



# St Mary's Catholic Parish Warwick

## Vision Statement

To live the Gospel by celebrating together, sustaining a welcoming parish and serving Jesus Christ through the joys and sorrows of our wider community.

9th & 10th December 2023  
Second Sunday of Advent, Year B

### PARISH OFFICE

PO BOX 118, WARWICK.  
**ASSUMPTION PLACE,**  
163 PALMERIN STREET  
(VIA CHURCH CAR PARK,  
ACACIA AVENUE)  
WARWICK.

### OFFICE HOURS:

WED-FRI 9AM-4PM

**Phone:** (07) 4661 1033

**Email:** warwick@ctwb.org.au

### Website:

www.stmarysparishwarwick

### St Mary's

### Catholic Parish



### Parish Priest

Fr Franco Filippetto

### Assistant Priest

Fr Bony Abraham

### Semi-retired Priest

Fr Terry Hickling

4661 8227

### Administration Officer

Melissa Cooper

### PPC Deputy Chairman

Justin Walsh

### Safeguarding Reps.

Toni Cox & Denise Ryan

### Parish Schools

#### St Mary's Kindergarten

Director:

Marie Sullivan

Phone: 4667 2634

[SMWkindy@tckc.qld.edu.au](mailto:SMWkindy@tckc.qld.edu.au)

#### St Mary's (Primary)

Principal:

Emma Timmins

Phone: 4661 1872

[smwarwick@twb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:smwarwick@twb.catholic.edu.au)

#### Assumption College

Principal:

Liisa Hammond

Phone: 4660 4000

[acwarwick@twb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:acwarwick@twb.catholic.edu.au)

### Good News

Advent is a time of testing, when we can challenge ourselves with this question, "Have my ears been receptive to the Good News?" As we respond individually and as a church, we hear the Gospel anew as we begin the Gospel of Mark. This Sunday's readings juxtapose the opening lines of Mark's Gospel with a famous passage from Isaiah. This contrast reveals a deeper complementarity in the Good News they share. Although more than 500 years separate this Sunday's first reading from the Gospel, they offer the same teaching. They both encourage God's people to follow God unreservedly, even into the desert, which the biblical tradition understands to be a place of testing.

In this Sunday's first reading, the prophecy of Isaiah reaches a turning point. The prophet has a message of good news for Israelite slaves living in distant Babylon. "In the desert," cries the seer, "prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!" (Is 40:3). The "wasteland" is the vast desert between Babylon and Jerusalem, which the prophet now envisions will become a highway that the exiles will be able to traverse with ease. The insight from Isaiah suggests that something dramatic is now happening after decades of living away from Judah.

Helping people pay attention to God's surprising work was an essential feature of Isaiah's prophecy. Another surprise in store for Israel was the spiritual fertility of the desert. In the prophet's mind, it was not merely a "wasteland" that threatened death. In an earlier passage, the prophet foretells: "The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom" (Is 35:1). The desert, an ambivalent place of life and death, provides a hard but necessary path for the people of God to renew their intimate relationship with God through history. This passage represents a symbolic call for the renewal of hearts and minds as a people of the covenant. This passage does not justify war, population transfers, ethnic hatred, terrorism or any of the other horrors currently taking place in Israel. The deeper call of these readings is an invitation to enter a conversation with God about the manner in which we are presently living. Are we hopeful? Are we trapped in despair? Isaiah's "desert" is the testing of one's own heart, where an honest conversation with God may take place.

The Gospel repeats Isaiah's message with some adaptations. "I am sending my messenger ahead of you," writes Mark, "he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert" (Mk 1:2-3). Mark's opening account, is an attempt to show that the "good news" about to be announced to the whole world is greater than Isaiah's call to the city of Jerusalem.

There is movement, too, as Mark describes what is happening by God's hand. John the Baptist appears "in the desert" and "all the inhabitants of Jerusalem" were going out to him seeking renewal and forgiveness (see Mk 1:4-5). Once again, the people of the covenant engage in an honest conversation with themselves and with God. The definitive difference in Mark's passage, however, is that the ongoing conversation with God is about to happen face-to-face, with the one "who will baptize you with the Holy Spirit" (Mk 1:8). This is Mark's "good news" that begins in the testing space of the desert-wilderness: God now lives among us. This is also the good news we can rediscover during Advent's testing. *In the desert, says Isaiah, prepare!*

Victor Cancino, S.J.

PLEASE PRAY FOR



MASS TIMES

**THIS WEEKEND**

9th & 10th December  
**St Mary's**  
 Saturday 6pm  
 Sunday 8:30am

**Killarney**  
 Sunday 8am  
**Inglewood**  
 Saturday 5.30pm  
**Texas**  
 Sunday 9am

**Lay-Liturgies**

**Yangan**  
 Saturday 6pm  
**Gladfield**  
 Sunday 9.30am

**REGULAR WEEKDAY MASSES**

**Monday** Mass 9am  
**Tuesday** Mass 9am  
**Wednesday** Mass 7am  
**Thursday** Mass 9am  
**Friday** Mass 9am  
**Saturday** Mass 9am

*Regular Mass Times could change if there are any special celebrations for the week, please see inside the Bulletin for any updates.*

**St Mary's Sunday 8:30am Masses** are live-streamed from St Mary's on YouTube or the website.

**Reconciliation**

**St Mary's**  
 Every Saturday 9:30am after mass

**FEAST DAYS**

Wed: St Lucy  
 Thurs: St John of the Cross

**NEXT WEEKEND**

16th & 17th December

**St Mary's**  
 Saturday 6pm  
 Sunday 8:30am

**Yangan**  
 Saturday 6pm  
**Gladfield**  
 Sunday 9.30am

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Keith Locke, Kingsley Locke, Don McGuinness, Patrick Kelly, William Holland, Wilma & Tom Crawford, Mary & Joe Ryan, Rev Msgr Michael McKenna, Rev Frs Justin King, Joseph Callaghan, James Byrne, James Wiemers *and all relatives and friends.*

**SICK:** Leo Ryan (Warwick), Rita Collins, Kierstan Farrell, Christie-Lee Krause, John & Lyndell O'Mara, John McMahon, Maurice Ryan, Joanne Small, Tom Willett, Mary & Douglas Hough, Karen Hynes, Michael Bunch (Bne), Paul Ryan (Bne), Jack & Marie Beard, Barry Donnelly, Angela Gannon, Des & Jan Buchbach, Anthony White and residents of Akooramak, The Oaks, Churches of Christ and patients at the Warwick Hospital.

*Names for anniversaries & the sick will remain on our list for 4 weeks unless otherwise advised.*

**Covid-19: Please use the hand sanitizer provided at the doors**

ROSTERS	THIS WEEKEND 9th & 10th December		NEXT WEEKEND 16th & 17th December	
	<b>Ministries</b>	<b>Vigil 6pm</b>	<b>8:30am</b>	<b>Vigil 6pm</b>
<b>Bell Ringers</b>	Chris Ryan	Mal Brownlie	Chris Ryan	Mal Brownlie
<b>Welcomers</b>	Richard Tartan	Val Gray	Sharon Young	Pat Sheil
<b>Altar Server</b>	Alby Young / William Wooding	Thomas & Felicity Madsen	Rose Walsh	Tom Lawton
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>		NIL		NIL
<b>1st Reader</b>	Richard Tartan	Pat Sheil	Sharon Young	Margaret Lawton
<b>2nd Reader</b>	Bryan Slattery	Michael Ryan	Gill Totman	John Telfer
<b>Prayer of Faithful</b>	Nick Nolan	Mary Goyne	Bryan Slattery	Sue Harris
<b>Gifts</b>	Lyn & Mary Noble	McHardy Family	Gill Totman	Marg Trahair
<b>Communion Ministers</b>	Cheryl Collins Bernice Furness Denise Ryan	Monica Maher Barry Scanlan Pat Sheil	Bernice Furness Denise Ryan Patti Hemmings	Barry Scanlan Pat Sheil John Telfer
<b>Powerpoint</b>	TBA	Harriet Plummer	Sharon Young	Gemma King
<b>Musician</b>	Mike & Val	Kathleen/ Fil Harmonics	Tom Hodgson	Michael, Rey & Val
<b>Money Counters</b>	Group 6—Mark Brennan		Group 1—David Hynes	
<b>OTHER ROSTERS</b>	<b>WEEK COMMENCING 10th December</b>		<b>WEEK COMMENCING 17th December</b>	
<b>Akooramak</b>	David Moran & John Telfer		Maree Ryan & Pat Sheil	
<b>Home Communion</b>	Sue Harris		Fr Franco	
<b>Morning Tea</b>	Des & Cheryl Cantwell		Margaret Waltisbuhl / Val Murphy	

**GIVING**

Thank you for the continued financial support of our parish through your giving. Please see our details below for ways to give. **Ways to Give:**

**1.** Envelopes **2.** One-off deposit or credit card payment **4. Direct Debit - All NEW Direct Debits** will be via Archdiocesan Development Fund. Please contact the Parish Office for the form.

**GIVING APP**

You can now make a donation on your mobile phone. This can be a one-off donation or a recurring donation.





**St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal 2023**

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas 2023, we give special thanks for the generosity of the Parish School Communities. The donations, financial and in kind, we receive help us to make Christmas a time for joy in the present with hope for the future for many people who are affected by the economic and social problems we face today. We are doing our best to assist people who never expected to become homeless, struggle with cost of living increases or face bush-fire disasters as well as those who are disadvantaged and often without the skills to manage their finances and their lives well. If you would like to donate even the smallest amount, there are envelopes at the entrances to the church or donate online using the QR code or web address on the posters.

**Interested in becoming a member of the St Vincent de Paul Society?**

Our numbers are few right now and we welcome anyone who has a heart to help those in need of a hand up in our community. Call 0429 405 007 to speak to the president of the local group.

**Available from the Office:**

**Little Books** for Advent & Christmas. The December edition of **The Word Among Us** and **Australian Catholic Magazine** .

**CHILD SAFE PARISH: Ours is a Child Safe Parish**

All children, young persons and vulnerable adults, visiting or resident, have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you are concerned by any form of abuse that is immediate, you should call 000. A significant risk or harm, whether or not you have formed this belief on reasonable ground, should immediately be raised with our Parish Safe-guarding Officers

**Toni Cox 0419 613 278 or Denise Ryan 0456 154 277**

**ADVENT PROGRAM**

16/12/23: Anointing within Mass 9.00am  
19/12/23: Reconciliation 10am & 7pm.

**MASSES**

23/12/23: St Mary's 6.00pm

**NO 6.00pm at YANGAN**

24/12/23: St Mary's 8.30am, 6.00pm, 8.00pm.

Yangan 6.00pm.

Gladfield 7.00pm

**NO 10.00am at GLADFIELD**

25/12/23: Inglewood 8.00am

Killarney 8.00am

St Mary's 8.30am

Greymare 10.00am

Texas 10.00am

**Christmas Eve 6pm Mass** is a special family mass for our parish. Children dress as the characters of the Christmas Story and act out the Christmas story. The children also read, sing and carry in the offertory. All are welcome. If you will be attending the mass and your child would like to participate please contact Sharon Young on 0429 921 200. **Practice will be on Monday, 18th December in the Church at 4pm. Please come along if your child would like to participate. All are welcome.**

**ALL ST MARY'S BELL RINGERS ARE INVITED TO THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GET TOGETHER**

WHEN: Tuesday 19th December 23 @ 6PM


WHERE: At Sovereign Hotel Beer Garden

COST: \$10 for finger food and purchase own drinks

DRESS: Christmas colours (Red, white, green)

RSVP: To Parish Office by Monday 18th December

THANK YOU ALL & HOPING TO SEE YOU THERE

 Our Bulletin can now be found on our facebook page and our new website.

We have some baking trays and a container from the Parish Xmas Party. Please pick up from the office.

**CHURCH OPENING TIMES**

**PRIVATE PRAYER** - Tuesday & Thursday 3.45pm - 4.45pm

**PARISH GROUPS**

**The Parish Rosary** is said each day a half hour prior to Mass. Except the 1st Saturday of the month when it starts at 7.45am.

Anyone who has intentions or wish to join us are most welcome.

**PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUPS**

— If you are interested in joining our groups please contact Marguerite 0411 092 841

**FIL-HAROMIX**— Choir practice 1st Sunday & 2nd Saturday of each month.

**PARISH GROUPS**

**MEETING AT ASSUMPTIO PLACE**

**MEDITATION GROUP**

meets on Fridays at 9am. Contact Mary 4661 9907

**FATHER'S PRAYER GROUP**

meets on Tuesdays from 4:00-5:0pm. Contact Kev Seaby— 4661 3133

**LAY CARMELITES**

meet on 3rd Tuesday of each month following morning Mass. Contact Maria 0427 644 108

**MEN ALIVE GROUP**

meets on Thursdays at 4-5 pm. Contact: Paul 0412 115 618

**MOTHER'S PRAYERS GROUPS**

meet on **Thursdays** at 9:30am after Mass in the church Maria 0427 644 108

**PARISH LADIES GROUP**

meets on 1st Tuesday of each month at 9:30am, New members are warmly invited to join this group.

Contact Rita 4661 8144 or Bernice 4661 1107

**Sychar Rural Library Service is available**

during Morning Tea on Sundays.

**2024 Columban**

Calendars are now available from the Parish Office. Cost \$8.00 each



**THOUGHT OF THE WEEK**

**“We are twice armed if we fight with faith.” Plato**

<b>First Reading</b>	Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11
<i>Prepare the way for the Lord.</i>	
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	Ps 84: 9-14. R. v. 8
<i>Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.</i>	
<b>Second reading</b>	St Peter 3: 8-14
<i>We wait for new heavens and a new earth.</i>	
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	Lk 3: 4, 6
<i>Alleluia, Alleluia!</i>	
<i>Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.</i>	
<i>Alleluia!</i>	
<b>Gospel</b>	Mark 1: 1-8
<i>Make straight the paths of the Lord.</i>	

**St Mary's Catholic Debutante Ball**

Calling all girls interested in making their debut at the Catholic Debutante Ball to be held on Friday, 14th June, 2024 in St Mary's Hall.

An information evening will be held on Sunday, 25th February, 2024 in Assisi Place at 7pm. All prospective debutantes and an accompanying family member will be most welcome to attend.

For more information please contact Sue Harris mobile; 0428619562 or email : [tellsue@gmail.com](mailto:tellsue@gmail.com)

The **PARISH OFFICE** will be closed from 4pm Friday 22 December and will reopen Wednesday 4th January 2024.

## New liturgical year

We are beginning a new liturgical year. A liturgical year means that the Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ—his suffering, death, and resurrection—is continuously proclaimed and renewed through celebrating the events of his life and in the feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints. The liturgical year is made up of six seasons:

- Advent - four weeks of preparation before the celebration of Jesus' birth
- Christmas - recalling the Nativity of Jesus Christ and his manifestation to the peoples of the world.
- Lent - a six-week period of penance before Easter
- Sacred Paschal Triduum - the holiest "Three Days" of the Church's year, where the Christian people recall the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.
- Easter - 50 days of joyful celebration of the Lord's resurrection from the dead and his sending forth of the Holy Spirit
- Ordinary Time - divided into two sections (one span of 4-8 weeks after Christmas Time and another lasting about six months after Easter Time), wherein the faithful consider the fullness of Jesus' teachings and works among his people.

We use lectionary (collection of the readings and the responsorial psalm assigned for each Mass of the year) to celebrate the liturgical year. The Lectionary is arranged in two cycles, one for Sundays and one for weekdays.

The Sunday cycle is divided into three years, labelled A, B, and C. 2022 was Year C, 2023 is Year A, **Year B began on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023 and continue through December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024**. In Year A, we read mostly from the Gospel of Matthew. **In Year B, we read the Gospel of Mark** and chapter 6 of the Gospel of John. In Year C, we read the Gospel of Luke. The Gospel of John is read during the Easter season in all three years. The first reading, usually from the Old Testament, reflects important themes from the Gospel reading. The second reading is usually from one of the epistles, a letter written to an early church community. These letters are read semi-continuously. Each Sunday, we pick up close to where we left off the Sunday before, though some passages are never read.

**Happy New Liturgical Year! Fr.B**