



Lord, it is wonderful  
for us to be here.

## PARISH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION, NORTH WODEN

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### 3-4 December 2022, Second 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

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

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

**Recently Deceased:** 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:** Christopher Perkins, John Holtzapffel, Peter Malow, Vincent Huang, Ellen Stening, Peter Majer, William Joseph Madden, Tiffen family, 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

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.

#### RENEWAL ON THE JOURNEY

Last Wednesday, along with many others, I gathered for the Mass to celebrate the re-opening of the refurbished former Cathedral of Ss Peter and Paul's, Goulburn, during which there was the dedication of a new altar. The work of refurbishment had progressed slowly for four decades. It involved many professionals, volunteers, and different levels of church and government and generous individual supporters. The result was described by Archbishop Christopher as 'beautiful'. The beauty is not just in the material beauty of the refurbished 150 years old greenstone church, and it certainly is, but in the significance of what is celebrated there. The First Reading from last Wednesday's Mass saw the patriarch Jacob proclaim, "How awe-inspiring this place is! This is nothing less than a house of God; this is the gate of heaven!" (Gen 28:17). It struck me that I had first entered Ss Peter and Paul's in its centenary year for the ordination to priesthood of Fr Mick Burke (1972). I later spent nearly three years as Assistant Priest ministering in the then Ss Peter and Paul Parish (1981-1983). The church and presbytery (the former Bishop's House) were run down. To see the refurbishment of both reminded me that we are a people of the story. Sometimes we are 'run down'. Sometimes we 'put our best foot forward'. Most of the time we are somewhere between, keeping at 'it', building on

the past and adding the chapter of our lives to the continuing story. The 'it' is our relationship with God in our time and place. **Advent is about raising our horizon to the bigger picture. Advent is about seeing beyond the immediacy of my needs and my patch; to being transformed in terms of the glorious perspective of God who seeks to be at one with all of us in our joys and sorrows.** At the Jordan John offered a baptism of preparation for an openness to the coming Messiah. The Messiah, as foretold in our First Reading, would impart *"knowledge of the Lord"* (Ish. 11:9). The latter is *"not merely intellectual awareness but deep personal intimacy with [God and] a particular bias towards the cause of the poor"* (Brendan Byrne). **Hence, in today's Gospel John challenges the motives of some who approach.** Perhaps complacency saw them presume of their status (*"We have Abraham for our father"*). We can do the same. Or we can step back from wherever we might be on the journey, see the 'beauty' of God's call in all things and proclaim, ***"Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here"*** (our parish motto). **Celebrations like last Wednesday and the gift of the Advent Season raise our vision anew.**

Fr John

**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'.

**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.**

**CAROLS BY CANDELIGHT:** featuring Woden Valley Youth Choir, 7pm, 10 Dec., Stage 88, Commonwealth Park.

**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.

**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.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA):** If you or someone you know would be interested in possibly journeying to full communion with the Catholic Church, come along this Monday, 7pm, 5 Dec to the Parish Centre. Inquiries to the Parish Office.

**2023 COLUMBAN CALENDARS** are available from the Parish Office. Cost \$10.00.

**PALMS AUSTRALIA** since 1961 has been placing folk in Africa, Asia or the Pacific to use their skills to assist the capacity of local workers for generations to come. Information at [www.palms.org.au](http://www.palms.org.au) or calling 9560 533 or 0422 472 567.

**PARISH DINNER IN SUPPORT OF 'THE FARM', GALONG** was a very enjoyable night which raised **\$1,422.60**. Thanks to all who supported 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:** 10-11/12, Third Sunday of Advent (Yr A), Is 35:1-6, 10, James 5:7-10, Matt 11:2-11.

<b>LITURGICAL ROSTERS NEXT WEEK:</b>			
<i>2<sup>nd</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>	Anthony De Salis	Long Nguyen	Darryl Kite
<b>Server</b>			
<b>Reader</b>	Volunteer required	Tania/Stana Fernandez	Volunteer required
<b>Commentator</b>	Rachel Smith	Juliana Maher	
<b>Welcomer</b>	Volunteer required	Juliana Maher	
<b>Ministers of Comm.</b>	Melissa Bray, Sarah Buchanan	Tania Fernandez	Pat Wadsworth, Cushla Sheehan, Barb Mills
<b>Communion to Sick</b>	St Andrew's: Liz Anderson	Fred Ward Margaret Ryan	Homes: Moya Kennelly
<b>Collectors</b>	J David	Alan and Max Grinsell-Jones	P Kelly, Ava & Ella Morris
<b>Collection Counters</b>	<b>12 Dec.</b>	John Eyers, Michael Duffy	
<b>Wednesday Liturgy</b>	<b>7 Dec.</b>	Margaret Ryan	Eucharistic Minister: Sr Frances Fitzpatrick

