# Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here.

## PARISH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION, NORTH WODEN

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# 19-20 Dec., The Fourth 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**: 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.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia! **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**: Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

# MAY THE DECEASED REST IN PEACE AND RISE IN EASTER GLORY

<u>Recently Deceased</u>: Audrey Stilling, Tom Hayward, Eileen Cooper, 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).

<u>Anniversaries of Death</u>: Chris Perkins, Joanne Binutti, 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.

## MAY THE SICK BE COMFORTED BY OUR PRAYERS

Fred Schinkel, 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.

# NOT 'THEM' AND 'THOSE', BUT ONLY 'US'

With Mary we approach Christmas and the New Year saying 'yes' to the future in spite of or perhaps because of our many questions (cf today's Gospel). In his latest encyclical, 'Fraternity and Social Friendship' (3 October 2020) Pope Francis invites us to learn from the COVID pandemic. He notes:

"The pain, uncertainty and fear, and the realisation of our own limitations, brought on by the pandemic have only made it all the more urgent that we rethink our styles of life, our relationships, the organisation of our societies and, above all, the meaning of our existence.

If everything is connected, it is hard to imagine that this global disaster is unrelated to our way of approaching reality, our claim to be absolute masters of our lives and all that exists. I do not want to speak of divine retribution, nor would it be sufficient to say that the harm we do to nature is itself the punishment of our offences. The world itself is crying out in rebellion. We are reminded of the well-known verse of the poet Virgil that evokes the "tears of things", the misfortunes of life and history. All too quickly, however, we forget lessons of history, "the teacher of life" (Cicero). Once this health crisis passes, our worst response would be to plunge even more deeply into feverish consumerism and new forms of egoistic self-preservation. God willing, after all this, we will no longer think in terms of "them" and "those", but only "us".

Christmas is about God becoming one with us, all of us and for all time. May the gift of peace be nurtured in the depth of our hearts, and reflected in our deeds and words for a more loving and just world.

Fr John

### **ADVENT – PREPARING A WAY**

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

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

**CHRISTMAS MASS MINISTRIES:** We need your assistance with a number of ministries at our Christmas Masses. Today is your last chance to put your name down to assist. See the vacancies for each Mass on the stand-alone table in the foyer.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPERS distributed this weekend. Thank you for your generosity.

**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.** 

**THANK YOU** to the organisers and those who attended our parish social gatherings after the 6pm Vigil and 9.30am Masses. Such occasions, as well as the Friday post Mass cuppa auger well for community building in 2021.

**FR JAMES ONOJA:** Archbishop Christopher has appointed Fr James Chaplain to both Calvary Hospital and to the African community. Fr James will take up residence in the O'Connor Presbytery early January.

ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL will be taken up at all Christmas Masses. Funds raised will support the ecumenical Christmas Bowl appeal and its work in Australia and overseas. Assistance will also be distributed to the Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese; to the Dicoese of Otukpo, Nigeria (where Frs James, Martins and George are from); to Thamarassery, India; and to Gizo PNG. Funds will also assist work with the poor of the La Salette Matha province and the Society of the Oblates of the Sacred Heart in India, and students at Bethlehem University in the Holy Land. Thank you for your support.

**PRAYERFUL CONGRATULATIONS** to Thomas W (6pm Vigil); Oliver W, Mark M, Ethan D (9.30am Sun); Jacob P, Alyssa B (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**: Gen 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Col 3:12-21; Luke 2:22-40.

LITURGICAL ROSTERS NEXT WEEK: 26-27 Dec., The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph (Year B)			
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Montl	Curtin Sat. 6pm	Curtin Sun. 9.30 am	Curtin Sun. 5.30 pm
Acolyte	Gary Parker	Long Nguyen	Darryl Kite
Servers			
Reader	V Ciuffetelli	Margaret Ryan	K Anderson
Commentator	Nedra Kelaart	Denis Howden	
Welcomer	Margaret Williams	Jeannette Clarke	
Communion to Sick	St Andrew's: New roster Jan.	Fred Ward: New roster Jan.	Homes: New roster Jan. 2021
Collectors	J David	Volunteer required	Volunteer required
<b>Collection Counters</b>	Rosemary O'Mally, Bryan Stevens		

Parish office hours: Monday 9am-3.30pm, Wednesday 9am-4.30pm and Friday 9am-3.30pm (excluding public holidays).