



Lord, it is wonderful  
for us to be here.

## PARISH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION, NORTH WODEN

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### 10-11 December 2022, Third Sunday of Advent, Year A

#### WEEKDAY AND WEEKEND MASSES, LITURGY and RECONCILIATION TIMES:

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

#### CHRISTMAS MASSES:

##### Saturday 24 December

- Vigil Mass, 6pm, outdoors  
(weather permitting)

- Night Mass, 9pm

##### Sunday 25 December

- Dawn Mass, 8am

- Morning Mass, 10am

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

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Lord, come and save us

**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:** Mary Milton, Robynne Morton, Ramil S. Cruz, Roderick M. Pagdanganan, West Java earthquake victims, Sharon Woods, Fr Peter Maher, Nessa Delaney, Scott Roberts, Leodegario Alimangohan, Veronica Sen, Adam Ryan, Laurence Patrick Bennett, Greg Cusack, victims of Korean 'crush', victims of Indian bridge collapse, Peggy Down, Maynell Lindsay, Mary Phillips, Karene McEachin, Janet Coombs, Claire Sankey, Susanna Kopsiewicz, Doug Fitzpatrick, David Smyth, Charles Rennie, Margaret McDonald, Pauline Kinnane, Anne Taylor, Mary Taylor, Patricia Jack, Felicisima Villafuerte, Erlinda Dulay, victims of war in Ukraine and victims of COVID.

**Anniversaries of Death:** Margaret Cusack, Brian Brown, Joanne Binutti, Judith Whittaker, Jodi Johnson, Christopher Perkins, John Holtzapffel, Peter Malow, Vincent Huang, Ellen Stening, Peter Majer, William Joseph Madden, Bali bombing victims, Denzil Gomez, Josh McKinnon, Nicostrato Dulay, Melanie Swan, Frank and Gerry Smith, Pat and Jack Ryan, Paul Murphy, Alan Jones, Leo Morrissey, Barney Crowe, Winifred Mona Spargo, and victims of COVID.

#### MAY THE SICK BE COMFORTED BY OUR PRAYERS

Julianna Maher, Jack Kennelly, Susie Menadue, Philomena Fisher, Rajan Fernandez, Kathleen Belfanti, Ljubica Gotovac, Jose Arquero, Olga Johnson, Patricia Zorzi, Wendy Altimore, Karen Lloyd, David Swan, John O'Connor, Grant Brookes, John Grant, Rosa Winstanley, Bill Byrne, John Manning, John Della Libera, Iole Cicolini, Gaie Ross, James Biddle, Carolyn Wightman, Peter McDade, Lorraine King, Greg Geering, Chandrika, Anselm and Venura Grero and those afflicted with COVID.

#### A PART OF THE BEACHHEAD

Today's readings are all hopeful. Do not be afraid, be patient. All will be well. Then we have John the Baptist in gaol. Forget this being patient business! What's happening now? And so, he asks his followers to inquire directly of Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we wait for another?" John is a 'yes' or 'no' character. Jesus does not respond with 'yes' or 'no'. Indeed, Jesus was not the fiery preacher of judgement predicted by John but rather a healer who imparted God's mercy. Further, in response to John's disciples' inquiry, Jesus says look at the healing miracles of his ministry and you decide. **Then and now, evangelisation is invitation not imposition.** The prophet Isaiah had identified those miracles as ushering in the messianic age. So too a recently published Dead Seas scroll text (the 'Messianic Apocalypse') references very similar wonders as synonymous with the messianic age. Jesus would have been aware of this and lets folk ponder: "If my activity is 'messianic', then what is that saying about who I am?" (Brendan Byrne). The dye is cast and as the year progresses we will be called to encounter anew who Jesus is and just what that means for us. **Meanwhile, an issue with the miracles of Jesus is that they impacted a very, very select few. What of those many millions afflicted down to our present day?** Brendan Byrne addresses that point when he notes:

*“The messianic age has dawned in the first coming of Jesus but it is by no means fully arrived . . . The miracles are but a sign of God’s ultimate will for humankind – a kind of “beachhead” of the Kingdom to give us hope.”* Finally, why does Jesus both praise John yet claim that the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he? Their greatness is not a comparative moral judgement but rather an attempt to awaken a sense of the richness to which he is calling them (us). **Meanwhile, perhaps I should consider how best to witness to the beachhead of Jesus’ first coming as the source of our founded hope now and into the future?** Fr John

**REGIONAL SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION:** You are invited to gather with parishioners from South Woden and Weston Creek for the Advent Second Rite, 6pm, Wednesday, 14 December, Sacred Heart, Pearce.

**CHRISTMAS ROSTERS:** While Christmas Masses will be celebrated over Saturday 24 and Sunday 25, the times are different to our usual weekend Mass times. Besides, a number of parishioners will be away. **Might you therefore add your name to the Christmas Masses Roster in the foyer, noting also, the need for assistance with setting up for the outdoor Mass at 2pm, Christmas Eve.**

**CHRISTMAS TRANSFIGURATION NEWSLETTER** is available at the exits. Pick up a copy today and read of some parishioners work behind the scenes and ‘front of house’.

**UKRAINE APPEAL:** The Australian Catholic Bishops seek our support of the Advent Appeal for the needs of the people in Ukraine. You can contribute at the end of Mass to the collection bowl under the right-side overhead screen or at your leisure via the Qkr App under ‘N Woden Parish’, then ‘ACG Collections’.

**ST VINCENT De PAUL:** Christmas Appeal is now open. Food suitable for hampers will be most welcome. Cash donations can be made through the poor box or by envelope found in the church foyer. It is expected that 50 large hampers will be needed during this difficult cost-of-living time.

**NORTH CANBERRA ECUMENICAL CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES, initiative of Holy Rosary Catholic, Holy Cross Anglican and St. Margaret’s Uniting Churches:** (1) Exhibition of 200 Nativity scenes, Fri 9, 12pm – 5pm, Sat 10, 10am-7pm, Mon 11, 9am-5pm, St Margaret’s Hall, cnr Antill & Phillip Ave, Hackett; (2) Join ‘Looking Glass Percussion’ consisting of members of the Canberra Symphony Orchestra and others for a fee concert, Sat 10, 7pm, Holy Cross Church, Antill St, Hackett; (3) Ecumenical Sausage Sizzle and Carols, 6.30pm, Sun 11, St Margaret’s and Holy Cross Church grounds, Hackett.

**NEW YEAR’S PRAYER VIGIL:** This initiative of the Marian Movement of Priests will be held at St Brigid’s, Bancroft Street, Dickson, commencing at 8pm and concluding with Benediction before midnight. All welcome.

**PARISH YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR:** Are you interested in working with PYC’s in developing youth and young adult faith formation initiatives, building pathways into the life of the local parish community? For info go to [www.cgyouth.org.au](http://www.cgyouth.org.au) or E: [youth@cg.org.au](mailto:youth@cg.org.au)

**PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM:** the monthly BPOINT deduction for credit card planned givers falls on Christmas day; please note that the December deduction will be made on Wed., 21 Dec. 2022. Thanks to all who support the initiative by attending or by donation.

**MEDITATION GROUP:** 6pm, Wednesdays. All welcome. Contact Vikki, 0437 876 487, [mulvaney@netspeed.com.au](mailto:mulvaney@netspeed.com.au).

**PRAYER CIRCLE SUPPORT:** Cathy Harris, 6281 2574.

**Readings for next Sunday:** 17-18/12, Fourth Sunday of Advent (Yr A), Is 7:10-14, Rom 1:1-7, Matt 1:18-24.

<b>LITURGICAL ROSTERS NEXT WEEK:</b>			
<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month</i>	<b>Curtin Sat. 6 pm</b>	<b>Curtin Sun. 9.30 am</b>	<b>Curtin Sun. 5.30 pm</b>
<b>Acolyte</b>	Dan McKay	Stafferd Fernandez	Mark Murphy
<b>Server</b>			Ava and Ella Morris
<b>Reader</b>	Emma Fairfax	Volunteer required	Volunteer required
<b>Commentator</b>	Emma Fairfax	Volunteer required	
<b>Welcomer</b>	Kim Hofmeier	Volunteer required	
<b>Ministers of Comm.</b>	Christine McLaughlin, Nedra Kelaart	Anne Perera, Juliana Maher	Lyn Granlund
<b>Communion to Sick</b>	St Andrew’s: Morna Falkland	Fred Ward Emma Fairfax	Homes: J & B Ryan
<b>Collectors</b>	J David	Alan and Max Grinsell-Jones	G Nash
<b>Collection Counters</b>	<i>19 Dec.</i> Michael Higgins		
<b>Wednesday Liturgy</b>	<i>14 Dec.</i> Prayer Leader: Alex Eysers	Eucharistic Minister: M Crane & J O’Connor	