*Our Lady of Peace &*
*Blessed Dominic Barberi*

# *Welcoming Christ*

## *with Mary and the Angels*



*Mary teaches us how to welcome Christ. The Angels teach us how to serve Him. And Christ invites us to make our hearts His dwelling place.*

THU 17 DEC
**Learning to Welcome Christ**

FRI 18 DEC
**Listening to God's Messengers**

SAT 19 DEC
**Bringing Christ to Others**

SUN 20 DEC
**Making Room for Christ**

*Four days of prayer, reflection and encounter – preparing our hearts to welcome Christ, following the example of Mary and accompanied by the Holy Angels.*

*With Fr Stan and Fr Fidelis Stöckl, O.R.C*



# *Welcoming Christ*

## *with Mary and the Angels*



THURSDAY 17 DECEMBER

## Learning to Welcome Christ

*Mary: The Heart That Welcomes Christ*

"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord." Luke 1:38

**MORNING**

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| **10.00 am** | Opening Prayer and Holy Mass |
| **10.45 am** | Retreat Talk 1: Mary: The Heart That Welcomes Christ |
| | Confessions available |
| **Closing** | Marian Antiphon: Alma Redemptoris Mater |

**EVENING**

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| **5.00–6.30 pm** | Eucharistic Adoration with Benediction |
| **6.00 pm** | Guided Rosary (Luminous Mysteries) during Adoration |
| **6.30 pm** | Holy Mass with Opening Retreat Prayer and a short homily |
| **7.30 pm** | Retreat Talk 1 (repeated for those who cannot attend in the morning) |
| **8.15 pm** | Eucharistic Adoration and Personal Prayer |
| **8.30 pm** | Guided Meditation during Adoration, leading into Compline |
| **Until midnight** | Eucharistic Adoration available |

SATURDAY 19 DECEMBER

## Bringing Christ to Others

*Mary and the Angels: Bringing Christ to Others*

"Blessed is she who believed." Luke 1:45

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| **8.30 am** | Holy Mass (for those wishing to attend) |
| **9.00 am–1.00 pm** | Advent Confessions available |
| **9.30 am** | Opening Prayer and Guided International Rosary in at least five languages (volunteers needed) |
| **10.30 am** | Retreat Talk 3: Mary and the Angels: Bringing Christ to Others |
| **11.15 am** | Personal Prayer and Silent Reflection |
| **11.30 am** | A talk on the Marian Antiphon, concluding with the sung Alma Redemptoris Mater |
| **Afterwards** | Time of Prayer and Intercession: An opportunity to receive individual prayer from a priest. Participants are invited to come forward individually or as families, entrusting their children, loved ones and particular needs to God's loving care and asking for His presence, protection and blessing. |
| **Until 1.00 pm** | Eucharistic Adoration available |

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FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER

## Listening to God's Messengers

*The Angels: Messengers of God's Coming*

"Do not be afraid." Luke 2:10

**MORNING**

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| **10.00 am** | Opening Prayer and Holy Mass for the housebound, the sick and those who cannot come in the evening (please arrange transport) |
| | Confession; Anointing of the Sick for those who meet the Church's requirements (please register beforehand) |
| | Retreat Talk 2: The Angels: Messengers of God's Coming |
| **Closing** | Marian Antiphon: Alma Redemptoris Mater |

**EVENING**

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| **5.00–6.20 pm** | Eucharistic Adoration |
| **6.00 pm** | Rosary (Sorrowful Mysteries) during Adoration |
| **6.30 pm** | Holy Mass |
| **7.30 pm** | Retreat Talk 2: The Angels: Messengers of God's Coming |
| **After the talk** | **Candlelight Marian Procession with Mary and the Heavenly Hosts:** Before the procession, a short reflection on Mary, who always leads us to Christ, accompanied by the heavenly choirs of Seraphim, Cherubim and all the Angels. We will also remember our Guardian Angels, who inspire and guide us on our journey of faith. |

SUNDAY 20 DECEMBER

## Making Room for Christ

*Emmanuel: Making Room for Christ*

"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us." John 1:14

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| **8.00 am** | Rosary |
| **8.30 am** | Holy Mass with a retreat reflection |
| **10.15 am** | Retreat Talk 4: Emmanuel: Making Room for Christ |
| **11.00 am** | Holy Mass with a retreat reflection |
| **After both Masses** | Consecration of Children to the Holy Angels (parents and children come close to the altar) |
| | A Personal Advent Commitment: Making Room for Christ |
| | Solemn Blessing |
| | At the end of the final retreat talk, everyone will be invited to reflect on one question: |
| | **"What can I change in my life to make more room for Christ?"** |
| | Each participant will receive a small commemorative holy card and be invited to write down one concrete spiritual commitment to live out this Christmas. |