NEWSLETTER

Catholic Parishes of Bulimba • Buranda • East Brisbane • Kangaroo Point

First Sunday of Advent

30 November 2025 (Year A)

◆ FR PETER DILLON Administrator, Kangaroo Point East Brisbane and Buranda ◆ FR KEVIN SMITH Parish Priest, Bulimba

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St Joseph's Church
26-36 Leopard Street
Kangaroo Point QLD 4169

St Benedict's Church
81 Mowbray Terrace
East Brisbane QLD 4169

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians, who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationships of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

THE WEIGHT OF WAITING

Over the next few weeks of the Advent and Christmas season, we will strive to grow spiritually as we try to contend with a variety of forces that distract us from our union with God and our unity with one another. Consumerism has the effect of filling our lives with material matters, leaving little room for divine things. Excessive busyness puts us in a hurried mode, making contemplation and prayer very difficult. Add to this list the struggle to make a daily living, the conflicts of our personal relationships, and that ever present disease of narcissism and we know that Advent will demand intense effort and more than a modicum of grace. It has been said that the shortest recorded length of time is the time between the light in front of you turning green and when the car behind you sounding its horn. A slight exaggeration, but the point is made. We are not good at sitting still and letting things unfold in their own time.

Whether we believe that time is money or we have been conditioned to keep moving in case we stop permanently, waiting patiently is something we are finding harder and harder to do in a world that requires immediate decisions and reactions. We live in an 'instant' world where we can own now and pay later, where the next one is free if the ordered food takes more than a short period of time, where Internet access allows us to plug into the World Wide Web in seconds, and if we are lucky enough, we can scratch some instant cash! The examples go on and on. These things in themselves are not wrong, but they do make Advent a difficult season for us to enter.

Advent is all about waiting. Firstly, waiting for a future that is not marked on a calendar nor can it be calculated in terms of days, months and years, but neither is it illusory. It is this future that we are drawn to this week as we listen to the prophet Isaiah as he tells us there will come a day when the whole world shall be filled with the knowledge of the Lord. Can we submit ourselves to becoming what God wants for us?

Yet our waiting is never passive. The gospel of this week reminds us to "repent", not because we have a tricky God who will catch us napping, but because we share in the responsibility of this future with God. We need to be on our guard, always ready to possibilities of furthering the reign of God in our day. We wait for the final coming in confidence because we know that once God did become flesh and dwelt with us and that God continues to be present in our every day.

Fr Peter

Liturgy and Prayers This Week 1 December to 7 December 2025				
	Bulimba	Buranda	East Brisbane	Kangaroo Point
Wednesday	7pm (Mass)		8am (Mass)	
Friday	8am (Mass + Adoration + Benediction)	9am (Mass)		
Saturday	9am (Mass) 5.30pm (Mass)		5pm (Mass)	
Sunday	8am (Mass) 5.30pm (Mass)	8am (Mass)		9am (Mass)

AROUND OUR PARISHES

BULIMBA

Prayer Requests
Please pray for our departed loved ones, especially Neil Trottier, Natalina Rossi, ***recently deceased and also for*** Leon Bakunowicz, Veronica Indinah, Augustinus Krismanto, Leoncio Rodriguez, Eruthayamary Pillai, Margert Turpin, Paul Troja, Patricia Vieyra, Mary Hooper, Emma Moretto, Peggy Teache, Ann Toomey, Harold & Dulcie O'Connell, Robyn Illett, Bill Hanley, Patrick and Clare Dugger, Begley and Bourke families, Candelario Iquin, Ross Saffioti, Mal Thomson.
Please remember the sick in your prayers – Luigia D'Allura, Hazel Langthorne, Pete Waldron, Margaret McLaughlin, Anita Xavier, Lance Tutanoa, Roy Hogan, Catherine Kearney, Madonna Lapez, Rita Zoch, Patrick Larkin, Mimy Andree, Robyn Britnell.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL BULIMBA CONFERENCE — Celebrating 100 Years of Service. You are joyfully invited to join the 8 am Mass on Sunday 7 December, as we give thanks for a century of generosity and service. This has included countless donations, delicious home-made casseroles, gifts to Christmas Appeals, contributions from Sts Peter and Paul and Lourdes Hill schools, and volunteer visits to support those in need within our community. Following Mass, please join us for morning tea in the Parish Hall to celebrate this wonderful milestone.

A sense of humour is a gift from God. Laughter unites us.
Paddy and Mick are out Christmas shopping when Mick gets hit by a car. Paddy calls 000 saying 'Get an ambulance here quick, my mate's been hit and he's bleeding from his nose and ears and I tink both his legs are broken!' The operator asks 'What is your location sir?' Paddy replies, 'Outside number 28 Eucalyptus Street'. The operator asks Paddy to spell the street name. Silence….(heavy breathing) and after a minute the operator asks 'Are you there sir?' More heavy breathing and the operator again asks 'Sir, can you hear me?' This goes on for another few minutes until….'Sir, please answer me. Can you still hear me?' Paddy finally replies, 'Yes, sorry about dat…I couldn't spell Eucalyptus so I just dragged him round the corner. We're at number 3 Oak Street!'

LITTLE STEPS SJ INITIATIVE
THIS WEEK'S ACTION

Some simple, faith-inspired steps for living sustainably and in harmony with creation, in the spirit of Laudato Si' and the Season of Creation.

Buy seasonal and local produce to reduce food miles.

This year's **ADVENT DAILY PRAYER RESOURCE**—***In Holy Stillness***—is available via the parish office. Only a couple of copies are left, $5 each. Begins today (1st Sunday of Advent) - each weekday includes a short scripture text, a reflection upon it, as well as some thoughts to provoke prayer and discussion.

2026 COLUMBAN ART CALENDER is available at the church doors for $8 each. Please place money in the collection box.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL! The customary gifting tree will be in the church this weekend. This is our main appeal for the year and based on your generous record of giving, it will provide resources for our planned Christmas hampers and support our activities into 2026. Please consider donating grocery gift cards (*Coles and Woolworths only*) or deposit funds to our bank account.

St Vincent de Paul, Bulimba
BSB 064-786
Account # 100026603

Your gift of a grocery card enables the families we are assisting to have a choice that is best suited to their needs. This approach is preferable to gifting food items and toys which may not be suitable for families needs in these challenging times. Please return your gift to the tree by **14 December**. Alternatively, you are welcome to drop your gift to the Parish Office. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

KANGAROO POINT/EAST BRISBANE . BURANDA

Prayer Requests
We ask you to pray for the recently deceased and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time *Moira Carr*
Please remember the sick in your prayers *- Anne Bardwell, Michael Mulligan, Leo Rawlings, Tony Cotter, Mary Leahy, Angelina Lee*

PARISH LUCKY NUMBER (KPEB)
Last week's winner: **MARY SMITH**
Any parishioners interested in being part of the Lucky Number Draw see with Isobel at the foyer of St Benedict's Church on Saturday evening. Proceeds of the lucky number draw go to support St Vincent de Paul and other social needs in the Parish. ***GOOD LUCK!!!***

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY PLAY @ ST JOSEPH'S—will take place at 5.30pm on Christmas Eve, just before the Family Mass. Children are warmly invited to take part in roles such as narrators, Mary, Joseph, Angels, Shepherds, Kings, Innkeepers and the Drummer Boy. To register your child's interest, please text Nick Tyler on 0422 961 927. Rehearsals will be held in the Church on Saturday 20 December at 8.30am and Tuesday 23 December at 4.30pm.

This year's **ADVENT DAILY PRAYER RESOURCE**—***In Holy Stillness***—has sold out in the Archdiocese. For those wanting to still source a copy, an E-book version is available using the following link https://shop.archdiocesanministries.org.au/products/electronic-version-ebook-advent-2025-in-holy-stillness

RECTIFICATION WORKS at St Luke's will commence this week (*7am-4pm*) and last for approximately 14 days. During this time there will an exclusion zone at the front and side of the church for boom lift and scaffolding which may restrict church access. We ask for your patience during this process. **THANK YOU**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD will be held next Sunday 6 December in the Coolock Room during the 9am Mass at St Joseph's, Kangaroo Point. This will be the last one offered for the year and you are encouraged to bring your children to hear the Gospel adapted to their level of understanding. Thank you to our leaders for their continued dedication. **PARISH MORNING TEA** will follow. All welcome.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY NEWS - **a**s previously advised , the commencement of the season of Advent marks the start of our annual Vinnies Christmas Hamper Appeal at St Luke's in Buranda , St Benedict's at East Brisbane and St Joseph's at Kangaroo Point. We invite parishioners to assist in the collection of food items for the hampers. As you arrive at any of the 3 churches this weekend you will notice a Giving Christmas tree. On the trees are numerous cards with details of a food item you can purchase and return to drop at the foot of the tree. The Christmas hampers will be distributed on Saturday December 20 to those people in our local area who seek the assistance of the St Vincent de Paul Society. Any offers of assistance from parishioners in this regard will be most welcome. The families of students attending St Joseph's school are again supporting our Christmas hamper appeal and are already collecting items for the hampers. Some parishioners may prefer to make donations of cash instead of donating food items.
If you wish to donate cash there are envelopes available from our members (who will be positioned near the Christmas tree) or via direct bank transfer using the following details -
BSB: 064 786
A/C number: 100026599
A/C name : SVDP East Brisbane/Kangaroo Point conference

We look forward to you continued prayers and support during Advent to help bring the joy and peace of Christmas to those in need within our immediate local communities.

HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR PARISHES

As a Catholic community, we are deeply grateful for the goodwill and generosity that sustain our mission and service to others.
Your continued support is vital to our work, helping us to live out Christ's love in Bulimba, Buranda, and Kangaroo Point/East Brisbane.
To arrange planned giving for your parish, we invite you to reach out to the parish office for more information.
Thank you for being a cherished part of our faith journey.

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

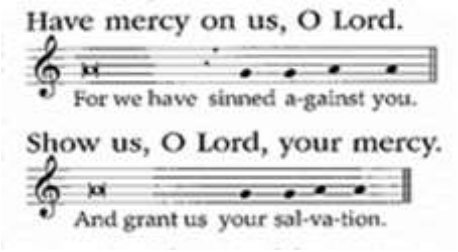
A VOCATION VIEW: In our materialistic society, our hearts can be hardened with the desires of the flesh. Stay awake and pray for the strength to stand with confidence before Jesus, by following His authentic call for your life. Scan the QR code to find out more or contact the vocation office on 1300 133 544 or www.vocationbrisbane.com Follow us on @vocationbrisbane

TWO MINUTE HOMILY by priests from across the Archdiocese of Brisbane. You are able to watch this week's homily here.

THE ORDER OF THE MASS READINGS

◆ FIRST Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5 ◆ SECOND Reading: Romans 13:11-14 ◆ GOSPEL: Matthew 24:37-44

PENITENTIAL ACT



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

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.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
In the days to come
the mountain of the Temple of the Lord
shall tower above the mountains
and be lifted higher than the hills.
All the nations will stream to it,
peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the Temple of the God of Jacob
that he may teach us his ways
so that we may walk in his paths;
since the Law will go out from Zion,
and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'
He will wield authority over the nations
and adjudicate between many peoples;
these will hammer their swords into ploughshares,
their spears into sickles.
Nation will not lift sword against nation,
there will be no more training for war
O House of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

SECOND READING

Romans 13:11-14

The time has come, our salvation is near

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon - let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL

Matthew 24:37-4

Stay awake, you must be ready

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.
'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

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