



CATHOLIC PARISHES OF TAREE AND WINGHAM

Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Taree
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Wingham
Our Lady of Fatima Church, Old Bar

Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, Harrington
St Patrick's Church, Cundletown
St Therese Church, Lansdowne

Two Parishes One Faith
Committed to Stewardship
Good Stewards Sharing the
God-given Gifts of
Time Talent Treasure

PARISH OFFICE

Mon CLOSED; Tues - Fri 9.00 am - 3.30 pm
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Tel 6552 1084 / 6552 7443

Email: administration@tareeparish.org
Website: www.tareeparish.org

PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Kevin Corrigan

OFFICE STAFF

PARISH SECRETARY: Lorrie Moore
FINANCE SECRETARY: Jenny Hutchison

PARISH GROUPS

Parish Pastoral Council, Liturgy Team,
Finance Council, Youth Group, Prayer Group,
Couples for Christ, St Mary's Catering Group,
Promoters of Safeguarding, RCIC, RCIA, Readers,
Communion Ministers, Secular Franciscans

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT-YEAR B

17TH DECEMBER 2023

GAUDETE OR 'JOY' SUNDAY 2023 AND THE CHRISTMAS NATIVITY SCENE

The above is the title of the annual 3rd week of the Advent Season.

The 'Joy' theme is part of Advent- a Season based on our joyful-hope in God's faithfulness.

The prophecy in this weekend's Isaiah reading are the very words Jesus quotes to describe the nature of his mission for humanity's redemption (Luke)

MARY, THE GOOD NEWS AND THE 'PREFERENTIAL OPTION FOR THE POOR'

Also, today's Responsorial Psalm is the hymn of joy the newly pregnant Mary sang to praise God's faithfulness to her and all who awaited the coming of the Saviour. It is a hymn the Church worldwide prays every evening.

Mary's hymn is a joyous declaration that God's mercy is to extend to all. The starving are mentioned specifically- and this also refers to all the lowly and downtrodden of this world. Our daily news reminds us of their sufferings in some parts of the world. And Mary also describes herself as on this world's 'lowly'

When we listen to God's Word today, we can understand why it is that in sharing the Good News of God's love in Christ our Catholic Faith teaches us that we must always be making what is called a 'preferential option for the poor.' What does this mean? What does this mean for us personally, for our families, parishes and Church?

OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

End of year events swirl around for many younger families at this time. Despite end of year weariness, dedicated teachers in our schools put much time and effort into some very heart-warming pre-Christmas celebrations. The children are immersed not just in the prayers, hymns and nativity depictions but also in the joyful hope which surround these anticipations of Christmas. We extend our warm gratitude to the Principals and school staff for providing these precious occasions. The innocence of the little children is itself a gift. We pray that the joyful hope of Advent be the blessing of God for all the school staffs- and especially those including St Clares Principal Mr Phil Gibney- who will transition to a new direction in 2024.

THE 800TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIVITY SCENE

St Clare's teachers inform me that this year is about the 800th anniversary of the first occasion when St Francis of Assisi constructed a Bethlehem Nativity scene of Jesus' birth. They suggest that St Clare of Assisi in fact urged St Francis to promote this devotion. Of course!

Our personal meditation upon the meaning of the Nativity Scene is an occasion where we humbly seek again God's blessings of gratitude and comfort. We ask the grace this Advent season for our Faith to be 'awakened anew' and that the love of Christ will accompany, guide and strengthen our hope in new ways in anticipation of the new year. **-Fr Kevin**

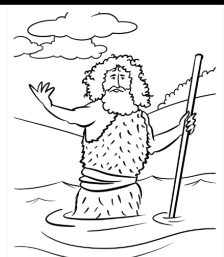
2023 H.S.C. STUDENTS

Our best wishes are extended to the Year 12 students
in the new year.

Congratulations to all who have met the challenges
of studying, and God's blessings to parents and teachers
for their many years of encouragement.

-Father Kevin

Prepare for the Lord Jesus



St John the Baptist

We would like to pay our respects and acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and also pay respect to Elders both past and present.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
17TH DECEMBER 2023

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11.

I exult for joy in the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Lk 1:46-50, 53-54

(R.) My soul rejoices in my God.

SECOND READING: 1 THESS 5:16-24

May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul, and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring the Good News to the poor.

Alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 1:6-8, 19-28

There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.

COMMUNION ANTHIPON

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

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
24TH DECEMBER 2023

FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16 The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 88:2-5. 27. 29. R. see v.2

(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING: Romans 16:25-27 The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-38 You will conceive and bear a son.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM



PRAYER LIST FOR TAREE AND WINGHAM PARISHES

SICK: Sarah Armitage, Gary Borham Shannon Bulley, Tracey Bulley, Cathy Callinan, Bev Cordner, Bev Crouch, Monica Farrell, Alyssa Fleming, Ken Fitton, Ben Foster, Michelle Garland, Eleanor Gibbs, Joan Holmes, Kelly Hood, Betty Howard, Ian Kerry, Steven Leung, Mary Lucas, Carmel Matheson, Jessica Maharaj, Geoffrey Masters, Kenny McCann, Barry McDonald, Lorraine McKenzie, Nick Mirabello, Linda Norris, Herby Ploder, Valentino Quintero, Noelle Riemens, Eleanor Ross, Father Pat Ruane, Rose Sammut, Sue Schiemer, Hayden Shearer, Maurie Stack, Paul White, Anne Watson, Wendy Wheeler, Tammy Wilson, Pat Wolfenden and Anne Young.

ANNIVERSARIES: Marjory Muldoon, Christine Dodd

RECENTLY DECEASED: John Michael Stevens

PARISH SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Father Kevin Corrigan

Parish Priest
Ph 6552-1084

SAFEGUARDING COORDINATORS

Lorrie Moore & Jenny Hutchison

PROMOTERS OF SAFEGUARDING

TAREE PARISH

Susie Ploder
Peter Neal
Quentin Schneider

WINGHAM PARISH

Jenny McKeough
Peter Cheney

If you need to contact the safeguarding team for any reason, please contact the Parish Office

Email: administration@tareeparish.org

Phone: Ph 6552-1084

Prepare for the Lord Jesus



3rd Sunday of Advent, Year B

Who is John the Baptist?

Indicate whether each answer is either true or false



The cousin of Jesus

True
 False



A pharisee

True
 False



Elijah

True
 False



The son of Elizabeth

True
 False



A preacher

True
 False



The Messiah

True
 False

Decipher the message that John the Baptist gave to the priests and temple helpers

 **use** 

2  



The third Sunday in Advent is called Gaudete Sunday; the Sunday of Joy! How can we share our joy for the arrival of Jesus at Christmas?

Blank space for writing answers.



PARISH NOTICES

PARISH CALENDAR 2023

MONDAY 18TH DECEMBER

TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER

10.00am Old Bar Rosary
4:30pm Taree Reconciliation
5:30pm Taree Mass
6.00pm Wingham MMP Cenacle

WEDNESDAY 20TH DECEMBER

9:30am Taree Mass

THURSDAY 21ST DECEMBER ST PETER CANISIUS

10.00am Wingham Prayer Group
4:30pm Cundletown Reconciliation
5:30pm Cundletown Mass

FRIDAY 22ND DECEMBER

9:00am Adoration Taree
9:30am Taree Mass
10.00am Wingham Rosary
3.00pm Adoration Old Bar

SATURDAY 23RD DECEMBER ST JOHN OF KANTY

4.00pm Wingham Reconciliation
4:10 Wingham Rosary
4.45pm Wingham Mass
6:15 Taree Mass

SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7.30am Old Bar Mass
9:30am Taree Mass

Sunday 24th December 2023

Christmas Vigil Mass

4.45pm Wingham Mass
6.15pm Taree Mass

Monday 25th December 2023

Christmas Day Mass

7.30am Harrington Mass
9.00am Old Bar Mass
9.30am Taree Mass
5.30pm Taree Mass – Syro-Malabar

Our Lady Star of the Sea Church Harrington

CONGRATULATIONS and thank you to all parishioners of Taree-Wingham especially those who took part in the 70th Anniversary celebrations of Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Harrington. The Food Drive has now concluded and the food has been delivered to Taree Community Kitchen and Care Pantry via CatholicCare Taree. We can now announce the results of this fundraiser as follows: Raffle and cash donations raised \$2,722; Food Drive raised approx \$2,880 worth of food; making a total of approximately \$5,600 raised by the Parish. Thank you also to Fr Kevin, office staff and contacts at Mass Centres for their support and assistance. Donated food stats are: 81kg of Rice and Pasta, 8kg Chick Peas, 28lt Milk, 11kg Herbs and Spices, 22lt Oil, 15kg sauces and recipe bases, 9kg bean varieties and various weights of over 100 other types of products. Well done Taree-Wingham Catholic Parish!

Cathy Richmond on behalf of the Harrington Committee

Blue Christmas

A service of remembrance and hope

*This time of year can be a mix of emotions
that make it a challenge.*

*We invite you for a service of reflection,
comfort and hope for hurting hearts.*

21 December 5.30pm

Community of Christ, 92 High Street, Taree

 Community of Christ



FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS

We would love some fresh flowers for the church for Christmas and assistance to arrange the flowers.

If you could bring your flowers to the Sacristy, in buckets of water, at 9:00am on Saturday 23rd of December it would be much appreciated.



*Volunteers
Needed!*

CHRISTMAS ROSTERS

Rosters for Christmas Masses are in the foyer of the Taree Church. If you are able to assist please write your names on the sheets provided.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION FOR EMERGENCY HELP- CARITAS

Our 2nd Collection at Christmas Masses will be forwarded to Caritas Australia. Caritas is the Catholic Church's international aid and development agency. Our collection will be forwarded with the request for it to be used to assist with famine relief in the Sudan region, and to provide relief for Palestinian civilians suffering from the present war in Gaza.

-Father Kevin



PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday 26th December 2023 and will reopen on Wednesday 3rd January 2023. All Mass Bags will be ready for pick up on Friday 22nd December 2023.

OFFICE OF SAFEGUARDING

If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult please contact the office of safeguarding: **Ph 4979-1390** or Email: **childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au** or visit their website for more information <https://officeofsafeguarding.org.au/>.