

11th December 2022
3rd Sunday of Advent
Year A

Faith Communities
of Adamstown
Cardiff and Kotara



"That They May All Be One."

*'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.allsaintsblackbuttsouth.org.au

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ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH

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ST KEVIN'S CHURCH

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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 has been cancelled
till further notice.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Wednesday: 9.30am Adamstown

Thursday: 9.30am Cardiff

Friday: 9.15am Kotara

1st Saturday: 9.00am Kotara

Gospel Reflection

Why would John the Baptist send messengers to question Jesus? We recall from last week's gospel passage that John had a somewhat 'fire and brimstone' perception of what Jesus would be like. Perhaps as he sat in his prison cell John began to wonder whether Jesus was indeed the Messiah that John believed him to be. Perhaps the question was not for himself but rather for his disciples that he sent to Jesus. Given the answer that Jesus provided them, perhaps John's intention was for the disciples to recognise that Jesus was in fact the one that John had proclaimed and that the disciples should switch their allegiance to Jesus. John probably guessed that he would not be leaving that prison alive and may have been leading his disciples to the next step in their discipleship by having them go and scrutinise Jesus.

The indirect answer that Jesus provides to the query would have not sounded like such a roundabout response as it does to us. The picture Jesus describes of the blind seeing, the lame walking, lepers cleansed, and the deaf hearing would have been very familiar to those who were listening and the first audience of this gospel. These were signs of the coming of the Messiah that had been foretold by the prophets. In his answer, Jesus effectively says, 'Well, all the things that are supposed to happen when the Messiah comes are happening now with me. There's your answer!'

The reading continues to build on the Advent themes of anticipation, preparedness and hope. As we draw closer to the celebration of the Nativity, in this reading is confirmation that our hope is not misplaced. Today's readings emphasise the joy that lies in the anticipation and expectation of what is coming.

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"Are you the one who is to come,
or have we got to wait
for someone else?"



Matthew 11:2

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS—MASS ROSTERS

ADVENT WREATH -Third Sunday of Advent (Year A)

Presider:

The Presider or an assistant lights the third candle, which can be named the Saints' Candle to call to mind all the saints who share the life of Christ by being baptised into his Body the Church.

V. Lord Jesus, your coming was foretold by the prophet Isaiah who proclaims 'Look, your God is coming, he is coming to save you.' (First Reading)

R. Come, Lord Jesus.

V. Lord Jesus, you come among us now as the light of the world. St James urges us to be patient and not to lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon. (Second Reading)

R. Come, Lord Jesus.

V. Lord Jesus, you will come again in glory and raise the dead to new life. (Gospel)

R. Come, Lord Jesus.

Presider [Collect: Third Sunday of Advent]

O God, who see how your people

Faithfully await the feast of the Lord's nativity,

enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation

and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your son,

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

One God, for ever and ever

Amen

<u>11/12/2022</u>	ADAMSTOWN	CARDIFF	KOTARA
Commentator	Paul Smith	St Kevin's Students	Emma South
Readers	Dot Reynolds Barry Bourke	End of Year	Bernard Burgess Nance Schrieber
Presentation of Gifts	Goodman Family	Mass / Graduation	Peter & Marie Cunningham
Extraordinary Minister	Albert Erzetech	Paul Gleeson	Marilyn Thomson
Counters	Lynn Johns Dot Reynolds	Len McCullum	Narelle Robb, Patricia Hines, Paul Crosbie
<u>18/12/2022</u>	ADAMSTOWN	CARDIFF	KOTARA
Commentator	Dot Reynolds	Margaret Bourke	Peter Cunningham
Readers	Christine Williams Paul Smith	Cathy Waugh Anne Lamotte	Giavanna Angeli Christine Sheppard
Presentation of Gifts	Preciosa Winter Gloria Ramage	Murphy Family	Burgess Family
Extraordinary Minister	Narelle Smith	Majella Maher	Jessica Moulder
Counters	Francine Goodman, Kathy Kelly, Paula O'Neill	N/A	N/A

BAPTISMS: *We welcome into our faith community...*

Olivia Freire

Austin, Sophie & Lawson Wink

SICK/SPECIAL NEEDS:

We remember in our prayers ...

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

ANNIVERSARIES: Fr Harry Hughes, Fred Clouton, Ron Henderson, Deborah Anne Cook, Len Donnelly, Rose Merrion, Josephine Lerch, Otto Lerch

The Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults — particularly those who participate in the life of the Diocese as part of our faith communities in parishes.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteers Christmas Masses : Rosters sheets are at the back of our Churches for our Christmas Masses—If you are available and can help in any ministry or in any way please come forward to make our celebrations welcoming to all.

We welcome and congratulate : Graduating Class/Staff/Students of St Kevin's School to our Sunday Mass. We also mark with thanksgiving the end of School Year. You are invited to stay and enjoy morning tea after Mass.

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

Columban Calendars and Christmas Cards Christmas Cards (\$7.00) and Columban Calendars (\$7.00) are now on sale at Adamstown, Cardiff and Kotara.

St Vincent de Paul - 2022 Christmas Appeal
The SVdP Conferences at Adamstown, Cardiff and Kotara Christmas Appeal continues. Envelopes will be available at the back each of our churches. These envelopes can be filled out and placed in the collection containers provided in each of our Mass centres. Alternatively donations can also be made on-line at www.vinnies.org.au or by phoning 13 18 12. Your continued support is greatly appreciated and your donations will directly assist families and individuals in our community particularly at this very difficult time

SVdP Cardiff Christmas Hampers The long established tradition and generosity at Cardiff in providing for others at Christmas in the form of hamper donations is up and running following the restrictions placed upon us during the recent pandemic. If you would like to make a donation towards our hampers you are invited to take a card from the Christmas Tree and place your donated items in the baskets provided.

Meditation Group at Kotara will be in recess from December 14th until January 10th.

Missing from Kotara Sacristy: A small white plastic basket that holds the used hand towels and purifiers is missing from the sacristy at Kotara. If anyone knows where it is could they please let Faye know.

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

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.

More information including how to register will be provided closer to the date. For more information on MenALIVE, visit: www.menalive.org.au

Roll up your sleeves; make a difference overseas
Do you require professional renewal, or are you seeking a retirement challenge? Communities abroad are asking for qualified and experienced Australians able to mentor their people in education, health, administration, trades, agriculture and more.

Imagine yourself re-engaging your vocational passion in Africa, Asia or the Pacific. Since 1961 Palms Australia has been recruiting Australians able to offer mentoring that will allow overseas counterparts opportunities otherwise unattainable. Sharing your skills will strengthen the capacity of workers overseas to serve their communities for generations to come, long after you return home. Communities in American Samoa, Cambodia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Zambia are seeking to fill a variety of roles. Enquire about those roles via www.palms.org.au or by calling 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567.

Advent Christmas Dates for your Diary

11th December	St Kevin's Cardiff Graduation/End of Year Mass 9.30am
12th December	*St Columba's Adamstown End of Year School Liturgy 9.30am * St Kevin's Cardiff Grandparents Day and Infants Nativity Liturgy 2pm
13th December	St James' Year 6 Rite of Passage (Graduation) 11am
14th December	* St James Celebration Liturgy 9.30am * St Kevin's Cardiff End of Year Liturgy 1pm in Church
16th December	Advent Reconciliation Service 6pm St Columba's Adamstown

Christmas Masses

CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday 24th December

Kotara Vigil : 6pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday 25th December

Adamstown : 8am

Cardiff : 9.30am

BOXING DAY

Monday 26th December

Cardiff : 8am Polish Mass



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— 3rd Sunday of Advent Year A

First Reading

Is 35:1-6, 10

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands
exult,
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,
let it bring forth flowers like the
jonquil,
let it rejoice and sing for joy.
The glory of Lebanon is bestowed
on it,
the splendour of Carmel and
Sharon;
they shall see the glory of the Lord,
the splendour of our God.
Strengthen all weary hands,
steady all trembling knees
and say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.
'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'
Then the eyes of the blind shall be
opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing
for joy,
for those the Lord has ransomed
shall return.
They will come to Zion shouting for
joy,
everlasting joy on their faces;
joy and gladness will go with them
and sorrow and lament be ended.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:6-10. R. see Is 35:4

(R.) Lord, come and save us.

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for
ever,
who is just to those who are
oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the
hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners
free. **(R.)**
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to
the blind,
who raises up those who are
bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the
stranger
and upholds the widow and
orphan. **(R.)**
3. It is the Lord who loves the just

but thwarts the path of the
wicked.

The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age.
(R.)

Second Reading

Jas 5:7-1

Be patient, brothers, until the
Lord's coming. Think of a farmer:
how patiently he waits for the
precious fruit of the ground until
it has had the autumn rains and
the spring rains! You too have to
be patient; do not lose heart,
because the Lord's coming will
be soon. Do not make
complaints against one another,
brothers, so as not to be brought
to judgement yourselves; the
Judge is already to be seen
waiting at the gates. For your
example, brothers, in submitting
with patience, take the prophets
who spoke in the name of the
Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon
me;

he sent me to bring Good News
to the poor.

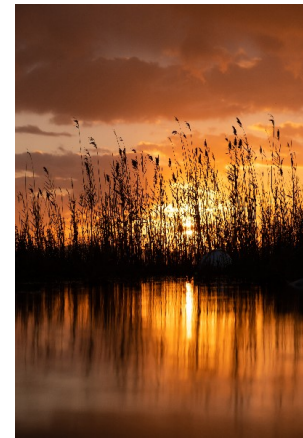
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 11:2-11

John in his prison had heard
what Christ was doing and he
sent his disciples to ask him,
'Are you the one who is to come,
or have we got to wait for
someone else?' Jesus
answered, 'Go back and tell
John what you hear and see; the
blind see again, and the lame
walk, lepers are cleansed, and
the deaf hear, and the dead are
raised to life and the Good News
is proclaimed to the poor; and
happy is the man who does not
lose faith in me.'
As the messengers were
leaving, Jesus began to talk to
the people about John: 'What did
you go out into the wilderness to

see? A reed swaying in the breeze?
No? Then what did you go out to
see? A man wearing fine clothes?
Oh no, those who wear fine clothes
are to be found in palaces. Then
what did you go out for? To see a
prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much
more than a prophet: he is the one
of whom scripture says: Look, I am
going to send my messenger before
you; he will prepare your way before
you. I tell you solemnly, of all the
children born of women, a greater
than John the Baptist has never
been seen; yet the least in the
kingdom of heaven is greater than
he is.'



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.