



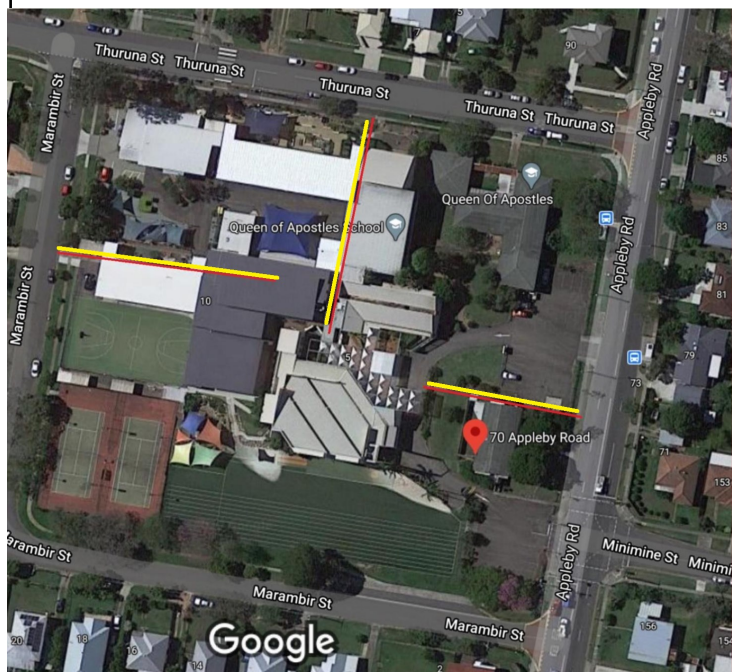
Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish, Stafford

A Parish of the Brisbane North West Deanery

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

Third Sunday of Advent— Year B 12th/13th Dec 2020

If you need to come to the Church and/or Office this week, remember that work is being done on the Carparks and so there is **no parking** here and the way you enter is via **the pathways below**. Hopefully all the work will be done by Friday.



Our ADVENT preparation for CHRISTMAS: Celebrating the Forgiveness of our Sins: (Please book in with **EVENTBRITE**, if possible—it makes things easier at the door!)

Why not celebrate our common Sinfulness and that God never ceases to forgive and show us mercy? On **this MONDAY (14th December, 7.00pm)**, we will celebrate the Second Rite of Penance. **How to do that??** All those who wish to celebrate are asked to consider their sins, (spend some time reflecting on **"why do I do these things"**) and **write them and your answer down on a piece of paper** BEFORE coming to church that night (DO NOT include your name!!). The basic structure of the Second Rite is: Introduction, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of Penance and concluding rite. During the Liturgy of Penance, you will process forward, hand your **OPEN sheet** of paper to Father, receive Absolution and return to your place.

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Jesus was never upset with sinners; he was only upset with people who did not think they were sinners! (An article by Fr Richard Rohr)



CHRISTMAS LITURGIES



LIKE the Holy Family trekking all the way to Bethlehem to register for the census, all Brisbane Catholics must reach out to their local parish to register for Christmas Masses.

Christmas Masses are among the most popular of the year and once COVID-safe capacities are reached, parish workers will have to turn people away and direct them to live-streamed Masses.

Anyone who has family, friends or neighbours who are unaware of the COVID-safe rules and intends on going to Mass, should make sure to let them know that they will need to register with the parish they are planning to attend. It would be best to check local parish websites for details on their booking arrangements first.

When booking for Christmas mass, please only book for yourselves. Do not reserve seats for others 'just in case'. We do have limited seating and we want to fill all available seats. Be gracious and consider others—we don't want bookings to reach capacity and then have a half empty church at Christmas with the 'just in case' people not showing up. **We will not be accepting any walk-ins!**

♦ **Christmas EVE (Thurs): 5pm, 7pm, 9pm.** (Because of limited numbers and 5pm not providing time for all the working parents to attend, there will be no dedicated "Family" mass this year.)

♦ **Christmas DAY (Fri) 8am**

♦ **Saturday 26th Dec 5pm & Sunday 27th Dec 9am**



We hope to 'ZOOM' at least one of the Christmas Masses and at least one of the Weekend Masses if all our technology and training is complete.

I am very conscious that in these times of COVID, there are **some sick and/or elderly people** who always used to come to mass and **can no longer do so**. To ensure that they continue to really feel a part of our worshipping community, we have installed **new AV equipment** (a new **screen** that is clearer in all lighting, **Cameras** to broadcast our Mass into the homes, and **technology** whereby those in the church and at home will be able to see each other). It cost about **\$35000** – if you'd like to donate to help defray that cost you can do so with money in an envelope, Eftpos/ Credit Card (at the office) or bank transfer using this link [Make a Donation to our Parish](#)

It is wonderful to have some people inquire of the Finance Council about the amount of money spent on the AV (Audio Visual) renewal (it is the Parish's, i.e.

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year B)

1st Reading: Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

2nd Reading: St Paul 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38



YOUR money). They have wondered about the wise use of our parish finances. The Parish Finance Council does a wonderful job in ensuring good stewardship of our resources. We have kept a tight control on our expenses over the years and have budgeted for future projects and maintenance.

With regard to the new AV equipment, for the sake of our parishioners, we determined that the expense is warranted (see some of the benefits above.) Parishioners would be conscious of problems we have with our current system which is now almost 10 years old (installed in 2011). The cost of the screen, projector and speakers was \$19264 then. The cost of the replacement screen and projection equipment will be \$24120. (The extra cost is for the cameras and audio equipment to cater for those at home).

These costings are within our budget to ensure we can provide the best experience for our parishioners and others possible. As we do every year, parishioners are invited to peruse our financial statements on request.

The Queen Of Apostles Men's Group meets on the third Friday of the month. It is open to any senior gents in the parish - married, widowed, single, clergy, retired or working. They will meet on **Friday 18th December** at Café 63, **Stafford City** 10.30am. All Welcome. **Phone Gary McLean (ph 3863 4149) for more information.**



IN QUEENSLAND EXCERPT— TALES FROM 2020

If you haven't come across the alternative to the Newscorp and Nine Newspapers yet 'In Queensland' is a start up online paper. It recently featured Archbishop Mark reflecting on preaching to an empty Cathedral and getting used to Zoom on the run:

<https://inql.com.au/insights/tales-of-2020/2020/12/04/tales-of-2020-archbishop-markcoleridge-hold-tuesday/>

Advent 2020 with Bruce Downes

The Catholic Guy Join me and people all around the world and Expect the Unexpected! Sign up for a free daily email devotional that will guide you on a life-changing journey through Advent. Starting November 29th you'll receive daily emails with short inspirational videos from Bruce Downes, full of real life stories and practical ways to become all that God has created you to be!

Register now or for more information: <https://brucedownes.org/registerforadvent>

Email: info@brucedownes.org

Christmas update from Vinnie's re the gifting tree. Due to the virus, there will be **no placing food under the Christmas Tree this year**. You might think about giving extra money towards the Vinnie's Christmas Appeal to make up for it.

To donate to our Annual Appeal, you can obtain an envelope from the marshals at Mass and return the envelope at any Mass between now and Christmas.



For those Parishioners wishing to make their donations by **Bank Transfer please use -**

Acc name: SVDP Stafford

BSB: 064-786 Account No: 100026699

If you require a receipt please send a copy of your deposit with your name and address to svdpstafford@gmail.com Subject: Vinnie's Appeal May God Bless you for your generosity and love for the vulnerable in our community.

The **Christmas Roster** has been finalised. Thank you to those that have made a commitment to assist at the Christmas masses. If you have not yet booked in for mass, please do so as the masses are booking up quickly.

SONGS OF ADVENT JOY

Each Thursday in December (Dec 3, 10 and 17) commencing at 7:30pm

Following the success of 'Songs of Easter Hope' series earlier this year, the Cathedral of St Stephen will again be filled with sound to celebrate the Season of Advent. Come and explore hymns, prayers and motets rejoicing in the coming of Christ at Christmas, all led by the Cathedral Schola.

Entry is by donation 'notes for notes' (with all money raised supporting the Cathedral Music program).

Registration for the three evenings is via the Cathedral website: <https://www.cathedralofststephen.org.au/christmas.html>

Songs of Advent Joy will be live-streamed for those who are unable to attend in person. These will be accessible via <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/multimedia/web-cast/>

"Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." – 1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 18



This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

Columban Calendars and Christmas Cards are also available for purchase. Calendars are \$9 and cards are \$2.95 for a pack of 8. Contact Debra in the office for purchases. More stock arrived this week!

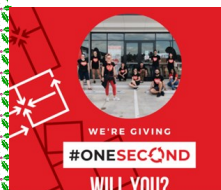
Get Creative, Upcycle and Recycle this Christmas

In the spirit of giving, consider giving to our Mother Earth this Christmas, by reconsidering your Christmas Gifting.

- ♦ Host a clothes swap
- ♦ Seconds-only office Secret Santa
- ♦ Source from second-hand vendors, support your favourite Op Shop
- ♦ Get creative with things you already own!
- ♦ Instead of Christmas Wrap, use brown paper decorated with colourful hand written greetings. Tie the wrap with jute string or colourful ribbon.
- ♦ Sew a gift bag from recycled skirts, shirts or sheets.
- ♦ Pot succulents in a recycled coffee mug or glass jar.
- ♦ Bake some treats and gift in a glass jar.
- ♦ Give the gift of time. Make a voucher pledging something meaningful like help in the garden, a massage or an 'in home' pedicure.



It's estimated in Australia alone that 20 million Christmas gifts are unwanted by their recipients, which are all at risk of ending up in landfill or lying dormant for years to come.



#OneSecond is a movement to persuade every Australian to consider changing gift giving habits this Christmas, a change that is not just a gift for one individual but a gift for our planet.

Imagine the positive impact on our environment, if we each gave just one second-hand gift this Christmas? It would massively power the circular economy, help us reinvest in our communities, contrib-

ute to causes we care about and reduce the stress on the planet at a time when our collective waste is usually the highest.

For more great gift ideas go to Global Gift Card (globalgifts.org.au)

A Global Gift is a special Christmas card that gives twice. First, your donation will help families struggling with poverty and injustice. Second, your card will bring a smile to someone you love.

It's called a Global Gift because it's a gift that will send joy, hope and love across the globe for the people who need it most.



A PRAYER FOR THE Third Sunday of Advent

Joy-filled Giver of Life,
let the anticipation of your birth
fill us with overflowing joy.
May our excitement and anticipation
be a sign to the world
that you are always near.
Amen.



What's on this week at Stafford

Mon 14th	8.30am	Mass
	7.00pm	2nd Rite Reconciliation
Tues 15th	8.30am	Morning Prayer with Communion
Wed 16th		
Thurs 17th	8.30am	Mass
Fri 18th	9.00am	Mass
	10.30am	Men's Group
Sat 19th	5.00pm	Mass (Booking required)
Sun 20th	7.00am	Zoom Liturgy
	9.00am	Mass (Booking required)

Tennis Courts for Hire with Lights

CHEAP RATES!

Bookings available through the office Monday to Thursday



Holy Cross FUNERALS

The only funeral service owned and operated by the Catholic Church

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

Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish Office

Address: 70 Appleby Road, Stafford
Parish email: 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 Hours: Mon/Tues 9 - 3.30pm Thurs 9-1
Office Telephone: 3356 7155

Parish Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Representative:

Cath D'Hage
STOpline Service: 1300 304 550 or
AOB@stopline.com.au or
www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com

Queen of Apostles School Contacts

Address: 10 Thuruna Street, Stafford
School email: pstafford@bne.catholic.edu.au
School Principal: Nigel Bird
APA: Leanne Murray
APRE: Ben Campbell
School Office Hours: 8.00am - 4.00pm (Mon-Fri)
Phone (Thuruna St:) 3352 9200
Phone (Chuter St:) 3326 0400

AN OINTING OF THE SICK

If you are **going to hospital unexpectedly** for an op, let Fr Denis know and we can celebrate this Sacrament beforehand.

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 names will be removed. If their illness continues, let us know and we'll add them to the start of the list.



BAPTISMS in this Parish occur at 10.30am on the Third Sunday of each Month (**except** during Lent and OCTOBER).



For BAPTISM BOOKINGS please contact the Parish Office.

We pray for those who are unwell

Sonia & Fernando(snr) Palmer, Irene Johnson,
Peter O'Donnell, Paul Glynn
Tom Tartan, Sonia Officer
Noel Hall,
Pam and Norm Ward
Kate Sigtenhorst

Sick & Shut-in



SEEKING PARISH AMBASSADORS FOR CARITAS and ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN

The Annual Catholic Campaign and Caritas Australia need your help! It is our shared hope to have ambassadors in every parish in the Archdiocese. We know that our appeals are close to the hearts of faithful people everywhere and that many people are already involved in supporting us, and so we would like to extend a warm invitation to anyone interested in volunteering to help raise awareness and funds. We will be hosting information sessions on this opportunity via ZOOM in January, and warmly invite you to participate. Please contact Andrew Knife at Caritas Australia in Brisbane for more information. Email andrew.knife@caritas.org.au or call 33243134 to register your interest.

This is a shortcut to our mass booking links.

I hope this makes things a little easier for you. This is also on our home page of our website. You no longer need to open the newsletter online to book a seat at mass. This should work for all devices including phone and tablets.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89583070010>

Meeting ID: 895 8307 0010

Passcode: light

One tap mobile

+61280156011,,89583070010#,,,,,0#,,426721# Australia

+61370182005,,89583070010#,,,,,0#,,426721# Australia

Dial by your location

+61 2 8015 6011 Australia

Meeting ID: 895 8307 0010

Passcode: 426721

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kgvDyWUL8>



We remember those whose anniversary of death occur about this time including

all deceased
Parishioners, their
families and friends,
and all our brothers
and sisters in Christ
maimed, killed or
dispossessed because
of their faith.



We pray for those recently deceased including:

Jose Elmer Torib

Colin Kenny

Mr E Blackman

Maria Nohora Pataquiva

Gemma Debattista

Kerri Lanfranchi

Yvonne Graham

Ronald Harriss

Terry McGlone

Pauline Clayton

Helen Maria Eluwa

