



# 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 in need in our local are. 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 in the week of Christmas for them to purchase what they will need to have a joyous Christmas.

15 Georges Cres, Georges Hall

Ph: 9727 3759

[www.smgh.org.au](http://www.smgh.org.au)

[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

## New Auxiliary Bishop

We congratulate Bishop Danny Meagher who was consecrated as bishop on 8 December at St Mary's Cathedral  
Let us remember him in our prayers.

## 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

## Third Sunday of Advent Year C

Sunday 12 December 2021



### Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve 6pm

Carols 11.30pm

Midnight

Christmas Day 8am and 10am

(Vietnamese 8pm)



### 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)

### Supporting our Parish -

Our parish relies on donation to cope financially. Please consider joining the **planned giving program** - email [parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com) or click on the **Support Us** link on the website: [www.smgh.org.au](http://www.smgh.org.au)



### 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 Wed. 15 Dec. at 7.00pm

in preparation for Christmas Midnight

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 Lk 3:10-18

*What, then, must we do?*

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

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## Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Some people have an image of God who must be obeyed out of fear. Rules of behaviour are kept as part of a deal to avoid punishment. But St Paul was imitating God when he told the Philippians that all he wanted was their 'happiness'. God's deepest desire is that we share divine bliss. St Thomas Aquinas tells us that the goal of human life is this beatific happiness.

Of course, there is a way of life which responds to the Divine Lover. John the Baptist insists on rules of social justice, particularly those which forbid taking advantage of the vulnerable. But these are the minimum. He envisages a response of extravagant generosity. It will take Baptism in the Holy Spirit and Fire to make this possible.

This was effected by the One foretold by John. He doesn't name him, but we know it was Jesus of Nazareth who had the power to unleash such over-the-top generosity. Jesus sent his Holy Spirit at Pentecost as if in wind and fire. This created a new community which, the Acts of Apostles tells us, responded with acts of unrestrained generosity to the vulnerable and needy.

We might pause for a moment to pray for a generous spirit responding in gratitude to the Divine Lover who, as Risen Lord, has the power and will to enable us to be filled with Divine Bliss.

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# The Living Word

Third Sunday of Advent, Year C

12 December 2021

## First Reading Zep 3:14-18

*With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.*

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,  
Israel, shout aloud!  
Rejoice, exult with all your heart,  
daughter of Jerusalem!

The Lord has repealed your sentence:  
he has driven your enemies away.

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your  
midst;

you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to  
Jerusalem:

Zion, have no fear,  
do not let your hands fall limp.

The Lord your God is in your midst,  
a victorious warrior.

He will exult with joy over you,

he will renew you by his love;

he will dance with shouts of joy for you  
as on a day of festival.

## Responsorial Psalm

Is 12:2-6 R. v.6

*(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness:  
for among you is the great and  
Holy One of Israel.*

1. Truly, God is my salvation,  
I trust, I shall not fear.  
For the Lord is my strength, my song,  
he became my saviour.  
With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation. *(R.)*

2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to  
his name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to the  
peoples!  
Declare the greatness of his name. *(R.)*

3. Sing a psalm to the Lord  
for he has done glorious deeds,  
make them known to all the earth!  
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy  
for great in your midst is the Holy One  
of Israel. *(R.)*

## Second Reading Phil 4:4-7

*The Lord is near.*

I want you to be happy, always happy in  
the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your  
happiness. Let your tolerance be evident  
to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is  
no need to worry; but if there is anything  
you need, pray for it, asking God for it with  
prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of  
God, which is so much greater than we can  
understand, will guard your hearts and your  
thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

## Gospel Acclamation Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News  
to the poor.*

*Alleluia!*