

St Joseph's Catholic Parish

The Nativity of the Lord
Year C, 25 December, 2024

Embracing the communities of
Cherbourg, Goomeri, Murgon,
Proston and Wondai



Unity in Diversity ... being one in Christ through Baptism!



Christmas Greetings

Every year we rejoice in wonder and awe at this great mystery of the coming of Baby Jesus into our hearts and minds at Christmas. And though we meet Jesus again and again as Christmas comes around, the wonder of it all continues to revitalise us. We experience anew the joy, love and peace refreshing our sometimes jaded lives.

For many unfortunately, Christmas does not mean the same and it is just a holiday season, a time of buying presents and of family gatherings, nothing more than a mere symbolic gesture to a by gone faith lost in the midst of their childhood memories.

How sad it is and how lonely it must be to leave aside the baby Jesus as if God is not really with us! Is it any wonder that so many begin to despise and even hate this time of year because it has become for them merely a commercial event, a meaningless mundane celebration that has no foundation spiritually.

Once the mystery is lost we soon become lethargic and over it all! If one's faith in the mystery of Christmas is dormant, then, we soon become empty vessels without love for the Baby Jesus.

This why we must come together singing those Christmas carols that prayerfully bear the mystery and reflect the mysterious truth of God's Word, thus renewing and recharging both heart and soul with a sense of awe and wonder at God's gift to us. It is beyond one's imagination, it is a mystery of our faith that fills us to the brim with longing and love for the Baby Jesus.

May your Christmas be an overwhelming and moving time of grace and peace for each of you and your families wherever you may be. Let us open our hearts with faith to receive and reflect the coming of the Baby Jesus, re-uniting families, healing broken hearts and restoring peace. And may those who are lonely and without families; homeless, whether

Sunday Mass Times

Murgon

WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	Sunday	8.00am

Wondai

every	Saturday	5.00pm
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Proston

every	Saturday	9.00am
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Goomeri

WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	Sunday	6.00pm

Gayndah

WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays	10.30am
every	2nd, 4th Sundays	9.00am

Cherbourg

WEEK	DAY	TIME
5	Sunday	4.00pm

Weekday Mass Times

12 noon, Wednesday, Gayndah
9.00am, 2nd, 4th Thursdays, School/Parish Mass, Murgon
9.00am, 1st, 3rd Thursdays, Castra

There will be **no Masses** in the parish from Thursday 2 January 2025 to Sunday 5 January 2025.

Today's readings

Isaiah 9:1-7; Resp Ps 95; Titus 2: 11-14;
Luke 2: 1-14

spiritually or materially, find comfort and consolation in the mystery of God's love revealed in the gift of the Infant Jesus this Christmas.

May we all experience the fullness of joy in the presence of the Baby Jesus with us.

Fr John Fowles



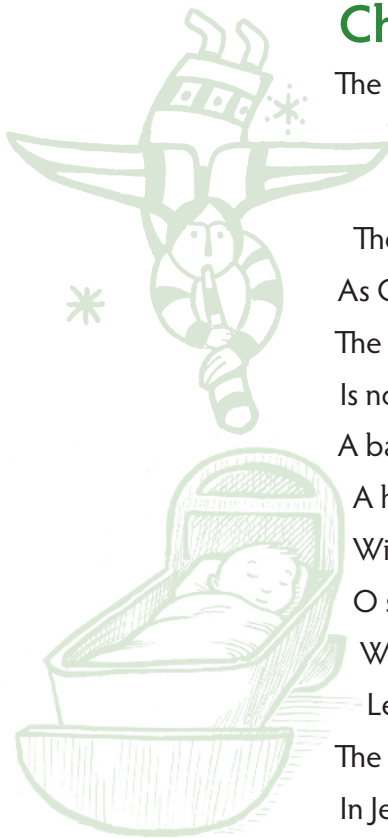
Parish Directory, Saint Joseph's Parish

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We pray for those who are sick:
Graham Burgess; Orlando Dyrity;
Rodney Euler; Dr Graham McAllister;
Kai Vera.

Christmas Reflection:

The Word of the Lord does at long last appear,
To brighten our darkness, dispel all our fear;
Before time began
The long ages ran,
As God's promised Saviour drew ever more near.
The Word which at first dwelt in far distant space,
Is now made incarnate, and taken its place –
A babe meek and mild,
A helpless, small child –
Within the sweet folds of the Virgin's embrace.
O sing to him, Heaven, and praise him, O Earth,
With carols resounding with joy and with mirth!
Let all tongues confess
The Word is made flesh
In Jesus' most holy and wonderful birth.



A farewell dinner for Fr John will be held on Friday, 10 January, 2025 at the Wondai Colonial Motel. Starting time, 6.00pm. People will order from the menu and pay own cost.

A card and envelope will be circulated at weekend Masses prior to the dinner. Please RSVP to Lyn Schuh by the 2 January, 2025.



A **Piety Stall** has been set up in the Murgon and Wondai Churches featuring some lovely Nativity items. Have a browse.

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve –
Tuesday, 24 December
4.00pm, Wondai
6.00pm, Goomeri

Christmas Day –
Wednesday, 25 December
8.00am, Murgon
10.30am, Proston

New Year's Day
(Mary the Holy Mother of God)
Wednesday, 1 January
8.00am, Murgon, and
12 noon, Gayndah

