

15th January 2023
2nd Sunday Ordinary Time
Year A



"That They May All Be One."

Faith Communities
of Adamstown
Cardiff and Kotara

*'Son of Man did not come to be served,
but to serve.' (Mt 20:28)*

~ A humble service with a smile ~

All Saints Catholic Home - Blackbutt South

'Listening to God's word, growing in faith, reaching out to all'

WEBSITE:

www.allsaintsblackbutsouth.org.au

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr Joseph Figurado

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Parish Mobile: 0452 280 687

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ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH

Lockyer Street, Adamstown

ST KEVIN'S CHURCH

226 Main Road, Cardiff

ST PHILIP'S CHURCH & PRESBYTERY

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PARISH STAFF:

Anna Bojkowski, Liza Ruitenbach

OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

9am—3pm

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

OFFICE OF SAFEGUARDING

- www.mn.catholic.org.au/agencies/office-of-safeguarding
- www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au

SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm Kotara

Sunday: 8.00am Adamstown

9.30am Cardiff

Sunday Adoration 6pm Kotara

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday: Cancelled

Wednesday: 7am Kotara

9.30am Adamstown

Thursday: 9.30am Kotara

Friday: 9.15am Kotara

1st Saturday: 9.00am Kotara

News from Fr Joseph

1. Appointment of Rev. Deacon Naveen Kumar: Deacon Naveen is a member of the Congregation of Missionaries of Mary Immaculate situated in Chennai, India. Deacon Naveen arrives in our Parish on 24th February when he will begin his stay at Kotara Presbytery. Eventually he will enrol in parish ministry once he successfully completes all his relevant papers. Let us pray for Deacon Naveen to fulfil his missionary call.

2. Visiting Priest: Fr. Shansana Wasara, Order of Sylvestro Benedictine Congregation, from St. Benedict Monastery Arcadia, will be on a short holiday for five days from 20th January to 25, 2023 to see our beautiful Newcastle. Let us warmly welcome him and trust he has a pleasant stay with us.

3. Saturdays from 11 am to 2 pm (2pm—4pm Rest Time), has been open for Parishioners to come to Kotara Presbytery for whatever reason they may have. It could be a chat about some problem or worry, Parish matters, a social visit, or for the Sacrament of Reconciliation etc. I was available most Saturdays in 2022. However, it was rare to get a visit from Parishioners. So, I want to make SATURDAYS as Parishioner's Day - and Visiting

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'As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.' John 15:9

ANNOUNCEMENTS—MASS ROSTERS

Day. You are most welcome to come to Kotara to chat about matters that concern you or the Parish. There will be the odd Saturday when I may be tied up, but mostly I keep this day especially for Parishioners. I will be running around to fulfil my pastoral call on other days, so I will only have a little spare time on weekdays. If you want to come for Reconciliation, please call me in advance to book a time. Further, if you want to see me at the office, I will be available on Wednesdays by appointment.

4. A few Parishioners have suggested a Morning Coffee Group and "Cuppa With Fr. Joseph" on Friday mornings, after the 9:15 am, Mass at Kotara in order to build up our fraternity and family spirit. February 3rd is a Friday, so let us start this on that day; all are welcome; please bring a plate. I need volunteers from all three Mass centres to organise this. Thanks.

5. I'm still processing the loss of my brother. You may notice me at times with a bit of a gloomy face, and sometimes being a bit sluggish; pardon me for that, but I'm slowly getting there. My sincere thanks to all who have been encouraging and accompanying me in their prayers. Please continue to offer more prayers.

6. January 24th Tuesday Mass at Adamstown is cancelled—Fr Joseph will be in Sydney picking up Deacon Naveen.

7. Australia Day Thursday 26th January we will celebrate with Mass at St Philip's Kotara 9.30am followed by a cuppa. This liturgy will mark Australia's National Day with prayers seeking God's blessing on all its people and commending it's destiny into God's hands.

8. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Cardinal George Pell, who died on 10th January in Rome. For comfort and consolation for his family and for all of those who loved him and are grieving him at this time.

15/01/2023	ADAMSTOWN	CARDIFF	KOTARA
Commentator	Diana Hannigan	Cathy Waugh	Giavanna Angeli
Readers	Therese Nolan Stan Heaney	Michael Deed Sr Clare McCudden	Peter Cunningham Marilyn Thomson
Presentation of Gifts	Gloria Ramage	Friere Silveira Family	Dever Family
Extraordinary Minister	Preciosa Winter	Mark Wilmore	Janelle Oliver
Counters	Hamilton Koelmeyer	N/A	N/A
22/01/2023	ADAMSTOWN	CARDIFF	KOTARA
Commentator	Julie Malaspina	Anne Lamottae	Patrick Farrell
Readers	Diana Hannigan Dot Reynolds	Paul Gleeson Elizabeth Doyle	Caruana Family
Presentation of Gifts	Kathy Kelly Bernadette Maher	Harrison Family	Burgess Family
Extraordinary Minister	Stan Heaney	Len McCullum	Narelle Heard
Counters	Lynn Johns, Dot Reynolds	Len McCullum	John Bourke, Mark Noonan, Val Menzies

BAPTISMS: We welcome into our Faith Community...

Oran Johanson, Sol Lola Elliott, Parker Stewart

SICK/SPECIAL NEEDS: We remember in our prayers ...

Leonie Pickett, Karen Curran, Algi & Geraldine Bajelis, Jan Hobson, Lewis Peel (Purcell), Rita Martin, Lorraine Caldwell, Loris Jackson, Linda McDonald, Chris Patsan, Dorota Bakowska, Gae Alderton, Ernestina Klein, Alexander Klein, Maria Kanonczuk, Sharyn Trappel, Clare Sullivan, Jill Heffernan, Laurel Dixon, Jarrad Bryant, Barry Moore, Tom Campbell, Baby Anthony Dib, Helen Tumbers, Don Robertson

RECENTLY DECEASED: Kathleen Gurr, Cardinal George Pell

ANNIVERSARIES: Cecil Battersby



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome Rev Shansana who will be visiting our Parish on his holidays 20th-25th January and will be concelebrating Masses with Fr Joseph during this time.

Our 1st and 2nd Collections : Offertory Plates will now be taken up as per normal during Offertory and after Communion.

Rainbow Family Group: our 2023 planning day will be a lunch on **15th January**, 11.30am in Kotara Parish Hall. This will be a BBQ lunch, please send through dietary requirements so I can plan menu for this. Don't forget your diaries and ideas for the new year of activities!!! Please let me know if you will be attending as I already have an apology from the Taylor's. *Kerina Marshall*

New Parish Mass Ministry Roster has now been finalised up until 23rd April 2023. Rosters and contact sheets have been emailed. Please arrange substitution if you are not available. These are some hard copies at the back of Churches available.

The Bereavement Support Team has concluded its meetings for this year. The team's next meeting is on Tuesday 7th February 2023.

Christian Meditation has recommenced every Tuesday at 6.00 pm at St Philips. Meditation is a universal wisdom allowing time for simplicity, silence and stillness. Father John Main wrote " in accepting silence we come to know our own spirit." Everyone is welcome.

Praying the Gospels has concluded for 2022 and will recommence on February 1 2023. Contact: rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

2023 Lenten Reflection:

Finding Light within the Darkness

Pastoral Ministries has prepared a Lenten resource for our diocese, Finding Light within the Darkness. Every Lent there is a fresh invitation to retreat from the noise and busyness of daily life. To listen with our heart, to contemplate our humanness so we can actively focus on humanity. We are invited to turn to God dwelling within us and consider how we can find light in the darkness and how we can be light to others. This resource provides opportunities for prayer, faith-sharing, and outreach in our local community.

This resource will be available at the end of January.

Save the Date: Toronto Men's Weekend

A MenALIVE Men's Weekend will be held at the St Joseph's Toronto Parish on the weekend of 25 and 26 March 2023. The weekend is suitable for all men from 18 years of age and provides an opportunity for attendees to explore what makes them feel fully alive.

For more information on MenALIVE, visit: www.menalive.org.au

Living the Gospel – Pointing the way

John the Baptist fills the role of 'pointing the way' to Jesus. In our own lives we also have the ability to 'point the way' towards Jesus. It doesn't need to be as blatant as John's 'Look, there he is!' However, the way we choose to live our life can point the way just as powerfully as John did. More often than not, our actions speak much more powerfully than any words we might utter. Consistently treating others with respect, maintaining prayer as a central part of life and working for justice in the world will make an impression on others and point the way to Jesus.

Scriptural context – Baptism of Jesus

Each of the three synoptic gospels (Mark, Luke and Matthew) presents an account of the baptism of Jesus. All three versions record the Spirit descending in the form of a dove. In the fourth gospel, it is interesting that the gospel writer does not actually give an account of the baptism as by the time of this gospel's writing the story is well entrenched in the Christian culture. Instead of a baptism account, John the Baptist appears to recall the event. Rather than needing to describe the event, this gospel writer treats it as a given and simply refers to it.

Gospel Focus – Ranking

There is an odd line in today's passage. John reminds the crowd that he had said 'A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me.' In Jewish tradition, the prophets and patriarchs who came earlier in their history ranked higher than those who came later. They believed that the history of salvation was at its pinnacle with God's self-revelation to Abraham. Successive episodes and characters were regarded as lesser. But John affirms that Jesus ranks before himself because Jesus existed before John. He is saying that Jesus is more than simply the latest in a long line of prophets.

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation

READINGS— 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading

Is 49:3. 5-6

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified'; I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, my God was my strength. And now the Lord has spoken, he who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel; I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 39:2. 4. 7-10. R. vv.8. 9.

**(R.) Here I am, Lord;
I come to do your will.**

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry. He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. **(R.)**
2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear. You do not ask for holocaust and victim. Instead, here am I. **(R.)**
3. In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will. My God, I delight in your law in the depth of my heart. **(R.)**
4. Your justice I have proclaimed in the great assembly. My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord.

Second Reading

1 Cor 1:1-3

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 1:14. 12

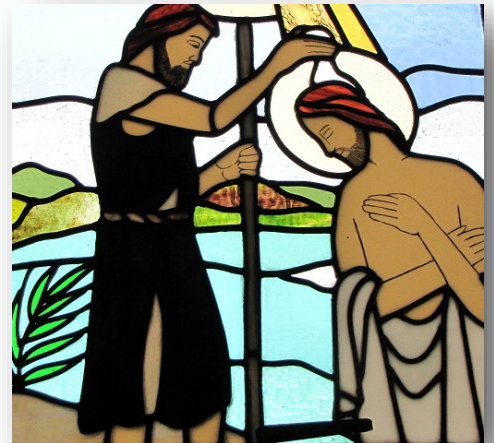
Alleluia, alleluia!
The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God. Alleluia!

Gospel

Jn 1:29-34

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on

whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'



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.