

Catechist: Bev Lamaro 0409 710 703; Choir: Line Collet 0410 568 103;
 Friendship Group: Bev Lamaro 4862 4273; Youth : Alison Collet 0421 660 187;
 Pastoral Council: John Sarkis 0400 606 297; St Vincent de Paul: John Ashe 9796 1055;
 Childrens Liturgy: Marie El-Chaar 9709 3451; Cemetery Committee: Maureen Vincent 9790 4217;
 Sacramental co-ordinator: Gloria Booby 9708 2871; Polish Priests: 8783 0533;
 De La Salle Brothers: 9708 2692; St. Felix Primary School: 9796 7875 Lisa Harbrow - Principal;
 LaSalle Catholic College: 9793 5600 Mr Michael Egan - Principal;
 Archdiocesan Website: www.sydney.catholic.org.au

St Brendan's Friendship Club

MORNING TEA: All are welcome on Monday, December 7, at 10am in the Parish Centre at St Brendans, 54 Northam Ave Bankstown. Please bring a plate of food to share.

LASER LIGHT SHOW—St MARYS CATHEDRAL: Friday, December 18. Bus will leave from the Parish at 7pm. We will have Tea & Coffee under the Harbour Bridge. Cost is \$20 per person. To book, please contact Lena Galdes on 9644 7226 or 0433 157 080.

The Face of Mercy, the new Archdiocesan Advent Resource.

In April this year, Pope Francis announced a "Year of Mercy", to commence on 8 December. As part of our Archdiocesan response to this, an online daily Advent resource connecting the season of Advent with the theme of mercy will be provided. You can subscribe now for this free daily resource at <http://www.thefaceofmercy.org.au/>. For more information, please visit

India Pilgrimage with Fr Thomas

Fr Thomas is leading a pilgrimage to India from 12 September – 2 October, 2016. It will include Mother Teresa's place in Kolkata, St Francis Xavier's body in Goa, site of Martyrdom and land place of St Thomas the Apostle, Marian Shrine of Velankanni, Ashrams of Aurobindo and Bede Griffith, Tomb of the first Syro Malabar Saint Alphonsa, largest Catholic Oriental Seminary, original tomb of Vasco da Gama, Diaspora Synagogue in Kochi, Mysore Palace, Dutch Fort, Spice Tour, House Boat, etc. The price including airfares, transfers, coaches, premium accommodation, breakfast and dinner is only \$4750 (twin share) for 3 weeks. For info and booking Rajesh, Magi Pilgrimages 0385622246, or 0422215855 or australia@magiholidays.com. Contact Fr Thomas on kurunthanam@gmail.com (flyers avail in the foyer)

Christmas Hamper Raffle –This weekend

Our Christmas Hamper raffle tickets are on sale this weekend after all Masses. Tickets are \$2.00each or 3 for \$5.00 and the raffle will be drawn on Sunday 6th December after the 6pm Mass. Catholic Church Insurance has kindly donated this Christmas hamper prize to our Parish, valued at RRP\$150.00. CCI provides support to the Catholic Church and its community. As part of their commitment to service, CCI offer a range of personal insurance products for the whole Catholic Community. For more info call 1300 655 003 or visit www.catholicinsurance.org.au

Christmas Cards

Christmas Cards are still available from the Piety Stall for \$7 per pack of 10. Get them early before they run out!

Inform

The current inform brochure 'Patterns of Evidence, Exodus' is available from the Church foyer. Please take one home to read.

Break Open Word

The new Reader's books for this liturgical year are now available in the Sacristy for those who ordered one. Please sign next to your name when you collect it.

It is now only **4 months** until our Parish's

 felix.centenary@outlook.com

 www.facebook.com/StFelix100

MONTHS TO GO

4

St Felix Parish
Centenary
March 2016



St Felix deValois Parish

550 Chapel Road, Bankstown, NSW 2200, Australia

Fr. Dominic Van Trung Dinh

Marie Caldereri, Secretary (Tues, Wed, Thurs)

Tel: 9790 1933 Fax 9796 3962

E-mail: admin@stfelixparish.org.au Website: www.stfelixparish.org.au

Mass times: Saturday 6pm (Vigil), Sunday 8am, 10am (Children's Liturgy), 6pm, 12noon (Polish).

Vietnamese Mass: 7 pm 1st Thurs of each month. **Saturday Morning Benediction - 7.00am.**

Reconciliation: Saturday 4.30 - 5.30 pm. Or by appointment Rosary: Saturday 8.25am

This week - Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday - 8.00am. Wednesday - 9.00am

Tuesday 10.15am - Yagoona Nursing Home

Wednesday - 7.00pm Young Adults Bible Study in Meeting Room, 8.00pm Benediction.

BAPTISMS: Baptism preparations are held on the 1st Sunday of each month after 10am mass in the presbytery. Baptisms by appointment.

MARRIAGES: Please contact priest at least 6 months prior to wedding date.

SICK CALLS: Anytime. If you know of anyone who needs anointing please ring the presbytery.

*"...and all flesh shall see
the salvation of God."*

Second Sunday of Advent - C - 6th December 2105



Prepare

A guy walking in the desert desperately needed a drink. As he followed the dunes, he came upon another man riding a camel. He asked the man if he had something to drink. The man on the camel said "No, but if you like, I have a nice selection of ties. Would you like to buy one?" "No!" The man replied. "Are you crazy? I need something to drink, not a tie!" So the man on the camel rode on, and the walking man continued his slow and very thirsty trek for several hours. Finally, he came upon a pub. He gratefully approached the doorman at the pub and said "Thank God I made it! Can I get in and get some water?" The doorman frowned at him and said, "Not without a tie." The moral of the story is 'be prepared at all times!'

In today's Gospel, John the son of Zechariah announces to the people the good news that the long awaited day of salvation is about to dawn upon them. He urges the people to prepare 'a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.' John makes his message clear by 'proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins' and he calls people to make an effort to prepare for the Lord's coming. "Clear him a straight path. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be leveled. The windings shall be made straight." This message which John spoke directly to his people more than two thousand years ago is also a relevant message for us today.

Give up a bad habit! Be more understanding! Be more tolerant!
Trust in God even at the worst moment of our lives!

This is how we are going to prepare and open ourselves to the God who will be born for us. Our response to John's message, on the other hand, is not only as a receiver of it, but also as a giver. Like him, each one of us has a mission to help people straighten out their lives, make smoother their paths, and to bring Christ's message of hope, love, justice and peace to all people.

Let us pray that we can let go of our many addictions and ill feelings and nurture our lives in the love of God as we prepare to celebrate the coming of God's Son.

Why is Advent called the "little lent".

Advent is the start of the liturgical year in the Roman Catholic Church. Traditionally, this is the time when the Church requires the faithful to prepare for the celebration of the feast of Christmas, the birth of Jesus. No one knows when this tradition started but it first began in the west.

Christmas retells the wondrous story of the redemption of mankind. People long ago waited for signs of the Messiah - in due time, the words of the prophets were fulfilled and Christ came to live among us.

Now, the prophets' words are filled with new meaning, as once again we prepare ourselves to celebrate the fresh coming of Jesus Christ. However, Jesus intends His apocalyptic images as a promise of our ultimate salvation, when He comes in glory at the *parousia* or end time. We therefore should prepare ourselves for that final day of glory.

Advent comes from the latin word "Adventus" which means *coming*. Traditionally, it has been celebrated with prayer and fasting, which is why it is known as the "little Lent."

Catechism of the Catholic Church

523 St John the Baptist is the Lord's immediate precursor or fore-runner sent to prepare his way. 'Prophet of the Most High', John surpasses all the prophets, of whom he is the last. He inaugurates the gospel, already from his mother's womb welcomes the coming of Christ, and rejoices in being 'the friend of the bridegroom', whom he points out as 'the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world'. Going before Jesus 'in the spirit and power of Elijah', John bears witness to Christ in his preaching, by his baptism of conversion, and through his martyrdom.

This Weekends Readings - Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Gospel - Luke 3:1-6

Welcome Seminarian Adi

My name is Albertus Aditya Sugiarto (Adi). I am a seminarian studying for the Archdiocese of Sydney. I have just completed my second year of studies. I will be here at St Felix on pastoral placement until Christmas. I am here to learn and assist Fr Dominic in the day to day life of the parish. I am excited and I hope I will be able to get to know as many as you as possible during my short stay here. Please keep me in your prayers and be assured of mine. God bless.



Mass Intentions:



Recently Deceased: Mathew Chu Long Con

Anniversary: Eugenie Thien Tai Tran; Bernard Danh; Maria Do Thi Tuan; Maria Chu Quynh Vy; Maria Nguyen Thi Lan; Bucci Gabriele, Phil & Rhina Basile.

Deceased: Giuse

Sick: Lauren (*Chris' grand-daughter*); Jason Timbs & Bart Hennely, Dau (Xuan); Maria Nguyen Thi Tuu; Erlinda Ingaran; Kim Do; Henriette Tam Tinh Lam; Gerard Go; Fred & Shirley Salter.

Next Weekend - Third Sunday of Advent - Year C

Readings: Zephariah 3:14-18; Philippians 4:4-7; Gospel - Luke 3:10-18

Feasts of the Week

7 December - St Ambrose, bishop, doctor. Memorial.

Born in Trier (Germany) about 340. Ordained bishop on this day in 374 and died at Milan (Italy) on Holy Saturday 397. A lawyer who became governor in Milan and who was still a catechumen when elected bishop by popular acclaim. Upheld orthodoxy against the Arians and won many Christian converts. Encouraged monasticism and defended the independence of the Church against secular authority. Remembered as an outstanding pastor through his writings on the sacraments and Christian ethics and through his homilies, instructions, and hymns.

8 December - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Solemnity.

This feast had its origin in the East as the "Conception of Mary by Saint Anne". It spread through the West during the Middle Ages as the "Immaculate Conception" and was extended to the entire Western Church in the eighteenth century. The feast celebrates Mary, preserved from sin from the moment of conception; she is the first fruits of her Son's redemption and a prophetic model of what the Church is called to be.

Parish Pastoral Council

The next PPC meeting will be on Tuesday 8th December commencing at 7.30pm in the presbytery.

Home Mass

Fr Dominic will say Mass in the home of Robyn Molloy at 7.00PM on Tuesday 15th December. Everybody welcome. Please phone Robyn on 9707 1292, if you are interested in coming. We have had this Mass for a few years now and it is a different way to start the Christmas Season.

Altar Society: 13/12/15 Group 2: Robyn Molloy, Enid Sneddon, Teresa Neang, Jeannette Chong, Nora Campbell, Azhar Raza, Anna & Willy Gabut, Maria Huong Nguyen (*Florist*)

St Vincent de Paul: 13/12/15 J Obeid 20/12/15 A Nguyen

Church Cleaners: 11/12/15: Charbel Karam **Children's Liturgy:** 13th Dec- Belinda

Weekend Choir: Saturday 12/12 - 6pm - St Anne's Choir
Sunday 13/12- 8am - Singing Servants of God. 10am - St Felix Choir

Readers & Ministers

	Sat 6pm	6 DECEMBER 8am	10am	6pm
C	Patrick Abourizk	Jeanette Rodrigues	Rita Dang	Anthony Hoang
R	Emmanuel Icard	Thuy Linh Nguyen	Mary O'Hea	Ben Saliba
A	Joseph Bui (A)	Joseph Cao (A)	Anthony Joseph (A)	Thanh Vu (A)
M	Gloria Booby	Maria Huong	J Chong & Rosa House	Paul Ngoc
M	Emmanuel Icard	Robyn Molloy	Ala Pesamino	Phu Nguyen

13 DECEMBER

C	Stephen Hoang	Kiara Asuzu	Jennifer Nguyen	Lucia Mezentsef
R	Rushna Peter	Maxwell Asuzu	Thu Ha Kim	Kathleen Mezentsef
A	Tuyen Tran (A)	Joseph Cao (A)	Anthony Joseph (A)	Thanh Vu (A)
M	Koreen Cueto	Mesake Mar	J Luongo & Thong Tran	Phu Nguyen
M	Gloria Booby	Madelyn Nicole	Bev Lamaro	Amelia Mezentsef