parishioner



A very warm welcome to our Mount Carmel community to our Carmelite Brothers, Martinho Lemos and Albino dos Santos who are visiting us from Melbourne and will be with us during the Christmas and holiday period.

Fr. Wayne

At Mount Carmel

Saturday 24 December Christmas Eve

Vigil Masses 6pm (Children's Mass)
and 8.30pm

Sunday 25 December Christmas Day

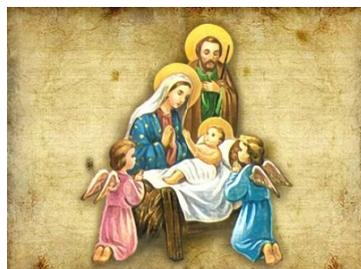
Mass 7am and 9am
Note no 5.30pm Mass

Monday 26 December

St Stephen's Feast Day

Tuesday 27 December

St John's Feast Day



Saturday 31 December

Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday 1 January

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy
Mother of God
Mass 8.30am
Note no 5.30pm Mass



May Christmas be a celebration of Peace, Joy, Hope and Love in our hearts and in our homes, and may the holiday period be lived safely. It is with gratitude in our hearts that the Carmelites, Fathers Jerome, Augusto, Wayne and Fausto, wish all within our Mount Carmel community a Christmas abundant with Christ's blessings for now and for the coming year.

Fr. Wayne



Each year, larger numbers of homeless people live on the streets of modern cities. These people may be jobless workers, battered women, the untreated mentally ill, or simply those too poor to get by. They tend to be 'invisible' to the rest of society, but they are a real presence of Christ in our midst, demanding charity and justice for the hungry and naked. They extend the incarnation of Christ, the Suffering Servant, in history.

This icon depicts the Mother of God as the mother of those on the streets. Her garments, and those of Jesus, are covered with jewels and gold decoration, to reveal the hidden worth and dignity of street people, who are living icons of God.

as our God-with-us.

May we welcome him in people in need and hear his constant call to us each day.



Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased:

Lawrence Sullivan

Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord ...

Anniversaries and Memorials:

Andrew McNab O.Carm

We pray for our sick...

Teresa Nunan, Michael Roache, Damian Holt,
Wanda Stumpf, Sandra Hart, Mary Hannah,
David Isaacs, Clare Kinross, Sue Fennell-Ivas,
Liliana Erceq.

There are envelopes at the back of the Church
for your Mass intentions. These can be given to
one of the Priests.

January Rosters

Ministers of the Word, Eucharist and Musicians

Volunteer sheets are available on the wall
outside the Sacristy or in the music area.
Please put your name on these lists if you
are available to help.

**Thank you in advance for your
assistance with these ministries.**

Children's Liturgy of the Word

No CLOW ... school holidays



Reach out. Give life.

It is not uncommon
for children to want a
bike for Christmas.
They want to play and
have fun on them. For

some children, however, in countries served by
missionaries, a bike is essential for children to
access a life-changing education. Through Cath-
olic Mission's Life Giving Gifts catalogue, you
can ensure a child receives the education they
need for a positive future. Visit
www.catholicmission.org.au/gifts to find out
how your gift of \$53 can transform a life.

David McGovern, Director, Brisbane Archdiocese

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Fr George Joseph MCBS, is leading a 14-day
pilgrimage to the Holy Land from 21st May—3rd
June 2017. This pilgrimage is being organised
by Magi Pilgrimages and features Petra,
Bethlehem, Sea of Galilee, Dead Sea, Jericho,
Mt Carmel, Mt Tabor, Mt Nebo and Jerusalem.
This all-inclusive pilgrimage is priced at an early
bird offer of \$4,990. Reserve your seats with an
initial deposit of \$500 prior to 31st January 2017.
For the detailed itinerary or to reserve your seats
contact Mr Rajesh George on 0422 215 855 .

**PARISH OFFICE
CLOSED**

*The office is closed for Christmas and
will reopen on Tuesday
24 January 2017.*

