

**STAR OF THE SEA****CHRIST OUR LIGHT*****Star of the Sea Catholic Parish***

Cleveland, Ormiston, Raby Bay, Thornlands  
and Stradbroke Island.

*We recognise the traditional owners of this land,  
The Quandamooka People.*

**Star News 11 December 2016****3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent****SUNDAY – Year A****Parish Mission:**

*The Star of the Sea is a welcoming  
community dedicated to sharing the  
light of Christ in the spirit of faith  
and love. We reach out to the  
service of others, thereby enriching  
our value of parish life.*

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr Ashley Warbrooke  
Presbytery: 3821 1953  
Mobile: 0417 753 739  
*(for emergencies only)*

**Weekend Masses:** Saturday 5.30pm, Sunday 7.00am & 8.30am  
**Reconciliation:** Saturday 4.45 – 5.15pm

**Parish Office:** Alba Bran  
53 Passage Street Cleveland  
PO Box 252 Cleveland Q 4163  
Email: [cleveland@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cleveland@bne.catholic.net.au)  
Web: [www.parishes.bne.catholic.net.au/cleveland/](http://www.parishes.bne.catholic.net.au/cleveland/)  
Ph: 3821 4902 Fax: 3821 4904  
Baptism Coordinator: Alba Bran  
Finance: Megan Colter (Wednesday)

**Holy Cross Funerals**  
Ph 3293 0555 (24 hours)

**Columbarium** at Star of the Sea  
Cleveland enquiries to Parish Office

**School Principal:** Karen Bakon  
Ph: 3286 2377 Fax: 3286 2677  
Email: [pcleveland@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pcleveland@bne.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.staroftheseacleveland.qld.edu.au](http://www.staroftheseacleveland.qld.edu.au)

**Child Care:** Ph: 3821 2999  
Email: [clevelanddc@bne.centacare.net.au](mailto:clevelanddc@bne.centacare.net.au)

**Gospel Mt 11:2-11**

*Are you the one who is  
to come, or must we  
wait for someone else?*

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.'

**WEEK DAY  
MASSES**

**MONDAY 9am**  
Redlands Hospital  
1st & 3rd Mon of month

**Mater Hospital**  
2nd & 4th Mon of month

No mass on the 5th  
Monday of the month or  
Public Holidays.

**WEDNESDAY 8.40am**  
Carmel College  
No Mass on School  
Holidays

**THURSDAY 9.15am**  
Star of the Sea

**FRIDAY 9.15am**  
Star of the Sea

**SUN 9am**  
St Paul of the Cross  
Dunwich

**HOLY HOUR:**  
every **Tuesday,**  
**beginning at 2.50pm**  
in the Parish Church.  
All welcome to join us in  
prayer.

Dear friends,

In our Gospel today, John the Baptist from his prison cell, hears what Jesus is doing and sends his disciples to ask him "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to expect someone else?"

Some scholars interpret John's question as being for the benefit of his followers. Some of these followers had been shocked by the contrast between John and Jesus, and at times were envious of Jesus and his followers. Others say that John was asking this information for his own benefit. Good people like John often find it difficult to accept the differences between their expectations and the way God comes into their lives.

In his answer Jesus resorted to the section of the prophet Isaiah in today's First Reading, knowing that the wise among the people would realise that he was answering "Yes, I am the Messiah", but in an astute way that would give the religious leaders a hard time if they tried to pin him down in court. "Go back and report to John what you hear and see" he said. "The blind can see again, cripples walk, lepers are cured, the deaf hear, dead people are raised to life, and" – most important of all in a time that had no high regard for ordinary people – he added that "the poor have the Good News of salvation preached to them".

Isaiah had foretold these special events as proof of the Messiah, and everyone recognised Isaiah in Jesus' words. Isaiah, about seven hundred years before, had delivered these promises of God at a time when the Jewish people were in crisis. Jerusalem, their sacred city had been destroyed, their leaders were in captivity in Babylon, and only peasants were left in the Holy Land to till the hard soil. And yet God, through Isaiah, raised their eyes to the image of the wilderness blooming, a vision of a miracle of life, a surge of new vitality into tired hearts, all seeming to go against common-sense reality. Yet the Jewish people took Isaiah's words so literally that they expected instant perfection at the Messiah's coming, and they still today can't acknowledge that the Messiah has already come.

Jesus too, was going against the reality of his time and knew that he wasn't the kind of Messiah they were expecting. Considering the popular mentality of the time, he concluded his answer by asserting another beatitude: blessed is the one who takes no offence at me. He would be a stumbling block to all whose preconceived notions of his identity blinded them to the truth of who he really was.

Jesus goes on to praise John as "the messenger who was to prepare his way". In truth I tell you, of all the children born of women, there has never been anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the Kingdom of God is greater than he".

As John lived before the cross, he would never know the full extent of God's love; God has given to all of us His gift of knowing His love through the cross.

God bless,

**Fr Ashley Warbrooke**  
**Parish Priest**

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## **PARISH NEWS**

**THIS WEEKEND, STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH WILL HELD**

**THE 2016 NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY:** Our church will be amongst thousands of churches that complete the 2016 National Church Life Survey (NCLS) in November this year. The purpose of the NCLS is to help churches to be more vital and effective.



**SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL** would like to thank Parishioners for their tremendous support of the Xmas raffle. We were able to have three prizes. 1<sup>st</sup> prize of a CCI gift basket and Throw Run donated by Marie Innes, went to Margaret Bodman, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize of a timber carryall with goodies donated by Kate Fox went to Di Macnaughtan and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize of a Madonna and child donated by Michael Wight went to Helen Hickey. We were able to raise around \$640. These funds will help us over the Xmas period.

**CHRISTMAS HAMPERS:** We will be collecting for the SVDP Christmas Hampers. The two boxes under the Christmas Tree are for presents and groceries. There are some present tags left on the tree so take a tag and return the present. The groceries **will be collected up to Sunday the 18th of December.**

We hope to deliver around 36 hampers to needy families this year. We thank you for your continued support.

## CHRISTMAS CAROLS REHEARSALS:



All children welcome! The dates for rehearsals are  
Thursday 15th December 9.30am - 11am  
and Thursday 22nd December 9.30am - 11am.  
Christmas Carols on December 24<sup>th</sup>, 5.30pm.

If you have any questions please contact Erin Hardy on [erinhardy2@hotmail.com](mailto:erinhardy2@hotmail.com).

**BREAK FOR MEDITATION:** Please note that Meditation will break from the 14 December, starting again on Wednesday 1 February 2017.

### **U3A CHRISTMAS CONCERT:**

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm at Star of the Sea Church.

Entry \$5 – all proceeds to St Vincent De Paul.

Presented by Redlands U3A Choir.



**ADVENT: JOURNEY TO THE MANGER:** Join us with our local Anglican Community at St Pauls' Cross St. Cleveland - Monday 12 December at 7.00pm (last session for this year) to discuss what we share together in our faith streams by sharing in the story of the birth of the Child Jesus.

Journey to the Manger by author Paula Gooder will be the guide for these discussions.

The author recently presented a paper in Rome to both Anglican and Catholic Bishops on the need for closer and more meaningful relationships between our communities.

Please contact the Anglican office for further information Ph.38211953.

**ECUMENICAL CAROLS:** The Ecumenical Carols will be held this evening Sunday 11 December, starting at 7pm at the Uniting Church. There will be a sausage sizzle taking place prior from about 5pm.

All welcome!

**BREAK OPEN THE WORD BOOK:** There are still some copies available from the office. Cost \$20. All Readers encouraged to get one.

### **THURSDAY SOCIAL CHRISTMAS PARTY:**



### **PRAYERS**

**HEALING** We pray for those who seek healing in their lives. Especially for Darren Purnell.

**ANNIVERSARIES** We pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time. Especially for Julia Fernandes, Joseph and Maria Borg.

**DECEASED** We commend the recently deceased to the loving embrace of God. Especially for Shirley Cooper and Kathleen Kozina.

## CHRISTMAS MASSES 2016

### RECONCILIATION MASS – MON 19<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2016

7.30pm Star of the Sea Parish - Cleveland

### CHRISTMAS EVE – SAT 24<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2016

5.30pm Carols at Star of the Sea-Cleveland

6.00pm Star of the Sea Parish - Cleveland

9.00pm Star of the Sea Parish - Cleveland

6.00pm St Paul of the Cross -Dunwich

### CHRISTMAS DAY – SUN 25<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2016:

8.30am Star of the Sea Parish - Cleveland

7.30am St Peter Chanel-Point Look Out

### NEW YEAR'S DAY – SUN 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2017:

7am & 8.30am Star of the Sea Parish - Cleveland



#### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

18 December 2016

First Reading: [Is 7:10-14](#)

Responsorial Psalm: [Ps 23:1-6. R. see vv 7. 10](#)

Second Reading: [Rom 1:1-7](#)

Gospel: [Mt 1:18-24](#)

#### RESPONSE FOR THIS SUNDAY 11 December 2016

##### Responsorial Psalm

(R.) *Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.*

##### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;*

*he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.*

Alleluia!

#### MINISTRY – 18 December 2016

Time	Coordinator	Readers	Communion Min - Bread	Communion Min - Wine
5.30 pm	Pauline McKay	Barbara Wyllie Jo-Anne Lavery	Pauline McKay Elizabeth Fisher Teresa Coates	Tony Moore Lil Predl Sue Wilson Judith Seery
7.00 am	Olga Johnstone	Bert Latham Veronica Hyland	Valerie Curley Sid Steele Graeme Ramsden	Jenice Hefferan Maria Paukofe Olga Johnstone Di Macnaughtan
8.30m	Terry Larsen	Donna Smyth Jocelyn Lebumfacil	Annette Nicholls Janelle Jahnke Theresa Thompson	Terry Larsen Cheryl Webb Peter Hunter Teresa Gerada

#### NEXT WEEK'S COUNTERS & CLEANERS

Counters

Team 4

Cleaners

Team 3

#### MINISTRY – RECONCILIATION MASS Monday 19 December 2016

Time	Coordinator	Readers	Communion Min - Bread	Communion Min - Wine
7.30 pm	Mary Fehlberg	Donna Smyth Jocelyn Lebumfacil	Judith Seery Sid Steele Peter Vo	Mary Fehlberg Annette Nicholls Aurora Stronach Theresa thompson