

19th December 2021
Fourth Sunday of Advent Year C

Listening to God's Word
Growing in Faith



Reaching out to All

WEBSITE

www.allsaintsblackbuttsouth.org.au

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Joseph Figurado
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ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH

Lockyer Street ADAMSTOWN

ST KEVIN'S CHURCH

226 Main Road CARDIFF

ST PHILIP'S CHURCH & PRESBYTERY

31 Vista Parade KOTARA

PARISH OFFICE

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Secretary

Louise Byron

NEW Office Hours

Tuesday - Wednesday alternate Thursday
9.00am—3.00pm (closed 12 noon to 1pm)

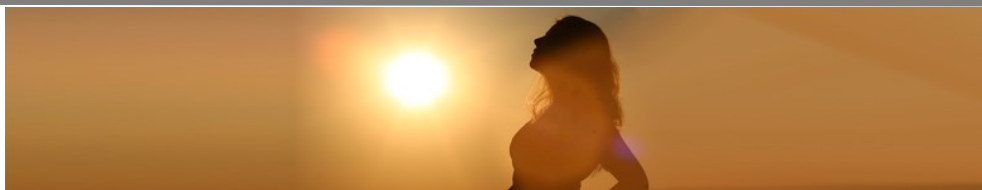
PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St Columba's Adamstown
St Kevin's Cardiff
St James' Kotara

PARISH HIGH SCHOOLS

St Pius X Adamstown
St Paul's Booragul
[Links are on our Website](#)

ALL SAINTS PARISH BLACKBUTT SOUTH
Faith Communities of Adamstown, Cardiff, Kotara



SUNDAY MASSES

*Saturday Vigil Kotara 5.30pm;
Sunday Adamstown 8.00am; Sunday Cardiff 9.30am
Adoration Kotara 6.00pm (Summer) 5.30pm (Winter)*

WEEKDAY MASSES

*Tuesday 9.30am Adamstown;
Wednesday 7.00am Kotara & 9.30am Adamstown;
Thursday Cardiff 9.30am; Friday 9.15am Kotara;
1st Saturday 9.00am Kotara*

We are invited to say Hello and Visit someone in need; they need not be a familiar person to us!

Dear Parishioners, as we light the fourth candle today, we are invited to look around us and see people who require our help.

Today we hear the account of the Visitation of Mary to her relative, Elizabeth. This event anticipates the birth of Jesus. Mary's journey to Elizabeth immediately followed the Annunciation of the Angel Gabriel to Mary, when she learned that she would give birth to the Messiah.

Scripture tells us that she went "in haste" to see Elizabeth, who was in her sixth month of pregnancy with John the Baptist. It is incredible to think of what this encounter must have been like. Here are two women who have been called by God to bring forth children into the world who would transform history. John would lead the way for the Messiah, Jesus, who would save us from our sins.

Upon Mary's arrival, John the Baptist leapt in Elizabeth's womb as an expression of acknowledgement of the presence of the Lord, Jesus, in Mary's womb. Elizabeth articulates this with the familiar words we say in the "Hail, Mary": "Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb." She also referred to Mary as "the mother of my Lord." Thus, Elizabeth expressed faith that Jesus was the Messiah. And she honoured Mary for her role in bringing the Messiah into this world.

This leads us to an important reflection on Mary's role in God's bringing of salvation to the world. God chose to become man in order to save us from our sins. But He did not force Himself into humanity. He did not disrespect our human freedom in order to do so. Rather, He invited Mary to be the mother of the Messiah. And because she said 'yes,' God became incarnate.

Therefore, we can echo the words of Elizabeth in saying, "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." Mary trusted God, even though what she was entrusted with was beyond comprehension. Because of her great faith in welcoming Jesus into this world, we proclaim with Elizabeth that Mary is "blessed among women," and most of all, give thanks for the amazing gift of our Lord, Jesus, coming into this world.

What are we taking Home Today from our Church: As we approach the celebration of Christmas, offer thanks to God this week for the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ. Take time in prayer to give thanks for the blessings we have been given during this Pandemic Era. All Praise and Glory goes to God!

Fr Joseph

Parish News

SICK/SPECIAL NEEDS: *We remember in prayer ...*

Leonie Pickett, Veronica Hipwell, Karen Curran, Algi & Geraldine Bajelis, Mick King, Jan Hobson, Lewis Peel (Purcell), Rita Martin, Emma Pacifico, Lorraine Caldwell, Emilinda Peralta, Loris Jackson, Linda McDonald, Dean Hart, Barry Moore, Chris Patsan, Catherine Hobbs, Bernadette Coffey, Dorota Bakowska, Gae Alderton, Ernestina Klein, Alexander Klein, Stanislaw Ksiadz, Maria Kanonczuk, Penny Harrison, Sharyn Trappel, Clare Sullivan, Craig Hart, Jill Heffernan

RECENTLY DECEASED:

ANNIVERSARIES: Sandra Ogrodnik, Mary Woodward, Anne Nolan, Bronislaw Palka, Rose Merrion, Len Donnelly, Mary Cooley, Mark Cooley

<u>19/12/2021</u>	ADAMSTOWN	CARDIFF	KOTARA
Commentator	Paul Smith	Margaret Bourke	Don Smith
Readers	Basia Wedesweiler Barry Bourke	Anne Lamotte Sharon Murphy	Elaine Abery Marilyn Thomson
Extraordinary Minister	Narelle Smith	Sr Clare McCudden	Gerard Mowbray
Counters	Francine Goodman, Kathy Kelly, Susan Lane, Paula O'Neill	N/A	N/A
<u>26/12/2021</u>	ADAMSTOWN	CARDIFF	KOTARA - Vigil 25 December Cancelled
Commentator	Diana Hannigan	Helen Woodham	
Readers	Vickie Pettett Paula O'Neill	Catherine Lerch Paul Gleeson	
Extraordinary Minister	Stan Heaney	Mary-Anne Jennings	
Counters	Dot Reynolds Lynn Johns	Andrew & Sharon Murphy	John Bourke, Vale Menzies, Mark Noonan

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PRESIDER: As we begin the celebration of the Fourth Sunday of Advent, let us prepare to light the fourth and last candle on our Advent wreath. As Advent draws to a close, we pause to pray for faith that opens our lives to the Spirit of God. In the words of the acclamations, let us pray...

PRESIDER: Come to us Lord Jesus, you who fulfilled the longing of the prophets.

ALL: **Come Lord, fulfill our longing too.**

PRESIDER: Come to us Lord Jesus, you who took flesh in the womb of Mary.

ALL: **Come Lord, take flesh in us.**

PRESIDER: Come to us, Lord Jesus, you who led your people home and blessed them with peace.

ALL: **Come Lord, lead us home to you and be our peace.**
(The fourth candle is now lit)

Let us pray....

God, our Emmanuel, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan.

Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

AMEN

Our Parish Notices

CHRISTMAS MASSES

CHRISTMAS EVE *Friday 24th December*

Kotara Vigil : 5.30pm & 8pm

Cardiff Vigil : 6pm (BYO Chairs Outdoor)

CHRISTMAS DAY *Saturday 25th December*

Adamstown : 8am

Kotara: NO VIGIL MASS

(for Sunday 26th December)

Mass is available at either Adamstown or Cardiff as usual on Sunday

BOXING DAY *Sunday 26th December*

Cardiff : 8am Polish Mass

If you can assist with a ministry at these Masses, please contact the Parish Office ASAP Tue - Thu.

These Masses are your celebrations and will only happen with your participation.

IMPORTANT COVID-19 Update - At the time of publication (early Thursday afternoon) we were yet to receive the (pending) COVID-19 update from the Diocese. When this becomes available you will be able to access it [here](#) or go to <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/covid-19-update/>

Counters - please note, Christmas Offering envelopes are to be included in the First Collection and listed separately. Thank you.

Parish Working Bee - Fr Joseph will oversee this across all three Mass Centres on **Tuesday, 28 December** from 9.00am. Please come along and help dispose of all the unused, unwanted and forgotten items. Some items could be recycled such as leftover candle wax. Please come together to help look after our churches.

Parish Office will be closed from Friday, 24 December - Monday, 3 January inclusive. **There will be no bulletin for Sunday, 2 January.**

Adoration will be in recess Sundays 2 & 9 January and will resume 16 January.

KOTARA NOTICES

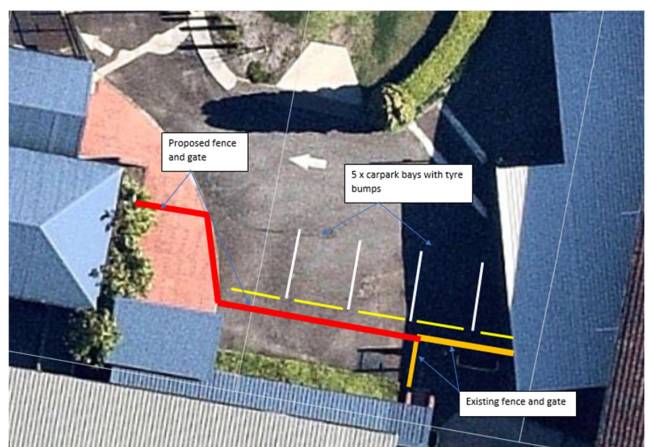
Church decoration for Christmas will take place this **Wednesday 22nd December at 2.00pm**. All volunteers are welcome to come and help. Flowers for decorating the church will be appreciated.

Thank You and Congratulations to teacher, Lucy Harvey for her 31 years of service to St James' School and the parish. We wish her all the best in her new position as Principal at Swansea.

Volunteers are needed to wash the Altar Linen. If you can help please contact Parish Office. Many hands make light work. New roster can then be drawn up.

ADAMSTOWN NOTICES

School Improvements - as previously advised during Sunday Mass there will be some improvements to the fencing and parking lot at the front of St Columba's School.



2021 Liturgical Calendar for the Fourth Week of Advent (C)

Solemnities are in CAPITALS. Feasts are bold.

Memorials are in ordinary type.

Optional Memorials are in *italics*.

21 December *Saint Peter Canisius*
(commemoration)

23 December *Saint John of Kanty*
(commemoration)

Living the Gospels - Looking for Signs

When Mary went to visit Elizabeth she was not looking for a sign that she had made the right decision. Rather, because she had accepted God's will the sign was given to her. Her acceptance and action came first. The sign came later as a confirmation. At times we look to God to provide us with a sign that our impending action is the right choice. However, faith acts in trust and confidence; it doesn't wait around for a green light from God. When we do act in faith, the flow-on effects are the sign of confirmation.

© Greg Sunter

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year C

First Reading Mi 5:1-4

A reading from the prophet Micah
The Lord says this:
You, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
the least of the clans of Judah,
out of you will be born for me
the one who is to rule over Israel;
his origin goes back to the distant past,
to the days of old.
The Lord is therefore going to abandon
them till the time when she who is to
give birth gives birth.
Then the remnant of his brothers will
come back to the sons of Israel.
He will stand and feed his flock
with the power of the Lord,
with the majesty of the name of his
God.
They will live secure, for from then on
he will extend his power to the ends of
the land.
He himself will be peace.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19. R. v.4

**Lord, make us turn to you; let us see
your face and we shall be saved.**

1.O Shepherd of Israel, hear us
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help.

2.God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.

3.May your hand be on the man you
have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your
name.

**Lord, make us turn to you; let us see
your face and we shall be saved.**

Second Reading Heb 10:5-10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews
This is what Christ said, on coming into
the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or obla-
tion,
prepared a body for me.
You took no pleasure in holocausts or
sacrifices for sin;
then I said,
just as I was commanded in the scroll of
the book,
'God, here I am! I am coming to obey
your will.'
Notice that he says first: You did not
want what the Law lays down as the
things to be offered, that is: the sacrific-
es, the oblations, the holocausts and
the sacrifices for sin, and you took no
pleasure in them; and then he says:
Here I am! I am coming to obey your
will. He is abolishing the first sort to re-
place it with the second. And this will
was for us to be made holy by the offer-
ing of his body made once and for all by
Jesus Christ.

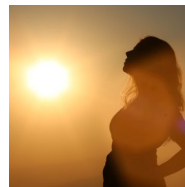
Gospel Acclamation Lk 1:38

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

Gospel Lk 1:39-45

A reading from the
Holy Gospel according
to Luke

Mary set out and went as quickly as she
could to a town in the hill country of Ju-
dah. She went into Zechariah's house
and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as
Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the
child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth
was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave
a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you
are the most blessed, and blessed is
the fruit of your womb. Why should I be
honoured with a visit from the mother of
my Lord? For the moment your greeting
reached my ears, the child in my womb
leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who
believed that the promise made her by
the Lord would be fulfilled.'



Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace to people
of good will
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great
glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father
Lord Jesus Christ,
Only begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father
You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
You take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer
You are seated at the right hand of
the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the most high
Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father.
Amen

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son,
our Lord, who was conceived by the
Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again
from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of
God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the
living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.