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2nd Reader:	Warren	Gail	Beverley	Gerard
Communion	Judy Beverley	Anne Cris	Sue Warren	Con Anne
Servers	Aaliyah Eugenia Frances	Xavier Felix Rafael	Thu Han Chet	Elveena Elisse Pius
Musicians	Justin	Robyn	Amy	Gail
Singers	Theresa	Men	Janette	Theresa
Mass set up	Gerry	David Rebecca	Sophie Janette	David Rebecca
Morning Tea		Deem Girls		
Floral Arrgmt	Christmas Arrangements - Sue Flavel			

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website: www.stmarysparishmaryborough.com

PARISH PRIEST: Rev. Fr Lucius Edomobi
Email: edomobil@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH MANAGER
Antony Manjooran Sebastian

OFFICE HOUR
8AM TO 4PM TUESDAY - FRIDAY

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER
Ron Wroe 0455 433 335

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



NEWSLETTER 14TH DECEMBER 2025
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A

REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS;
AGAIN I SAY, REJOICE.
INDEED, THE LORD IS NEAR .

This Week's Mass Schedule

17/12/2025	Wednesday	8:00am
18/12/2025	Thursday	12:00pm
19/12/2025	Friday	9:15am
20/12/2025	Saturday	6:00pm
21/12/2025	Sunday	
	Maryborough	8:00am
	Tiaro	10:00am

1st RITE OF RECONCILIATION EVERY SATURDAY 5 - 5.30pm

READINGS

Third Sunday of Advent - Year A (p.111) in St Pauls Missal

- 1st - Isaiah 35:1-6, 10
- Psalm - Ps 145 Resp. hymns page
- 2nd - James 5:7-10
- Gospel Accl. hymns page
- Gospel - Matthew 11:2-11

Next weekend: Third Sunday of Advent - Year A (p.115).

- 1st - Isaiah 7:10-14
- Psalm - 23
- 2nd - Romans 1:1-7
- Gospel - Matthew 1:18-24

Please Ensure Silence
In The Church By
Supporting Silent Prayer

OUR PARISH PRAYER

Heavenly Father, Maryborough's St Mary's Parish and School Family are Earnestly in need of Your Loving Care more than ever before. Through Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Grant that Your Holy Spirit may Enlighten the Eyes of our Minds. To guide us all to believe more and to Deepen our Faith, Hope and Trust in you. **Amen**

"GAUDETE SUNDAY"
REJOICE OUR SAVIOUR IS COMING!

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 await the coming of God among us, 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.

Finally, dear friends, 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

Christmas Mass Times



**CHRISTMAS EVE -
WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER 2025**

⇒ **Carols:** 6:30pm followed by

⇒ **Vigil Mass:** 7pm - St. Mary's.

Midnight Mass

⇒ **Carols:** (24TH DECEMBER) 11:30pm followed by

⇒ **Midnight Mass:** (25TH DECEMBER) 12am St. Mary's.

Thursday 25th December

⇒ **Carols:** 7:45am followed by

⇒ **Mass:** 8am St. Mary's.

⇒ **Mass:** 10am Sacred Heart, Tiaro.



The Garage Sale

@ **ST MARY'S CHURCH**

MARYBOROUGH 269
ADELAIDE STREET

**THURSDAY 18TH
DECEMBER 7AM
TO 12 PM**

Please continue to contribute quality books or other quality materials for this event through the Parish Office from Tuesday to Friday. Leading up to each monthly sale we would appreciate help with pricing and setting up. Enquiries to Glenda on 0401307110

INVITATION TO SUNDAY MORNING TEA

Fortnightly, Sunday after the 8am Mass we host a morning tea. Please join us. Meet and talk to your fellow parishioners.



Choir: There will be a practice for carols, and Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Mass at 4 pm on Tuesday 16 December. Any members for all choirs who will be singing at those masses are welcome to attend.

Roster for Christmas: We kindly request the Welcomers, Readers, Communion Ministers, Altar Servers and Sacristans to have a look into the list available near the Piety Stall and support to complete the roster for Christmas Masses.

RCIA - 2026 -Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults-

We are pleased to announce the schedule for RCIA 2026 - a comprehensive formation program designed to convey the teachings, beliefs, and practices of the Catholic Church. Interested individuals are encouraged to contact Fr. Lucius or the Parish Office to obtain an enrolment form.

- **Session 1:** Saturday 20th December 2025: 5-6pm.
- **Session 2:** Saturday 31st January 2026: 5-6pm.
- **Session 3:** Saturday 14th February 2026: 5-6pm.
- **Session 4:** Saturday 28th February 2026: 5-6pm.
- **Session 5:** Saturday 14th March 2026: 5-6pm.
- **Session 6:** Saturday 28th March 2026: 5-6pm.
- **Celebration:** Saturday 4th April 2026 - Easter Vigil Mass - 6pm.



Supporting local families to get their kids back to school

GIVE a cash donation online

FUNDRAISE in your community

SPONSOR the School Savvy initiative as a business

DROP preloved school uniforms or school supplies at a donation point

Coming to Maryborough in January 2026, the School Savvy pop-up shop will be stocked with affordable uniforms and essential school items.

SCHOOL SAVVY POP-UP SHOP

Wednesday 14 January 2026
The Maryborough Neighbourhood Centre 25 Ellena Street, Maryborough

<https://centacare.com/community-and-pastoral-care/community-support-and-education/school-savvy/school-savvy-maryborough/>

ENTRANCE: PREPARE THE WAY

There was a man of God whose name was John. He came to speak for the Light. The voice of one in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord."

Refrain:

*Prepare the way of the Lord.
Prepare the way of the Lord.
Prepare the way of the Lord.
Prepare the way of the Lord.*

Mountains and hills shall be brought to the ground,
The winding paths be straightened
And all on earth shall see His face;
Prepare the way of the Lord.

He's the lamb of God and you must follow Him
Who takes the sin of the world,
For He has come to give you life.
Prepare the way of the Lord.

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PSALM RESPONSE:

Lord, come and save us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

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!

COMMUNION:

BREAD BROKEN, WINE SHARED

Refrain:

*Bread broken, wine shared;
Jesus, here, Taking our lives, opening our hearts,
Making us whole, setting our loving free.*

Take all our dreams, all that we are,
All we could ever be.
Lord of all life, we want to be Yours,
We take bread and eat.

Open our minds, open our hearts,
Let love set us free within.
Lord of all life, we want to be Yours,
We pour wine and drink.

Make us alive, filled with Your hope,
Living what's really true.
Lord of all life, we want to be Yours,
We know this is You.

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THANKSGIVING: ADVENT CHANT

Twilight, then darkness, night falls and candles glow.
Gently surrounding us, a new birth of hope.
Watching, waiting, awak'ning a new birth of hope. (repeat)

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RECESSIONAL: JOYFUL IN HOPE

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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Please remember in your prayers:

Those in ill health: Tom Massingham, Ewa Danda, Christine Waerner, Agnes Martel, Christine Chu, Vince Dollisson, Leo G. Amar, Alfonso Diaz, Rita Sempf, Jenny Camilleri, Bohdan Pastuch, Janet Jackson, Joan Lucas, Betty Hove, Evelyn Keys and Ame Cox.

The Recently Deceased: Thomas Shambrook, Loreta Hall and Ross Keys.

Anniversary of Death: Patrick Berrell, Terry Walsh, Leo & Ellen Clancy and Arthur & Eileen Walker, Brian Lunn, John Hill, Anne Neill, Barry Massingham, Gavin McPherson and Cecil Russell.