



PARISH NEWSLETTER

PARISH PRIEST: *Father Modestus Mgbaramuko*

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Sandgate Brighton Catholic Parish

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday (8:30am – 3:30pm)

CLOSED WEDNESDAYS

Parish Secretary: Liz Kelly

Finance: Andrea Barton

3rd Sunday of Advent – 17 December 2017

JOYFUL IN HOPE



MASS TIMES

WEEKDAY MASSES

Brighton

Monday: 9.15am

Sandgate

Tuesday: 7am

Thursday: 5.30pm

*Eucharistic Adoration
begins 12 noon Thursday
and continues after Mass
until 11pm.*

Friday: 7am

Regis Aged Care:

Tuesday: 10.30 am 19 Dec
(EJ Hall)

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday:

Eventide Chapel: 9.30am
Brighton Church: 6pm

Sunday:

Brighton: 7am
Sandgate: 9am & 5pm

Name Tag Sunday:

4th weekend of the month

Parish Council Meeting:

1st Thursday of the month

SCHOOL MASSES

St Kieran's School:

Date: 9am Thursday 1 Feb
Principal: TBA
Phone: 3269 5989

Sacred Heart School:

Date: TBA, 2018
A/Principal: Julian Cotter
Phone: 3269 3427



Reconciliation

Saturdays

Sandgate: 11.30am – 12pm

Brighton: 5pm (2nd Rite)

1st Saturday of the month.

Reconciliation is also
available by appointment.

If you were waiting the arrival of a dear friend, spouse or child; there's a feeling you get as the touchdown of the flight is sounded through the lounge speakers at the airport. Hopeful? Indeed, I say: excited and joyful!

This Sunday evokes a similar kind of feeling in us, because it brings us more than halfway to Christmas proper. The Church has called it the '*Gaudete*' (i.e. *rejoicing*) Sunday!

Making ready for a Christmas-at-hand may still come with some worries as we attempt to do our best to remain in good health. Getting ready to have the house crowded with people at this time, tidying the decorations, doing the Christmas shopping, putting out the family calls, mailing out the cards, etc.

Some of these happy things of Christmas can also make one a bit anxious. But not to worry; our Advent hope must remain joyful. Its joy and gladness should overshadow the little troubles.

The ABC Radio runs their beautiful afternoon program which they call "Spirit of things". My thoughts often wonder from there to Jesus who had, not just a 'spirit of things', but 'the Spirit of the Lord' fully given to him. The joy of this period is therefore, founded on a deep awareness of the person of the 'Emmanuel', the God who is with us.

Such a presence and such an interior witness of the Spirit of God upon us, can turn us around in the lead-up to this Christmas and beyond. It can rekindle the dialogue between us and others.

Notwithstanding how many Advent seasons and Christmases that we have had or missed, each year brings us a fresh joyful Christmas; and very Advent triggers up in us a new invitation to renewal of life. Here again comes the sustained witness of John the

Baptist, which follows from his invitation to us for a 'baptism of repentance' last Sunday.

Today, the witness of the Evangelist John, deepens Mark's testimony as proclaimed to us last Sunday. The account of John's gospel on the Baptist's witness has greater depths. Besides the 'all Jerusalem and all the people of Judea' who flocked to John in the Jordan (Mk 1:6), there was particularly, 'the Jews of Jerusalem' who sent 'priests and Levites' to question John (Jn1:19).

The religious and political sensitivities raised around the Baptist, provides additional weight to John's solemn declaration: "I am not the Christ!" We are therefore called to find the real Christ this Christmas, and to be with him.

We can manifest anew, the joy of our enviable, yet gracious Christmas possession. We can re-echo and re-live prophecy about the Christ-Child. Yes, we can live this blessed season of Advent and its nearby Christmas in such ways that we too, can truly hymn in our hearts: "I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, and wrapped me in the cloak of righteousness".

Let the touching and joyful witnesses to faith in Jesus rebrand us. But may it never be said about us during this Christmas, what John told the ruling authorities of his day: "There is one among you whom you do not recognise; ...the strap of his sandals, I am not worthy to unfasten (Jn1:26)". May we recognise Jesus Christ afresh this Christmas.

Fr Modestus





PARISH NEWSLETTER



WELCOME! If you are new to the Parish or are visiting, we are glad you have come to share Eucharist with us today. New Parishioner cards which can be left on the collection plate are at the rear of the Church. Welcome!

BRISBANE NORTH EAST DEANERY YOUNG ADULTS: Come and join other young adults from the deanery for an end of year social dinner on **Sunday 17 December** 6.30pm at The Full Moon Hotel, Sandgate. You can RSVP at Facebook @BNEDYA email bnedya@mail.com or contact Jess on 0411 421 316.

REGIS CHRISTMAS MASS: On **Tuesday 19 December** at 10.30am we are celebrating Christmas with our parishioners who live a Regis. **We URGENTLY** need volunteers to help get people to Mass. We need children, teenagers and adults to round out our celebration. Please contact Caren if you can help on 0401 072 431.

SIMBANG GABI 2017: The Catholic Australian-Filipino Community of Brisbane North invites all to Holy Mass on **Friday 22 December** at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Church. Christmas Carols from 7pm. During the Mass there will be a collection for the pastoral work in Marawi and a supper in the Parish Hall will follow. Please bring a plate. All Welcome!

WORKING BEE: We are looking for parishioners who are available to clean chairs and set up the extra chairs required for the expected large number attending the Brighton Christmas Vigil Mass. The working bee will begin at 8am on Saturday **23 December** – All Welcome!

PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH: If you would like to join our parish family for Christmas Day lunch - we welcome you with open arms. If your family is small and you are looking for a larger family to celebrate with - we welcome you. Thanks to all who have kindly donated toward this lunch. If you would like to help out in any way - your time, your cooking or making skills, your entertainment talents or your financial support please contact the Parish office or Frankie on 0414 011 906 or Caren on 0401 072 431.

ROSTERS OVER CHRISTMAS: Will you be around for Christmas? Are you able to assist as a Eucharistic Minister/Reader/Altar Server for our celebrations? **If so, could you please advise your availability on the sheets at the back of the church.**

IS GOD'S WILL IN YOUR WILL? Including the church in your Will teaches others about sharing God's love. With your wishes expressed in a Will, the ministries of Sandgate Brighton Catholic Parish, for which you care deeply, can be blessed through your estate. Your gift can also impact our parish in perpetuity by giving a gift to our parish endowment fund. Contact the Catholic Foundation 3324 3200 for more information or call the parish office.

ATTENTION ALL PARISH VOLUNTEERS: Have you filled out a Volunteer Data Form, Code of Ethical Behaviour Form and Confidentiality Form? Forms are available in the yellow Volunteer pouch on the noticeboard at the back of the church. Any queries, please contact Andrea Barton in the Parish Office. Thanks in advance for your co-operation.

PARISH DINNER 2017: Thanks to all for your wonderful support of the Parish Dinner in October.

We are pleased to announce a profit of \$4,200!

CHRISTMAS MASS: Below is an outline of Christmas program throughout the parish. This is also posted on the parish noticeboards and website.

Last Reconciliation before Christmas
11.30am **Saturday 16 December** (Sandgate)

Christmas Vigil
5pm **Sunday 24 December** (Brighton)

Midnight Mass (Sandgate)
Midnight **Sunday 24 December**
Carols from 11.30pm

Christmas Day
9am **25 December** (Sandgate)

OFFER YOURSELF: This is the time of year to consider seriously your commitment of time within your parish. We have lots of openings – Eucharistic ministers, readers, cleaners, counters, altar servers etc. There are parishioners who have selflessly served the parish for years. They grow older. They have to step aside for health reasons. How about you? Will you put your hand up to serve? You won't always have the health to serve in these ways, so **DO IT NOW.** Contact the Parish Office – offer yourself!

BRIGHTON VINNIES CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: The Vinnies Christmas Appeal raised \$300 for our **Brighton** Conference. Thank-you for your contributions which will help us provide some extra assistance to those who call on us.

The Vinnies Raffle of the embroidered quilt raised \$367. The first winner generously donated the prize to be re-drawn and the winner is Ivy Bruce. Thank you to all who bought tickets.

REVISED MASS SCHEDULE: Following our Christmas celebrations, Fr Modestus will return home for his annual leave. During this time, a reduced Mass schedule will be in place. A complete copy will be posted on the Church doors and noticeboards. Fr John Worthington will return to the parish to celebrate weekend Masses. We thank you all for your anticipated consideration during this time.

NO SPARE CHANGE? Why not try the digital collection plate using direct debit or credit card? Forms are available at the back of the church, on the parish website or contact the parish office. Thank you.

COLUMBARIUM AND MEMORIAL WALL: The Parish Columbarium is available to provide a permanent resting place for parishioners and their families who have chosen to be cremated. The Memorial wall offers the opportunity to place a memorial plaque in remembrance of loved ones buried or interred elsewhere. To reserve a niche or plaque space, please contact the Parish Office.

WEEKLY PARISH ACTIVITIES

CHRISTMAS CHOIR: Practice for Christmas Masses will continue **7.30pm Tuesdays** at Sacred Heart Church. All Welcome!

- * 20,000 young people gather in Sydney to meet Jesus Christ
- * Archbishop offers Mary as a model for young people at Australian Catholic Youth Festival
- * Royal Commission gives scathing report on child abuse in Ballarat diocese
- * New congregation of religious sisters considering a move to Brisbane
- * St Gerard Majella Church wins top prize in 4KQ Christmas Lights competition
- * Murri Ministry has a simple Christmas wish looking ahead to 2018
- * Catholic aged-care facility on Sunshine Coast breaking new ground with church connection wins national award
- * Man's best friend is young woman's rescuer in recuperation from mental illness
- * 'Yes' is the key word for couples in marriage
- * Brisbane to host one of Church's most celebrated parish coaches at Proclaim 2018
- * BONUS: Ozcare 2018 calendar
- * PLUS: A Regional Focus on Toowoomba diocese

PARISH ROSTER

Volunteers strengthen the bonds of community life and make God's reign visible in our midst. We thank you.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD	16-17 December	23-24 December
6pm Saturday Brighton	H Boon J Rosenberg C Hickey	P Ryan TBA J Moore
7am Sunday Brighton	M Thompson F Edwards I Bruce	F Shepherd P Pehrson F Edwards
9am Sunday Sandgate	R Corias C Murdoch TBA	D Purtill A Milvydas TBA
5pm Sunday Sandgate	M Judd B Fallis TBA	Youth
EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTERS	16-17 December	23-24 December
6pm Saturday Brighton	C Rosenberg K Stronias	E Harte C Hickey P Madden
7am Sunday Brighton	B Gaffney F Edwards P Madden	V O'Brien D Price P Cross
9am Sunday Sandgate	J Murdoch J Audibert L Kelly	N Eyles J Murdoch
5pm Sunday Sandgate	D Mitchell P Morrison	P Morrison B Fallis
ALTAR SERVERS	16-17 December	23-24 December
6pm Saturday Brighton	A Thiel P Stronias	J Edwards
7am Sunday Brighton	H Peters	TBA
9am Sunday Sandgate	I Treanor S Treanor L Fosita A Grealy	K Andes-Olsson M Delia M Armitage
5pm Sunday Sandgate	B Gunn K Copsey	M Tate J Buensalida
CHURCH CLEANING	16 December	23 December
Brighton	M Bernard	L Lopez
Sandgate	M Neilson	C McLaren
HOSPITALITY	17 December	24 December
7am Sunday Brighton	M Thompson D Price	M Thompson F Edwards
9am Sunday Sandgate	Sacred Heart Parents	Couples for Christ
CHILDREN'S LITURGY	17 December	24 December
9am Sunday Sandgate	A Hennessy M Carter	A Hennessy M Carter
COUNTERS	18 December	27 December
Parish Office	M Neilson A Finch	D Madden R Mahon
ADORATION ROSTER	DECEMBER: 11.45am Exposition – D Mitchell/J Audibert, 5pm Reposition – V O'Brien, 10.45pm Reposition –F Shepherd/ Fr Modestus	
BAPTISM PREPARATION	February—	
DINNER IN THE PARK	23 December— F Edwards Delpote Family B Fallis	

READINGS: (YEAR B)

	3rd Sunday of Advent	4th Sunday of Advent
First Reading	Is 61:1-2, 10-11	2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16
Psalms:	Lk 1:46-50, 53-54. R. Isa 60:10Ps 88:2-5, 27, 29. R. cf. v.2	
Second Reading	Thes 5:16-24	Rom 16:25-27
Gospel	Jn 1:6-8, 19-28	Lk 1:26-38

3rd Sunday of Advent: REJOICING IN GOD, OUR SAVIOUR. Christmas is a feast of joy and light. We celebrate God who comes to dwell among us and save us. With the prophet Isaiah, we exult for joy to the Lord. With Mary, our spirits rejoice in God our saviour. We do not deny the pain and evil that exist in the world, but we rejoice in the knowledge that nothing can come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Val BOEVINK, Annette BOYER, Genevieve CANNON, Agnes CHARNLEY, Lee CONSTABLE, David DOWLING, Darryl GLEESON, Marjorie GLEESON, Thomas HARTE, Helen HOGAN, Kellin HYDE, John JAMES, Pauline JOHNSON, Win JOHNSON, Chloe MASON, Tarryn MCDERMOTT, Jason MORPHETT, Maria PASHEN, Margaret PERIL, Christina PETERS, Eileen RANKIN, Colin ROBINSON, Kathy ROZIC, John SHEPHERD, Kay SIMPSON, David THOMSON, Samantha TSALIKIS, Susan WILKE, Dianne WILLIAMS and Valerie WORKMAN.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE ETERNAL REPOSE OF THE SOULS: We pray for Sr Clare MULCAHY RSM, Bishop John GERRY, Sr Mary Anne O'CONNOR RSM, Tony GUNN who died recently and for Bill FLANNERY, Vernon POWER, and whose anniversaries occur around this time.

RESPONSE: (Lk 1:46-50, 53-54. R. Isa 60:10) My soul rejoices in my God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (Isa 61:1 (Lk 4:18) Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia, alleluia.

MYSTERY OF FAITH: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: (Isa 35:4) Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

ENTRANCE HYMN: THIS IS OUR ACCEPTABLE TIME

REFRAIN:

***This is our acceptable time!
This is our day of salvation!
This is our acceptable time,
It will be the day of the Lord!***

Gather you people! Return to your God!
Trusting His mercy and goodness again!
Give him your heart! Open your eyes!
See how your Saviour comes! ®

Listen, my people, when you were a child,
out of your bondage I called you to me!
But when I called you walked away!
How could I part with you? ®

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PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

REFRAIN:

***Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.***

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. ®

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. ®

Bernadette Farrell. OCP
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VOCATION VIEW: There was a man sent by God, who came as a witness to testify to the Light, so that through this person all people might believe. Is your name in the Gospel today?

COMMUNION HYMN: SHEPHERD ME, O GOD

REFRAIN:

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.***

God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
I walk by the quiet waters of peace. ®

Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,
my spirit shall sing the music of your Name. ®

Though I should wander the valley of death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. ®

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RECESSIONAL: JOYFUL IN HOPE

Joyful in hope, your people pray.
Joyful in hope, we're on our way
Though the road may not be clear,
we believe, Lord, you are near,
in the smile and open heart of a friend.

Joyful in hope, your people pray
Joyful in hope, we're on our way.
There's sunshine after rain;
there's laughter after pain;
and I am with you always, so rise again.

Mary, so open to the Lord,
when you answered "Yes",
our hope was restored.
Though you couldn't understand,
in trust you took his hand.
So, joyful in hope, we live again.

Michael Herry & Spectrum Publications
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The
Jesse Tree
is an Advent tradition
named after Jesse,
the father of King David.
Biblical symbols representing the
ancestry of Jesus,
either in faith or bloodline,
are added one by one onto a tree.
As each ornament is
added, a Bible verse is read to
explain the symbol. There is one ornament
for each
day in
Advent.



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