Today we gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, both fully God and fully man. In his infinite mercy, God enters our world by becoming one of us in order that we may be reconciled to God. “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6. We wish all our parishioners and visitors a very Merry Christmas! May we all rejoice with pure hearts in the birth of our saviour.

We invite all people to join us for New Years Eve Benediction on Saturday 31 December at 5:00pm to thank God for all the gifts and graces he has bestowed on us this year. We will sing the great thanksgiving hymn of the Church, the *Te Deum*, for which a plenary indulgence is granted under the usual conditions.

To receive Holy Communion, one must be a practising Catholic, properly disposed, kept the fast, and in a state of grace. When we receive Holy Communion, we are stating that we are in union with and profess all the Catholic Church teaches (e.g. Jesus is God, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, abortion is murder, marriage is between a man and a woman, contraception is immoral etc). We must not be conscious of any mortal sin we have committed without prior sacramental Confession. If you are unable to receive Holy Communion for any reason, please remain in your pew at Communion time, and we encourage you to express in your heart a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord and the Church.

If you are interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the faith, please take one of our Catholic Enquiry Group flyers at the entrance of the Church. At Catholic Enquiry Group, we systematically go through the teachings of the Church and the reasons for our belief. Catholics who have spent time away from the Church, or would like more formation or advice, are also most welcome to get in touch with the Fathers or Brother. Call or email the Parish Office, details are below.

The blessing of Epiphany Water will take place on Thursday 5 January at 5:00pm. Chalk and a simple blessing will be made available so you can do the traditional house blessing. High Mass will be celebrated on the Epiphany Friday 6 January at 6:30pm.

Notre Dame Priory Tasmania calendars will be available next weekend.

Please note carefully the changes in the Mass and Confession schedule this week: 10:00am Masses (only) on Monday and Tuesday; no evening Confessions on Wednesday; one Mass only (English) on Thursday at 9:00am. Vespers and Benediction resumes on Sunday 15 January.

The Parish Office will be open on Friday only this week, and then on Wednesday 4 January. If you need a priest urgently, please phone the Oratory house.

Many thanks for your offerings which totalled just over $1,600 towards the appeal for the Church in Ukraine last weekend.

Please consider electronic giving to the Parish BSB 064786 Acc 100024356 and the Oratory BSB 033253 Acc 251386. The parish plate collection last Sunday was $1991 and direct deposit $2144. Many thanks!

Annerley Ekibin Catholic Parish & The Brisbane Oratory in Formation
Parish Office: 14 Ferndale Street, Annerley, QLD, 4103 | Phone 3848 1107 | annek@bne.catholic.net.au | Office Hours: 9am – 1pm Mon, Wed, Fri.
Oratory House: 16 Ferndale Street, Annerley, QLD, 4103 | Phone 3392 9247 | brisbaneoratory@gmail.com | http://brisbane-oratory.org/
Social: facebook.com/brisbaneoratory and telegram.me/brisbaneoratory
ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

FIRST READING | Isaiah 52.7-10

PSALM | Psalm 97(98)1-6

Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation.

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

SECOND READING | Hebrews 1:1-6

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Alleluia, alleluia. A hallowed day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations, worship the Lord, for today a great light has shone down upon the earth. Alleluia!

GOSPEL | John 1: 1-14 (short version)

In the beginning was the Word: and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.* The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Mass Intentions

Monday 26 December
10:00am MI Intention of the Donor
EX † Holy Souls (FOSS)
EX Frassati

Tuesday 27 December
10:00am MI † Anne Byrne
EX † Laszlo Varga
EX Kevin & Gloria Garr Intentions

Wednesday 28 December
6:30am SJF † Holy Souls
9:00am MI † Laszlo Varga
EX † Holy Souls (Ukraine War)

Thursday 29 December
9:00am MI Bernard and family
EX Jesus Youth

Friday 30 December
7:00am MI † Holy Souls (Ukraine War)
9:00am MI † Victor Charles Warren
EX Darren and family

Saturday 31 December
8:30am MI Violetta Sorbello Intentions
5:30pm SJF † Holy Souls (Ukraine War)
EX Marco Berrios

Sunday 1 January
7:00am MI Pro Populo
8:30am MI Fr Gerald Quinn
8:30am SJF Peace & Trust in God for the Sick
10:00am MI † Valerie Williamson
4:00pm MI The Pope and the Bishops
6:00pm MI Intention of the Donor

Prayer Intentions

Please pray for the housebound of the parish and all the sick including Michael Emery, Patricia Smith, Glenda Dowd, Gabriel McIntyre, Ada Bernado, Clare Clark, Jane Farrell, Joan Flew, Gloria Garr, Marlene Johnston, Brian Matthews, Alan Camp; for those who have died recently including Vivienne Benjamin, Gerard Gillen, Michael Hamilton, and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

Flower Intention MI: For the Will of God.

Perpetual Eucharistic Exposition

St Elizabeth’s Chapel

To become a permanent or casual adorer please contact 0492 987 132 or adoration.brisbaneoratory@gmail.com.

Candle Intention: For peace in Ukraine

Priority Hours: Tue 3/1 4am, 5am; Sat 7/1 12pm, 2pm, 3pm; Sun 8/1 11.30am, 12pm, 6pm; Mon 9/1 1am; Tue 10/1 4am, 5am, 8pm, 9pm; Wed 11/1 2am, 3am; Thu 12/1 1pm, 7pm, 8pm; Sat 14/1 12pm; Sun 15/1 9pm; Mon 16/1 1am; Tue 17/1 4am, 5am, 6am, 7am; Wed 18/1 1pm, 11pm; Thu 19/1 1pm; Fri 20/1 6pm; Sat 21/1 12pm; Sun 22/1 9pm.

Permanent Hours: Mon 1am; Tue 4am, 5am; Wed 1pm; Thu 1pm; Fri 6pm; Sat 12pm.

So that the co-ordinators know that there are always adorers present, please send an email or text if you are making an ad hoc hour with Our Lord.