



Lord, it is wonderful
for us to be here.

PARISH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION, NORTH WODEN

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12-13 Dec., The Third Sunday of Advent (Year B)

WEEKDAY AND WEEKEND MASSES, LITURGY and RECONCILIATION TIMES:

Monday	9.30 am Curtin
Tuesday	9.30 am Curtin
Wednesday	9.30am Curtin – Liturgy of the Word and Communion
Thursday	5.30pm Curtin
Friday	9.30am Curtin (incl. Anointing of the Sick on First Friday)
Saturday	Reconciliation 5.00-5.30pm Curtin; Mass 6.00pm Curtin
Sunday	9.30am Curtin, 5.30 pm Curtin

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: My soul rejoices in my God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

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

MAY THE DECEASED REST IN PEACE AND RISE IN EASTER GLORY

Recently Deceased: Marisa Chupin, Mungo MacCallum, Jim Neill, Jack Stewart, Andrea Wheeler, Nicola Sheehan, Ida Feld (housekeeper to former PP of Garran, Msgr John Kelly), Steve James, Gordon Channell, Nell Stenning, Billy Jo Shaver, Alexis Saaghy, Andy Quaine, Patricia Barass, Louise Tarlinton, Fred Deananeas, Tess Clarke, Kevin Robinson, Florian Falez, Susan Ryan, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Helen Reddy, Joan Allan, Sebastian Webb, John Fahey, Tony Patterson, Maria Pullin (sister of Bishop Pat).

Anniversaries of Death: Judith Whittaker, Teresa Couacoud, Peter Marlow, Margaret Frawley, Canico Gusmao Belo, John Holtzapffel, Lewis Mesaros, Peter Majer, Domenica D., Oreste Trinca, Friedrich Lueth, Helen Day, Nick Dulay, Jose Infante, Valerie Mills, Pat Ryan and Jack Ryan, Melanie Swan, Jeanette Webster, Nicanor Pazcoguín, Paul Murphy, Sr John Keenan RSM, Sr Germaine RSM, Marie Pugh, Marjory Swan, Tony O'Donnell, Pam Dewhurst

MAY THE SICK BE COMFORTED BY OUR PRAYERS

Eileen Cooper, Jeffrey Harris, Peta Doyle, Nick Palethorpe, Mark Williams, Michael Baker, Andrea Miller, Grayham Rundle, John O'Connor, Kyra Berger, Ian McDonald, Jim and Maureen Daly, Mark Tirrikainen, Fr Laurie Blake, Emma Lowe, Rose Winstanley, Joseph Garside, those afflicted with Corona virus, Bella Davison, Leah Yaxley, John Kololo, Frederick Schinkel, Maree Peters, Witlock family, Timothy Francis Roberts, Rosa B Nguyen, Lourdes A Bautista.

TO LISTEN AND TO RESPOND

We balk at change. If present circumstances are to our advantage, chances are we will oppose change. The latter understanding saw the Pharisees send their representatives from Jerusalem to question John about his baptising in the Jordan. Was John a threat to their status? Up front, they saw that his lifestyle and appearance were at odds with his father Zechariah, a rural priest. So, he does not respect family and tradition! Further, and reflecting the early Church's desire to downplay John's role in relation to that of Jesus, our Gospel has John insist that he is not the Messiah, and neither is he Elijah returned or one like Moses who would herald the Messianic age. Rather he is a "*voice crying in the wilderness*". John's baptism was one of repentance in preparation for the coming of the Messiah, mindful that baptism or purification by water was common in Judaism and other traditions of antiquity. **In other words, John is not the main character; he will play his part and then exits stage left.** For now the religious authorities are satisfied that John is no more than a 'lone ranger' and no threat to them. **However, as John notes, the religious authorities would not recognise the one who "*stands among you . . . the one who is coming after me*".** When Jesus began his public ministry, he took the words of Isaiah from our First Reading to indicate the nature and scope of his mission. **He called to true freedom by conversion of mind and heart.** In time, the religious authorities who questioned John saw that Jesus threatened the status quo. In collusion with the political authorities, they were to do away with him. **However, before we too quickly dismiss the religious and political authorities as the 'bad guys', might we not ask ourselves whether**

we recognise Jesus standing amongst us and calling us to a change of mind and heart? *“If the message proclaimed by the Church is not in some sense a message of freedom, as well as a summons to conversion, then it has failed to be truly ‘Gospel’ (Brendan Byrne SJ).* The Gospel either inspires or leaves us indifferent. Besides John the Baptist, another person who heard and responded to the movement of God’s Spirit before exiting stage left was **Joseph, the husband of Mary and the foster-father of Jesus. Pope Francis reflects on this righteous man in his most recent Apostolic Letter (copies available in the foyer).** *“Often in life, things happen that we do not understand. Our first reaction is one of disappointment and rebellion. Joseph set aside his own ideas in order to accept the course of events and, mysterious as they seemed, to embrace them, taking responsibility for them and making them a part of his own history. Unless we are reconciled with our own history, we will be unable to take a single step forward, for we will always remain hostage to our expectations and the disappointments that follow.”* Fr John

ADVENT – PREPARING A WAY

Please note the remaining and extended **RECONCILIATION (Confession)** times during Advent: 10-10.30am, Tues 15 and 22 December and 4.30-5.30pm Sat 12 and 19 December

EXPOSITION, ADORATION AND BENEDICTION: 7.30-8.30pm, Fri 18 December

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES - Christmas Vigil: 6pm (On the HT school grounds) and 9pm HT; **Christmas Day:** 8am HT and 10am HT.

CHRISTMAS MASSES ASSISTANCE: roster sheet is available in the church foyer if you can assist with Christmas Masses.

COVID UPDATE: With the parish having the CBR app and social distancing reduced from four to two (2) square metres, a congregation of up to 250 is permitted in Holy Trinity. This will increase to 300 with extra seating for the 9pm Vigil and 8am and 10am Christmas Day Masses; the 6pm Vigil on the school basketball court (sanctuary) and grass (congregation on rugs or folding chairs) will cater for up to 500. In the church, you can sit in any pew but social distancing must be respected. For Christmas Masses attendees will be ‘counted’ as they enter the church, until and if the permissible total is reached. We have opted for counting-in as previous calls for registration via trybooking.com.au or phoning the Parish Office received a very poor response. **ALL must sign in before entering the Church or to attend the outside Christmas Eve Mass.**

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPERS: Your gifts of non-perishable food for hampers to be distributed locally can be left in the container under the right-side overhead screen adjacent to Our Lady’s shrine. Thank you in anticipation of your past generosity.

PRAYERFUL CONGRATULATIONS to Luca S, Nicholas L, Timothy L, Xander H (6pm Vigil); Imogen T, Stella A, Archie D, Poppy W (9.30am Sun); Mathilde S, Alexia V, Milla-Rose C, Amelia G (5.30pm Sun) who gather with their families to celebrate First Holy Communion this weekend.

‘CATHOLIC VOICE’: Advent print edition available in church foyer.

PLANNED GIVING: Please note that credit card donations will be processed on Wed. 23 Dec., and not Fri. 25 Dec. (Christmas Day).

PARISH MEDITATION GROUP meet weekly. Details Vikki McDonough, mulvaney@netspeed.com.au or 0437 876 487.

Prayer Circle Support: Cathy Harris, 6281 2574.

Readings for next Sunday: 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Rom 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38.

LITURGICAL ROSTERS NEXT WEEK: 19-20 Dec., The Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year B)			
<i>3rd Sunday of the Month</i>	Curtin Sat. 6pm	Curtin Sun. 9.30 am	Curtin Sun. 5.30 pm
Acolyte	Dan McKay	Stafferd Fernandez	Mark Murphy
Servers			Ava & Ella Morris
Reader	Emma Fairfax	Marie Doherty	Anne Maher
Commentator	Emma Fairfax	Michael Wilcock	
Welcomer	Kim Hofmeier	Margaret Ryan	
Communion to Sick	St Andrew’s: No visits at this time	Fred Ward: No visits at this time	Homes: No visits at this time
Collectors	J David	Volunteer required	G Nash
Collection Counters	Michael Higgins		

