ST ANTHONY'S PARISH

Serving the communities of:

DEERAGUN / ROLLINGSTONE / BURDELL / BUSHLAND BEACH / MOUNT LOW
JENSEN / YABULU / BLUEWATER / TOOLAKEA / TOOMULLA

7th December 2025

2nd Sunday of Advent, Year A

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY

8.00am – St Anthony's Church

10am – 11am Reconciliation

5.00pm – St Clare's Chapel

SUNDAY

7.30am – Rollingstone

9.00am – St Anthony's Church

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

MONDAY

7.30am – St Anthony's Church

TUESDAY

7.30am – St Anthony's Church

8.40am – St Clare's Chapel

WEDNESDAY

7.30am – St Anthony's Church

THURSDAY

8.40am St Anthony's School Mass

5.30pm – St Anthony's Church

FRIDAY

7.30am – St Anthony's Church

Baptisms & Weddings
By Appointment

RECONCILIATION
Saturday 10am to 11am

PARISH OFFICE
58 Veales Road
Deeragun 4818
Ph. (07) 4751 5217
Office Time
Tuesday, Wednesday

PASTORS PEN

Our parish is already in Christmas celebrative joyful mood. Last week we had an impressive start to the joyful days that are ahead. Last Saturday, the parish community came together and celebrated Christmas with a delicious dinner. I was delighted to see and taste the varieties of food prepared by our community members from various nationalities. This dinner was a wonderful start to our Christmas preparations. Since we moved our Saturday Mass from St Clare's to St Anthony's it helped a few more to join in the dinner that evening. It was a time to feel the strength of hope, light of peace, colours of joy and fulness of love. We all loved it and enjoyed the event. I appreciate and thank each one of you who prepared food for this special event and joined with the community to share the joy of the day.

We dedicated the first Sunday of Advent to children, and we celebrated it as Children's Christmas. The reason for this celebration is that the first Sunday we reflected on hope, and the parish keeps its hope so strong in these children of our future comrades in faith. Before they were sent to attend the children's liturgy, they came together and lit the Advent candle. Through this celebration, the parish community has tried to communicate and transfer the importance of the meaning of Christmas, and the age-old ways of celebration. Children came to the church in a colourful Christmas dress and at the end of the Mass Fr Vinoj gave a blessing and a gift to each of them. During this season of Christmas let us spread the message of hope, joy, peace and love in our community.

The following weekends we will be celebrating Christmas different from what we are used to. This weekend is dedicated to youth group and the theme is peace. Youth need to enjoy peace of mind in Christ Jesus, therefore, let us pray for them. The third weekend is been dedicated to the parents and the theme is joy. The last weekend is dedicated to the grandparents and the theme is love. Each weekend one or two will be invited to come and light the candle and before the final blessing I will give a small gift to them.

Our Christmas Mass and reconciliation schedule is included in the newsletter for your
reference. As it has been mentioned to you, we have made two changes this year from our previous years' time schedule. Vigil Mass will be celebrated in the same venue but the Mass will start at 6.30pm. Normally, we used to celebrate one Mass at St Clare's on Christmas morning, this year I have shifted that from there to St Anthony's. This Mass will be at 9am in the morning.

Christmas Raffle is one of the attractions of our Christmas celebration. This year we have organized an even bigger prize, therefore, the price for a ticket has also been increased to $5 per ticket. I encourage you to purchase tickets to support our parish. To make it easy for payments we have organized a "Square Reader". Even if you forget to bring any loose cash, no worries, you can use your card to tap and pay.

Fr Vinoj

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

St Anthony's Catholic Parish, Deeragun, acknowledges the Wulgurukaba group, the Traditional Owners of the land on which our parish sits. We also acknowledge and pay respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Elders, past, present and emerging.

Find us on

Becoming New in Christ….

Saint of the Week: December 9:

SAINT JUAN DIEGO (1474-1548)

How well Mary's own words describe Juan Diego: "God has cast down the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly" (Luke 1:52). Through him, for the diverse peoples of the Americas, indigenous and immigrant, the Mother of God became known as their Mother too. Cuauhtlatzin, his given name, means "One Who Speaks Like An Eagle," and Juan Diego faithfully delivered the Virgin's request that a church be built at Tepeyac where she had appeared to him. To the skeptical bishop's request for a sign, Our Lady showed Juan Diego roses blooming through stony ground, despite winter's cold. When he unfolded his tilma to present them to the bishop, imprinted there was Mary's image! Her blue sash and the flower over her womb were traditional Aztec symbols of pregnancy and new life. But her features were those of a mestiza, indicating mixed Aztec-European heritage. Thus to peoples too easily prone to a "clash of cultures," Our Lady of Guadalupe remains the enduring icon of unity-in-diversity, the fruit of our one baptism into Jesus, her Son.

Peter Scagnelli

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

"Outward signs instituted by Christ to give grace" is the often-memorized definition of sacrament, but through more than five decades of reform we have rediscovered the power of sacrament to bestow grace by reshaping our lives as individuals and communities. Not so long ago, most people were not attentive to the nature of sacrament as an act of the Church, a power that flows from the Body of Christ. Fifty years ago, we were inclined to see a sacrament as an encounter between Christ and an individual.

Today, we see that definition does not go far enough. God's grace is not a trickle, but a gushing torrent washing over the whole Church. Like a photographer pulling back the camera for a broader picture, today we are not only interested in the person who is being baptized, reconciled, or anointed. We think about how celebrating a sacrament transforms a community. We think about the grace given by Christ to the community that baptizes or marries or ordains or confirms. Sacraments are for the good of the community. Even when it appears to be a private, hidden moment, as in individual confession, a sacrament is always for the sake of the whole body, always more than "meets the eye."

Rev. James Field

Parish Prayer

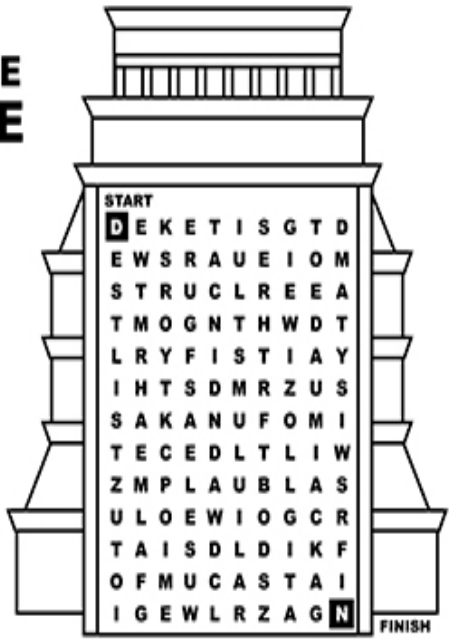
O my God, I adore you, and I love you with all my heart. In your own tender love, accept us who adore You and give thanks to You. Fill us with your Holy Spirit so that our church may grow. May the Holy Spirit transform, teach and lead us in our faith. Thank you for our church and its people. You gather us as your people and have formed us into a community of faith, hope and love. We ask your blessing upon our Parish. Let our families, especially our children experience your love and your presence in their lives. St. Anthony, pray for us and help us to love Jesus. Mary Mother of Jesus, we ask for your care and protection. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Jesus was not pleased when he found people selling things in the temple. Some people sold cattle, sheep and doves for sacrifice and some people changed Roman coins for temple coins. Draw some traders and money-changers in the temple.

COMPLETE THE TEXT MAZE

"Destroy this temple and in three days I will build it again"



DIOCESAN NOTICE…

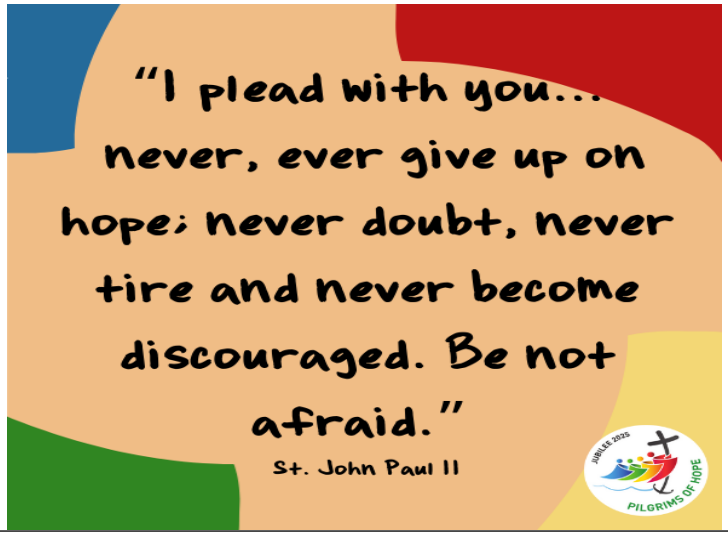
Carols @ the Cathedral - Sing the Light of Jesus:
Please come and enjoy a celebration of song, prayer and reflection led by the Diocesan Choir for Sing the Light of Jesus on Tuesday, 16 December at the Sacred Heart Cathedral commencing at 6pm followed by a light supper.

A Promise to Safeguard All
The Catholic Diocese of Townsville recognises that safeguarding is an ongoing journey of learning, improvement, and cultural change. Continuous efforts are made to enhance awareness, improve practices, take a zero-tolerance stance against any form of abuse, and create safer communities for all. Please visit tsv.catholic.org.au/safeguarding to access the safeguarding policy, its procedures and resource documents.

To report a concern about abuse or misconduct concerning church personnel: contact the Diocese of Townsville directly P: 4726 3264 or E: diocese@tsv.catholic.org.au; or make a disclosure to the Professional Standards Office Queensland (PSOQ) by downloading a disclosure form at psoqld.catholic.net.au and send to PO Box 3264 Brisbane Q 4001 or E: psoqld@catholic.net.au. Alternatively,contact PSOQ on 3324 3070 or 1800 337 928 (free call).

Saints Catholic College - position vacant:
Saints Catholic College situated within the grounds of James Cook University are seeking to employ a Residential Supervisor (RS). The position would ideally suit a couple.

The duties of the Residential Supervisor (RS) are associated with providing after hours support for the Head of College (HOC), Pastoral Care Manager (PCM) & the Business and Operations Manager (BOM) in the implementation of the Policies and Procedures ratified by members of the Council of Saints Catholic College.



Bible in a Year Reading Calendar

Day 265 Matthew 25–26 Proverbs 19:21-24
Day 266 Matthew 27–28 Proverbs 19:25-29
Day 267Ezra 1–2 Haggai 1–2 Proverbs 20:1-3
Day 268 Ezra 3–4 Zechariah 1–3 Proverbs 20:4-7
Day 269 Ezra 5–6 Zechariah 4–6 Proverbs 20:8-11
Day 270 Ezra 7–8 Zechariah 7–8 Proverbs 20:12-15
Day 271 Ezra 9–10 Zechariah 9–11 Proverbs 20:16-19

Parish Notice…..

- **Advent Reflection: Thursday 6pm**
- **2nd Sunday of Advent: Youth Day – Peace**
- **3rd Sunday of Advent: Parents Day – Joy**
- **4th Sunday of Advent: Grantparents Day – Love**
- **Sacramental Program 2026: Applications Invited**

Let us Pray for……

Emmitt, Desley, Vernon, Erin Smart and Seena Augustine for their healing.

Baptism

SAFEGUARDING: The Diocesan Safeguarding webpage is online at www.tsv.catholic.org.au/safeguarding. For more information contact Craig Brereton on 4726 3264 cbrereton@tsv.catholic.org.au.

St Anthony's and St Clare's Rosters - Reading

Date	First Reader	Second Reader
2nd Sunday in Advent, Year A	Geraldine	Lauren
3rd Sunday in Advent, Year A	Sandra	Kavina

St Anthony's Rosters - Cleaning

Fortnight Starting – 14/12	Mena	Rosalina	Emie & Mel
Fortnight Starting – 28/12	Sandra	Christine	Edna & Myrna

Weekly Collections

	St C	RoS	St A
Envelopes	20	40	340
Loose	100	10	417.25

St Anthony's Catholic College
Principal: Barry Horner
Website:www.sacc.catholic.edu.au

Our Web page Address: https://www.tsv.catholic.org.au/st-anthony-s-parish-deeragun/

Follow us on Facebook: St Anthony's Parish, Deeragun

St Clare's Catholic School
Principal: Helen Wade
Website:
www.stclarestsv.catholic.edu.au

First Reading Ez 47:1-2, 8-9

The angel brought me to the entrance of the Temple, where a stream came out from under the Temple threshold and flowed eastwards, since the Temple faced east. The water flowed from under the right side of the Temple, south of the altar. He took me out by the north gate and led me right
round outside as far as the outer east gate where the water flowed out on the right-hand side. The man went to the east holding his measuring line and measured off a thousand cubits; he then made me wade across the stream; the water reached my ankles. He measured off another thousand and made me wade across the stream again; the water reached my knees. He measured off another thousand and made me wade across again; the water reached my waist. He measured
off another thousand; it was now a river which I could not cross; the stream had swollen and was now deep water, a river impossible to cross. He
then said, 'Do you see, son of man?' He took me further, then brought me back to the bank of the river. When I got back, there were many trees on each bank of the river. He said, 'This water flows east down to the Arabah and to the sea; and flowing into the sea it makes its waters wholesome. Wherever the river flows, all living creatures teeming in it will live. Fish will be very plentiful, for wherever the water goes it brings health, and life teems wherever the river flows. Along the river, on either bank, will grow every kind of fruit tree with leaves that never wither and fruit that never fails; they will bear new fruit every month, because this water comes from the
sanctuary. And their fruit will be good to eat and the leaves medicinal.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 45:2-3

(R.) The waters of the river gladden the city of God.
1. God is for us a refuge and strength,
a helper close at hand, in time of distress: so we shall not fear though the earth should rock, though the mountains fall into the depths of the sea. (R.)
2. The waters of a river give joy to God's city, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within, it cannot be shaken; God will help it at the dawning of the day. (R.)
3. The Lord of hosts is with us: the God of Jacob is our stronghold. Come, consider the works of the Lord, the redoubtable deeds he has done on the earth. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 3:9-11

You are God's building. By the grace God gave me, I succeeded as an architect and laid the foundations, on which someone else is doing the building. Everyone doing the building must work carefully. For the foundation, nobody can lay any other than the one which has already been laid, that is Jesus Christ. Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Gospel Acclamation 2 Chr 7:16

Alleluia, alleluia!
I have chosen and sanctified this house, says the Lord, that my name may remain in it for all time.
Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 2:13-22

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market'. Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up'. The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc.(ICEL). All rights reserved.

Reflection: Prepare the Way of the Lord

I remember going to Mass at my parish during Advent and hearing Father sing "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord" (from the musical Godspell) to start his homily. I was completely confused because the singing felt like it came out of nowhere. But he went on to explain how that song summed up the Advent season. We are preparing the way of the Lord.

In today's Gospel, we see that John the Baptist knew that Jesus's ministry was coming, saying "I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the holy Spirit and fire." He was helping people repent so they could be ready for Jesus' world changing ministry. As ridiculous as he might've sounded, the people who listened were able to repent and prepare. Just like actors and actresses practice for the big show, preparing themselves to perform, we need to prepare ourselves for his Second Coming.

This can also apply to modern-day society. While we are preparing for the Christmas parties and all the gift giving, we sometimes forget, myself included, what we are truly preparing for. One thing that helps is remembering to fit in the Sacrament of Reconciliation to repent of my sins and be fully present to celebrate Jesus' birthday.

As we prepare for the Lord, I pray that each of you can truly enjoy the Advent season and the Christmas season. Let's also take time to pray for those who aren't practicing Christians, that this Christmas season can help them see the good that God can do in each one of our lives.

Ben Hooper

A "sign" in the Catholic Church can refer to the sacramental signs of the seven sacraments or to various symbols and gestures used to express faith and belief. Sacramental signs are the outward, visible signs of God's grace, such as the water at baptism, the bread and wine in the Eucharist, or the laying on of hands for Confirmation.

Scant to Donate to your Parish