

Parish of Our Lady of Fatima

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Parish Priest: Fr Justin Stirton



22nd December 2019

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Year A

Missal References

Page 122 (old), 33 (new)

Next Sunday's Scripture

Page 143 (old), 56 (new)

Next Sunday

Feast of the Holy Family – Year A

Feasts of the Week

Monday

St John of Kanty

Tuesday

Christmas Eve

Wednesday

The Nativity of the Lord

Thursday

St Stephen

Friday

St John

Saturday

St Peter Canisius

Entrance Antiphon

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 24

Let him enter; he is the king of glory.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world, and all who dwell in it.

It is he who set it on the seas;
On the rivers he made it firm.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?

The clean of hands and pure of heart,
whose soul is not set on vain things.

Blessings from the Lord shall he receive,
and right reward from the God who saves him.

Such are the people who seek him,
Who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Let him enter; he is the king of glory.



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name shall be called Emmanuel:
God is with us. ***Alleluia.***

Communion Antiphon

Behold a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

This Week's Diary

| | | |
|------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Monday | Mass Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Meeting | 9.00am 7.00pm |
| Tuesday | Carol Service | 11.15pm |
| Wednesday | Midnight Mass Christmas Day Masses | 12.00am 7.00am & 9.00am |
| Thursday | Mass | 9.00am |
| Friday | Mass Requiem Mass: Maria Victoria Ramancio-Calvino | 9.00am 11.30am |
| Saturday | Mass Confessions (at 11.00 am only) Marriage Service: Ken Griffith and Nicole Apollos | 8.00am 11.00am 2.00pm |
| Sunday | Sunday Masses | 7.00am, 9.00am & 5.15pm |

Please pray for the Sick, especially

Parishioners

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <i>Anthea Jack; Sr Catherina; Joy Lees; Cameron Smith; May Dormehl; Jenny Ducray; Gladys Cole; Caron Martins; Roger & Lynne Brouard; Randy Tryon; Maryse Bowman; Gordon Urquhart; Elsa Pearton; Milly van Gogh; Teresa Latouf; Daphne Rahmer; Maria Dus; Gerrit Snyders; Gladys Meyer.</i> | <i>Daniel Singery; Sandra Teodosio; Pat Sturgess; Verna Cavanagh; Mervin Moonsamy; Stella Gomes; Hannah Donaldson; Jean Leclizio; Debbie Macpherson; Amanda Ngongoma; Adrienne Paul; Maria Teodosio; Monique Saint-Georges; Bernie Patterson.</i> | <i>Jabu Ntuli; John Haswell; Carol Urquhart; Rosanne Maharajh; Peggy du Plessis; Ron Akal; Jenni Johnson; Eileen Chapson; Jan Huiskamp; Biran Bushnell; Shirley Kuzmanich; Patrick Murgatroyd; Nirasha Kannigadu; Lynne Roberts.</i> |
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Relatives

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <i>Tris Tillard's sister; Jo James' nephew, granddaughter & son; Maryse Bowman's nieces; Louise Kin's sister; Alma Osborn's grandson; Annette Hoyer's parents; Hugh Elliott; Heather Rorick; Stuart McGregor; Sharon Ellis' sister; Maude Quenet; Marjorie Mawbey's niece; Nancy Chettiar's sister; John Bremner's nephew; Maryse Wardell's mother; James White; Candice Houseman & Tracy Mendonidis' mother; Denise Irvine's daughter; Ann Appelgren's sister; Irene Helsdon's niece; Anna Kalinowska's mother; Tottie Bremner's nephew; Titi Pitso's brother; Fergus McDonnell.</i> | <i>Michelle Lock's father; Peter Squires; Norlie McDonogh's sister-in-law & brother; Lynne Tillard's brother; Mary Ann Salvage's 4 brothers; Elsa Pearton's granddaughter & son Michael; Theresa Hoogewerf's aunts, sister & cousin; Ruth Florence's mother; May Dormehl's brother-in-law & daughter; Rita Abraham's sister; June Tatchell's mother; Fr Des brother & nephew; Peggy du Plessis' brother, sister, daughter-in-law & granddaughter; Ben Morasutti's son Jo; Nomusa Mkhwanazi's brother; Lisa Grant's father; Brenda Bennison.</i> | <i>Janice Cottingham's brother; Jean & Pauline Leclizio's son & daughter-in-law; Michael Quarsingh's brother; Duncan Miller's father; Terry Beechey's brother; Bronwyn Murgatroyd's mother & son; Mark McCall's nephew; Maureen Pistorius; Rory McDonogh's niece; Eleanor Scott's husband; Marie Claude Maujean's grandson Luc; Maureen Hutton's son & grandson; Jack Garbutt's son-in-law; Marcia Swanson's mother; Margaret Beechey's daughter, Chantel.</i> |
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HOSPITAL CARE Please advise the parish office if you or a family member will be admitted to the hospital so that we can provide pastoral care.

The Southern Cross Catholic Newspaper is available in the Baptistry for R12

Advent Appeal Envelopes: There is a second collection after Communion.

Mini and Junior Church It will begin again on Sunday 12 January 2020.

Condolences

Our condolences to the family of Maria Victoria Ramanccio-Calvino.
Her Requiem Mass will be at 11.30 am on Friday 27 December.

Wedding

Nicole Apollos and Kenneth Griffith will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony here at 2.00 pm on Saturday 28 December.

Prayer over the Gifts: When to stand and reply

According to the **General Instruction of the Roman Missal** (n. 146) and the **Cardinal's clarification** in the June 2009 Diocesan Bulletin, the people ***must remain seated while the celebrant is washing his hands and while he is saying, "Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father."***

They must not begin to stand while he is still speaking. Please ***let him finish.***

Those who leap up quickly afterwards ***must wait for everyone to stand*** before responding. According to the **Cardinal**, ***'When everyone is standing the Congregation answers together'***: "May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands..."

Christmas Decorating

Helpers are required at 4.30 pm tomorrow, Monday, to decorate the Christmas tree and to put Christmas wreaths on all the pillars in the church.

Pizza will be available for hungry helpers.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The administration office will close at 3.00 pm this Tuesday 24 December and will reopen on 2 January.

If there is no reply from the phone, *please* leave a message for Fr Justin.

Christmas and New Year Mass Times

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|---|---|
| Christmas | Tuesday 24 th Carol Service at 11.15 pm Christmas Midnight Mass |
| Thursday 26 and Friday 27 December | Wednesday 25 th Christmas Mass at 7.00 & 9.00am Mass at 9.00 am |
| Saturday 28 December | Mass at 8.00 am |
| Wednesday 1 January | Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Mass at 9.00 am |

Christmas Collection There will be a collection for the *parish* at Christmas Masses.

Car Park Courtesy

There are many visitors during the Christmas season. Let us try to be courteous to one another in the car park before and after Mass. If you park other vehicles in, please move your vehicle immediately after Mass to avoid traffic congestion.

Repository

There are Christmas cards, Christmas and Advent candles for sale. Liturgical calendars for 2020 can be ordered for R20.00 each. We have run out of the calendars, but more will be ordered.

Volunteers to serve tea and coffee after *all* Masses

We would like to serve tea and coffee after *all three Masses*. We need more volunteers. Please contact Ana at 031 563 5554 or email admin@fatima.org.za

St Vincent de Paul Society

- (1) **CHRISTMAS STARS PROJECT:** School shoes and shirts, at R75 per pair of shoes/shirt, and pyjamas for the underprivileged children at Streetwise, Wylie House & St Theresa's Home.
- (2) **CHRISTMAS BUCKETS** at R200 per Bucket for the poor families at Ottawa. School shirts & shoes have already been bought, but you may choose to buy pyjamas for Wylie House.

It's the last call for bought items to be dropped off at the office, tomorrow 23 December. Please make a R5 donation towards the wrapping of presents. Go to one of the SSVP tables in the hall after any of the Masses with your Star/donation. Donations of any sum towards the above projects are most welcome, as they all go towards these worthwhile causes.

CALENDAR OF MASSES FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

For centuries it has been the practice in the Church to offer Holy Mass for the faithful departed on the anniversary of their death. The Mass diary for 2020 is open for Mass Intentions please contact the Parish Office **to book Masses for the next 12 months** on the anniversary of the death of your family members and friends – and others! The Mass stipend is R40.00 per Mass.

Also, when you have requested a Mass please make a special effort to attend the Mass

Mass Intentions

22nd December 2019 – 29th December 2019

| | | |
|-----------|---------|---|
| Sunday | 7.00am | Yvonne McDonogh RIP (<i>Rory & Norlie McDonogh</i>) |
| | 9.00am | For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish |
| | 5.15pm | Pro Populo |
| Monday | 9.00am | Holy Souls RIP (<i>Maria Teodosia</i>) |
| Tuesday | 12.00am | Pro Populo |
| Wednesday | 7.00am | Ercole & Giovanna D' Ercole RIP (<i>Michael & Claudette D'Ercole</i>) |
| | 9.00am | Alice Akal RIP (<i>Marcelle Tschudin & Alain Tschudin Jnr</i>) |
| Thursday | 9.00am | Hallot; Bowman & Buchanan Families RIP (<i>Esme Hallot & Maryse Bowman</i>) |
| Friday | 9.00am | Charlene Swardt's mother; Humberto Coehlo; Vasco Fernandes; Hilda Jardim; Joe & Mary Menezes; Viviene Levy; Constantino Rosa – All RIP (<i>Anonymous</i>) |
| Saturday | 8.00am | Kevin McQaude RIP (<i>McQaude Family</i>) |
| Sunday | 7.00am | Maria Gouveia RIP (<i>Maria da Silva</i>) |
| | 9.00am | Pro Populo |
| | 5.15pm | For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish |

Society of St Vincent de Paul - APPEAL FOR FOOD

Please bring **at least one** of the following food items to Mass and place it in the Food Basket before all Sunday Masses. *Cup a Soup packs, 1kg mealie meal, Baked Beans in tomato sauce (410g), Pilchards in tomato sauce (410g), etc*

SSVP Bank Details:

| | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Account Name | Society of Saint Vincent de Paul | | |
| Bank | First National Bank | Account No | 62033860786 |
| Branch | Durban North | Branch Code | 220426 |

SSVP has also gone digital!! – This is the **Zapper code** for **SSVP**

which allows you to donate either **R100** or **R150** or **R200** **or your own amount.**



Nazareth Care

The Sisters of Nazareth have been serving the Archdiocese of Durban since 1895. Conveniently located in the hub of Durban's Medical District, Nazareth Care Durban provides a safe, tranquil environment for the elderly community focusing on care and companionship.

We offer a comprehensive range of services, whether they require

Assisted or frail care, dementia, sub-acute, or palliative care –

Single & Shared Rooms or Independent Living is available to suit your requirements.

Our residents enjoy the comfort of home in a place that delivers to their individual needs – emotional, spiritual and physical. *We have an on-site chapel for Daily Mass.*

Contact us for a tour of our facility on Tel: 031 261 2207 or Cell: 071 634 8858



Pilgrimage to Holy Sites in Italy: 17-26 May 2020

Join our pilgrimage to Italy in the footsteps of the Apostles Peter and Paul, St Francis of Assisi, St Clare, St Benedict, St Padre Pio and other great saints. Renew your faith in Jesus Christ as you visit, celebrate Mass and pray at places steeped in the faith of centuries of pilgrims.

Many photos of the places we will visit can be seen on our **Pilgrimage Facebook Page:** facebook.com/groups/685911015223206/. **Itineraries** and **reservation forms** are available in the baptistry, in the foyer downstairs and on the above Facebook Page.

Cost: R32 495 pp sharing based on 2019 exchange rates (subject to fluctuations).

Includes return flights from *Johannesburg*, airport taxes, 7 nights accommodation (dinner, bed and breakfast), guides, coach, entrance fees, basic insurance.

For further information contact Fr Justin.

Denis Hurley Centre Notice

Immediate Vacancy for Fundraising Manager

The Napier Centre 4 Healing is looking for an experienced professional fundraiser to help support its efforts to transform the lives of street-dwelling drug users. For more information on how to apply see poster on notice board or website or email

HR@napiercentre.org Applications close on 31st January 2020.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

22nd December 2019

Year A

Joe Cullen, O.P.

Commentary

First Reading (Is 7: 10-14)

King Ahaz had already sought help from the Assyrians: so his refusal to ask a sign of Yahweh is not religiously motivated but hypocritical. The sign of the birth of the child is given to the whole Davidic dynasty. Commentators have differed on the identity of the maiden who is with child, whether in its context of the time, it referred to a contemporary of Isaiah who would parallel the later coming of Christ or is more general in what it signifies.

The term 'the virgin daughter of my people' is also used in the Old Testament to designate the people themselves as distinct from the surrounding nations. Christian tradition has identified this maiden with Mary, mother of Christ.

Second Reading (Rom 1: 1-7)

The opening of the letter identifies Paul as an apostle and gives a resumé of the core of the Christian faith. To be a 'slave' of Christ Jesus is in no way demeaning for Paul. It is to share in the dignity afforded to the servants of a transcendent God as honoured in the Scriptures. In his human nature Christ was of kingly descent and in his divine nature in virtue of his resurrection, he is Son of God.

So it is a wonderful grace to be called as an apostle to those who now belong to Jesus Christ. The passage ends with traditional greetings and blessings for these people to whom he will soon pay a visit.

Gospel (Mt 1: 18-24)

There is a matter-of-fact tone to this passage which may lead us to forget that we are reading theology. Matthew is concerned to show Jesus as the fulfilment of the prophecy in Isaiah, to identify him clearly as the Saviour of humankind and to show him as the Davidic spiritual liberator of his people.

Matthew is anxious to highlight that Jesus was, in virtue of Joseph's marriage to Mary, brought into the required family tree, as it were, and so the saviour was 'of the house of David' as had been foretold. The name 'Jesus' is a later derivation of 'Joshua'.

While 'Joshua' was originally understood to mean 'Yahweh helps', in the early Christian church it soon came to mean '**Yahweh saves**'. Jesus abolishes the gulf between God and humankind caused by sin and becomes '**Emmanuel**', '**God-with-us**'.

Scripture Readings For Next Sunday

Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14

Colossians 3: 12-21

Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23

Matric School Shoes - Boys

Boys who have matriculated, if you don't need your school shoes please consider donating them to the poor. You can drop them off at the parish office.