



# Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall

Parish Priest: Fr. Lawrence Cauchi



This year our Vinnie's Christmas Appeal will be run a differently. Due to COVID-19, we are unable to collect food and gifts for our Conference to deliver to people. To assist, we are asking for **donations of gift cards from Aldi, Woolworths, IGA or Coles** (or money so that our members can purchase gift cards) - please place them into the decorated boxes at the back of the church. They will then be distributed to local families for them to purchase what they will need to have a joyous Christmas.

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[parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com)

Office hours: Wed: 9.30am-4.00pm

Facebook: [fb.me/smgh2](https://fb.me/smgh2)

Streaming: <https://cutt.ly/StMarys>

**Sunday Masses:**

Saturday Vigil: 5pm

Sunday: 8 & 10am

**Weekday Masses:**

Tuesday: 6pm

Preceded by Rosary/Novena - 5.30pm

Wednesday - Friday: 9am

Preceded by Rosary - 8.45am

**Vietnamese Masses:**

Sat. Vigil: 6.30pm

Sunday: 5.30pm



**Reconciliation:**

Saturday 4-4.30 pm

or by appointment

## Rosters

**Christmas Rosters** - Greeters, Commentators, Readers, Acolytes and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - if you can assist at any of the Christmas Masses, please put your details on the sheets at the back of the church or Email: [parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com).

**Altar Linen, Cleaning and Counting Rosters** - from November 2021- November 2022 - are all available from the back of the church - thank you to our volunteers.

**Lay Ministry Roster** - Greeters, Commentators, Proclaimers, Acolytes, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Hospitality hosts - the current roster runs out at the end of December - if you want to stay on this roster, please Email: [parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com) Thank you

## Milk for Mates

THANK YOU to all who donated milk for the families in the House of Welcome

## Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)

Before, afterschool and vacation care is available to our primary school children.

To register your child please contact SCECS on 02 9568 8628 or

Email: [scecs@syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:scecs@syd.catholic.edu.au)



## Second Sunday of Advent Year C

Sunday 5 December 2021



### Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve 6pm

Carols 11.30pm

Midnight

Christmas Day 8am and 10am

(Vietnamese 8pm Christmas Eve)



### Reconciliation during Advent

Sat. 18 Dec. 11am to 12 noon and 4pm to 4.30pm

Tues. 21 Dec. 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Thurs. 23 Dec. 7pm to 8pm



### Choir Practice

There will be choir practice on Thursday 9 December at 7.00pm

in preparation for 10.00am Mass on Sunday 12 December 2021 (3rd Sunday of Advent).

New members are always welcome. Please ring Pat Falvy on 0425 219 660.



### Will you be alone for Christmas Lunch?

St Luke Parish is holding a Christmas lunch on Christmas Day, reaching out to anyone who has no place to go on Christmas Day. It is free event. So, if you're going to be alone -

You're invited for lunch on Christmas Day at St Luke Parish Hall, 1 Beaconsfield St Revesby - December 25, 2021 - from 11AM onwards. No Costs. Please consider joining us for a lovely meal, great company, kids craft table, entertainment, singing and much more. Individuals and families welcome. No one should be alone on Christmas Day. Want to know more - Call 9773 9065.

Bookings Essential via <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/833733>.



### Safeguarding our Parish

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at 93905810 or Email: [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org).

The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

**St Mary's Safeguarding Information:** There is a folder of Safeguarding information available in the church - parishioners are welcome to view. Enquiries: Veronica - 0407 231 262.





### Gospel Acclamation Lk 3:4-6

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Prepare the way of the Lord, make  
straight his paths:*

*all people shall see the salvation of God.*

*Alleluia!*

### Gospel Lk 3:1-6

*All people shall see the salvation of God.*

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness;  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.  
Every valley will be filled in,  
every mountain and hill be laid low,  
winding ways will be straightened  
and rough roads made smooth.  
And all mankind shall see the  
salvation of God.

### Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Do we have to be like John the Baptist, eccentrically dressed and scavenging for food, to prepare the way of the Lord? No. You and I are called to be a John or Joan the Baptist, preparing people's hearts in our own time and place.

But we have to allow God to prepare our hearts for this role. John the Baptist challenges us to 'Repent', i.e. to turn around our own lives seeking God's forgiveness. John then challenges us to see the big picture which is that 'All who live shall see the salvation of God'.

Pope Francis is the exemplary universal pastor inspiring us to become 'les mercifuls sans frontieres'. And young people through social media are already saying 'We are one community of human beings on this fragile planet'.

The challenge for most of us is more immediate and apparently of smaller scope. The challenge this Advent is to identify the one person whose heart you can help prepare to celebrate the coming of the Lord Jesus in three weeks' time. The best method is to let that person see your faith and joy centred on that little Jewish baby lying in a manger.

Do that, and who knows what may happen because that little baby is in fact the Sovereign Lord of history and of the whole cosmos. With God's grace, you don't have to be as eccentric or bizarre as John the Baptist to play your part in changing the course of history!

We could take a moment to pray that, repenting of our own sins where necessary, we may prepare the heart of at least one person so that the Lord Jesus may enter in this Christmas, helping him fulfil his mission that all who live shall see the salvation of God.

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# The Living Word

Second Sunday of Advent, Year C

5 December 2021

### First Reading Bar 5:1-9

*Jerusalem - God will show you splendour.*

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,  
put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever,  
wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you,  
put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head:  
since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven,  
since the name God gives you for ever will be,  
'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'.

Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights  
and turn your eyes to the east:  
see your sons reassembled from west and east  
at the command of the Holy One, jubilant  
that God has remembered them.  
Though they left you on foot,  
with enemies for an escort,  
now God brings them back to you  
like royal princes carried back in glory.  
For God has decreed the flattening  
of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills,  
the filling of the valleys to make the ground level  
so that Israel can walk in safety under the  
glory of God.  
And the forests and every fragrant tree will  
provide shade  
for Israel at the command of God;  
for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of  
his glory  
with his mercy and integrity for escort.

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 125. R. v.3

*(R.) The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are filled with joy.*

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,  
it seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs. (R.)
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels  
the Lord worked for them!'  
What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad. (R.)
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. (R.)
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing:  
they come back, they come back, full  
of song,  
carrying their sheaves. (R.)

### Second Reading Phil 1:3-6. 8-11

*Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.*

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.