



Welcome to

# Noarlunga/Seaford Catholic Parish

St Luke's, Noarlunga and SCC, Seaford

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B

Vol 12 : No 02

## NOARLUNGA/SEAFORD CATHOLIC PARISH CENTRE

Cnr Goldsmith Drive and Honeypot Rd, (PO Box 406) NOARLUNGA, SA 5168 Phone: 8382 1717

*(Please leave a message outside office hours and we will get back to you as soon as we can)*

Email: [nswcp@tpg.com.au](mailto:nswcp@tpg.com.au)

Web: [www.noarlunga-seafordparish.org.au](http://www.noarlunga-seafordparish.org.au)

### OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday  
10.00am - 3.00pm

### PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

#### • PARISH PRIEST

Fr Josy Sebastian - (8382 1717;  
in an emergency 0452 524 169;  
[jponnambal@gmail.com](mailto:jponnambal@gmail.com))

#### • ASSISTANT PRIEST

Fr Dominick Okwadha  
(8382 1717; [okwadha@yahoo.com](mailto:okwadha@yahoo.com))

#### • PARISH MANAGER NEWSLETTER

Mrs Toni Fishlock - 0417 801 241;  
[fishlock11@tpg.com.au](mailto:fishlock11@tpg.com.au)

*(Please submit newsletter items to the Parish Office by 11.30am each Wednesday)*

#### • SEAFORD

Sr Bernie Sontrop SGS – SCC  
(Catholic Community Coordinator  
- 0400 035 462)

### CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection Unit 8210 8159

### REGULAR WEEKEND MASSES

#### • SATURDAY EVENING

6.00pm - St Luke's, Noarlunga

#### • SUNDAYS

9.00am - St Luke's, Noarlunga  
10.45am - SCC, Seaford  
11.00am - 1<sup>st</sup> Sun - St Luke's: Spanish  
2.00pm - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun - St Luke's: Filipino  
5.30pm - St Luke's: Youth Mass



### FIRST READING

*Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11*

'Console my people, console them' says your God.

'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low. Let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is

like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Ps 84:9-14*

*Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.*

### SECOND READING

*2 Peter 3:8-14*

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come,

*(Continued page 4)*

**Baptism of Infants** 8382 1717

**Children's Faith Formation**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**  
Each Saturday 9:00am - 9:30am  
or by appointment.

**Pastoral Co-ordinator:**  
Gabrielle Byrne 0422 804 579  
gabrielle1956.gb@gmail.com

**Child Safe Contact Person:**  
Gabrielle Byrne 0422 804 579

**Chairperson Parish Pastoral Council:**  
Dr Paul Rijken

**Chairperson Liturgy Group:**  
Margaret Burns

**Parish Schools and Colleges:**

**St John the Apostle** 8382 2064  
Principal - Ms Lee-Anne Johansen

**All Saints** 83270020  
Principal - Mr Nick Wright

**Cardijn College** 8392 9500  
Principal - Mr Steve Byrne

**Heads of Campus:**

Marian — Ms Danielle Greig  
Galilee—Ms Kerri Gould 8557 9000  
Marcellin— Mr Gianni Petrucci

**Church Cleaning**

For weekend 16/17 December  
Cleaning: Leona Tane  
Vacuuming: Bill Aldridge

**Finances : December**

For weekend 2/3 December  
1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$927.00  
Support for Archdiocesan Priests  
2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$438.00 (24 envelopes)  
Open Plate \$931.00

Thank you for your ongoing support  
and commitment to the community.

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

The Parish Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday

10.00am—2.30pm

For any emergencies please contact  
Fr Josy on 0452 524 169 or  
Toni Fishlock on 0417 801 241.

**Noticeboard:**

2023 Upcoming Courses  
2023/24 Magi Pilgrimages

**CHANGES TO COVID RULES ARE LISTED ON THE BACK OF THIS NEWSLETTER.**

**Nativity Crib Competition**

For a bit of festive family fun, St Luke's Liturgy Group is holding a "Best Crib" Competition! Whichever way you display the First Christmas in your home, we want to see them and share them with the community! To participate, please provide your name and contact details to the Parish Office on 8382 1717 or email nswcp@tpg.com.au. Registrations close 27 December.

**Blessing of Nativity Cribs - Gaudete / 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Everyone is invited and encouraged to bring their Nativity cribs/ set to St Luke's for a special blessing at all weekend Masses from 16-17 December.



**OUR GIVING TREE - LET'S "PLAY TAG"**



St Vincent de Paul is under a mammoth strain at this time of the year, helping those less fortunate than ourselves to have a happy Christmas. Let's "PLAY TAG" and empty all the tags off the Giving Tree.

\*\*\*Please note that all gifts need to be returned by 16/17 December.\*\*\*

**2024 Calendars \$8 Christmas Cards \$5**  
**available after all Masses.**

Anyone requiring a food hamper for Christmas please contact St Vinnies 1300 729 202 and leave your details.

**ADELAIDE YOUTH**

*Christmas*  
**PARTY**

15 December, 2023 at 6:30pm  
Croydon Park Parish Hall  
Corner of Liberton Ave & Tungara Ave  
For ages 12-35 \$15 per ticket  
See poster for more details.

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES AT ST LUKE'S AND SCC**

**Christmas Vigil - Family Mass**

7:30pm Mass at St Luke's  
6:00pm Mass at SCC

**Midnight Mass**

11:30pm Carols, 12:00am Mass

**Christmas Day - 9:00am Mass at St Luke's**

**ADVENT RECONCILIATION - We Remember, We Reflect, We Pray**

**Tuesday, 19 December**

5:00pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
7:00pm - Liturgy and Sacrament of Reconciliation



**MIDNIGHT MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED AT ST LUKE'S ON NEW YEAR'S DAY**

**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS**

The office will close at 1:00pm on Friday, 22 December and reopen at 10:00am on Tuesday, 23 January 2024. There will be no newsletters during this time. Newsletters will resume on the weekend of 27/28 January.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT  
ST LUKE'S CHURCH - NOARLUNGA  
EVERY THURSDAY FROM 9:00AM TO 10:30PM**

**Pray for the healing of:** Connie Anderson, Cate Lavelle, Peter Jacques, Raymond Peppin, Barney Manning, Shelley Heard, Bill Tanti, Gentile Monardo, Connie Anderson, Cherie Morrison, Astrid Houareau



**Deceased:**

**Anniversaries:**

(Names will remain on the Prayer for Healing list for one month).

**Roster for weekend 16/17 December**

	6:00pm	9:00am	5:30pm
<b>P1</b>	Paul Rijken	Justin Neugebauer	Theresa Tanti
<b>P2</b>	Tinna Buenviaje	Barney Manning	Dave van Heerde
<b>W</b>	Mel Buenviaje	Erika Badics	Gabrielle Byrne
<b>HC</b>	Anton Crane	Angeline D'Cruz	Sheralee van Heerde
	Raylee Crane	David Crane	Paul Knobloch
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>			
<b>Music</b>	6:00pm Sandiwa	9:00am	5:30pm

**Christmas Eve Family Mass - Invitation to Children**

The Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve at St Luke's is a child-focused family celebration of the Birth of Jesus. All primary school-aged children are invited to participate in acting out the Nativity during the Gospel.

We need **Angels, Shepherds, Innkeepers and Wise Men** to help Mary and Joseph announce the wonderful news that Jesus has been born!

A rehearsal is planned for 10:00am on Tuesday, 21 December at St Luke's.

All children are encouraged and welcome!



**CRAFT CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

On sale after the weekend Masses on **weekends 9/10 and 16/17**

**SUNDAY NIGHT CHRISTMAS DINNER**

17 December - \$10 per head  
Bookings are essential  
Ring Sue on 0421 173 358



**Congratulations and God's Blessings to all who are celebrating a Birthday or Anniversary in December.**



**CHILD PROTECTION**

Governments should ensure that children are properly cared for and protect them from violence, abuse and neglect by their parents, or anyone else who looks after them.



**WHAT'S ON**

Mon	11 December	Mass at 9:00am - St Luke's
Tues	12 December	Mass at 9:00am - St Luke's
Wed	13 December	Mass at 9:15am - SCC Craft Group at 10:00am Mass at 7:30pm - St Luke's
Thurs	14 December	Mass at 9:00am - St Luke's Benediction at 10:30am Rosary at 6:45pm - St Luke's RCIA at 7:00pm
Fri	15 December	Rosary at 9:30am - St Luke's Mass 10.00am - St Luke's
Sat	16 December	Reconciliation at 9:00am - St Luke's Mass at 6:00pm - St Luke's
Sun	17 December	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent Year B Mass at 9:00am - St Luke's Mass at 10:45am - SCC Mass at 5:30pm - St Luke's

**Readers for Christmas and New Year**

If you are available to be a **Reader or Welcomer** from Christmas weekend till 28 January 2024, please write your name on the sheets on the information desk. Thank you

**Seaford News:**

**Catholic Community Christmas Lunch  
SCC (SEM) CAFE 14<sup>th</sup> December at 12:15pm**



Christmas lunch with all the trimmings, choice of dessert.

\$15 pp on sale at SCC cafe  
9am-2pm Tuesday - Friday

Raffle Tickets available

Book ASAP to avoid disappointment.

**SEAFORD CHRISTIAN CHURCHES  
CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

As Christmas approaches, we would once again like to reach out to the wider community through local schools and health services. We would like to bring a little unexpected joy to some who for various reasons are experiencing hardships, sadness etc.

If you would like to make a financial contribution please place your money in a sealed envelope, marked "SCC Christmas Appeal". If you would like a receipt please put your name and congregation on the back of the envelope. and hand to Christine McNicol, Agnes George, Libby Green SCC Office.

(PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE MONEY IN PIGEON HOLE)

Thank you for your continuing support. - Jan Hicks

**Advent 2023 Reflection Booklet**

If you would like a copy, they are available for collection at the Information desk at the Church foyer.

**For parishioners who would like to receive Holy Communion on the tongue, kindly wait until all the other parishioners have received Holy Communion in the hand.**

**Holy Communion on the tongue will be distributed by the priest. Please consume the host immediately.**

**COMPLIANCE WITH  
COVID-19 REGULATIONS**  
(Current from 07/12/23)



- If you have tested positive for COVID-19 please stay home until you have fully recovered.
- Sick and high risk/vulnerable people are also requested to stay home.
- Hand sanitiser is available at Church entrances.
- Communion is given only in hands.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- John the Baptist is a prominent figure in Mark's Gospel. In Luke's Gospel he is portrayed as a cousin of Jesus, however in the other gospels he seems not to know the identity of Jesus and no family connection is mentioned.
- John's clothing of homespun camel hair tied with a leather thong around the waist is the explicit garb of a prophet.
- God had called the people of Israel out of Egypt and led them across the River Jordan to be a new people. God, through John, is now calling for a new people by passing them through the waters of baptism in the same river.

**EXPLORING THE WORD**

The prophet Isaiah brought a message of hope and comfort to the people of Israel who were in exile in Babylon. Despite their failings, God is merciful and has promised them a new beginning. John the Baptist appears in the line of that great prophet and again promises Israel the chance of a new beginning if they repent and turn again towards God.

The emphasis in Mark's portrait of the Baptist is very much that of the subordinate. John's self-effacing manner makes it clear that he is not the one who is promised, but the one who is to prepare the way. The emphasis in John's preaching is on judgment; for Jesus it is the Reign of God and salvation.

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when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lk 3:4, 6*

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Perpare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL**

*Mark 1:1-8*

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way.  
A voice cries in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight,

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the River Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

**COMFORT WITH A CATCH**

*(Mark 1: 1 - 8)*

"There's good news, and there's bad news". A whole body of jokes begin this way, and we laugh ruefully

because that statement is generally true. The news is hardly ever good or bad, but rather a blend of results better for some than others. One ball team beats another; is this good news, or bad?

John the Baptist preaches repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Good news or bad? It's great news for sinners who repent. It's good news for people who yearn to be forgiven and know they have reason to be. It's not good news for people who have no intention of leaving their sin behind. And its positively bad news for the self-righteous, convinced of their innocence and resentful that sinful types are getting off the hook.

The message of John the Baptist is comfort with a catch. The catch is baptism, a drowning to the old way and a resurrection into grasping new life. We can't find comfort in religion – not this religion! – if we intend to remain just as we are. John's baptism is with water, bracing and cold. The Mighty One is coming along soon with fire and spirit. Things are going to change.

**THIS WEEK'S READINGS**

*(11 - 17 December)*

- **Monday, 11:** Monday of 2<sup>nd</sup> week Advent (Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26)
- **Tuesday, 12:** Tuesday of 2<sup>nd</sup> week Advent (Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14)
- **Wednesday, 13:** St Lucy (Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30)
- **Thursday, 14:** St John of the Cross (Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15)
- **Friday, 15:** Friday of 2<sup>nd</sup> week of Advent (Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19)
- **Saturday, 16:** Saturday of 2<sup>nd</sup> week Advent (Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:10-13)
- **Sunday 17:** Third Sunday of Advent (Is 61:1-2, 10-11; 1 Thess 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28)

**PASTORAL CARE**

If you need a priest for anointing prior to medical treatment or if you are ill (not necessarily life-threatening) or for last rites please contact: (08) 8382 1717; or in an emergency 0452 524 169.