



# EDMONTON CATHOLIC PARISH

St Thérèse Church

135 Robert Road, Bentley Park PO Box 41, Edmonton 4869 P: 07 4055 4315

E: [edmonton.pariah@cairns.catholic.org.au](mailto:edmonton.pariah@cairns.catholic.org.au)

Website: [www.edmontoncatholicparish.org.au](http://www.edmontoncatholicparish.org.au)

<b>Priest:</b>	Fr Karel Duivenvoorden Mobile No (0488 988 332)	<b>Schools</b>	<b>St Thérèse's</b> - 4081 3400 Principal: David Adams- Jones <b>MacKillop Catholic College</b> - 4081 7600 Principal: Luke Brown
<b>Parish Admin:</b>	Vera Skinner	<b>OSHC &amp; Kindy</b>	<b>Bentley Park and Mt Peter</b> Contact details: Early Learning and Outside School Hours Care Diocese of Cairns <a href="http://www.ccelc.catholic.org.au">www.ccelc.catholic.org.au</a>
<b>Property Manager:</b>	Terry Webb <a href="mailto:denise-terry@hotmail.com">denise-terry@hotmail.com</a>	<b>Reconciliation:</b>	By appointment
<b>Safeguarding Coord:</b>	Kirby Will – 0427 798 740		
<b>Safeguarding Rep:</b>	Eddy Tutoe – 0478 904 600 <i>Kirby &amp; Eddy are happy to receive ideas about how we keep our parishioners safe, and listen to your concerns about safeguarding. They will deal with all matters sensitively and confidentially.</i>		
<b>Gordonvale Sunday Masses</b>	Sat Vigil 6.00pm Sunday morning 8.00am	<b>Edmonton Sunday Masses</b>	9.30am and 5.30pm

For Service times across the Diocese: 40511990 or [www.cairns.catholic.org.au](http://www.cairns.catholic.org.au)

*A Welcoming Parish: Under the patronage of St Thérèse of Lisieux*

<b>Sun 27/12</b>	<b>The Holy Family</b> 9.30 Mass - live streamed 5.30pm Mass	<b>Thurs 31/12</b>	
<b>Mon 28/12</b>		<b>Fri 1/1</b>	<b>New Year's Day</b> <b>Mary, Holy Mother of God</b> <b>54<sup>th</sup> World Day of Peace</b> 8.00am Mass
<b>Tues 29/12</b>	8.00am Mass 8.30am Private Adoration – Church	<b>Sat 2/1</b>	
<b>Wed 30/12</b>		<b>Sun 3/1</b>	<b>Epiphany of the Lord</b> 9.30 Mass - live streamed 5.30pm Mass



**Pope Francis declares a Year of St Joseph**

In honour of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the saint's proclamation as patron of the Universal Church, Francis

**We acknowledge the Yidinji (Yidiny) people, our land's traditional stewards and custodians.**

declared the year – December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021 – so that “every member of the faithful, following his example, may strengthen their life of faith daily in the complete fulfilment of God’s will”.

Francis added: “My desire to do so increased during these months of pandemic,” he said, noting that many people had made hidden sacrifices during the crisis in order to protect others. “Each of us can discover in Joseph – the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence – an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble,” he wrote.

“St Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation.”



**‘On-gifting’ is okay ... a responsible thing to do this Christmas!**

**Mary could trustingly carry Jesus, because she knew how to receive spiritual gifts – in fact, the spiritual gift. She also knew how to hand the gift on to others.**

There’s always discussion about the etiquette behind the trend to ‘on-gift’, that is, to pass on a gift you received but do not need. What’s to discuss? On-gifting makes perfect sense. If you receive something you really don’t need, look for ways you can reuse this gift by passing it on to someone who can use it. Of course, on-gifting needs to be done with care so as not to offend the original giver; but keeping a gift you don’t need is wasteful in so many ways.

This is clearly an imperative for all Christian people and others of good heart ... first gifted, as is all creation, by Divine Love, we are impelled to pass it on: not because we don’t want or need it, but rather because the gift is intended to be shared. It is indeed wasteful to keep it to ourselves; not just during a global pandemic, but at any time in life.

May you have a more blessed time this Christmas than ever before ... sharing what you are and what you have; because it is the Divine thing to do.

**Fr Karel Duivenvoorden**

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**Modelling the entire divine pattern of incarnation, Mary had to trust littleness or, better said, becoming littleness!**

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**Magnificat – Mary’s Joy: Christmas – the Joy of the Universe**

We praise You, Lord, and our spirits rejoice in You – our Saviour; for You take notice of the unnoticeable, and transform them into the blessed;

You are strong and true to yourself and all that is good in everything You are and do and say; and You do great things for us.

Through the ages You have shown compassion to those who trust You, and in Your strength, You have scattered those who are arrogant and abusive.

You have made the thrones of tyrants topple and You have made humble people into leaders of many; You have cared for and provided for those who have nothing, and You have left the over-satisfied with empty hands;

You have always been a help to your people, and have shown mercy when we have gone astray; You made this promise to our ancestors, and You continue to stay true to it even now.

We praise You, Lord, and our spirits rejoice in You – our Saviour. Amen.

**John van der Laar**, January 16, 2015



**Christmas means more than just gifts ... it is all about *giftedness*!**

Easter, not Christmas, was the big celebration for the first 1200 years of Christianity.

It was the Franciscans who popularised (and sentimentalised) Christmas. For St Francis, if the Incarnation was true, then Easter took care of itself. He taught us to celebrate Jesus’ birth and probably created the custom of the *creche* or *nativity scene*. To his normally fasting friars, he said “Even the walls should eat meat on Christmas Day!”

Incarnation was already redemption for him. Once God became a human being, then nothing human or worldly was abhorrent to God. The problem of distance or separation was resolved forever.

Resurrection is incarnation coming to its logical conclusion. If God is already in everything, then everything is from glory and unto glory. We’re all saved by mercy, without exception. We’re all saved by grace, so there’s no point in distinguishing degrees of worthiness because God alone is “all good,” and everything else in creation participates in that one, universal goodness to varying degrees.



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There is no absolute dividing line between worthy and unworthy people in the eyes of God, because all our worthiness is merely participation in God's. **Richard Rohr OFM**