



ADELAIDE CATHEDRAL PARISH

Third Sunday of Advent - Year C

12th December 2021

Gaudete Sunday

In today's Gospel, there is a question posed three times: "What shall we do?" (Lk 3:10, 12, 14). It is raised to John the Baptist by three categories of people: First, the crowd in general; second, the publicans or tax collectors; and, third, some soldiers. Each of these groups questions the prophet on what must be done to implement the conversion that he is preaching. John's reply to the question of the crowd is sharing essential goods. He told the first group, the crowd, to share basic necessities, and therefore says: "He who has two coats, let him share with him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise" (v. 11).

Then, he tells the second group, the tax collectors, to collect no more than the amount owed. What does this mean? No taking 'bribes', John the Baptist is clear. And he tells the third group, the soldiers, not to extort anything from anyone and to be content with their wages (cf. v. 14). There are three answers to the three questions of these groups. Three answers for an identical path of repentance, which is manifested in concrete commitments to justice and solidarity. It is the path that Jesus points to in all his preaching: the path of diligent love for neighbour.

From John the Baptist's admonitions, we understand the general tendencies of those who at that time held power, in various forms. Things have not changed very much. However, no category of people is excluded from following the path of repentance to obtain salvation, not even the tax collectors, considered sinners by definition: not even they are excluded from salvation. God does not preclude anyone from the opportunity to be saved. He is — so to speak — anxious to show mercy, to show it towards everyone, and to welcome each one into the tender embrace of reconciliation and forgiveness.

We feel that this question — "What shall we do?" — is ours also. Today's liturgy tells us, in the words of John, that it is necessary to repent, to change direction and take the path of justice, solidarity, sobriety: these are the essential values of a fully human and genuinely Christian life. Repent! It sums up the message of the Baptist. And the Liturgy of this Third Sunday of Advent helps us to rediscover a special dimension of repentance: joy. Whoever repents and approaches the Lord, feels joy. The prophet Zephaniah says to us today: "Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion!", addressing Jerusalem (Zeph 3:14); and the apostle Paul exhorts the Christians of Philippi: "Rejoice in the Lord always" (Phil 4:4).

Today, it takes courage to speak of joy, which, above all, requires faith! The world is beset by many problems, the future is burdened by uncertainties and fears. Yet, Christians are a joyful people, and their joy is not something superficial and ephemeral, but deep and stable, because it is a gift from the Lord that fills life. Our joy comes from the certainty that "the Lord is at hand" (Phil 4:5): he is close with his tenderness, his mercy, his forgiveness and his love.

(Pope Francis' Homilies)

12th Dec: Special Collection Vinnies Christmas Appeal 2021

Each year the St. Vincent de Paul Society assists more than 100,000 South Australian men, women and children, offering those who need it a hand up. This help is not limited to providing material goods, food and shelter, but extends also to providing support and encouragement for people to help themselves. Our members and volunteers provide practical support, advocacy and friendship to the most vulnerable within our community. By helping the St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal, you will assist in two ways.

A special collection will be taken up across the Parish on December 12th for the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. By giving to the Appeal you can help others enjoy Christmas. You can also donate through the envelopes that are available at the entrances of the Cathedral.

12th Dec: Mass for Blessing of the Cribs

Please note that the Blessing of the Cribs at the Cathedral will take place on 12th December at the 6.00pm Mass. We encourage all Parents to attend this Mass along with their Children. Kindly bring along your Family Crib which will be blessed at the Mass. All are welcome to attend.

Adelaide Conference Vinnies Giving Tree and Christmas Cards Sale

The Vinnies Giving Tree has been placed next to the left hand side of the Cathedral Altar. Please place your donation in bags below the tree. Kindly do not wrap any items. We thank you for your generous contribution.

REMINDER: Planned Giving Envelopes

We request our parishioners to collect their planned giving envelopes for 2022 from the church foyer or please contact the Sacristan. Please check for your name on the box before picking up your set of envelopes. We thank each one of you for your continued generosity and support to the Adelaide Cathedral Parish.

Christmas and New Year Services at the Adelaide Cathedral Parish

Christmas and New Year Mass timings are now available on our website. Please visit the website or scan the QR code to get detailed information of each church in our Parish. You can also pick up a copy of the timetable from the church foyer or download it from www.adelcathparish.org.



Cathedral of St Francis Xavier, 39 Wakefield Street, Adelaide

Church of St Patrick, 268 Grote Street, Adelaide

Church of St John Vianney, 546 Glynburn Road, Burnside

Church of St Mary, 179 Stanley Street, North Adelaide

Church of the Holy Name, 80 Payneham Road, Stepney

Church of St Peter Claver, cnr Stuart Road & Grandview Grove, Dulwich

Church of the Queen of Angels, cnr South Road & Kintore Street, Thebarton

Volunteers needed for Morning Tea at the Cathedral (starting in 2022)

We are looking for Volunteers to begin Morning Tea early 2022 after 9am and 11am Mass at the Cathedral. All volunteers that are selected will need to undergo a Working with Children Screening prior to undertaking the role. If you would like to volunteer to help set up, serve, wash and clean please contact the Parish Office with your details.

Dulwich Burnside Conference Vinnies Christmas Appeal

The Conference invites non-perishable foodstuff suitable for packing in Christmas hampers to be left under the Advent wreaths in either St. Peter Claver or St. John Vianney Churches. The conference makes up over 40 hampers for both local distribution and to assist other conferences in need. Goods which you yourself would like to receive in a Christmas hamper may be left under the wreaths from the first Sunday of Advent, up to and including Sunday 19th December. Please help us to make this Christmas special for a struggling family.

Liturgy of the Word for Children at St. John Vianney's

There will be Liturgy of the Word for Children at St. John Vianney's Church on the third and fourth Sundays of Advent, 12th and 19th December at the 9.00 am Mass. This will be a preparation for Christmas for younger members of our congregation.

Christmas Break Adoration Of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Peter Claver Church Dulwich

Adoration of the blessed Sacrament at St. Peter Claver Church, Dulwich will take a break after Adoration on Thursday 23rd December and resume for adoration on Monday 10th January.

Palms Australia's Neighbours Without Borders Cross-Cultural Training

Palms' exciting new cross-cultural training initiative draws on 60 years of preparing people for cross-cultural mission. If you would like to attend, please register your expression of interest to Sarah Moffatt: smoffatt@adelaide.catholic.org.au

Safeguarding Children

A reminder that all children need to be accompanied to and from the toilet, ideally by an adult family member. Kindly ensure that children are supervised by an adult family member in the carparks at all times.

Mass Intentions for the period 22nd Dec 2021 - 4th Jan 2022

We request all our parishioners to submit their Mass Intentions requests (if any) to the Parish Office by 21st Dec for the period 22nd Dec - 4th Jan. The office closes on 22nd Dec for the Christmas holidays and the phone lines will not be attended to during that period. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

IMPORTANT TO NOTE

Presently no bookings are required for any Advent Services, Events or Christmas Masses in all the churches of the Adelaide Cathedral Parish. Please check the Cathedral Parish website www.adelcathparish.org for regular updates or changes.

12th Dec: Southern Cross December issue

The December/Christmas edition of *The Southern Cross* will appear as an insert in *The Advertiser* on Saturday and will also be delivered to all our churches this week for distribution at weekend Masses. The paper includes Christmas Mass times around the State and all the latest news relating to Church, faith, education and community services. Copies provided to parishes are FREE. Please promote to your congregations over the coming weeks.

18th Dec: Cathedral Christmas Concert

The **St. Francis Xavier's Cathedral Choir and friends** will perform a concert of beautiful music from the Church's treasury of Christmas songs, including *Victoria O Magnum Mysterium* and four of the Australian Carols written by James and Wheeler. The concert starts at 7.30pm in the Cathedral and will last for an hour. It is free and all are welcome to attend.

22nd Dec: Cathedral Parish Office Closure for Christmas Holidays

The Cathedral Parish office will remain closed from 22nd December 2021 to 3rd January 2022. It will reopen on 4th January at 9.30am. Please call 0417080955 in case of any emergency requiring a priest during this time.

25th Dec: Christmas Mass on Channel 44

We are pleased to announce that Christmas Day Mass will be aired from St Francis Xavier's Cathedral on Channel 44 on Saturday, December 25 at 5pm. We hope this will bring joy to those who will not be able to attend services in person. Please share the news with family and friends or anyone you know would regularly tune into Mass on Channel 44.

25th Dec: No Evening Masses in the Parish

Please note that there will be no 6pm Mass on Saturday, 25th December in our Parish. The 6pm Mass at the Cathedral, Queen of Angels and St. Peter Claver churches stand cancelled. We regret the error made in the Christmas table that was earlier printed out.

31st Dec: Midnight New Year Mass

There will be Holy Hour from 11pm in the Cathedral on 31st December followed by New Year's Midnight Mass. All are welcome to attend the service.

1st Jan: New Year Day Mass

There will be only one Morning Mass at 10am in the Cathedral. Sunday VIGIL Masses will be as usual in the Cathedral, Queen of Angels and St. Peter Claver churches at 6pm in the evening on 1st Jan 2022.

Latin Mass Community

Today the Italian Community will be having its annual St. Lucia Festa. Please be aware that the carpark will be busier than usual after the 9.15am Mass today. If you are able, please leave directly after Mass has finished. Thank you for your cooperation.

Next Sunday the children will perform their Christmas Play at 11am in the Ellengowan Hall. All welcome. Next Sunday the choir will also hold its annual Advent Service of Lessons and Carols at 8pm at St. Patrick's Church, Grote St.

2022 FSSP Calendars are now available for purchase after mass for \$15.

Giving boxes for the Hutt St Centre are now available at the back of the church. Non-perishable foodstuffs are appreciated, as are toys. If the toys are wrapped, please indicate age and gender of intended recipient. The boxes will be emptied regularly during Advent. Thank you.

Fr. Sofatzis completes his talks on St. Joseph this Thursday at 7.30pm

Times of Christmas Masses:

Midnight Solemn Mass (preceded by carol singing from 11.30pm)

7am: Low Mass

9.15am: Sung Mass

Please note that there will be NO 5pm Mass on Christmas Day.

In addition to the religious picture books for your young children, at the back door of the church we now also have pictures to colour in and word-searches, both based on the Gospel of the Sunday. Please feel free to use these during mass. (We ask that you return the picture books and colouring in pencils to the back foyer as you leave the church.)

Also, in order to help foster an atmosphere of prayer at mass, the following gentle suggestions may be of help to those with young children:

- Please try to ensure that there is no running, eating or climbing during mass.
- If toys are required for your child, can you please ensure that these are soft toys, the use of which will not reverberate through the church (i.e. no matchbox cars, trains, trucks, hard dolls and the like).
- Would you also please encourage your child to stay within your chosen pew and to look forward towards the altar – this is where the (liturgical) action happens.
- If your infant needs to be settled for a few moments during mass, please feel free to use the confessional room where the priests sit if it is vacant.

Once again thank you for your continuing presences in our community. Please know that you are welcome.

Welcome to new parishioners. If you are new to the Latin Mass or new to Holy Name, please don't hesitate to introduce yourself to either Fr. McCaffrey or Fr. Sofatzis after Mass. There is a cuppa after the 9.15am Mass every Sunday in the tea room behind the church diagonally across the car park. All welcome. Also please feel free to register as a parishioner on our community census. The link is available on the blogspot.

Please see the community blogspot for other information.

Latin Mass Timings

Mon : 7am & 9:30am.

Tues: 9.30am followed by Holy Hour.

Wed: 9:30am.

Thu: 7am.

Fri: 7am & 6:30pm.

Sat: 8:30am, 9.15am (Reconciliation).

Sun: 8am, 9:15 am (Sung), 5pm (Low Mass).

Please respect the social distancing norms, sanitise your hands and either scan the QR code displayed at each door or record your name by hand each time you enter the church. The Archbishop requires that we wear masks inside church. (There are masks available at the doors of the church if you forget to bring one). Thank you for your co-operation.

Congregational singing is permitted, but masks must be worn while singing. The Covid Marshals for this Sunday are 8am Rob Marsh, 9.15am Brian Moran, 5pm Peter Balan, and Bianca Fisher is the Covid Marshall for weekday Masses.

Please remember the sick in your prayers, especially Miki Caputo, Jane Carey, Kathryn Nader, Tony Caruso, Luise Obrist (Gaby Freer's mother), Terry Hockley (Jess Marsh's father), Germaine Miernik, Vincenza Martucci (Ines Barson's mother). Please remember also the recently deceased, particularly Anne Russell, and also those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

COVID-19 Protocols Update: 12th Dec 2021

- The density requirement has been updated to **3 people per 4 sq. meters. Please follow the instructions of the COVID Marshals for seating.**
- **Wearing of face-masks completely covering your nose and mouth is mandatory in Church at all times. Please carry your own mask. (Celebrants are exempted).**
- **Sick and high risk/vulnerable people are requested to stay home and not attend services.**
- Hand sanitiser is available at church entrances. Kindly sanitise your hands before entering the church.
- There should be no physical contact outside one's family or household group. There should be no shaking of hands or holding hands during the Mass.
- Every gathering must record contact details. Logs are located at the entrance to the church.
- Precious Blood will not be distributed.
- No hymn books are to be passed around and congregational singing with facemasks on is now permitted.
- Communion is given only in hands.
- Holy Water is not available at the doors of churches. Collection plates will not be passed around but a single drop point is provided at the churches.
- All surfaces should be cleaned at least daily, with special attention given to frequently touched surfaces.
- Care should be taken at the dismissal and on leaving the church to avoid social contact.

COVID check-in using the QR Code or entering your details into the Register prior to entering the Church and wearing a facemask covering your nose & mouth at all times prior to entering the church is mandatory. Kindly follow the instructions of the Mass Coordinators and COVID Marshals who are here to assist you.