St Patrick's Catholic Church Benoni

Founded 1910

Archdiocese of Johannesburg South Africa

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Carmel Monastery: 46 Dickinson Road, Benoni North: weekday Mass at 07h30 Sun at 08h00

There will be a second collection for the Bishops' Gaudete Fund today – this is to help the poor and needy.

We pray for **Marensia Grant** who has died: may she in peace and rise in glory to live in joy in the kingdom forever.

Christmas at St Patrick's

Tuesday 24 December	**18H00**	**VIGIL MASS OF CHRISTMAS**
(guards around the Church	23h00	Carols
and parking at the School)	**23H30**	**MIDNIGHT MASS OF THE NATIVITY**
Wednesday 25 December	**07H30**	**MASS OF CHRISTMAS**
(guards around the Church	**10H00**	**MASS OF CHRISTMAS**
and parking at the School)	No Evening Mass	
Thursday 26 December	08h00	**Feast of St Stephen**
(park in the Church grounds only)	(not 06h30)	
Friday 27 December	08h00	**Feast of St John**
(Parkin in Church grounds)		
Saturday 28 December	17h30	**Feast of the Holy Family**
Sunday 29 December	07h30	
(guards around the Church	10h00	
and parking at the School)	18h00	
Wednesday 1 January	08h00	**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)**
(park in the Church grounds only)	*(not 06h30)*	

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday Missal page 33 and Weekday Missal page 86

A very blessed and holy Christmas to you all.

"Let us ask the Lord to grant us the grace of looking upon the crib with the simplicity of the shepherds so we can receive the joy. Let us ask him to give us the humility and the faith with which St Joseph looked upon the child that Mary had conceived by the Holy Spirit. Let us ask the Lord to look upon him with that same love with which Mary loved him." (Pope Benedict XVI)

Fr David and Vivienne, Fr Michael, and Fr David Rowan, and the staff of St Patrick's thank you for all your good wishes and generosity at this time and wish you a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year.

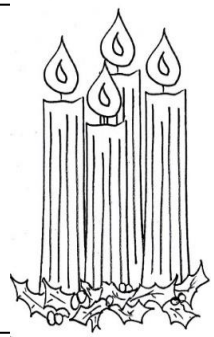
"Have you ever held a new born baby in your arms? What a miracle! As you gaze into his trusting eyes, a fierce tenderness arises in you. He is so pure, he calls forth holiness in you. You never want to hurt or disappoint him in any way.

Imagine what it would be like to hold Jesus in your arms! Blessed Angela of Foligno had a powerful vision like this. As she cradled the Babe, she heard him say, "Whoever does not know me as a child will never know me as a man."

With his mother Mary, let us hold the infant Jesus and gaze into his innocent face today. There is so much we can't even begin to understand! How could the almighty Creator of the universe make himself so tiny and vulnerable? How could the Omnipotent One become an ordinary baby who needs to be changed and fed and comforted? " (The Word among us)

Advent: Week Four

In the fourth week of Advent, we consider Mary's trust in God's promise, her joy in his goodness to her. We ask, "Am I ready to receive and celebrate the coming of the Son of God?" We have considered our relationships, our love of God and God's love for us, and we have responded with an awakened concern for the needs of others. Now we may echo Mary's words: "My being proclaims the greatness of the Lord. My spirit finds joy in God my saviour.



Tuesday 24 December	Parish Office closes at 12h00
Friday 27 December	Parish Office closes at 13h00
Tuesday 31 December	Parish Office closes at 12h00
Thursday 2 January	Parish Office closes at 13h00
Friday 3 January	Parish Office closes at 13h00