LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*(The third candle, called the called the **Mission Candle,** is lit to remind us of our call in Baptism to follow Christ's way.)*

Coming together as our Advent passes its half-way stage, we light the third of our Advent candles, conscious that this journey makes demands of us. *"What must we do?"* is the refrain within the Gospel as the crowds flock to John the Baptist looking for guidance. Not that God places a burden on us, rather a promise of joy hence our candle this week is rose-coloured.

* ****

Presider: Lord Jesus, come and renew us by your love.
***All:* Come, Lord Jesus.**

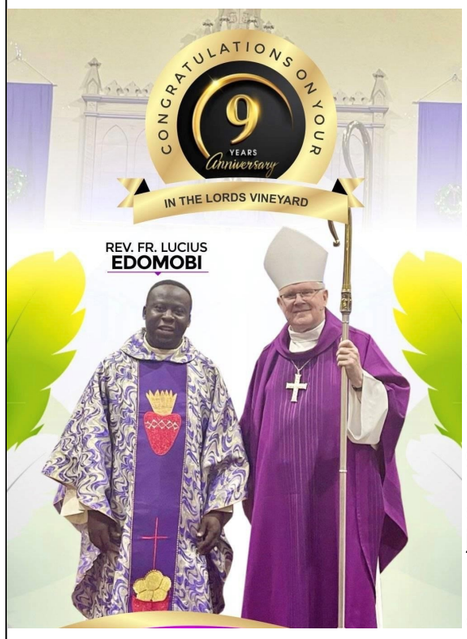
* *

Presider: Lord Jesus, come and drive the worry from our hearts. ***All:* Come, Lord Jesus.**

* *

Presider: Lord Jesus, come and teach us what we should do
***All:* Come, Lord Jesus.**

* *****



It was fitting that the Archbishop was on hand to install Fr Lucius in his first role as Parish Priest almost to the day that he was ordained nine years ago (07.12.12) in St Stephen's Cathedral. Fr Lucius was the first Nigerian Priest to be ordained in the Archdiocese of Brisbane by Archbishop Mark Coleridge who had been appointed to that position earlier in that same year. Congratulations Fr Lucius and may the Lord bless you and give you strength and purpose as you guide the parishioners on their faith journey by sharing in their lives spiritually, pastorally and joyfully in the name of Christ Our Saviour.

Thanks to everyone who attended the Mass of Installation and to those who took part in the liturgy especially the altar servers who outnumbered the clergy by far.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE - FRIDAY 24TH DECEMBER

Aramara	Mass 9.00am
Maryborough	Mass 6.00pm with Carols from 5.40
	Midnight Mass with Carols from 11.40

CHRISTMAS DAY - SATURDAY 25TH DECEMBER

Maryborough	Mass 8.00am with Carols from 7.40
Tiaro	Mass 10.00am

THE HOLY FAMILY - SUNDAY 26TH DECEMBER

Maryborough	Mass 8.00am
Tiaro	Mass 10.00am

Please note that there will be no Vigil Mass on Saturday 25th December for the weekend. The only Mass at St Mary's will be at 8.00am on Sunday.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS are being taken up again by collectors after the Prayers of the Faithful. There will be only one collection at each Mass so please put planned giving envelopes or any loose notes and cash in the baskets provided. Donations may still be placed in the boxes on the pillars.

MUSIC ROSTERS for December /January are available from the cupboard for use by anyone connected with the music ministry. Thank you to Theresa, Robyn and Janette for organising the roster once again. Choir practices have been set for Tuesdays 21st Dec, 4th & 25th January @ 4pm.

CHRISTMAS MASSES: Ministers of Word and Communion and sacristans are required so if you are willing to assist, please place your name on the roster on the sign in table as soon as possible.

GRAB A BARGAIN: Wolfgang & Christine kindly set up a market stall at the front of the Presbytery on Thursday and will do so again for the next two weeks to sell leftover items from the Bazaar which to date has raised $7,605. If you are a regular at the markets, why not stop by and have a browse.

PLUMBING WOES: Guttering is being replaced at the front of the Presbytery with the cloisters on the hall side of the church and the parish hall next in line for similar attention. A broken pipe and separate water leak on the premises has added to the repair costs.

ENTRANCE: O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

Traditional

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord'rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in Her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law,
In cloud, and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!

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COMMUNION: JESUS, YOU ARE BREAD FOR US

Words and Music: Christopher Walker © 1990 Christopher Walker

Refrain: Jesus, You are bread for us.
Jesus, You are life for us.
In Your gift of Eucharist
We find love.

When we feel we need a friend
You are there with us, Jesus.
Thank you for the friend You are.
Thank you for the love we share. **R./**

When we feel that we need love
You are there with us, Jesus.
Thank you for the friend You are.
Thank you for the love we share. **R./**

When we feel that things aren't fair
You are there with us, Jesus.
Thank you for the friend You are.
Thank you for the love we share. **R./**

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THANKSGIVING: ADVENT LITANY

Bernadette Farrell © Bernadette Farrell

Word of healing, Alleluia,
Heal our sorrow. Maranatha!

Word of comfort, Alleluia,
Bring us hope now. Maranatha!

Word of gladness, Alleluia,
Fill our hearts now. Maranatha!

Word of wisdom, Alleluia,
Come renew us. Maranatha!

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RECESSIONAL: JOYFUL IN HOPE

Michael Herry © Michael Herry

Joyful in hope, Your people pray.
Joyful in hope, we're on our way.
Though the road may not be clear,
We believe, Lord, You are near,
In the smile and open heart---
Of a friend.

Joyful in hope, Your people pray.
Joyful in hope, we're on our way.
There's sunshine after rain;
There's laughter after pain;
And I am with you always,---
So rise again.

Mary, so open to the Lord,
When you answered, "Yes," our hope was restored.
Though you couldn't understand,
In trust you took his hand.
So, joyful in hope,---We live again.

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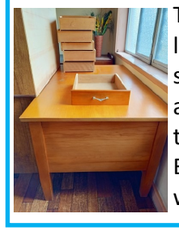
Governor of Oro Province Gary Juffa recently visited students of Baga Elementary School. The students are all wearing newly purchased polo shirts ($2 Best & Less) and uniform shorts made by the sewing ladies of SewPNG. Three pallet loads each containing 30 house removal sized cartons were sent this year. Contents for the Baga, Tufi and Sefoa areas included school uniforms and children's casual clothing, school supplies and teacher resources as well as ladies cloth bags, dresses, skirts and tops. Basic medical supplies were sent to the Tufi Medical Centre. A big thank you to the small band of SewPNG volunteers. *Pat & Frank Burkett*

Roster Date	Saturday 11th Dec	Sunday 12th Dec	Saturday 18th Dec	Sunday 19th Dec
Welcomer 1st Reader 2nd Reader	J Kelleher R Wroe P Domin	M Kirkpatrick P Phillips F Burkett	M Kirkpatrick P Wyatt G O'Connell	S Gehrke K Perronnet K Ogilvie
Communion	B Jones	L Fleming	S Flavel	G Neill
Servers	Andrew Thu Han	Sarah Tyson Byron	Sarah Tyson Byron	Georgia Sophie Nicholas
Musicians Singers	Bong Jearen Filipino Choir	Justin Majella	Jearan Janette	Robyn Men
Mass set up	Gerry	Lita Rebecca	Janette Sophie	Lita Rebecca

This crucifix is available free to anyone who would like to have it in their home. Contact Anne on 0458 212 971.



This desk is no longer of use so if you have a need, contact the office. Be warned it weighs a ton.

ROAD CLOSED

SATURDAY
18TH DECEMBER

We have been notified that Sussex St (between Adelaide & Bazaar) and Bazaar St (between Sussex & Wharf) will be closed from noon for the Carols in the Park. If you attend the 6pm Mass, you will need to make other arrangements if you usually park in this area.

We remember in our prayers:

Those in ill health: Anna Pecar, Margaret Twomey, Laurel Dingle, Fay Richards, Ame Cox.

The Recently Deceased:
Fr Karl Emerick, Br Gordon Rochford, Lawa Alimpangog.

Anniversaries of Death:
Terry Dart, Martin Rodrigues, Barry Foot, Zita Hogan, Joseph Hogan, Noel Owen, Frank Bellert, Simplicia Valiente.

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Rev. Fr Lucius Edomobi
Mobile 0451 570 990
Email: edomobil@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH SECRETARY
Mary Kirkpatrick
OFFICE HOURS
8.30AM TO 2.30PM TUESDAY - FRIDAY

PARISH SCHOOLS
St Mary's Primary 41 215705
St Mary's College 41 902200

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

15/12/2021	Wednesday	8.00am
	Fairhaven	10.00am
16/12/2021	Thursday	12 noon
17/12/2021	Friday	8.30am
18/12/2021	Saturday	
	Maryborough	6.00pm
19/12/2021	Sunday	
	Maryborough	8.00am
	Tiaro	10.00am

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES ON NEXT PAGE

RECONCILIATION
SATURDAY 5 - 5.30pm

Readings:
1st - Zephaniah 3: 14-18

Psalm Response:
Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

2nd - Philippians 4: 4-7
Gospel Acclamation (sung):
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel - Luke 3: 10-18

Next weekend's Readings:
4th Sunday of Advent Year C
1st - Micah 5: 1-4
Psalm: 79
2nd - Hebrews 10: 5-10
Gospel - Luke 1: 39-44

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12TH DECEMBER, 2021
3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
YEAR C

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

"Gaudete Sunday"

The ordinary story to the birth of an extra-ordinary man

One of the reasons why the Jews did not accept Jesus as the messiah was because of the realities behind his ordinary birth. They expected a messiah to come from a wealthy Jewish Royal family, but instead what they saw was an ordinary humble son of a carpenter who was born in a manger.

Like the Jews of old we also wait for the coming of God among us, for our Immanuel (God with us). Maybe we should take a moment and ask ourselves, how do we expect God to come among us? How does God work among us? This is necessary because sometimes the problem is not that God is not with us, the problem rather is that we do not recognize the ways of God's presence and action among us. We act often like Jacob in Bethel who awoke from his sleep and exclaimed, "So the LORD is in this place – and I did not know it!" (Genesis 28:16).

The coming of the long awaited Messiah, the light of the world, the king of the Jews and the head of our families, in such an ordinary way, reminds us that God comes in ordinary, normal, daily circumstances of life. God comes to us in the people we see around us being born, growing up, ageing and dying. Yet it is still hard for us to see God in the people who are familiar to us, not to talk of in our own very selves. But if we see the incarnation of the Son of God as a bridge between heaven and earth, between the divine and the human, between the order of grace and the order of nature, between the sacred and the profane, maybe we will begin to discern the presence and action of God more and more in our daily lives.

Today also is "Gaudete Sunday"! That's why we are using rose candles and vestments today. "Gaudete" is a Latin word for "rejoice." The Church invites us to rejoice because Christmas is closer. The eclipse is nearly over and the sun is set to shine again so we are called not only to rejoice but to prepare our hearts and minds and listen and hear the footsteps of God who comes into our lives in ordinary ways, through ordinary people and at ordinary moments of our lives. No need to look up to the mountain top or the depths of the ocean for he is always with us and it is in him that we live and move and have our being" (Acts 17:28).

Come, Lord Jesus!

Fr Lucius Edomobi