



Welcome to

Noarlunga/Seaford Catholic Parish

St Luke's, Noarlunga and SCC, Seaford

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B

Vol 12 : No 04

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

Web: 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)

• ASSISTANT PRIEST

Fr Dominick Okwadha
(8382 1717; okwadha@yahoo.com)

• PARISH MANAGER NEWSLETTER

Mrs Toni Fishlock - 0417 801 241;
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 - 1st Sun - St Luke's: Spanish
2.00pm - 2nd Sun - St Luke's: Filipino
5.30pm - St Luke's: Youth Mass



FIRST READING

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you

great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 88:2-5, 27, 29

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING

Romans 16:25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

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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 -
Galilee - Ms Kerri Gould 8557 9000
Marcellin - Mr Gianni Petrucci

Church Cleaning
For weekend 30/31 December
Cleaning: Volunteer
Vacuuming: Nick Fernandes

Finances : December
For weekend 16/17 December
1st Collection \$853.00
Support for Archdiocesan Priests
2nd Collection \$338.00 (24 envelopes)
Open Plate \$791.00
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.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES AT ST LUKE'S AND SCC

Christmas Vigil - Family Mass	Midnight Mass
7:30pm Mass at St Luke's	11:30pm Carols
6:00pm Mass at SCC	12:00am Mass

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



**Merry
Christmas**

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

We take this opportunity to thank everyone who have had in one way or another contributed to the upkeep and well being of our Parish Community during 2023.

We wish you all abundant blessings at Christmas time and a New Year filled with happiness, peace and love.



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.

NEW YEAR'S EVE—ST LUKE'S

**ADORATION WILL COMMENCE AT 10.45pm
FOLLOWED BY
MIDNIGHT MASS**



**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
ST LUKE'S CHURCH - NOARLUNGA
CANCELLED 28 DECEMBER
AND WILL RECOMMENCE 1 FEBRUARY 2024.**

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 30/31 December

	6:00pm	9:00am	5:30pm
P1			Ronan Thomas
P2			Maria Thomas
W			Theresa Tanti
HC			
Children's Liturgy			
Music	6:00pm Sandiwa	9:00am	5:30pm

Readers for the Holidays

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



St Luke's Craft Group

Congratulations to the 8 winners of the Christmas raffle

\$335 was raised

Thank you for your generous support throughout 2023

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM will commence at St Luke's in February 2024. If you would like your child to receive these Sacraments, please contact the Parish Office on 8382 1717 to register or for more information.

CHILD PROTECTION



Education should develop each child's personality and talents to the full. It should encourage children to respect their parents, their cultures and other cultures.

WHAT'S ON

Mon	25 December	Mass at 9:00am - St Luke's
Tues	26 December	Mass at 9:00am - St Luke's
Wed	27 December	Mass at 9:15am - SCC (Cancelled) Mass at 7:30pm - St Luke's
Thurs	28 December	Mass at 9:00am - St Luke's Benediction at 10:30am Rosary at 6:45pm - St Luke's
Fri	29 December	Rosary at 9:30am - St Luke's Mass 10.00am - St Luke's
Sat	30 December	Reconciliation at 9:00am - St Luke's Mass at 6:00pm - St Luke's
Sun	31 December	1 st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B Mass at 9:00am - St Luke's Mass at 10:45am - SCC Mass at 5:30pm - St Luke's Adoration at 10:45pm - St Luke's

Catholic Charities Christmas Appeal

A Collection will be taken up at all Christmas Masses for Catholic Charities, which provides much-needed funds to Hutt St Centre, Centacare Catholic Family Services, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Our Lady of La Vang and St Patrick's special schools. These agencies play a significant role in bringing hope to people in need here in South Australia.



Your donations, regardless of their size, will make a profound difference in the lives of those who rely on the support of Catholic Charities.

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.

CHILDREN'S MASS will be celebrated on both the 9:30am and 5:30pm Masses on 7 January 2024.



The **PRAYER MEETING** is taking a short break. It will resume on the 8th of February 2024 from 9:30am -12:00pm.

Everyone is welcome.

Volunteer Cleaners Needed



If you are able to spare a little time during the next few weeks to either vacuum the church, wash the meeting room and foyer floors and clean/polish the brass on windows and doors, please add your name and contact details to the roster on the front desk. Your help is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your generosity.

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 21/12/23)



- 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?

- From the time of the Exile in Babylon, Israel had longed for the Messiah to come. He was to be the anointed one of God and the prophets foretold that he would come from the House of David and be born in David's home town of Bethlehem.
- According to Luke's Gospel, Mary and Joseph live in Nazareth in the north and travel to Bethlehem to be counted in the census because Joseph is of David's line and must return to his 'home' country.

EXPLORING THE WORD

Annunciation stories are a regular literary form. There are a number of such stories in the Hebrew Scriptures; for example, the births of Isaac, Samson and Samuel and, of course, Luke has already recorded the annunciation of John the Baptist. The purpose of the annunciation story is to let the reader know what role the person whose birth is announced will play in salvation history. In this sense they are a device rather than a strictly historical narration, although clearly based on ancient memory. In the annunciation of the birth of Jesus, however, there are elements which surpass all other annunciation stories. The emphasis is on the creative action of the Holy Spirit, Mary's cooperation with God's will, and it establishes Jesus' transcendental origins. The role that the child to be born is to play in salvation history is defined in terms of Davidic Messiahship and in this last Sunday of Advent we stand on the brink of the fulfillment of the promise made to Mary of messianic hope for the world. The tension of the waiting of Advent is almost over.

(Continued from page 1)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

*I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High.

The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

IT'S A MIRACLE!

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to the Galilean village of Nazareth to a virgin engaged to be married to a man descended from David. His name was Joseph, and the

virgin's name, Mary. Upon entering, Gabriel greeted her: Good morning! You're beautiful with God's beauty, beautiful inside and out! God be with you. (Luke 1: 26 - 28)

Miracles and childbirth seem to go hand in hand. It is a miracle people are courageous enough to bear children given all that can go wrong. It is a miracle anyone conceives a child given the biological precision required. It is a miracle that the baby survives its time in the womb given all the possible genetic and healthcare threats. It is a miracle that the trauma of childbirth doesn't overwhelm the baby and its parents more than it usually does. It is a miracle that more often than not, even in remote areas, the mother doesn't die from infection. It is a miracle that despite even the most incredible odds, most babies thrive and grow. Conception and childbirth are miracles. Period.

Jesus' conception and birth are no exception. They point to a truth that anyone who watches a child come into the world knows as the truth: that love exists - as a separate, all-powerful being outside ourselves, and we are graced with its presence everyday of our lives. Hail Mary, for her role in bringing this truth to life.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(25 - 31 December)

- **Monday, 25:** CHRISTMAS DAY - Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18)
- **Tuesday, 26:** St Stephen (Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22)
- **Wednesday, 27:** St John (1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:2-8)
- **Thursday, 28:** The Holy Innocents (1 Jn 1:5 - 2:2; Mt 2:13-18)
- **Friday, 29:** 5th day in Octave of Nativity (1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35)
- **Saturday, 30:** 6th day in Octave of Nativity (1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40)
- **Sunday 31:** The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Gen 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40)

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.