



Lord, it is wonderful
for us to be here.

PARISH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION, NORTH WODEN

Monsignor John Woods PP Phone (02) 6281 3999 Email: wodennorth@cg.org.au
Holy Trinity Church, Parish Office and Presbytery, 3 Strangways Street, Curtin
Ss Peter and Paul Church, Boake Place, Garran. <http://cg.org.au/wodennorth>

24-25 December 2022, The Nativity of the Lord, Christmas

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: The Lord said to me: You are my Son. It is I who have begotten you this day.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.

MAY THE DECEASED REST IN PEACE AND RISE IN EASTER GLORY

Recently Deceased: Katie Smith, Bill Byrne, Dao Jensen, Margaret Linden, Shooting victims in Qld, 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, victims of war in Ukraine and victims of COVID.

Anniversaries of Death: Noel Lane, David Power, Dix and Keily families, 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

Stephanie De Jongh, Shaun Clancy, Patrick Jones, 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, 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.

CHILDREN OF GOD CELEBRATING THE SON'S BIRTH

Today we gather. At Christmas we share time with loved ones and that is good. We are formed in relationship. And in those relationships and in all of creation, God is present and seeking to engage. In 336AD Christians chose 25 December to celebrate Christmas. The symbolism of the sun in the Roman Empire, festivities surrounding the winter solstice and the shift from a lunar to a solar calendar were all influential in that decision. **Faith is always mediated through culture.** In the thirteenth century St Francis of Assisi created what we know as 'the nativity scene', using live animals to bring home to a peasant audience the great truth that 'God-is-with-us'. Fast forward and for a growing number, Santa Claus (with origins in St Nicholas) is synonymous with gift giving without any religious significance. That can be good but it is far from the full story of Christmas. **Indeed, we gather to remember and to celebrate that the hoped for Messiah of the line of David, 'Emmanuel' or 'God-with-us' is born like any child but with the status of "Saviour", and that title has personal and cosmic significance.** In the Greco-Roman world the title of 'saviour' was appropriated to those rulers who brought peace and prosperity. Augustus, emperor when Jesus was born, was so acclaimed. However, Jesus did not come to usurp civil authority but rather to affirm that *"the true peace for which*

the world longs can only flow from the divine favour that the ministry of Jesus will bring” (Brendan Byrne). In fact, born outside Bethlehem, there being no room in the lodgings for travellers, his birth is first acknowledged by ‘outsiders’, the shepherds. A pattern begins which is realized time and again in his ministry. He will die on a hill outside Jerusalem, rejected by political and religious authorities. It is the ‘little people’, Zechariah in the temple, Mary and now the shepherds who praise God for having vindicated what they were told. “Salvation, then, has essentially to do with a sense that God is faithful. It connotes, to be sure, the attainment of eternal life. But it begins when people discern instances of God’s faithfulness in their lives. These instances then become “signs” of a more complete measure of salvation to come” (Byrne). This awareness evokes a child-like not childish trust, as German theologian Hans von Balthasar reflected: “To be a child means to owe one’s existence to another, and even in our adult life we never quite reach the point where we no longer have to give thanks for being the person we are.” As maturing adults in awe with children around the Christ-child, we celebrate the outpouring of God’s saving grace on the entire world. We ‘walk together’ with all people of good will into a hope-filled future.

Fr John

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT for our local **ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPERS APPEAL**. So too for the **AUSTRALIAN BISHOPS UKRAINE APPEAL** which raised **\$1058.50**. The hampers will assist local needy folk and funds will assist Ukrainians enduring a harsh winter.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOB PERKINS: At the recent national meeting of the Knights of the Southern Cross held in our parish, Bob was awarded the Supreme Knight’s Award for 24 years outstanding service as National Executive Officer. Well done Bob, and we wish another parishioner, Brendan Long all the best as the new Executive Officer.

THANK YOU to all who have passed on expressions of sympathy and prayers following the death of my sister Sharon. Your support is much appreciated. Thanks also to those who have passed on Christmas greetings and expressions of the same. We walk together. Fr John

VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD: Fr Emil Milat has been appointed Vocations Director for the Archdiocese as of 6 February. Cinnil Thomas will next year join our seminarians Mark Ha and Bran Gric at Good Shepherd Seminary, Homebush. Walking together in faith, we pray for vocations to the priesthood. Archbishop Christopher noted that after 60 years in Canberra the Dominicans will be leaving the Watson Parish at the end of November 2023.

ARCHBISHOP’S CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2022 will support the ecumenical Christmas Bowl appeal, diocesan projects in Nigeria, India and PNG, as well as the La Salette Matha Province in India and students attending Bethlehem University.

ARCHBISHOP CHRISTOPHER’S TALK ON ‘ENCOUNTER, DISCIPLESHIP AND MISION - THE THREE FUNDAMENTALS OF EVANGELISATION’ is available at the exits. Evangelisation is the mission of the Church and therefore all of us.

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’.

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.

MEDITATION GROUP: 6pm, Wednesdays. All welcome. Contact Vikki, 0437 876 487, mulvaney@netspeed.com.au.

PRAYER CIRCLE SUPPORT: Cathy Harris, 6281 2574.

Readings for next Sunday: 1/1, Mary, the Holy Mother of God, Num 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21.

LITURGICAL ROSTERS NEXT WEEK:			
<i>1st Sunday of the Month</i>	Curtin Sat. 6pm	Curtin Sun. 9.30 am	Curtin Sun. 5.30 pm
Acolyte	Gary Parker	Long Nguyen	Darryl Kite
Servers			William and Samuel Cains
Reader	Tony Butler	Volunteer required	Greg Nash
Commentator	Alex Eyers	Volunteer required	
Welcomer	Margaret Wilson	Maureen Jeffrey	
Ministers of Comm.	David Swan, Mary Gellatly	Volunteers required	Gael Nicholls
Communion to Sick	St Andrew’s: Helen Crain-Welsby	Fred Ward: Siji Devasia	Homes: Jenny & Brendan Ryan
Collectors	J David	Volunteer required	G Freebody, P Hughes
Collection Counters	<i>3 Jan.</i>	B Carmody, Joanne Mitchell	
Wednesday Liturgy	<i>28 Dec.</i>	Prayer Leader: Alex Eyers and John Eyers	Eucharistic Minister: Emma Fairfax

