



## Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Sunnybank

Calamvale, Kuraby, Macgregor, Parkinson, Robertson, Runcorn, Stretton, Sunnybank, Sunnybank Hills

† Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 121 Mains Road, Sunnybank

**Parish Office** (adjacent to Church, Sunnybank) **Ph: 3345 3766** **Office Hours** Monday to Thursday, 8.30 am - 4.00 pm; Friday 9.00am - 4.00pm  
**Post:** PO Box 32, Sunnybank, QLD 4109 **Web:** www.olol.com.au **Email:** sunnybank@bne.catholic.net.au  
**Priests:** *Fr Enoch Iheme* (Parish Priest) *Fr Francisco Evangelista* (Associate Pastor)

### Monday 18th December

8:15am Morning Prayer  
8.30am **Mass**

### Tuesday 19th December

8:15am Morning Prayer  
8.30am **Mass**  
7.00pm Adoration

### Wednesday 20th December

8:15am Morning Prayer  
8.30am **Mass**  
9.00am Rosary  
6.30pm **Advent Program**

### Thursday 21st December

8.45am Morning Prayer  
9.00am **Mass**  
6.00pm **Advent Reconciliation**

### Friday 22nd December

8:15am Morning Prayer  
8.30am **Mass**  
9.00am Adoration  
10.00am Legion of Mary

### Saturday 23rd December

11.00am Reconciliation  
5.00pm Reconciliation  
6.00pm **Mass**

### Sunday 24th December

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

6.30am **Mass**  
8.00am **Mass**  
9.15am **Mass**

*Christmas Eve*

4.00pm **Christmas Vigil Mass**  
and Nativity Play  
6.00pm **Christmas Vigil Mass**  
and Nativity Play  
12.00am **Midnight Mass**

### Monday 25th December

*The Nativity of the Lord,  
Christmas Day*

8.00am **Christmas Mass**  
9.30am **Christmas Mass**



*Saint John the Baptist Designating the Messiah*  
by Étienne Parrocel c. 1730. Calvet Museum

### Third Sunday of Advent - 17th December 2023

Dear Parishioners,



**We now have abundant signs that Christmas is coming.** We have had the 1st half of Advent (First Sunday of Advent to 16th December) and this Sunday we will begin the 2nd half (17th to 24th December) which is called the Christmas Novena. **The movement from the 1st part to the 2nd part of Advent is reflected in our Liturgy and Music.** Significant is the change in the Invitatory Antiphons during our Daily Prayer from The Divine Office. During the 1st part of Advent we prayed, **“Let us adore the Lord, the King who is to come”** and hence we will be praying **“The Lord is at hand, let us adore him.”** The Christmas Novena acknowledges that **the Lord is at hand and invites us to meditate on the mystery of the Lord’s nativity.** I would like to propose as part of our Christmas Novena for you to say the **Angelus Prayer at noon every day from 17th to 24th December. The Angelus is a beautiful traditional Catholic prayer that recalls that very moment of Mary’s yes to God** as well as calling us to wonder on the mystery of God as Emmanuel. I trust you will give it a go. Here is a link to a guided version of the prayer: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=MwJg19DZW54](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MwJg19DZW54).

This Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent and it is called **Gaudete Sunday.** Gaudete indicates the **theme of Joy and Rejoicing at the Lord’s coming** that we celebrate in this third Sunday of Advent. Twined in the joyful and rosy mood of this Sunday is the question **“Who are you?”** I feel that the world today as in the days of John the Baptist is asking the Church and indeed every Christian, **“Who are you?”** **John the Baptist understood his mission as “A voice that cries in the wilderness” and the one that points to the “One who is coming.”** I believe that the world needs to hear the voice crying in their wilderness and to welcome Jesus Christ the one who is willing to come into their hearts. **In the busyness of preparing for Christmas and in the midst of lots of questions that beg for immediate answers, let us not miss our true mission and identity in the world.**

**Our Advent Shoebox Operation ends this Sunday. Thank you for your generosity and gracious sense of humanity.** I am thrilled and marvelled at your responses to the call to share Joy to the world around us this Christmas. If you are unable to bring your gift this Sunday, you may consider taking them to other charities. This is because our youth and young adults will be concluding the operation dispatching your gifts to the beneficiaries. **Another gift that you have and can share is your faith and prayers for Peace in the world.**

**Next Sunday will celebrate 2 significant liturgies:** 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve Mass. **Our Christmas Mass times are on the left column of page 2** of this newsletter. Some of our **children have registered and are excited** to be part of our **2023 Nativity Plays at 4pm and 6pm on Christmas Eve.** Parents, please bring your children for the Nativity Play rehearsals. **More information is on page 2.**

It is truly going to be the most wonderful time of the year.

**God Bless,**

Fr Enoch Iheme

## Third Sunday of Advent (Year B)

**First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11** Isaiah proclaims a great message of joy. Good news is offered to those who most need to hear it – the oppressed, poor and broken hearted will be clothed in salvation and integrity.

**Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24** The conclusion of Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians reminds us to be full of joy, pray constantly and cling to everything that is good. This is the spirit we have while we wait for the coming of Jesus Christ.

**Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-29** John the Baptist is again the central character of today's Gospel. However, he draws the focus away from himself and moves it to the One who is to come.

Tedesco, Joe. "Third Sunday of Advent - 17 December 2023." Pastoral Liturgy 54, no. 1 (2023): 1-6.

### ADVENT & CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

#### 4th Sunday of Advent, Sunday 24th December

- \* 6:30am Mass
- \* 8am Mass
- \* 9:15am Mass
- \* ~~No 10:30am Mass~~

#### Christmas Eve, Sunday 24th December:

- \* 4pm Children's Mass with the Nativity Play
- \* 6pm Children's Mass with the Nativity Play & Youth Carols
- \* ~~No 8pm Mass~~
- \* 12.00am Midnight Mass with Christmas Carols

#### Christmas Day, Monday 25th December:

- \* 8.00am Mass
- \* 9.30am Mass

### PREPARE FOR ADVENT 2023 WITH...

**Bruce Downes, The Catholic Guy**

Join Bruce and people all around the world for a free Daily Devotional that will guide you on a life-changing journey through Advent.

Starting 3rd December, you'll receive a short inspirational video each day filled with real life stories and practical ways to help you in your prayer and spiritual journey. Bruce finds, "You don't become what you hope to become. You only become what you do."

What will you do this Advent?

Register here: <https://BruceDownes.org/Advent/>  
For more information, email: [info@brucedownes.org](mailto:info@brucedownes.org)

### AN ADVENT STORY VIDEO SERIES

Advent season is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas. It is a time of spiritual renewal, a chance to direct our hearts and minds to receive the nativity of Christ, our Saviour. As prophet Isaiah proclaimed, "A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.'" (Isaiah 40:3), we fill our hearts and soul with joyous anticipation and hope of the fulfilment of God's plan in the person of Jesus Christ.

As we begin the spiritual journey towards Christmas, each week we invite you to explore the Christmas traditions and stories within the families and communities in our Archdiocese and the different ways we prepare to encounter Christ.

Episodes available now:

1. Preparing Hearts
2. Loving Wholeheartedly
3. Coming soon...

To watch the videos, go to

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/articles/an-advent-story/>

### ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Advent is starting and with it preparations for Christmas are beginning. Have you considered preparing spiritually by attending Advent Reconciliation?

**When:** Thursday, 21 December at 6pm  
**Where:** Our Lady of Lourdes Church



### PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS WITH THE...

#### **Parish Advent Retreat**

It's the final session of the Parish Advent Retreat! This week Pam Nair will lead the topic "Come Lord Jesus". The retreat will end with Reconciliation.

**When:** 6:30pm, 20th December 2023  
**Where:** Our Lady of Lourdes Church

Join your parish family for activities centred on Advent as a season of repentance, preparation and joy.



### CHRISTMAS NATIVITY PLAY—REHEARSAL DATES

The children of the parish are invited to participate in this year's Nativity Plays at the 4pm & 6pm Christmas Eve Masses. Register via the sign up sheets in the church, or through the parish office.

Rehearsals for the Nativity Play at the **4.00pm Children's Mass** on Christmas Eve:

- \* Wednesday 20th December, 2pm - 4pm in the Church
- \* Saturday 23rd December, 2pm - 4pm in the Church

Please attend both rehearsals if possible

Rehearsals for the Nativity Play at the **6.00pm Children's Mass** on Christmas Eve:

- \* Thursday 21st December, 9:30am - 11:30am in the Church
- \* Friday 22nd December, 9:30am - 11:30am in the Church

Please attend both rehearsals if possible



**Your Prayers Are Asked For:**

recently deceased: **Johnny "Boyet" Ticman**, Betty Pengelly, Manuel Caragay, Agnes Hyland, Andrew Te Whiu, Johnny Lozano Ticman, Michael Davis, Elisa Aracely Granados de Borja, Sister Milagros Amos S.P.C

those with anniversaries & others who have died: **Kenneth Nolan, Gerald Nolan, Mario Cisneros, Luisito R. Mulato**, James Johnston, Mark Woods, Benito Alarcon, Rosario Alarcon, Mercedes Ventura Tamayo, Una Glennon, Annie McErlean

those who are unwell: **Fr. Ray Sanchez, Chloe Hyland, Delfine Menendez, Graham Small**, Lorraine Johnston, Lili Muñoz, Sheila Daley, Cecilia Morandini, Maria Fortozo, Cathy & Mick Crust

for those resting in our Columbarium: Fredrick Aisthorpe, Harold Aisthorpe, Minnie Aisthorpe, Allan Alvis, Dawn Angus, Helen Bailey, Harold "Gordon" Barker, Francesco Bonasia, Wilma Bowman, Edward Allen Briggs, Patricia Briggs, Brian Burgess, Christina Burras, Avelino Calillung, Geoffrey Chapman, Patricia Edwards, Pedro Gallibu, Fay Garner, Eric Glennon, Iris Glennon, Brian Hammerton, Anne Harman, Eddy Hartono, Antonio Henriquez, Mary Hughes, Gerard Kennedy, Bruno Klaser, Stephen King, Lucia Yeen Lim, Maria Lopez, Dino Lorenson, Noemi Lorenson, Maureen McDonald, Frances McKenzie, Peter McSweeney, Harry Mohr, Eusebia Morao, Gerard Murphy, Cuong Nguyen, Quy Thi Nguyen, Nghia Bao Nguyen, Michael Ogle, Marie Therese Ong, Rita Pobar, Dr Roberto Rabuya Jr, Graham Shipstone, Bill Small, Iris Small, Claribel Tungol, Anthony Van der Togt, Lily Rose Villas, Rosario Villas, Romeo Villas, Ron Vine, Elizabeth Wilson, Monica Wong, Grant Wordon, Nola Wright

the continuing sick: Anne Carroll, Lyn Catchlove, Margo Couldrey, Mary Dixon, Cynthia Impey, Baby Malakai, Christopher Riley, Jim Scriha, James Scriha

The parish office will be closed after Christmas and reopen on Tuesday 2 January 2024. If you urgently need a priest, email [sunnybank@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sunnybank@bne.catholic.net.au), leave a message at the parish office or call the parish emergency line: 0403 714 177



**STRUGGLING TO FIND THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS PRESENT?**

Check out the Our Lady of Lourdes Piety Stall after Mass for that perfect Christmas present!

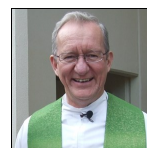
There are a variety of rosaries, crucifixes and bibles, as well as Columban calendars for \$10, wooden Christmas ornaments for \$3.95 and nativity scenes starting from \$12

Have a look around and see what you can find!

**PARISH NEWSLETTER:**

If you would like to start receiving the parish newsletter via email, please contact the parish office at [sec.sunnybank@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sec.sunnybank@bne.catholic.net.au)

**FRANCE, PARIS & LOURDES 2024  
With Fr Dan Ryan**



Would you like to travel to France mid May to mid June next year with me on a French Saints Pilgrimage, with a possible extension to Rome?

I have organised a pilgrimage with Harvest Journeys to travel through France and visit the Places of Saints.

The trip will include Paris (2 nights), Rouen, Liseux(2), Mont-Saint-Michael (2), Chartes, Nevers (1), Taize, Paray le Monial (2), Ars, La Salette (1), Avignon, Lourdes (3), Montserrat (1), and Barcelona (1), and an optimal Rome Extension (3).

If you would like more information, you can contact Harvest Journeys on 1800 819 156 or [www.harvestjourneys.com/pv2445](http://www.harvestjourneys.com/pv2445). If you contact Harvest Journeys, mention my name and the pilgrimage is French Saints Pilgrimage. There are a few brochures at the back of the church.

God Bless, Father Dan Ryan

**PARISH CAROLS & COMMUNITY WEEKEND**

Thank you to our musicians & singers for your beautiful carols; the parish finance council for a tasty BBQ; the parish council for organising such an amazing event; the Youth Group for helping behind the scenes and everyone who attended to make the event such a success!



**Archdiocese of Brisbane Safeguarding Commitment**

The Archdiocese has **zero tolerance** for all forms of abuse and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries and services.

**The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.**





**PARISH STAFF  
& CONTACTS**

**Pastoral Ministry Coordinator**

Noel Arceo

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**Local Safeguarding Representative**

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**Secretary**

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**Accounts**

Tam Nguyen

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**Caring Ministry**

care.concern.sunnybank@bne.catholic.net.au

**Unite Youth/Young Adults Coordinators**

Abbey O'Toole & Gabby Alamo

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**Parish Music Coordinator:**

Barbara Elliott

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**Housekeeper:**

Louise Weston

**Paloma Reception Centre**

3345 3766

**LOL School, Sunnybank**

Principal - Phil Manitta

3345 0700

**LOL OSHC**

Co-ordinator - Sheleen Lata

sunnybankoshc@bne.centacare.net.au

3344 3064

**St Thomas More College,  
Sunnybank**

Principal - Les Conroy

3323 4600

**St Vincent de Paul**

1800 Vinnies

1800 846 643

**Centacare**

Service Delivery Manager -

Emma Rohde

3323 2100

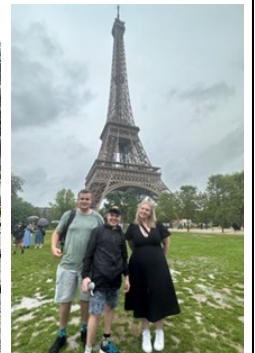
**What a year we have had in Unite Youth Ministry!**

This year, we have changed coordinators, had numerous teens and young adults' events, sent 4 people off to World Youth Day, attended Ignite Launch and Ignite Conference, grown our band and musicians and welcomed many new faces into our Unite family. We would like to say a massive thank you to all the staff, volunteers and parents who have helped us to make this happen. We would also like to thank the parish for all your support this past year. We have some exciting plans for 2024 and we hope that youth ministry will continue to reach the young people in our community.

May the birth of the Lord bring peace and gladness to you and your family this Christmas. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Abbey and Gabby

**Youth & Young Adult  
Ministry**



FREE

**ADVENT & CHRISTMAS**

RESOURCES FOR KIDS

GROWING WITH JESUS

Evangelisation Brisbane's Children and Families team has created a collection of free resources to help engage children and parents in our parish during the upcoming liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas.

Resources can be accessed at <https://tinyurl.com/adventchristmasresources2023>, including printable Advent Calendar, craft activities, a weekly Advent video series and animated Nativity story video.