Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year A

18th December 2022

Fourth Sunday of Advent

The liturgy for today, the Fourth and last Sunday of Advent, is characterized by the theme of closeness, God's closeness to humanity. The Gospel passage (cf. Mt 1:18-24) shows us two people, the two people who, more than anyone else, were involved in this mystery of love: the Virgin Mary and her husband, Joseph. A mystery of love, the mystery of God's closeness to humanity.

Mary is presented in the light of the prophet who says: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son" (v. 23). Matthew the Evangelist recognizes that this happened in Mary, who conceived Jesus through the Holy Spirit (cf. v. 18). The Son of God "comes" into her womb to become man, and she welcomes him.

Thus, in a unique way, God drew near to mankind, taking on flesh through a woman: God drew near to us and took on flesh through a woman. To us too, in a different way, God draws near with his grace in order to enter our life and offer us the gift of his Son. What do we do? Do we welcome him, let him draw near, or do we reject him, push him away?

As Mary, freely offering herself to the Lord of history, allowed him to change the destiny of mankind, so too can we, by welcoming Jesus and seeking to follow him each day, cooperate in his salvific plan for us and for the world.

The other protagonist of today's Gospel is Saint Joseph. The Evangelist highlights that alone, Joseph cannot explain to himself the event which he sees taking place before his eyes, namely, Mary's pregnancy. Just then, in that moment of doubt, even anguish, God approaches him — him too — through his messenger and [Joseph] is enlightened about the nature of this maternity: "the child conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit" (cf. v. 20).

Thus, in facing this extraordinary event, which surely gave rise to many questions in his heart, he trusts totally in God who has drawn near to him, and after his invitation, does not repudiate his betrothed, but takes her to him and takes Mary to wife

These two figures, Mary and Joseph, who were the first to welcome Jesus through faith, introduce us to the mystery of Christmas. Mary helps us to assume an attitude of openness in order to welcome the Son of God into our concrete life, in our flesh. Joseph spurs us to always seek God's will and to follow it with full trust. Both allow God to draw near to them.

God-with-us, God who draws near. This message of hope, which is fulfilled at Christmas, leads to fulfilment of the expectation of God in each one of us too, in all the Church, and in the many little ones whom the world scorns, but whom God also loves and to whom God draws near.

21 Dec: Closure of Cathedral Lawns Confessions begin at 11.30am

The Cathedral Lawns and surrounding areas will be cordoned off for an event from 9am to 1.30pm with no access to the public. If you are visiting the Church during those times please note that the Disabled Parking area will not be available or accessible. Confessions will begin only at 11.30am and not at the regular time of 11am. Please take note of the change.

24 Dec: Christmas Carols at 5.30pm & 11pm

There will be Christmas Carols sung by the Adelaide Cathedral Parish Children's Choir at 5.30pm in the Cathedral followed by the 6pm Christmas Vigil family Mass on 24 December. Traditional Carols will be sung by the Cathedral Parish Choir at 11pm before the Christmas Midnight Mass All are welcome to attend. Please join in singing the familiar traditional Christmas Carols with the Choirs!

24/25 Dec: Christmas Appeal for the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry

The Otherway Centre is the home of the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry (ACM) and the cultural hub of Centacare. Money raised from the appeal funds activities that bring the community together and provide vital healing and yarning opportunities to strengthen cultural and spiritual connections. Located at Stepney, the Centre has been supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the wider community for more than 30 years. Your Christmas contributions to this important cause is greatly appreciated. A special collection will be held at all Christmas Masses to support the work of the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Christmas & New Year Time-Table 2022-23

The Christmas and New Year Timetable 2022-23 for all Masses is our Parish is now available on our website adelcathparish.org and includes Confession timings. Paper copies are also available in the foyer of all churches in our Parish.

Child Safe Environments Briefing 2022 Collection of Certificates

We would like to thank all our volunteers who enrolled for the Child Safe Environment Briefing in December. Your certificates are available for collection for the from the Sacristy of your respective churches. Kindly collect them this weekend.

Cathedral of St Francis Xavier, 39 Wakefield Street, Adelaide

ADELAIDE CATHEDRAL PARISH

Archbishop of Adelaide Archbishop Patrick O'Regan DD Administrator Fr. Anthoni Adimai SdM

Assistant Administrator Fr. Peter Rozitis

Latin Mass Chaplain Fr. Michael McCaffrey, FSSP

Parish Office (across the lawn from the Cathedral)

Mon to Fri: 9.30am-4.30pm • 8210 8155

39 Wakefield St (corner of Wakefield and King William St)

Adelaide SA 5000.

Mailing: GPO BOX 1364, Adelaide SA 5001.

acp@adelaide.catholic.org.au • www.adelcathparish.org

Parish newsletter: www.adelcathparish.org/news-events/weekly-newsletters.

Aboriginal Catholic Ministry

Otherway Centre 8362 3185

Cathedral Parish Music 8210 8128

Any emergency requiring a priest • 0417 080 955 Pastoral Care: Visitation and Communion can be arranged for parishioners who are ill. Please call the Office: 8210 8155.



Regular Mass Timings

REFER TO PARISH WEBSITE FOR DETAILED SCHEDULE OR SCAN THE QR CODE WITH YOUR PHONE CAMERA FOR OUR REGULAR AND CHRISTMAS TIMINGS

St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Adelaide

Sunday Masses Sat : 6pm(Vigil)

Sun: 7am, 9am, 11am, 2.30pm (African), 6pm

Weekday Masses Mon - Fri: 8am, 12.10pm & 5.45pm

Sat: 8am, 11.30am

Confessions Mon, Wed, Fri: 11-12 noon, 5-5.30pm

Sat: 12 noon-1pm, 4.30-5.30pm

Holy Hour Tues: 6.30pm, Fri: 11am

Public Holidays 8am Mass ONLY at the Cathedral

St Mary's, Lower North Adelaide

Tues and Fri: 8am Sun: 9.30am

Our Lady Queen of Angels, Thebarton

Wed: 8.30am (Mass suspended until further notice)

Sat: Confessions: 5.45pm | Vigil: 6pm

Sun: 9.30am

St John Vianney, Burnside

Tues and Thu: Mass: 9am | Confessions: 9.30am

Sun: 9am

St Peter Claver, Dulwich

Wed: 9am, Fri: 11am Confessions: 11.30am Sat: Confessions: 5.30pm | Vigil: 6pm

Sun: 11am

Holy Name, Stepney

Sun: 11am

St. Patrick, Grote Street, Adelaide

Sun: 10.30am (Croatian)

4.00pm (Portuguese) ONLY 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Kangaroo Island

Sun: Confessions: 9:00 am | Mass: 9.30 am

Please contact the Parish Office for Baptism & Wedding bookings.

WORSHIP

Entrance Antiphon: 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.

Responsorial Psalm: Let the Lord enter, He is king of glory.

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! A virgin will give

birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24.

Universal Prayer Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Communion Antiphon: Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.

Next week: Christmas Day

First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10. Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-6.

Gospel: John 1:1-18.

Mon Novena for Christmas.

Tue Novena for Christmas.

Wed St. Peter Canisius.

Thu Novena for Christmas.

Fri Novena for Christmas.

Sat Novena for Christmas/ Christmas Eve Masses

Sun Christmas Day.

Prayer Requests for the Deceased

Deceased Anniversaries: Bruce David McClane, Luigi Camerelli and Vesna Gregov.

Cathedral: Leonor & Emilio Solorzano, Vincente & Vincente Emilio Bassano, Giulano Di Francesco, Virginia DaSilva, and Mario Paglia.

Queen of Angels: Giovanni Batista and Fortunato Rillota.

St. Marys: Robin Storer and Ruth Power.

St. John Vianney/St. Peter Claver: Sydney Cochrane, Whippy family, Les Squire, Doris Painter, Ron Sen, Joyce Wickham, Lois Harding, Margaret Hawkins, Kathleen & David Law.

Prayers Requests for the Sick

June Cochrane, Kuranye Owen, Anton Sylvester, Antonio Romeo, Teresita Agravante, Angelina Musico, Amy Lopez, Julie Nelson, Elijah Oleta, Agnes Sobida Liat, Bebut & Stella Alquizola, Shamie Legaya, Msgr. Robert Egar, Richard Murphy, Charles Dias, Diana, Klevis Gjeluci, Emily Swan, Minguel Rodrigues, Vilma D'cruz, Joshua Jose, Letemichael Mender, Janet Gracey and Patricia Holdcroft.

23 Dec-8 Jan: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Recess

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St Peter Claver Church, Dulwich will go into the Christmas period recess after close of Exposition on Friday 23 December 2022, resuming Monday 9 January 2023.

23 Dec-2 Jan: Parish Office Closure

The Adelaide Cathedral Parish office will be closed from 12pm on 23 Dec 2022 and will reopen on 3 Jan as per normal Parish office hours. Please make your Mass offerings for this period before 23 Dec in case you need to. During this period, for an emergency requiring a priest please call the emergency number.

14-23 Jan: Road Closures in January 2023

There will be road closures around Victoria Square and Wakefield Street during the month of January due to the Santos Down Under Cycle Race. The weekends that are affected are 14/15th and 21st/22nd January 2023. Visit: https://tourdownunder.com.au/about/road-closures closer to the event dates for detailed information on road closures and traffic diversion. Please note the changes when planning to attend services at the Cathedral since there will be limited or no access if you are driving into the city during that period of time.

1 Feb: Synodality and Mission: Sr Nathalie Becquart in Adelaide

Sr. Nathalie Becquart is the Undersecretary for the General Synod in the Vatican which is responsible for the organisation of the 2023-24 Global Synod on Synodality. Sr. Nathalie will be in Adelaide on 1st Feb 2023, as part of a visit to Australia/Oceania. All are invited to the Sr Nathalie's presentation on synodality and mission at the Grange Golf Course which is from 5.30-8.30pm. Prior registration is essential. Please register online at www.trybooking.com/CEUOA by 27th Jan 2023. Visit www.adelaidediocesanassembly.org for more information.

Christmas Edition of the Southern Cross

The Christmas Edition of the Southern Cross is now available in the foyer of all churches in our Parish. Please take home a free copy today. Please note there will be no January issue of the Southern Cross.

Adelaide Cathedral Young Adults Group

The Adelaide Cathedral Young Adults Group invite the Youth of our Parish to join them each week in their Ministry of fellowship. They regularly meet on Sunday evenings after the 6pm Mass:

1st and 3rd Sundays: Choir for 6pm Mass

4pm - Choir Practice

6pm - Sunday Mass

7pm - Dinner in Chinatown

2nd and 4th Sundays: Group Meetings

6pm - Sunday Mass

7 - 8.30pm - Group gathering in the Cathedral Hall.

If you are interested to know more about the group and their activities, please contact Samantha David on 0404887964.

Pathways Snack-N-Chat

'Snack and Chat' opportunities for young people to gather, meet up with each other and informally consider your life's pathways whatever that may be. For further information contact jenny.seal@olshaustralia.org.au

Christmas Shopping at the Mary MacKillop Museum Gift Shop

The Mary MacKillop Museum Gift Shop has a Special Christmas gift stall during December. Handcrafted cards for Christmas, birthdays, anniversaries, bereavements, sacraments (Baptism, Confirmation, First Reconciliation, Communion and Marriage) are now available. Most of the above items are also available online: www.marymackillopadelaide.org.au A 'click and collect' option is available for those who would like to use it.

Palms Australia: Roll up your sleeves: make a difference overseas.

Do you require professional renewal, or are you seeking a retirement challenge? Communities abroad are asking for qualified and experienced Australians able to mentor their people in education, health, administration, trades, agriculture and more. Imagine yourself re-engaging your vocational passion in Africa, Asia or the Pacific.

Since 1961 Palms Australia has been recruiting Australians able to offer mentoring that will allow overseas counterparts opportunities otherwise unattainable. Sharing your skills will strengthen the capacity of workers overseas to serve their communities for generations to come, long after you return home.

Communities in American Samoa, Cambodia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Zambia are seeking to fill a variety of roles. Enquire about those roles via www.palms.org.au or by calling 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567.

A child's smile. A mother's joy. Yours to give this Christmas.



Christmas is a time of miracles – of hope and renewal.

Throughout rural Vietnam, children and families living with disabilities, like Mrs Lan and her children Quan and Loah, are less likely to be employed, and children are less likely to go to school. Mrs Lan's dreams for her children are simple. She wants them to "live like every other child, going to school, playing, having a happy life, and growing and learning like other children".

Through the generosity of our supporters, Quan and Loah joined a community-based classroom and learned to socialise with other children and found confidence in themselves. This Christmas, you can help create opportunities for children and adults with disabilities and to enable more families like Mrs Lan's to access resources to improve their income and living status.

Please join Caritas Australia's wonderful community of generous supporters this Christmas in giving loving parents of children with disabilities the incredible gift of seeing their children smile.

Visit www.caritas.org.au/christmas this Christmas or call 1800 024 413 toll free.

Latin Mass Community

Today there will be the Children's Christmas Play at 11am (Ellengowan Hall), and the Advent Carol Service at 8pm (St Patrick's Grote St).

Christmas movie night fundraiser – This Wed 21st December at 6.15pm at Palace Nova Eastend. *It's a Wonderful Life* starring Jimmy Stewart. "One of the greatest films ever made!" Tickets are \$21 for adults and \$16 for children under 14. All the info is in the link: https://www.trybooking.com/CEMKP Bookings essential.

2023 FSSP calendars (\$15) are now on sale at the bookstore.

Christmas Day Mass times:

Midnight Solemn Mass (Confessions from 10.30pm Carol singing from 11.30pm).

5am Sung Mass. 7am Low Mass. 9.15am Sung Mass.

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

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 website.

Please do not place any advertising material in the church without the prior permission of the chaplain. Thank you.

Please remember the sick in your prayers, especially Bill Mamo (Tina Marsh's brother), Kathryn Nader, Tony Caruso, Luise Obrist (Gaby Freer's mother), Vincenza Martucci (Ines Barson's mother). Please also remember the recently deceased, and also those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Adelaide Cathedral Parish School-Aged Sacramental Preparation Program

The Adelaide Cathedral parish will be conducting a preparation program in 2023 for the Sacraments of Initiation, including Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation. Candidates should be at least 8 years old in 2023.

The program will start with an introductory evening on Wednesday 22 February 2022. Parents who would like their child enrolled in this program or need further information should contact the Parish Office on 08 8210 8155 or email: acp@adelaide.catholic.org.au

Ideally, enrollments should be completed by the end of December 2022. Please note that the Parish office closes on 23 December at mid-day. If your child requires the sacrament of baptism, you will need to arrange an appointment to meet Fr. Anthoni Adimai, our parish administrator, before they can be enrolled in any other preparation program.

COVID-19 Protocols Update: 17 June 2022

- If you have tested positive for COVID-19 please follow the instructions as per SA Health in terms of government health protocols. <u>Please stay</u> <u>home and do not attend church services till you</u> <u>have fully recovered.</u> Sick and high risk/vulnerable people are requested to stay home and not attend services.
- The density requirement has been updated to full capacity in all churches and also includes funerals and weddings.
- Wearing of face-masks is not mandatory in Church but is strongly recommended by the Archbishop.
 Please carry your own mask if you plan to wear one.
 This includes all religious except when delivering a sermon.
- Hand sanitiser is available at church entrances.
 Kindly sanitse your hands before entering the church.
- Communion is given only in hands and Precious Blood will not be distributed.
- Holy Water is not available at the doors of churches.
- · Procession of gifts has resumed.
- Collection plates are to be passed around with minimum contact.
- All surfaces should be cleaned at least daily, with special attention given to frequently touched surfaces.

Cathedral Car Park and Staircase Driveway on the Cathedral lawns and Driveway in the Underground Car park

All pedestrians and parents with baby strollers must use ONLY the carpark staircase when entering and exiting the underground carpark. Using the carpark ramp as a pedestrian walkway or for baby strollers is a major safety hazard. Please avoid doing so. Please do not double park your car in the underground car park driveway. Blocking the safe entry and exit of vehicles during Weekend Masses and is a major safety hazard. Parking on the driveway of the Cathedral lawns is also prohibited at all times. Both the driveways (underground car park and on the lawns) must be free for movement of vehicles at all times.

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.

Synod of Bishops

The Church around the world has entered the Continental Stage for the Synod of Bishops on Synodality. Groups around the country are praying with and responding to the Document for the Continental Stage, which was published recently. Read the document and access the submission portal at: www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch