



Our Lady Queen of Apostles Parish, Stafford

[A Parish of the Brisbane North West Deanery]

Vision: "To follow the example of Jesus by serving others."

Third Sunday of Advent (Year C) 15th/16th December, 2018

Our Religious Goods Shop!
You can buy some great items to express your faith and even to do so combined with Christmas Gifts or Cards. You can also order more expensive items such as bibles, special statues or other items as gifts for



children celebrating Sacraments or even as a way to "put Christ into Christmas." We accept Credit Cards (no cash out—sorry). Drop in straight after Mass and have a look. (Don't leave it too late though—our volunteers also

have homes to go to.

The "Stable" and Christmas Tree are here!—but a long way from being finished (It's **only ADVENT** still!!)

- Parents in the midst of the commercial pre-Christmas chaos, before and after Mass is a relatively quiet time. Why not let your kids wonder and try to guess what will be added to the stable over the next week (and what has been added from last week??) **ADVENT is a time of waiting and expectation**—this will help your kids.



Pope Francis said that safeguarding children was the Church's top priority, and was more important than preserving its reputation or avoiding scandal.



"Families should also know that they have every right to turn to the Church with full confidence, for it is a safe and secure home. Consequently, priority must not be given to any other kind of concern, whatever its nature, such as the desire to avoid scandal, since there is absolutely no place in ministry for those who abuse mi-

nors." He said, "Pastors and those in charge of religious communities should be available to meet with victims and their loved ones; such meetings are valuable opportunities for listening to those who have greatly suffered and for asking their forgiveness," he added. He revealed that "This experience reaffirmed my conviction that everything possible must be done to rid the Church of the scourge of the sexual abuse of minors and to open pathways of reconciliation and healing for those who were abused,"



Our Website—(www.staffordcatholicparish.org.au)
How long since you checked it out? Have you discovered the "new" stuff?? E.g. On the Home page, you will find "Quick Links" which includes (besides a welcome letter to newcomers):

[Worship Times](#), [Newsletters](#), [Parish Location](#)

[Prayer & Reflection](#) (A new "two-minute homily every week (from Friday), Daily Prayer resources, etc)

[Sacramental Preparation](#) (What's needed, paperwork etc)

[Child & Vulnerable Adult Care](#) (info from Archdiocese re Child and Vulnerable Adult protection policies)

[Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals](#) (How to arrange etc)

[Parish Calendar](#), [Photo Gallery](#)

[Tennis Court Hire](#) (How to hire, etc)

[Forms & Downloads](#) (Paperwork of all kinds incl Direct Debit requests and Credit Card payments)

[Queen of Apostles Primary School](#)

Vinnie's Gifting Tree Appeal — Donated Food

Items for food hampers made up by our Vinnie's volunteers can be **placed in/around the nativity stable**. Please bring



YOUR DONATIONS FOR HAMPERS no later than tomorrow (Monday) morning. Financial donations can be **given any time using the envelopes** or the "poor boxes" at the back of the church. On behalf of the Stafford Conference of St Vincent De Paul we would like to say a **big thank you** for your continued support.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
Fourth Sunday of Advent (YEAR C)

1st Reading: Micah 5:1-4

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel: Luke 1:39-44



Counters Roster: Team E-- Kev and Trish McGrory, Alan & Helen Gibney, John Mahony and Aileen Kyle. The counting roster for 2019 is in Mary's room for those who don't have email.

Christmas/New Year counters are required for 24th Dec and 31st Dec and perhaps 27th Dec. If you find yourself available on 31st December, please come along to help.

STAFFORD KEDRON CHURCHES TOGETHER: pray this week for the parishioners at St Paul's.

RELIGIOUS GOODS SHOP: We have EFTPOS! The Columban Calendars have arrived. They are still only \$9. There is also a great range of children's books which make great gifts. We have catalogues with a huge range of gift ideas for new babies, Baptism, birthdays and other special occasions. We also have a limited number of Advent Calendars.

The parish car park is for the use of those visiting the parish and school. We are aware that commuters are using our carpark, particularly midweek and taking a bus to the city. If you are wanting to use our carpark and leave the area, please advise the office.

The annual Christmas Lights festival at St Gerard Majella, Chermside West is now on and will continue every night till 23rd December. Huge lights display, Gift Shop, Coffee Shop, Barbecue, Drinks, ice Creams and Op Shop all operating from 6pm till 10pm nightly. Free entertainment every night. The program for our free concerts can be found on our website: www.olaparishchermside.org.au.



"Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God." (Phillipians 4:6)

St. Paul reminds us that our God is an abundant God, the ultimate giver of gifts. He promises to give us all that we need. When we trust that God will take care of us, it is easier for us to share what we have been given.

Our ADVENT preparation for CHRISTMAS:
ADVENT—CHRISTMAS LITURGY TIMES ETC

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturdays starting at 4pm until no one is waiting.

MASS TIMES 22/23 Dec to 1st Jan

4th Sunday of Advent (22nd /23rd Dec):

Sat 5pm, Sun 7am & 9am only.

(No Sunday 5.30pm Mass)

Christmas Eve:

6pm (Mass with adapted Liturgy of Word for children)

9pm (our "Midnight" Mass)

NOTE: There is NO morning Mass on the 24th.

Christmas Day:

8am **only** (No 5.30pm Mass on Christmas Day)

Thurs 27th, Fri 28th—Masses as per usual.

Weekend 29/30th Dec:

Sat 5pm, Sun 7am & 9am only.

(No Sunday 5.30pm Mass)

NEW YEAR'S EVE:

Mon 31st Dec: 6pm Vigil for the Feast of the "Mary, Mother of God" and New Years Eve.

NOTE: There is NO Monday morning Mass on the 31st.

Tues 1st Jan, Wed 2nd Jan: No Mass or other Liturgy.

Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th - Mass as per usual.

Sat/Sun 5th/6th January onwards: Mass and Liturgy times will return to normal.

The tradition of **Christmas Eve Supper** continues this year after 9pm Mass. Please bring a plate of goodies to share with each other and take the opportunity to welcome any visitors we may have with us.



Jesus asks us to demonstrate our love for Him through our generosity to others. In our everyday lives, He calls us to share our gifts. "Amen I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25: 40) Please consider a gift in any amount given through your Will to strengthen our Parish. For more information about how you can leave a legacy to Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish, call the Catholic Foundation at 3324 3200 or call the parish office.

Roster for Christmas and New Year Masses

Have been prepared. The roster will be emailed out and a few copies will be in Mary's room.

Thank you all for your help in preparing this roster.

The Stranger

BY MICHAEL DARBY

Michael, 62, is a former army officer and Chinese interpreter, who now calls himself a "full-time poet". A lover of bush poetry and author of a 1000-page anthology of poems, he lives in Sydney.

*They were singing hymns and praying in that little country town
All thankful for the end of drought as the rain come tumbling down.
The little church was nearly full at the corner of the lane
When a stranger softly slipped inside to shelter from the rain.*

*He was small and he was shivering and each boot had sprung a leak
With sore feet and empty wallet he'd been tramping for a week.
They took up a collection for the homeless and the poor
But no one met the stranger who sat just inside the door.*

*He was small and he was shivering; he was hungry, he was thin
Caught out in the downpour he was soaked right to the skin.
Some of them gave generously and some of them gave more
But that didn't help the stranger dripping water on the floor.*

*They'd donated mounds of clothing, whatever they could spare
But no one asked the stranger if he had a coat to wear.
They were singing hymns and praying and their faith was wide and deep
But no one asked the stranger if he had a place to sleep.*

*They were singing hymns and smiling and their faith was very real
But no one asked the stranger when last he'd had a meal.
When they reached the benediction, the heavens paused the rain
And the lonely traveller prepared to face the road again.*

*The faithful clustered in the porch, their friends to meet and greet
But no one asked the stranger if he'd like a bite to eat.
The wind was whistling shrill and cold and the sky was leaden grey
The preacher shook the stranger's hand, but then was called away.*

*Not a word to the stranger did anybody say
They never learned the sorrows that had turned his steps their way.
They served refreshments in the hall and the mood was light and free
But no one asked the stranger if he'd like a cup of tea.*

*Not a word to the stranger did anybody speak
They'd never know the burdens that are carried by the weak.
When Jesus shall return to earth, will all the trumpets blare?
Or will He be a stranger, thin and worn from want of care?*

*They were singing hymns and praying in the little country town
All thankful for the end of the drought as the rain kept pouring down.
They were singing hymns and praying, the women and the men
But they hardly saw the stranger, for he wasn't one of them.*

The lights of Christmas - St Stephen's comes alive this Christmas.!

Gather on the lawn at the Cathedral of St Stephen to celebrate the joy of



Christmas with an extraordinary light and sound show every evening from Wednesday 12 December until Christmas Eve.

All the family will enjoy a beautifully animated tale, which celebrates the power of giving and brings alive the true spirit of Christmas.

The 12 minute show, by the creators of the Lights of Christmas at St Mary's Cathedral in Sydney, will run continuously from 7.30pm each night. Traditional artworks of Madonna and Child will follow the animation, illuminating the Cathedral's historic walls.

The Lights of Christmas is set to be one of Brisbane's

most captivating events this festive season. We hope you can join us.

Where: Cathedral of St Stephen, 249 Elizabeth Street

When: 12-24 December

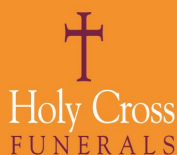
Time: 7.30pm – midnight

COLLECTIONS

Date	2nd Dec	9th Dec
1st Collection	\$415.85	\$494.00
2nd Collection	\$760.50	\$797.50
Loose	\$763.25	\$687.20
DD 1st (Nov)	\$2183.50	
DD 2nd (Nov)	\$7844.40	

Tennis Courts for Hire with lights

CHEAP RATES!
Bookings available through the office Monday to Thursday



*The only funeral service owned and operated by
the Catholic Church*

Ph: (07) 3293 0555 Web: www.holycrossfunerals.com

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish Office

Address: 70 Appleby Road, Stafford 4053

Parish E-mail: stafford@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish WEBSITE: www.staffordcatholicparish.org.au

Parish Administrator: Fr Denis Scanlan

Fr Denis' E-mail: pp.stafford@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Pastoral Council: ppcstafford@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: Debra Visser

Office Hrs: Mon, Tues, Thur: 9.00am—3.30pm

Office Telephone: 3356 7155

Parish Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

Representative :Cath D'Hage

Parish School "Queen of Apostles"

Address: 10 Thuruna Street, Stafford 4053

School email: pstafford@bne.catholic.edu.au

School Team: Principal: Nigel Bird

APA: Anne-Marie Maw

APRE: Kirsten Karey

School Secretaries: Thuruna St: Vera Fitzgerald

Chuter St: (Mon) Jacqui Collett

Chuter St: (Tues-Fri) Mary-Anne Coppolecchia

School Office Hrs: 8.00am - 4.00pm

Telephone (Thuruna St:) 3352 9200

Telephone (Chuter St:) 3326 0400

FUTURE WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Mon	17th	8.30am	Mass
Tues	18th	8.30am	Morning Prayer and Communion
Wed	19th	9.30am	No Social Club
Thurs	20th	8.30am	Mass
Fri	21st	9.00am	Mass
Sat	22nd	4.00pm 5.00pm	Reconciliation (until no one is waiting) Mass
Sun	23rd	7.00am 9.00am 2.30pm	Mass Mass MMP Rosary No Mass Tonight

BAPTISMS in this Parish occur at

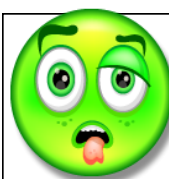
10.30am on the Third Sunday of each Month (except during Lent).

For BAPTISM PREPARATION please contact the Parish Office (3356 7155).



ANOINTING OF THE SICK - immediately

after Mass : 3rd Sun of Month (ex Oct).



You may add a **sick person's name** to the list by phoning the Parish Office (3356 7155). **To keep the list 'fresh'** the last four names each week will be deleted. If their illness continues, let's know and we'll add them to the start of the list.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES

Our Sick: John Blumke, Mary Law, Nora Stevens, Peter Muir, Pam Ward, Jim Graham, Donna Geddes, Dominic Waters, Anne Gallagher, Julia Geatches and Michael Donaldson,

Our Recently Deceased: Keith Kyle, Maria Terre, John Forestal, Garry Maynard, Bonnie Lennox and Pat Neilson.

Those We Remember: Michael O'Donnell, Ron Rynders, Molly Vlug, Des OBrien, Angela Robertson, Cliff Devereaux, John Goldby, Ken Barker, Roy and Olive O'Sullivan and all deceased Parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed, killed or dispossessed because of their faith.

The Catholic Leader: Keeping faith with you Still only \$2

- Former Adelaide Archbishop Philip Wilson has won a court appeal against his conviction for failing to report allegations of child sexual abuse by a priest.
- Research reveals suicide is the leading cause of death in men aged 15-44 The Church joins forces with other denominations and faith groups to bolster religious instruction in Queensland's state schools.
- Refugee chef from war-torn Syria is cooking up a fresh start by sharing his culinary skills and culture at a newly-opened bakery-cafe in Underwood, Brisbane.
- Catholic schools look back on a year of commitment to living out Laudato Si'.
- Australian Franciscan Friar at home in the priesthood after his twelve-year journey.

