

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring  
Good News to the poor.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**

**Luke 3:10-18**

*What, then, must we do?.*

When all the people asked John, ‘What must we do?’ he answered, ‘If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.’ There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, ‘Master, what must we do?’ He said to them, ‘Exact no more than your rate.’ Some soldiers asked him in their turn, ‘What about us? What must we do?’ He said to them, ‘No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!’ A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, ‘I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.’ As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

**How to Donate to Vinnies Christmas Appeal**

In the Bulletin boxes there are envelopes. Please fill out and return to the **Poor Box** or send in by post. You can donate by phone 131812 or on line at [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au) Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

**Vinnies Christmas Hampers**

Last year we were able to help 56 local families with hampers. The requests for assistance throughout this year has increased by 50% so we are anticipating many will request help this Christmas. We invite parishioners to donate items for hampers during the coming weeks. For those in dire need, we need your help. *Please leave your items in shopping bags at the main entrance.* Details of suitable items are on posters at the side doors. The last date for contributions is **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec.**

**Columban Calendars \$11 and Vinnies Christmas Cards \$8 Pack of 10**

These are available at the main entrance. Please place money in envelopes provided and then deposit in Poor Box.

**‘Indulge Responsibly’ this Christmas**

Ethical Christmas gift-giving -  
If you would like to know more about Indulge Responsibly, contact [sacoordina-tor@acrath.org.au](mailto:sacoordina-tor@acrath.org.au).



**Reflection on the Crib and the Third Sunday of Advent**

Fr. Roy John Elavumkal SMM

**The Crib:** A Symbol of Humility and God’s Love. The crib, also known as the Nativity scene, is one of the most profound symbols of Advent and Christmas. It depicts the humble birth of Jesus in a manger, surrounded by Mary, Joseph, shepherds, and the animals. The simplicity of the crib reflects the humility of God, who chose to come into the world not in grandeur but in the lowliest of places. For us, the crib is a visual reminder of God’s immense love and His desire to dwell among us. It invites us to reflect on the values of simplicity, humility, and service. The empty crib during Advent also symbolizes our hearts awaiting the arrival of Christ. It challenges us to prepare a spiritual dwelling for Him by embracing forgiveness, generosity, and love.

**The Third Sunday of Advent: Gaudete Sunday**

The Third Sunday of Advent, known as Gaudete Sunday, is a moment of joy in the midst of Advent’s season of preparation and repentance. The term Gaudete comes from the Latin word meaning “rejoice,” drawn from the entrance antiphon: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. The Lord is near.” (Philippians 4:4-5).

**The liturgical colour for this Sunday is rose**, symbolizing a lightening of the penitential purple of Advent. It signifies that we are drawing closer to the celebration of Christ’s birth.

**The readings for this Sunday emphasize joy and hope:**

The First Reading often speaks of God’s promises of restoration and salvation. The Second Reading encourages us to be patient and steadfast, trusting in the Lord’s faithfulness. The Gospel highlights John the Baptist, who prepares the way for Jesus and reminds us of His coming as the source of true joy.

**Connection Between the Crib and Gaudete Sunday**

The crib and Gaudete Sunday share a common theme: joy rooted in the presence of God. The crib reminds us that Jesus came into the world to bring salvation, peace, and hope. Gaudete Sunday urges us to celebrate that this promise is near fulfillment. Together, they call us to rejoice, not in material things, but in the profound truth that God is with us (Emmanuel).

**Application for Our Lives**

As we reflect on the crib and this joyful Sunday, let us ask ourselves: Are we preparing our hearts like the crib empty, humble, and ready to welcome Jesus? Do we allow the joy of the Lord to overcome our anxieties and struggles? This Advent, let the crib inspire us to embrace simplicity and humility, and let Gaudete Sunday renew our hope and joy. May we carry this joy into our homes and communities, becoming signs of Christ’s love for others.

**Conclusion**

The crib and the Third Sunday of Advent teach us that true joy is found in the presence of God. As we prepare for Christmas, let us rejoice in the Lord, who chose to dwell among us, and let our lives become cribs where Christ can be born anew.



# Parish Bulletin

**Third Sunday of Advent, Year C**

**14/15 Dec 2024**



**REJOICE IN THE LORD!**

A theme of joy always runs through the liturgy of the Third Sunday of Advent. The joy of this day springs from our anticipation and excitement that the Lord’s coming is very near. We ask the Lord to remove any sadness from our hearts that may hinder us from embracing the peace and hope which his presence will bestow on us this Christmas.

**PRAYER BEFORE HOLY MASS**

Heavenly father, we are about to offer this wonderful memorial of the passion and death of your Son. Bless our Priest as he stands in the person of Christ and makes present for us the great sacrifice of Calvary.

Bless our Ministers here present today-our ministers of the Eucharist, our readers, our Altar Servers, our musicians and ushers. When we reflect on the magnificence of these Sacred Ministries, we are somewhat overawed at our calling. But also we are overjoyed that You have asked us to stand at Your altar and serve You.

Help us to be reverent and to be faithful to our responsibilities. May this Eucharist that we are about to offer be a bond of unity and a sacrament of love for our people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING**

**Zephaniah 3:14-18**

*With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you*

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud!  
Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem!  
The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away.  
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

**The word of the Lord**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Isaiah 12:2-6**

**Response:**

**Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.**

- Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear.  
For the Lord is my strength, my song, He became my saviour.  
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. **R**
- Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!  
Declare the greatness of his name. **R**

3. Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds, make them known to all the earth!  
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy  
For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **R**

**SECOND READING**

**Philippians 4:4-7**

*The Lord is near.*

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near.  
There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

**The word of the Lord**



St Joseph's Catholic Church  
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SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5068  
www.stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

**Parish Priest**  
Fr Roy John Elavumkal SMM  
parishpriest@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

**Parish Secretary**  
Pat Kwok – Tue to Fri  
info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

**Parish Finance**  
finance@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

**WHS Officer**  
Angela Girolamo – Thursday

**Sacristan**  
Sundays: Terence Yeow & Roger Worth

**Parish Office Hours**  
Tue to Fri 9:30am – 12:30pm  
Ph: (08) 8431 6932  
info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

**Mass Times**  
Sunday 9:30 am  
Saturday Vigil Mass 6:30 pm  
Tuesday to Friday 9:15 am

**Confessions**  
Saturday 6:00 pm

**Rosary**  
Tues to Fri 8:45am

**Adoration of the Eucharist**  
Friday before Mass 8:30am

**Novena to St. Joseph**  
Wednesday after Mass

**St. Joseph's Primary School**  
Principal - Adrian Grbin  
Ph: 8217 8300

**Knights of the Southern Cross**  
Michael Boyle Ph: 8337 3270

**Parish Pastoral Council**  
Chair – Alan Tyson  
**Parish Finance Council**  
Chair -Edward Konieczny

**Child Safe Contact Person**  
Anne Dudzinski Ph: 0418 847 804

**Vinnies Assistance Hotline**  
1300 729 202 - 9:00am to 4:30pm

**Rosters—21/22 Dec 2024  
4th Sunday of Advent**

Time	Commentator/Readers
<b>6.30pm Vigil</b>	Josh Page Michalle Page Fil Ciancio
<b>9:30am</b>	Sandy Mazzarolo Aloysius Achusiogu Ifeoma Achusiogu
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
<b>Count team</b>	Julie Priem Leo Priem Anne Dudzinski George Dudzinski
<b>Altar and Flowers</b>	Dolores Arboit Christina Wong Sarita Ingham and volunteers

*All those who have volunteered please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start time and report to the commentator for that Mass*

SUNDAY COLLECTION SUMMARY	7/8 DEC 2024
Open Plate	\$791.00
Planned Giving	\$465.60
<b>PARISH TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,456.75</b>

This week's contribution to the Diocesan Presbytery Fund : \$870.75



**Please remember in your prayers**

We pray for those listed and all the deceased relatives and friends of our Parishioners.

For the Repose of the Soul:

Death Anniversary:  
**Eileen Brady**


*Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; present them to God the Most High.*

**Sick:**  
*We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish and our relatives and friends who are unwell.*

**If you know of sick or elderly parishioners who are house-bound or in care and would appreciate a visit, please phone and leave a message with the parish office.**

**Pope Francis @pontifex**

Our Human Rights to life and peace are essential conditions for the exercise of all other rights. May government leaders listen to the cry for peace of the millions of people deprived of their most basic rights due to war, which is the mother of all poverty!



**PARISH NOTICES**

**Volunteers for Christmas Masses Roster**  
We are seeking Liturgy Volunteers for the Christmas. If you are interested to take the roles, please write your name on the Christmas Roster, which is posted on the door of the Man Entrance. Your support and participation will be very much appreciated

**Parish Office Closure over Christmas / New Year Period**  
The parish office will be closed from 12:30pm on Friday, 20 Dec 2024 and will recommence normal business hours on Friday 3rd Jan 2025.

**No Holy Mass on 26, 27 December 2024**  
There will be no Holy Mass on Thursday 26 Dec and Friday 27 Dec. Thank you for your attention.

**Planned Giving Envelopes**  
We appreciate your continuous support to the church. The Dec-to-May batch of planned giving envelopes are now available for collection. They are placed in a box on the table at the main entrance of the church. Thank you.

**ARCHDIOCESE EVENTS**


**2024 Archdiocesan Advent Resources available online and in parishes**  
A PDF version of the booklet is available online at <https://www.ofw-adelaide.org.au/publications.html>. Weekly reflections will be published on the Archdiocesan Mass App (available from the [Apple](#) and [Google Play](#) stores for free), Facebook ([www.facebook.com/adelaidearchdiocese](https://www.facebook.com/adelaidearchdiocese)) and Instagram (@adelaidecatholic).

**Carols on Christmas Eve**  
All children are invited to sing with the Cathedral children's choir at the Christmas Eve 6pm Family Mass. There will be a rehearsal before Mass. Children are welcome to dress up. For more information: [music@adelaide.catholic.org.au](mailto:music@adelaide.catholic.org.au)

**Caritas Australia's Global Gifts are Christmas Cards with purpose!**  
Every card you buy helps build brighter futures for children, women and men experiencing hardship and poverty. By putting your compassion into action and shopping for the Global Gifts of your choice you will bring hope and joy to the world's most vulnerable and communities, while giving your loved ones a meaningful Christmas card.  
View the range of Global Gifts: [www.globalgifts.org.au](http://www.globalgifts.org.au)

**'Indulge Responsibly' this Christmas**  
Supporting brands committed to ending slavery in their supply chains has been simplified to a two-step process: look for the rain-forest alliance and/or Fairtrade certifications and double-check Be Slavery Free's chocolate scorecard ([chocolatescorecard.com](http://chocolatescorecard.com)). If you would like to know more about Indulge Responsibly, contact [sacoordinator@acrath.org.au](mailto:sacoordinator@acrath.org.au).

**SAUSAGE SIZZLE**  
By The Knights of the Southern Cross  
after 9:30am Mass on  
**Sunday 15 Dec 2024**  
Thank you for your support!



**CWL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**  
The Catholic Women's League is running a Christmas Raffle on at the Masses on 14/15 December. Tickets are \$1 each. Proceeds would support St Vincent de Paul. We look forward to your generous support.


**The Kids' Bulletin**




*God sent Saint John the Baptist to prepare the people for the coming of Jesus. What did he say when some of the people thought that he might be the saviour? Look in the mirror to find out!*

*Pointing the Way to Jesus*

In today's Gospel reading we hear about the people being filled with expectation for the coming of the Messiah. Saint John the Baptist told the people how to prepare for his coming- by doing good and repenting of their sins.



At first the people thought that John the Baptist might be the Messiah. But Saint John was only a messenger. We can think of him as a sign-post pointing the way to Jesus. People came to see and hear him, and he showed them the way to God.



How can you be like Saint John the Baptist and show other people the way to Jesus?

Answers to Crossword Puzzle:  
Across: 1. peace 3. shall 5. thanksgiving 9. near 11. all 13. sisters 15. Christ Down: 1. petition 2. again 4. have 6. kindness 7. guard 8. God 10. your 12. Lord 14. it 15. to

[www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com)



**Christmas MASS TIMES**

**24 December**  
Tuesday 6:30pm  
Vigil – Family Mass

**24 December**  
Tuesday 11:30pm  
Christmas Carols and  
Midnight Mass

**25 December**  
Wednesday 9:30am  
Christmas Mass

St Joseph's Catholic Church, Tranmere