

29th January 2023  
4th Sunday Ordinary Time  
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](http://www.allsaintsblackbuttsouth.org.au)

### PARISH PRIEST:

Fr Joseph Figurado

Presbytery: (02) 4957 5949

Parish Mobile: 0452 280 687

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[Joseph.Figurado@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:Joseph.Figurado@mn.catholic.org.au)

Deacon

### 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

230 Main Road, Cardiff

PO Box 233, Cardiff NSW 2285

P: (02) 4954 0977

E: [asbsparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:asbsparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

### PARISH STAFF:

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](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/agencies/office-of-safeguarding)

### SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm Kotara

Sunday: 8.00am Adamstown

9.30am Cardiff

Sunday Adoration 6pm Kotara

### WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday: 9.30am Adamstown

Wednesday: 7am Kotara

9.30am Adamstown

Thursday: 9.30am Cardiff

Friday: 9.15am Kotara

1st Saturday: 9.00am Kotara

## Gospel Reflection

The gospel of Matthew is keen to cast Jesus in the role of the 'new Moses'. Moses was revered in Jewish history not only as the one who led the people out of Egypt, but even more importantly as the one who received the Ten Commandments from God. The first five books of the Bible, known to Jews as the Torah, or the Law, were accredited to Moses for a very long time. So Moses was seen as the one who received the Commandments from God and who also wrote down the Law of the people, the Torah. He was the Law-Giver for the Jewish people. When the gospel of Matthew portrays Jesus as the new Moses it emphasises the way in which Jesus sought to bring the Law of Moses to fulfilment and bring about a new understanding and appreciation of both the Law and God. Jesus introduced a new way of perceiving God; as a God of compassion and mercy, rather than the jealous, vengeful God that is often expressed in the Old Testament. The Sermon on the Mount that begins with the Beatitudes comes out of this historical context. Jesus is trying to present a new interpretation of the right way to be in relationship with God; one that is not dominated by rules and regulations. The text is so familiar to us today that it is almost bland. However, at the time it must have been incredibly confronting. The attitudes and states of being that Jesus blesses were not the characteristics that were valued in the society of his time. Poverty, gentleness and mourning were not considered strong, desirable qualities. So, the picture Jesus paints of how to be in right relationship with God and others was confronting the standards and expectations of the time.

### Historical Context – Purity

Purity and impurity was a major issue in 1st Century Jewish society. The Priests and Pharisees maintained that only pure adherence to the Law could make a person acceptable in God's eyes. Impurity came to be associated with physical disease and injury. Those with severe disease or disability were regarded as sinful and punished by God. Jesus' statement, 'Happy are the pure of heart', would have scandalised those who maintained that purity came through strict observance of Law.



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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS—MASS ROSTERS

## All Saints Catholic Parish – Blackbutt South

### Our Parish Lent Reflection – Days

Date	Mass Centre	Time	Preacher
23 February 2023	St. Philip's - Kotara	5.00 PM	Fr. Bill Burston
02 March 2023	St. Columba's – Adamstown	5.00 PM	Fr. Bob Searle
09 March 2023	St. Kevin's – Cardiff	5.00 PM	Sr. Carmel Moore
16 March 2023	St. Columba's – Adamstown	5.00 PM	Deacon Naveen
23 March 2023	St. Philip's - Kotara	5.00 PM	Fr. Paul Chackanikunnel
30 March 2023	St Kevin's Cardiff – Parish Reconciliation	6.00 PM	Fr. Priyantha Kamal Suranga

<b>29/01/2023</b>	ADAMSTOWN	CARDIFF	KOTARA
Commentator	Paul Smith	Cathy Waugh	Bernard Burgess
Readers	Barry Bourke Christine Williams	Ben Lerch Veronica Mulroy	Dever Family
Presentation of Gifts	Goodman Family	Lerch Family	Peter & Marie Cunningham
Extraordinary Minister	Preciosa Winter	Sharon Murphy	Faye Robertson
Counters	Francine Goodman, Kathy Kelly, Paula O'Neill	N/A	N/A
<b>05/02/2023</b>	ADAMSTOWN	CARDIFF	KOTARA
Commentator	Dot Reynolds	Margaret Bourke	Emma South
Readers	Paul Smith Vickie Pettett	Phillip Hall Majella Maher	Marilyn Thomson Bernard Burgess
Presentation of Gifts	Preciosa Winter Gloria Ramage	Freire Silveira Family	Paul & Jai Dart
Extraordinary Minister	Albert Erzetich	Leo Caldwell	Siobhan Farrell
Counters	Hamilton Koelmeyer	Mary Nixon	Narelle Robb, Patricia Hines, Paul Crosbie

**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, Paula Brown

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**  
 Peter Levey, Barbara Fisher

**ANNIVERSARIES:**  
 Margaret Rinkin,  
 Erroll, Arthur  
 Bone



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

Mass on Friday 10th February at St Philip's Kotara 9.15am will be offered for the parishioners in our community who are grieving the loss of their spouse and partner. You are invited to come pray and stay afterwards for a cup of tea and chat, reminisce and remember those we have loved.

**A note of thanks** from Rev Shansana to the parish for your welcome during his stay with us during the past week

**We also welcome** our new Deacon Naveen Kumar who arrived safely this week and will begin his ministry to us when his paperwork has been completed.

**Fr Gordon** will be away on the following dates: January 26th - February 8th and March 3rd— March 24th. We wish him Happy Holidays.

**New Office Hours:** Tuesday and Wednesday please call ahead if you wish to visit or contact can be made by phone or email.

**KOTARA SVDP CHRISTMAS APPEAL AND HAMPER PROGRAM** The Kotara Vinnies Conference offers a big "Thank You" for the generous response of parishioners to our 2022 Christmas Appeal. Over \$5,600 was raised, which is a great outcome. We are also grateful to Mini Vinnies and the St James School community which again collected items for Christmas hampers. Further support from the St Philips Craft Group and generous parishioners meant that we could include a tinned ham, Christmas pudding and fruit cake in each hamper. As a result of these combined efforts, around 25 substantial hampers were distributed before Christmas. Many thanks to all involved.

**World Youth Day News:** Susanna Caruana & Jacqueline Hartono from our Parish have been selected to attend World Youth Day 2023. We wish them every blessing as they prepare for this event.

**Mellow Yellow Family Group:** Let's get together for our 2023 planning meeting on this Sunday 29 January in The Cottage, after Mass, say from 10.30 am. Bring-a-plate for a light lunch following the meeting. Please forward any activity suggestions to Sharon Murphy M: 0407 565 140  
E: smu93562@bigpond.net.au.

**The Bereavement Support Team** next meeting is on Tuesday 7th February 2023 at St Philip's Kotara. New members are welcome.

**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.

### Living the Gospel – Be-attitudes

One way to read the Beatitudes is that Jesus was commending and blessing the various people who found themselves in those sorts of conditions. Another, is as a list of qualities that all people should strive to exhibit. It's not just some people who happen to be economically poor who are blessed. Rather, we must all have a poverty of spirit – a humility about our need for God's merciful action in our lives. All are called to hunger and thirst for justice and all are called to be merciful. The Beatitudes are not a menu to select from, but rather an essential list of ingredients.

### Gospel Focus – Covenant

The structure of the Beatitudes can be seen as yet another attempt by God to re-establish a covenant between Godself and the people. Throughout Jewish history, God called the people back into relationship and re-established God's covenant with them. Like all the previous versions of the covenant, the Beatitudes contain both a series of demands and a series of promises. It is a two-way deal. The first part of each Beatitude is a statement of what the people are called to do and the second part is God's promise of how they will be rewarded for their right action.

*A heartfelt thank you for your kind wishes, words of appreciation and beautiful flowers on my retirement. (Once Again) .... It has been a privilege to serve you in the Parish Office. To my wonderful community of All Saints Parish Blackbutt South, I will remember you in my prayers.*

*Anna.*



*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— 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

## First Reading

Zep 2:3; 3:12-13

Seek the Lord  
all you, the humble of the earth,  
who obey his commands.  
Seek integrity,  
seek humility:  
you may perhaps find shelter  
on the day of the anger of the Lord.  
In your midst I will leave  
a humble and lowly people,  
and those who are left in Israel will  
seek refuge in the name of the  
Lord.  
They will do no wrong,  
will tell no lies;  
and the perjured tongue will no  
longer  
be found in their mouths.  
But they will be able to graze and  
rest  
with no one to disturb them.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:7-10. R. Mt 5:3

(R.) Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!  
or

(R.) Alleluia!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith  
forever,  
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

1 Cor 1:26-31

Take yourselves, brothers, at the  
time when you were called: how  
many of you were wise in the

ordinary sense of the word, how  
many were influential people, or  
came from noble families? No, it  
was to shame the wise that God  
chose what is foolish by human  
reckoning, and to shame what is  
strong that he chose what is  
weak by human reckoning; those  
whom the world thinks common  
and contemptible are the ones  
that God has chosen – those  
who are nothing at all to show up  
those who are everything. The  
human race has nothing to boast  
about to God, but you, God has  
made members of Christ Jesus  
and by God's doing he has  
become our wisdom, and our  
virtue, and our holiness, and our  
freedom. As scripture says: if  
anyone wants to boast, let him  
boast about the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation

Mt 5:12

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Rejoice and be glad;  
Your reward will be great in  
heaven. Alleluia!

## Gospel

Mt 5:1-12.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went  
up the hill. There he sat down  
and was joined by his disciples.  
Then he began to speak. This is  
what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in  
spirit:

theirs is the kingdom of  
heaven.

Happy the gentle:  
they shall have the earth for  
their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:  
they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger  
and thirst for what is  
right:

they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:  
they shall have mercy shown  
them.

Happy the pure in heart:  
they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:

they shall be called sons of God.  
Happy those who are persecuted  
in the cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse  
you and persecute you and speak all  
kinds of calumny against you on my  
account. Rejoice and be glad, for  
your reward will be great in heaven.'



## 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.