

# ST BONIFACE CATHOLIC PARISH, TOOTING



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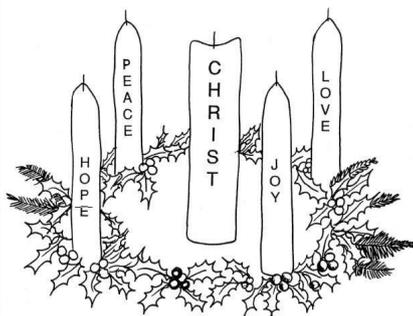
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## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2020– YEAR (B) GAUDETE SUNDAY

Our gospel reading from the Gospel of John today offers two separate sections from the first chapter of the gospel. What holds them together is that they both deal with John the Baptist, and both sections speak of him as 'a witness'. The first three verses of this passage are an extract from the great prologue to the gospel, which begins with the words, 'In the beginning was the Word.' In speaking of the entry into the world of the Word of God, the Son sent by the Father, the writer cannot avoid speaking also of John the Baptist, but he makes it quite clear that John was a witness. He was not the Word-Light himself, but only 'a witness to speak for the light'. The second section of the gospel passage comes immediately after the prologue and gives us details of how John bore his witness to Jesus. It is a characteristic of John that he always points to the one who is greater. He insists that he is simply 'a voice crying in the wilderness'. He dismisses all the speculation, that he himself might be the Christ, or the prophet to come. His whole ministry is to prepare the way, by baptising with a baptism of repentance, and by proclaiming the coming of the one who truly is the Messiah. To bear witness is the task of every Christian. We bear the name of Christ. Bearing witness to him means bringing his light and truth to those in darkness. In what ways should I be imitating the self-effacing humility of the Baptist? What does it mean to be a witness?



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near*

## CONFITEOR / I CONFESS

I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned  
In my thoughts and in my words,  
In what I have done  
And in what I have failed to do,  
Through my fault  
Through my fault  
through my most grievous fault;  
Therefore I asked blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
All the Angels and Saints,  
And you my brothers and sisters,  
To pray for me to the Lord our God.

## THE GLORIA: NO GLORIA DURING ADVENT

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### FIRST READING

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11**

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,  
for the Lord has anointed me.  
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,  
to bind up hearts that are broken;  
to proclaim liberty to captives,  
freedom to those in prison;  
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.  
'I exult for joy in the Lord,  
my soul rejoices in my God,  
for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,  
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,  
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,  
like a bride adorned in her jewels.  
'For as the earth makes fresh things grow,  
as a garden makes seeds spring up,  
so will the Lord make both integrity and praise  
spring up in the sight of the nations.'



The word of the Lord.

*R. Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalm Luke 1:46-50,53-54*

*R. My soul rejoices in my God.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **R**

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him. **R**

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.  
He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy. **R**

SECOND READING

*A Reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 5:16-24*

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God,  
because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt;  
think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every  
form of evil. May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you  
all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our  
Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord.

*R. Thanks be to God*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.**

**He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor.**

**Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John 1:6-8,19-28*

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a  
witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him.  
He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. This is how John  
appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from

Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.' Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

*R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*

### APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God,  
the Father Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
He descended into hell;  
on the third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Holy Catholic Church,  
the communion of Saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.**

### THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

**Pray brothers and sisters that my sacrifice and yours may be  
acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.**

*May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.*

**SANCTUS:** *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

### **THE MYSTERY OF FAITH**

*We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection,  
until you come again.*

### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.*

## **PARISH INFORMATION, FAITH NEWS & MISSION**

**CHRISTMAS CARDS:** There is a Christmas card for all of you from Fr Peter and Fr Shaju. Please collect from the Church porch. It has the details of all the major services and Masses of Advent, Christmas and the New Year. The Parish requests you to please take few extra cards and invite your loved ones and the neighbours to our Church at Christmas & New Year celebrations.

**CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR PROGRAMME:** Because of the Covid-19 restriction, this year's Christmas Masses will be different from other years. We have five Masses on 24th and four Masses on 25th December. There will be Carols singing before 8pm, 10pm and midnight masses on 24th December.



**Christmas Decorations: Saturday 12th at 7pm**

**First Mass of Christmas: 24th at 4pm**

**Christmas Vigil Masses: 24th at 6pm, 8pm & 10pm ( thirty minutes carols before 8pm & 10pm Masses)**

**Midnight Mass: Carols at 11.30pm followed by Solemn Mass of the Christmas at midnight.**

**Christmas Day: 25th 9am, 10.30am, 12 Noon & 1pm**

**CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS:** If you are intending to join us for this Mass, please put down your name in the sheet which can be found in the Porch.

**NEW YEAR THANKSGIVING SERVICE & MASS:** We, as a parish will come together and spend time in thanksgiving to God for all the blessing each one us & our families have received in 2020. **There will be two thanksgiving services this year: the first one - thanksgiving service at 8pm & Mass at 9pm and the second one - thanksgiving services at 11pm & Mass at midnight followed by New Year's celebration in the hall.**

**SUNDAY OFFERINGS:** Please drop your envelops/offering in the offering boxes which can be found at the entrance and exits or use the card machines at the back of the Church.

**CONTACTLESS OFFERINGS & GIFT AID:** We have two card terminals to make your offering. **YOU CAN FIND THE TERMINALS ON EITHER SIDE IN THE PORCH AS YOU ENTER THROUGH THE FRONT DOORS.** You can Gift Aid all the offering you make by card. If you wish to use your card for your offering/ donation, please follow the instructions at the terminals. Thanks for using the facility.

**CHRISTMAS DECORATION:** All are requested to come and help in decorating the Church on this **Saturday 12th December after the 6.30pm Mass.** Many thanks.

**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS:** We intend to switch on the lights on **Monday 14th December.**

**SIMBANG GABI:** (Filipino for "Night Mass") is a devotional nine-day series of Masses practised by Roman Catholics in the Philippines in anticipation of Christmas. There will be Simbang Gabi Masses in our church from the **16th-24th DEC at 6.30pm.**

**LAST WEEKDAY MASS IN 2020:** The last weekday Mass in 2020 at **9.30am on Thursday 31st December** will be a special Mass for all the faithful departed in 2020 in our family and amongst our friends. During the Mass the names of your loved ones who died this year will be read out. If you wish to their name(s) to be included please write on the labelled sheet in the Church porch.

**LIVE STREAMING OF MASS:** 9.30am Mon– Sat and Sun 12:00.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** Due to Covid-19 situation, the start of the programme is delayed, not on 9th January. All the parents will be informed of the new date soon.

**CONFIRMATION:** Parents meeting is on 16th January. Again, due to COVID-19 situation, the start date is not available now.

**SVP HOMELESS & PRISON PACKS AVAILABLE:** Thanks for your support. SVP raised £400 towards this project.

**CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT ST BONIFACE CAFÉ:** Sunday 20th December from 12:00. To book a table, please contact Tommy at 07959332183. £25 per person.

**PARISH OPEN HOUSE:** The next Open House is on Friday 18th December 4-6pm.

**RCIA:** Next session is on Monday 21st December at 7.15pm

**WE PRAY:** for all staff who works in hospitals and care homes especially for our chaplains at George's Hospital.

**CONFESSIONS:** On Saturdays 10.30am-11.30am. Unfortunately, regulation won't allow us to have confessions in the confessional. So the confessions will be at the Our Lady Chapel area. **Please note the time change.**

**NEED TO SEE A PRIEST:** If you need to see a priest to sign a school supplementary form, discuss about baptism or wedding or a private matter, please come for a parish open house which is every Friday 4pm-6pm.

**HOSPITAL VISITS:** A Catholic Priest is available for patients, staff & Visitors to St. George's Hospital, Fr. Mark Higgins, on 0208 725 3069. Messages can be left. In emergencies phone the switchboard on 020 8672 1255 to page the Catholic Priest, who can be reached 24/7. **Please note: No Mass in the hospital chapel during lockdown.**

*For all those who are celebrating their birthday this week the Parish wishes you a Happy Birthday and we join you to give thanks to God for the wonderful gift of life to you & you a special gift to us. The Parish also wishes every blessing to all the couples who are celebrating their wedding anniversary this week.*



### **PARISH PRAYER LIST**

**Please remember in your prayers all those on our parish prayer list.**

**The Sick:** Dessy, Helena O'Connor, Pat Nolan, Norah Bolger, Anne Scanlon, Fortunata D'Souza, Nigel Searle, Gordon King, Beverley King, Maria Fatima, Fernando, Michael Andrade, Rosaria Alfonso, Rosalie Hickey, Anastasia Ogbonna, Nilojan Mariyathas, Tony Hardy, Esther Daley, Norman Mendonca, Irene Mendonca, Julianna Hayfron, Nino Abel, Albert Folvi, Marciana Tangcay, Geoff Blwyddin, Christina Grogan, Matilda Addison, Elizabeth Bosley, Janet Adams, Frances Brady, Maureen Connelly & Eli Lee Roberts.

**Death Anniversaries:** Joseph Johnson, Sherrie O'Mahoney, Anne Kelly, Ian Hurst, Michael O'Malley, Selwyn Williams, Don Revell, Waclaw Lach, David Leggatt, Luigi Cristiano, Madelaine Joyce, Thomas Dunleavy, Kirian Lopes, Raymond Ashley, Oliver Murray, Stephen Kinsella, Ray Nieslony, Karl Jackson, Nora Doherty, Mary Prospere, Sandra Moore, Raymond D'Souza, Gloria Guillen and Marlo Luna. **May they rest in peace – Amen.**

	12th & 13th December	19th & 20th December
	<b>LITURGICAL READERS (please collect a copy of the rota)</b>	
Sat 18.30	Mitchal Bibat	Jim Russell
09.00	Remo Manoharadas	Ansshakila Manoharadas
10.30	Deuwayne Ikpoh	Mary Sagoe
12.00	Finnuala Lynch	Callum Fernandes
13:00	Ian Johnson	Christy Anoop
18.30	James Short	Susan Daniel

<b>Cleaning Rota:</b>	<b>Wk2: Mon 14th Dec @7pm</b>	<b>Wk3: Mon 21st Dec @10am</b>
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<u><b>Sunday 13th December</b></u> <b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Year B</b>  <b>Gaudete Sunday</b>	09:00 10:30 12:00 13:00 18:30	John Quinn Month's Mind James Bolger RIP Mr & Mrs. Zerafa RIP Glen & Jim Money Birthday Remembrance Rose Lyons RIP
Monday 14th December <b>Saint John of the Cross</b>	09:30 18:30	Thresiamma Kuriakose, RIP Benito Anquillano RIP
Tuesday 15th December <b>Feria</b>	09:30 18:30	Sapiencia Maria Noronha Rose Adroa Birthday Thanksgiving
Wednesday 16th December  <b>Feria</b>	09:30 <b>12:30</b> 18:30	Fr. Peter Ints <b>Funeral</b> November Deceased
Thursday 17th December <b>Feria</b>	09:30 <b>12:30</b>	Nafeesa Ints <b>Funeral</b>
	18:30	Ann Ryan RIP
Friday 18th December <b>Feria</b>	09:30 18:30	Pro Populo Esther Robin Special Ints
Saturday 19th December <b>Feria</b>	09:30 18:30	Augustine D'Souza RIP John & Mary Crowley
<u><b>Sunday 20th December</b></u> <b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Year B</b>  <b>Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers</b>	09:00 10:30 12:00 13:00 <b>15:00</b> 18:30	Kathleen Allen Bridget McDonagh Ints Theodore & Domingue Fly John McNamara RIP <b>Baptism</b> G. Button Ints

**All the Group meeting & Prayer Groups are closed until further notice.**

**Thursday 17th December: Tamil Mass: 7.15pm**

**Friday 18th December: Parish Open House 4pm – 6pm**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Sat: 10.30am – 11.30pm

**Holy Hour**

First Friday 5:15 – 6:15pm

**Adoration & Morning Prayer**

Monday - Saturday: 9am  
Holy Hour on First Friday  
5.15pm – 6.15 pm

**Novena to St Anthony**

Tuesday: 10am & 7pm

**Divine Mercy Chaplet**

Friday: 10am

**Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour**

Saturday: 10am