

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 125

RESPONSE: The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **Response.**

The heathens themselves said:
'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. **Response.**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **Response.**

They go out, they go out, full of tears
carrying seed for the sowing:

they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. **Response.**

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-6. 8-11
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians

*Show yourself sinless and without blame in the day
of Christ.*

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy,
remembering how you have helped to spread the
Good News from the day you first heard it right up to
the present. I am quite certain that the One who
began this good work in you will see that it is finished
when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how
much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves
you. My prayer is that your love for each other may
increase more and more and never stop improving
your knowledge and deepening your perception so
that you can always recognise what is best. This will
help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare
you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the
perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us
for the glory and praise of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Luke 3:4. 6
Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his
paths:

all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 3:1- 6

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke
All people shall see the salvation of God.

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when

Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod
tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the
lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of
Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and
Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of
Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the
whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of
repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is
written in the book of the sayings of the prophet
Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley will be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
winding ways will be straightened
and rough roads made smooth.
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
And behold the joy which comes to you from God.



READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Zeph 3: 14 -18; Phil 4: 4 - 7; Lk 3: 10 - 18.

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney.

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal
with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you
know – have been abused, please contact the
police. Alternatively, you can contact the
Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office at
safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org or by
calling (02) 9390 5810.

Mobile phones at Mass.

To maintain a spirit of reverence and solemnity,
please ensure your phones are on silent mode
whilst in the church.



PARISH OF ST. THERESE, DENISTONE



Presbytery and Office

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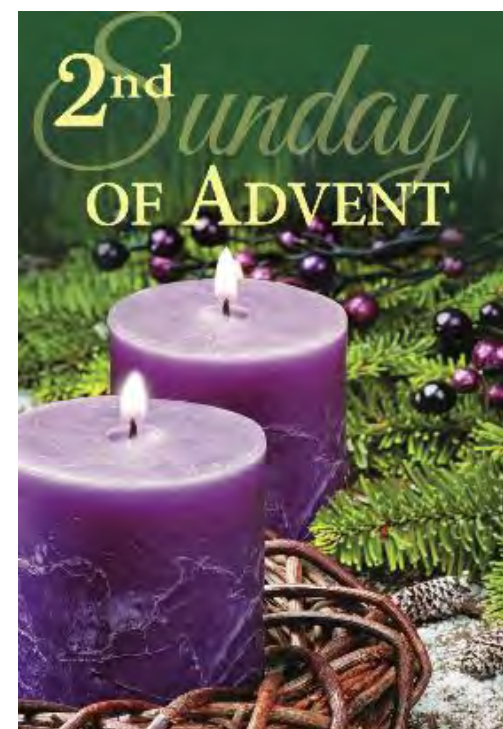
448 Blaxland Rd, Denistone 2114 (02) 9874 0412



MASS TIMES:

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6:00 pm.
SUNDAY: 8:00 am and 10am
MONDAY: No Mass.
TUESDAY through to SATURDAY: 9.00 am Mass.
FRIDAY: 9.00 am Mass.
Exposition & Benediction every Friday after Mass.
RECONCILIATION: Saturday 5pm – 5.45pm or by appointment.
Baptism: Every Sunday at 11.30am. Please contact Parish Office.
Marriage: By appointment.
Anointing of the sick: Please give names to Father Roberto Castillo.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year C)
4th / 5th December 2021



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

**O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save
the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his
voice heard in the joy of your heart.**

FIRST READING: Baruch 5:1-9

A reading from the prophet Baruch

Jerusalem - God will show you splendour.

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,
put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever,

wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you,
put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your
head:

since God means to show your splendour to every
nation under heaven,
since the name God gives you for ever will be,
'Peace through integrity, and honour through
devotedness'.

Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights
and turn your eyes to the east:

see your sons reassembled from west and east
at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God
has remembered them.

Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an
escort, now God brings them back to you
like royal princes carried back in glory.

For God has decreed the flattening
of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills,
the filling of the valleys to make the ground level
so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of
God.

And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide
shade for Israel at the command of God;
for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory
with his mercy and integrity for escort.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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11 / 12 DECEMBER 2021 – 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

	SATURDAY 6.00PM	SUNDAY 8.00AM	SUNDAY 10AM
Acolyte	T DABBAH	J KWONG	G MOODLEY
Reader	B CLARK	P TREACY	C LAYOUN
Wardens	P BURGE	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
Offertory	DABBAH FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY
Projection	NONE DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS	NONE DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS	NONE DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS
Altar Servers	GRP 2A: ZAC O'DONOGHUE & NOAH EL-AZZI	NO ROSTERED GROUP	GROUP 6: ADAM CALLAGHAN
Welcomers	A CHAN & P ONG		
Counters	GROUP 2: L SEETO T DABBAH C DABBAH		
Altar Flowers	N HAHN	DECEMBER ALTAR LINEN: PENNY ONG	

From Fr Roberto.

As you all know last week we had the visitation of Bishop Brady, who came on behalf of the Archbishop Anthony Fisher to spend time with us, learning about our parish community life, getting to know us and know about our achievements and struggles. Apart from spending time with some of our parishioners over lunch, a cuppa of tea and informal meetings after the masses we also had the opportunity to listen to him at our weekend Masses; he also spent some time with the school executive and visited some of the students of our Catholic School. He also came to bless the candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation; with this sacrament the candidates completed their Christian initiation. We had 37 children; some were from last year who couldn't celebrate their spiritual milestone due to the pandemic, so this year they joined the 2021 group from our Catholic school and public schools. These were special moments for the candidates and their families, but also for all of us, because we all are one body, one family of God.



Personally, I can say it was a good experience once again. My first-time I had a visitation from a bishop was with Cardinal Pell who came at the beginning of my ministry here at Denistone. It was a very rewarding time.

During his visit, Bishop Brady gave advice, suggestions and he thanked everybody for the work we have done here at St Therese. And I listened to him. And his advice and suggestions will help me in my decisions in the future. Especially those things that can bring us closer to Christ and one another, because one of the main tasks of a parish priest is to bring the people of God closer to Christ and to each other. And that happens in a special way in the Liturgy we celebrate and all the sacraments; but also, through many other ways that happen in every parish community which can positively help to reach this spiritual goal. I will continue to put into practice everything that I believe, will bring us closer to Christ and one another. Thank be to God for his goodness to us.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

**Christmas Eve - Friday 24th Dec Vigil:
5.30pm & 8pm**

**Christmas Day – Saturday 25th Dec:
8am & 10am**

**Sunday Masses 26th Dec:
8am & 10am**



Lights of Christmas 2021, St Mary's Cathedral forecourt, 9th till 25th December.

PARISH NEWS & NOTICES:

Request for Mass and Prayers.

We pray for those who have recently died and all the deceased. Also pray for those who celebrate anniversaries at this time.

Advent-Christmas Giving Tree.

Our Giving Tree is a little different this year as St Vincent De Paul would prefer no actual gifts. Instead, we will collect cash donations, which we in turn will forward to SVdePaul in the form of gift cards. We pray that families will have a good Christmas and that our money gifts will make a difference to them. **The basket for these donations is located at the front of the church near the altar.**



Advent / Christmas Reconciliations available in our local area:

- St Charles Borromeo, Ryde on Thursday the 16th December at 7.30pm
- Holy Spirit, North Ryde on Tuesday the 21st December at 6pm.

St Therese Reconciliation times are:

St Therese, Denistone on Tuesday 21st December through to Thursday th 23rd December at 9.30am.



Become a Catechist or Helper in 2022

Half of Catholic children in Sydney are in public primary and high schools. Share the hope and joy that Jesus brings with them and become a catechist or helper, ready to start in Term 1, 2022. Find out more about the work catechists do here at <https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/> or talk with Fr Roberto after Mass.

Church restrictions.

Our church maximum is still 140 parishioners per Mass.

Masks, QR code check-in and sanitising your hands are still necessary and most important. If you are unwell do not come to Mass.

On the 15th December restrictions will once again be eased. We'll keep you updated as the date approaches.

Working Bee.

On **Saturday the 18th December** at 9.30 am will have a working bee to help prepare the church for our Christmas celebrations. All volunteers are most welcome to attend.



Lighting of the SECOND Candle in the Advent Wreath:

(The Presider, or an assistant, lights the second candle)



PRESIDER: Lord Jesus, your coming was proclaimed by the prophet Baruch when he proclaimed that God will show your splendour.

ALL: Come, Lord Jesus.

PRESIDER: Lord Jesus, you will bring us to the perfect goodness for the glory and praise of God.

ALL: Come, Lord Jesus.

PRESIDER: Lord Jesus, you call us to repentance and to prepare the way for you so that all humankind shall see the salvation of God.

ALL: Come, Lord Jesus.

Daily Mass books on sale for \$25.

If you wish to purchase one, then please see Fr Roberto after Mass during the week.

Christmas Rosters.

Our Christmas Volunteer roster sheets for all our Christmas Mass are in the front foyer. Please take your time to volunteer and add your name if you able to help at any of the Masses.



Thank you in advance for your support at our Masses over the festive season.

Ordination at St Mary's cathedral.

On Friday evening Archbishop Anthony Fisher celebrated two priestly ordinations from the Redemptoris Mater at St Marys Cathedral. The new priests are: Fr Rafael Silva and Fr Anderson Galleo. We congratulate these men and pray that they always listen to the word of God to guide them on the straight path.

Catechists.

Please note that it is important that you advise the Parish Office of any training you complete, as we must keep these records within the parish now. Many thanks for your continued support.

