Welcome to



Willunga Catholic Parish

Mary of Galilee, Aldinga; St Peter's, Normanville; St Joseph's, Willunga

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B

Vol 22 : No 04

WILLUNGA CATHOLIC PARISH CENTRE

12 St Judes Street (PO Box 14) WILLUNGA SA 5172

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PARISH OFFICE

If you need to contact the Office, please ring 0447 421 948 or 0488 287 552 if there is no-one in the Office to take your call.

PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

- Fr Josy Sebastian (Parish Priest -8382 1717; emergency 0452 524 169; jponnambal@gmail.com)
- Fr Dominick Okwadha (A/Priest -8382 1717; 0421 074 212; okwadha@yahoo.com)
- Fr Tom Gleeson (Resident Priest 8557 1072, tegleeson@bigpond.com)
- Sr Margaret Ann (Parish worker -0488 287 552, maconnelly@goodsams.org.au)
- Gael Maloney (Parish Office and Newsletter - articles due Wednesday -0447 421 948, bahloo2@bigpond.com)
- Parish Finance Officer -Thia van Kuyk (0428 238 397, tntvank65@gmail.com)

MASS CENTRES

- Mary of Galilee, cnr Quinliven and How Roads, ALDINGA - Galilee
- St Peter's, Cape Jervis Road, NORMANVILLE
- St Joseph's, St Judes St, WILLUNGA

MASS TIMES

- SATURDAY EVENING 5.30pm Aldinga Beach (Mary of Galilee)
- FIRST, THIRD, FIFTH SUNDAYS 8.30am Willunga (St Joseph's) 10.30am Normanville (St Peter's)
- SECOND, FOURTH SUNDAYS 8.30am Normanville (St Peter's 10.30am Willunga (St Joseph's)



FIRST READING

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16
Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel: I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you

great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 88:2-5, 27, 29

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING

Romans 16:25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

(Continued page 4)



Mon No Masses - Willunga Parish

9.00am - Noarlunga

Tue 9.15am - Aldinga
Wed 9.00am - Willunga
Thur 9.00am - Willunga
Fri 9.00am - Willunga
12.00noon - Normanville

WEEKEND MASSES

(Times on front page of this bulletin)

PRIEST ROSTER WEEKENDS

(This roster may change if something unforeseen crops up)

23 Dec 5.30pm - Aldinga, Fr Josy
24 Dec 8.30am - N/ville, Fr Josy
10.30am - Willunga, Fr Tom
30 Dec 5.30pm - Aldinga, Fr Dominick
31 Dec 8.30am - Willunga, Fr Dominick

10.30am - N/ville, Fr Tom

PRIEST ROSTER CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS EVE (Sun, December 24)

4.00pm - Normanville - Fr Dominick 6.30pm - Aldinga - Fr Dominick 7.00pm - Willunga - Fr Tom

12.00 midnight - Willunga - Fr Dominck

CHRISTMAS DAY (Mon, December 25)

9.00am - Willunga - Fr Tom 9.00am - Normanville - Fr Josy

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



CHRISTMAS EVE (Sunday, December 24)

4.00pm - St Peter's, Normanville 6.30pm - Mary of Galilee, Aldinga 7.00pm - St Joseph's, Willunga 12midnight - St Joseph's, Willunga

CHRISTMAS DAY (Monday, December 25)

9.00am - St Joseph's, Willunga 9.00am - St Peter's, Normanville

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Second Sunday in January
On Sunday 14 January the Women's
Tour Down Under event will be
travelling through Willunga twice.
Mass at Willunga would normally
have been at 10.30am (second Sunday
in the month) and Normanville Mass
at 8.30am.

The large crowds and road closures in and around Willunga mid-morning will make it very difficult for any St Joseph's parishioners to get both to and from a 10.30am Mass. For this reason, Masses at both centres have been rescheduled. Mass will be celebrated at 8.30am at St Joseph's and at 10.30am at St Peter's.

VINNIES' PANTRY



Every Thursday Kevin Liston and Christine Jones operate the St Vincent de Paul pantry from the Aldinga Community Centre.

Non perishable items are urgently needed to replenish their stocks. A basket for any donations has been placed under the tree at St Joseph's and at Mary of Galilee.

Goods will be collected from the Church each week until Christmas Day. With thanks for your generosity.

Kevin and Christine via Sr Margaret Ann

A PLACE FOR GOD TO LIVE

(Luke 1: 26 - 38)

Mary is called the Ark of the Covenant because, of all the places God chooses to dwell, Mary's womb is the most surprising. The Ark built in Moses' time was an elaborate throne; the Temple that housed it more astonishing still. But neither feat of craftmanship compared with the body of a young girl

astonishing still. But neither feat of craftmanship compared with the body of a young girl who embraced the opportunity to serve God so intimately. She was not only a vessel of Godlife, but her life upheld and sustained that union. Mary knit her human life together with God's. Only a mother understands how completely a unity Mary had to make with divinity to arrive at that communion.

The Church calls us to be Christ-bearers too. We carry Christ within us in a mystical way that is nonetheless real. We share Christ-life in our sacraments and are temples of the Holy Spirit, reserves of wonder and awe. We're called to prepare the way for God to pitch a tent in our midst. God's house will never be a gated community, reserved for a privileged few. We hold a treasure, like Mary did; not for ourselves, but for the world.

Pray: There are times, Comforting One, when we feel puzzled by what we sense your Spirit is leading us to do. In those times, we feel afraid and very alone. Let us hear, in our hearts, the message to "not be afraid" and the reminder that you are with us still. Amen.

Ponder: Be a Christ-bearer this Christmas. Don't just bring gifts and Christmas cake, but also a spirit of reconciliation, compassion, and welcome wherever you go this holiday season.

GPBS eNews

KIDS' CORNER

Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. (Luke 1: 35)

It's the last Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve! For many families, there's a lot to do today, so things might be a little stressful at your house. Here's a way you can make today more fun for everyone. Find out what you can do to help your family today. Maybe you can help clean the bathroom or set the table. Maybe you can read to a little brother or sister or get them ready for church.

Before you know it, it will be tomorrow – and you know what that means! Merry Christmas!

GPBS eNews





Our parishioners are always given advance notice of this concert. However, once the company begins their own advertising, the best seats may no longer be available. We offer designated seating.

CHAMBER

PHILHARMONIA

COLOGNE

Parishioners are now

able to book for the

January. The same concert will be

3.00pm and 8.00pm.

concerts on Sunday, 28

before seats are allocated.

Tickets are the same price as they were in 2020 (the last concert before Covid struck): Adults \$50, Children (under 12) \$35.

Payment is required

For bookings please contact Gael Maloney (0447 421 948 - leave a message, if necessary). Payments by cash or bank transfer - no cheques please. Bank Acc: Concert tickets - BSB: 065-188 - Acc no: 100 622 69 Reference: Your surname.

COLLECTIONS

09/10: 16/17 December

\$1006.00 First collection \$568.00 Envelopes \$849.00 Unpledged

(Direct debits not included)

Thank you for your support - it is much appreciated.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

A Leaving Collection at Christmas Masses will be taken up for Catholic Charities, which provides much-needed funds to Hutt St Centre, Centacare Catholic Family Services, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Our Lady of La Vang and St Patrick's special schools. Your donations, regardless of their size, will make a profound difference in the lives of those who rely on the support of Catholic Charities.

ROSTERS

Saturday 23 December ALDINGA Welcomer A Woodhouse, N Ellis Commentator **David Manders** Readers Cristina Tiedie Tricia Dundon

Eucharistic Minister Judi Driscoll

NORMANVILLE Sunday, 24 December

Welcomer Peter Bohnsack Commentator Thia van Kuyk Reader Nigel Pile

Patsy & Jim Fitzpatrick Altar/Cleaning

Sunday, 24 December WILLUNGA

Commentator Gael Maloney Reader Anna Rogers Eucharistic Minister Wayne Best **Flowers** Vanda Farrall Church Linen Wayne Best

Saturday 30 December

A Woodhouse, C Kelly Cristina Tiedje Chris McWilliams Michelle Cormack Lorraine Ellis

Sunday, 31 December

Peter Lloyd Trish Bohnsack Nigel Pile Nigel Pile, Leo Montgomery

Sunday, 31 December

John Tregeagle Norman Lee Steve Maglieri Tony Harding Viv Zagajewska

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Janet Burbidge, Rainer Maack, Adrian Andrews, Vi Corkin, Deirdre Boyd, Jim Smith, Janette McIver, Marie Andrews, Michael Casey

Anniversaries: Sarah and Christopher Lane, Anne and Ian

Please pray for all the faithful departed and may all our sick parishioners, relatives and friends know the healing love of Christ.

DATES

24 Dec 4th Sunday of Advent 24/25 Dec See Christmas times elsewhere in this bulletin

25 Dec Catholic Charities Appeal 31 Dec The Holy family Jesus, Mary and Joseph

2024

1 Jan New Year's Day

Women's Tour Down Under 14 Jan event - Willunga

20 Jan Men's Tour Down Under event - Willunga

28 Jan Philharmonia Cologne concerts 3.00pm and 8.00pm

29 Jan First day, School term 1

14 Feb Ash Wednesday 18 Feb 1st Sunday of Lent

25 Feb 2nd Sunday of Lent

3 Mar 3rd Sunday of Lent

10 Mar 4th Sunday of Lent 17 Mar 5th Sunday of Lent

18 Mar St Patrick's Day

24 Mar Palm Sunday of the Passion

28 Mar Thursday of Lord's supper

29 Mar Friday of Passion of the Lord

30 Mar Holy Saturday

31 Mar Sunday of the Resurrection

12 Apr Last day School term 1

25 Apr ANZAC Day

29 Apr First day School term 2

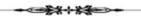


COMPLIANCE WITH COVID-19 REGULATIONS

(Current from 21/12/23)



- If you have tested positive for COVID-19 please stay home until you have fully recovered.
- Sick and high risk/vulnerable people are also requested to stay home.
- Hand sanitiser is available at Church entrances.
- Communion is given only in hands.



DID YOU KNOW?

- From the time of the Exile in Babylon, Israel had longed for the Messiah to come. He was to be the anointed one of God and the prophets foretold that he would come from the House of David and be born in David's home town of Bethlehem.
- According to Luke's Gospel, Mary and Joseph live in Nazareth in the north and travel to Bethlehem to be counted in the census because Joseph is of David's line and must return to his 'home' country.

EXPLORING THE WORD

Annunciation stories are a regular literary form. There are a number of such stories in the Hebrew Scriptures; for example, the births of Isaac, Samson and Samuel and, of course, Luke has already recorded the annunciation of John the Baptist. The purpose of the annunciation story is to let the reader know what role the person whose birth is announced will play in salvation history. In this sense they are a device rather than a strictly historical narration, although clearly based on ancient memory. In the annunciation of the birth of Jesus, however, there are elements which surpass all other annunciation stories. The emphasis is on the creative action of the Holy Spirit, Mary's cooperation with God's will, and it establishes Jesus' transcendental origins. The role that the child to be born is to play in salvation history is defined in terms of Davidic Messiahship and in this last Sunday of Advent we stand on the brink of the fulfillment of the promise made to Mary of messianic hope for the world. The tension of the waiting of Advent is almost over.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lk 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High.

The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David: he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: vour kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son. and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

IT'S A MIRACLE!

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to the Galilean village of Nazareth to a virgin engaged to be married to a man descended from David. His name was Joseph, and the virgin's name, Mary. Upon entering,

Gabriel greeted her: Good morning! You're beautiful with God's beauty, beautiful inside and out! God be with you. (Luke 1: 26 - 28)

Miracles and childbirth seem to go hand in hand. It is a miracle people are courageous enough to bear children given all that can go wrong. It is a miracle anyone conceives a child given the biological precision required. It is a miracle that the baby survives its time in the womb given all the possible genetic and healthcare threats. It is a miracle that the trauma of childbirth doesn't overwhelm the baby and its parents more than it usually does. It is a miracle that more often than not. even in remote areas, the mother doesn't die from infection. It is a miracle that despite even the most incredible odds, most babies thrive and grow. Conception and childbirth are miracles. Period.

Jesus' conception and birth are no exception. They point to a truth that anyone who watches a child come into the world knows as the truth: that love exists - as a separate, all-powerful being outside ourselves, and we are graced with its presence everyday of our lives. Hail Mary, for her role in bringing this truth to life.

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THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(25 - 31 December)

- *Monday, 25:* CHRISTMAS DAY Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18)
- *Tuesday, 26:* St Stephen (Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22)
- *Wednesday, 27:* St John (1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:2-8)
- *Thursday, 28:* The Holy Innocents (1 Jn 1:5 2:2; Mt 2:13-18)
- *Friday, 29:* 5th day in Octave of Nativity (1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35)
- *Saturday, 30:* 6th day in Octave of Nativity (1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40)
- *Sunday 31:* The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Gen 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40)

PASTORAL CARE

If you need a priest for anointing prior to medical treatment or if you are ill (not necessarily life-threatening) or for last rites please contact: (08) 8556 2132 or 0488 287 552.