



# Wodonga Catholic Parish

Including Bethanga, Dederang, Mt Beauty, Tangambalanga, Tallangatta & Coryong  
Communities



## December 20th -2020 - 4th Sunday of Advent Year B

### WODONGA PARISH CENTRE

283 Beechworth Road  
Wodonga Vic 3690:  
Phone: 02 6024 3366  
E-mail Address:  
wodonga@sandhurst.catholic.org.au  
wodongacatholicparish.com.au

### OFFICE HOURS

9:30 am - 4:00 pm  
Monday to Friday

### PRESBYTERY

55 High Street Wodonga Vic

### PARISH PRIEST

Father Junjun Amaya  
0459-356-917

### ASSISTANT PRIEST

Father Shibu  
Pezhumthottathil  
0432 591 551

### PASTORAL ASSISTANT

Sister Eileen Reardon  
0458 327 554 (Mt Beauty)

### WEEKEND MASSES

#### WODONGA

#### Sacred Heart Church

Saturday 5:00 pm.  
Sunday 8:30 am 11.00 am  
4th Sunday of each month  
Youth Mass 5:00 pm

#### TANGAMBALANGA

#### Our Lady Help of Christians

2nd & 4th Sunday 10:30 am

#### BETHANGA

St Francis No Masses

#### DEDERANG

#### St Joseph's

1st, 3rd, Sunday 10.30 Mass  
5th Sunday 10:30 am Liturgy  
of The Word and Communion

#### MT BEAUTY

#### St Joseph's

1st to 4th Sunday 8.30am  
5th Sunday 8.30am Liturgy of  
The Word and Communion

#### WEEKDAY MASS:

Sacred Heart Church  
Tuesday to Friday 9:15 am

#### SATURDAY

St Augustine's Church  
Saturday 9.30am

#### RECONCILIATION:

Sacred Heart Church  
Saturday 9.00am to 9.30am  
Country Churches: Before Mass

## Advent Prayer

In His love Christ has filled us with joy as we prepare to celebrate His birth, so that when He comes He may find us watching in prayer, our hearts filled with wonder and praise. *Advent Preface II*

## Pope Francis' Encyclical: Fratelli Tutti



It is an act of charity to assist someone suffering, but it is also an act of charity, even if we do not know that person, to work to change the social conditions that caused his or her suffering. If someone helps an elderly person cross a river, that is a fine act of charity. The politician, on the other hand, builds a bridge, and that too is an act of charity. While one person can help another by providing something to eat, the politician creates a job for that other person, and thus practices a lofty form of charity that ennobles his or her political activity. (186)

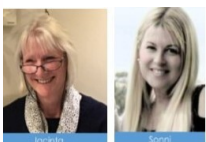
## Looking at the Readings:

In the potted biography of King David presented in the first reading God promises that David's sovereignty will stand secure and his throne established forever. This promise is repeated in the Gospel reading. Here the angel Gabriel speaks to Mary about her future Son, Jesus. We also hear that Mary pondered all these prophecies in her heart and wondered what they may mean and how they are to eventuate. Mary's response called for trust and hope.

Advent is full of promise and hope, trustfulness and, indeed, freedom. God has the freedom to dwell where he wills. Through the Prophet Nathan, God rebuked David's idea to build a temple for God to dwell. Instead God will build a house for the people, the House of David. Gabriel visited Mary, recalling the promise to the House of David. God chose Mary to be the dwelling place of the Saviour, Jesus. Mary, in turn, had the freedom to accept or decline the offer. Jesus' birth goes beyond the stable, beyond Bethlehem and its lands. Jesus' birth recreates God's presence in the world and in our lives. The Word has dwelt among us. We have the freedom to accept God's Word in our home.

## Quote for Advent:

Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man. *Pope Francis*



## A Safe Parish Is a Shared Responsibility:

Wodonga Catholic Parish Safety Officers. Our Parish Safety officers are  
Jacinta Bartlett Ph: 0418470532 and Sonia La Motte-Schubert Ph: 60243366

Towards Healing help line 1800 816 030 (free call) Lifeline is a non-profit  
Organisation FREE 24-hour: Crisis Support Phone: 13 11 14



## 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."

## 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.

## 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: your 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.

### Readings this week

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16  
Romans 16:25-17  
Luke 1:26-38

### Readings next week:

Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3  
Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19  
Luke 2:22-40

### Responsorial Psalm:

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation

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

### Prayer of the Faithful:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Recent Deaths: Harry McAuliffe

Anniversaries: Bonifacio Caraig,

Sick Zak Oliver, Kath Twycross, Salome Ramirez, Ric Glavocih, Mary Shaddock, Ricky Ellul, John Radcliffe, parishioners who are ill, their families & Carers

December 28th marks the 10th anniversary of the death of our beloved Bishop Joe Grech.

Joseph Angelo Grech (10 December 1948 – 28 December 2010) was a Roman Catholic bishop in Australia.

Born in Balzan, Malta on 10 December 1948. After studies in the local schools, he moved to Melbourne, Australia, where he continued his studies. He was ordained a priest on 30 November 1974 in his home town, before returning to Melbourne to take up parish duties.

He became an auxiliary bishop of the Melbourne archdiocese in 1998.

On 8 March 2001, he was appointed the Bishop of Sandhurst, based in the regional Victorian city of Bendigo. He was installed on 27 April and served in that position until his death from a blood disorder on 28 December 2010.

*This year we will have Mass at Sacred Heart Church on **Monday the 28th of December –9:15am** to remember Bishop Joe. We will also gather after this Mass for morning tea as our Parish priest Fr Junjun shares this day as his birthday.*

**Social distancing to be observed.**

## Christmas Tree of Remembrance



Parishioners are invited to remember deceased family members and friends, by writing a message on the cards provided and hanging them on the Christmas tree in the foyer of Sacred Heart Church.

### Liturgical Jottings:

#### Liturgical Time

Liturgical time combines cosmic time, historical time and Salvation history. It brings past events into the present and assists the participants to be aware of and look forward to the future. We use earthly time to calculate the times to celebrate the mysteries and events of God and humanity. Earth and Heaven meet in the liturgy. The cyclical nature of seasons and feasts form the rhythm of the annual celebrations of significant times of our salvation: Easter, Pentecost, Christmas, Epiphany and their accompanying seasons.



## Daily Mass Books 2021 - Break Open the Word Year B - 2021 Calendars & Christmas Cards

Orders are being taken for the 2021 Daily Mass Books, Break Open the Word Year B, 2021 Calendars & Christmas Cards. To place your order please contact Cecilia McCormick on 0428 186 841

# Celebrating Mass

## Restrictions Have Eased!

We are now able to have 100 people in our church celebrating Mass.

### BOOKING IS REQUIRED:

Please book by phoning The Parish Centre 60243366.

Please wear a Mask and maintain social distancing:

Please note these Masses are being live streamed

## Weekend Mass

Saturday morning - 9:30 am -

ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH- WODONGA

Saturday - 5 pm -

SACRED HEART CHURCH-WODONGA

Sunday - 8:30 am & 10:30 -

SACRED HEART CHURCH-WODONGA

## Weekday Mass

Tuesday - Friday- 9:15 am

SACRED HEART CHURCH-WODONGA

**Can't Attend a Mass ?  
then....**

**It's time to get social**



Find us on Facebook -

<https://www.facebook.com/wodongacatholicparish/>

Morning Mass, Tuesdays to Friday—Weekend Mass,

Holy Hour - Evening Prayer, Holy Rosary and Benediction will be live streamed at Wodonga Catholic Parish Facebook Page.



For further information Phone

Fr Junjun Amaya Ph: 0459356917 or the Parish Centre: Ph: 60243366.

# PARISH FINANCES

As no volunteers have come forward to replace John and Terry in maintaining the financial records and affairs of the Parish, consideration will have to be given to contracting out the financial recording work.

It is disappointing that it has come to this after the last forty plus years of this work being done by volunteers.

There was Gerald Tanner for some thirty years and then John and Terry who transferred the financial recording to a computer system.

However, even contracting out the financial recording work will require some degree of volunteering in the form of a Finance Committee to advise and support Fr Junjun in the financial and physical operation of the Parish.

There will need to be oversight of the finance recording contract with regular reporting by the contractor, as well as items that come up regularly regarding general maintenance, operations and liaison with the agent managing 19 Church Street.

Catholic Parishes survive largely on volunteers supporting the Parish Priest, but there comes a time when a volunteer feels they can do no more and that time has come for us.

It is our Parish and it needs fresh help, so let Fr Junjun know if you can help in this area or if he comes and asks you, please listen and support him.

Thank you.

John Walpole and Terry Smith.

## Just for Giggles

### True story

The nativity play was going as planned and Joseph and Mary were going from house to house knocking on the doors and asking if there was any room for them....

As they continued to get "no room" answers ...

a little voice called from the back "YOU SHOULD HAVE BOOKED!"

*The moral to this true story - don't forget to book for Christmas Masses...*

Please NOTE: Booking is Essential

Please book by calling The Parish Centre 60243366.

wear a mask and maintain social distancing:

Please note these Masses will be live streamed.

## Wodonga Catholic Parish

# Christmas Mass Times - 2020

## Filipino Christmas Novena Mass

December 15th to December 23rd St Augustine's Church - 7:00 pm

## Christmas Eve Mass Times

### Christmas Eve Mass:

Sacred Heart Church Wodonga

December 24<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 pm

Sacred Heart Church Wodonga

December 24<sup>th</sup> - 8:30 pm

Our Lady Help of Christians, Tangambalanga

December 24<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm

## CHRISTMAS DAY MASS TIMES

Sacred Heart Church, Wodonga - 8:30 & 10:30 am

St Joseph's Church, Mt Beauty - 8:30 am

St Joseph's Church, Dederang - 10:30 am