

# 1st Sunday of Advent - Year C

## 1st - 2nd December 2018

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 33:14-16

*I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.*

'See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: 'In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.

The Word of the Lord

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 24:4-5,8-9,10,14

**R/** To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

**Second Reading:** Thessalonians 3:12 - 4:2

*When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.*

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

The Word of the Lord

**Gospel Acclamation:** Ps 84:8

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. **Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

*Your redemption is near at hand.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.' 'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

The Gospel of the Lord

**Advent is a time for exploring our deepest longings and desires and allowing them to surface.**

**God's only wish in our regard is to communicate to us the life and love for which we long. Each Advent should expand both our longing and our capacity to receive the gift of God.**

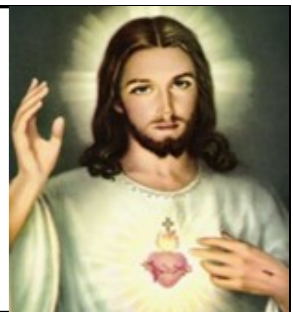


# Sacred Heart Parish Preston

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Email: preston@cam.org.au Website: www.sacredheartpreston.com.au



## 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C 1st - 2nd December 2018

### “Come Emmanuel – God With Us Now”

From early November, we have been well aware in shopping centres of drapes of red, green and gold and silver baubles and tinsel. Our ears are filled with piped music about bells, snow, chimney surfers, interspersed occasionally with a Bethlehem Christmas Carol. These provoke nostalgia for the past in some and lure many to put more time and money into the immediate and material aspects of our individual family one day of the year celebrations. In contrast to the reds, greens and shiny stuff, Advent is the colour of dawn; the deep purple that slowly lightens the night sky reminding us that the sun, ever present but temporarily hidden by the earth's turning, is about to overcome the darkness and reveal a new day. Time to brace ourselves and be alert for that new beginning with all it brings.

Advent is all about comings; in fact it means 'a coming'. We look back to the revelations of God's saving presence in the lives of a people fleeing from slavery, exiled from a land of their own, their liberation and final return – a 'coming home'. We look back to the coming of a child born in poor circumstances in a cattle shed home in Bethlehem. This 'coming' is the reason for our Christmas celebrations.

The scriptures remind us to stay alert for a second coming of Christ at a future time. But most significantly, Advent allows us a time of awakened hope and renewed sensitivity to the pervading presence of God in our lives NOW.

God is with us in the successes and failures, struggles, decisions, sadness and joys of daily living. We meet God in the least likely, the unassuming, the silenced people of our world. And we look for God, perhaps through other people, to pierce through the dark moments of life in our world, our wounded church and in our families, so that with hope and courage we will pass through the darkness and not allow it to overcome us. As Archbishop Dolan recognised in his "Advent Reflections", "Even though Advent comes but once a year in the liturgical calendar, I am convinced that Life is all about advent."

A man sits at the bedside of a dying neighbour who has lived alone for many years... Advent. A mother waits anxiously in the early hours of the morning for a child who has left the house in anger...Advent. A couple, in joyful anticipation prepare the nursery for their first child about to be born... this is advent. Some parishioners bring a hamper to the mother of a large family, struggling to get by day to day...this too is advent.

Yes, Advent is a chance to deepen our awareness that God dwells with us in our human family, our culture, our work and our church. As we hear the challenging voices of the prophets of scripture, let us open our eyes, ears and hearts to realise the blessings of life around us that we may be prophets of Advent, hope to those who struggle in the darkness, of despair, solitude, pain and poverty. Come Emmanuel!



#### Office Hours:

Tues to Fri: 10.00am - 12.30pm

#### Parish Priest:

Fr Jan Szweda, SVD

#### Priests in Residence:

Fr Ennio Mantovani SVD

Fr Phuong Vu SVD, La Trobe

University Chaplain

**Parish Office:** Cristina Agius

**School Principal:** Mark Tierney

**School Phone:** 9484 3514

#### Sacrament Co-ordinator:

Judeline Wadhvani

#### Child Safety Officer:

Judeline Wadhvani

M: 0490660787

judeline.wadhvani@gmail.com

#### Parish Council Members:

Catherine Zanatta (chairperson),

Kay Dufty (secretary), Gerard

Grant, Ophelia Swai, Anisasio

(Pauline) Veamatahau, Mark

Tierney, Timothy Nolan,

Fr Jan Szweda SVD

#### St. Vincent de Paul Society:

Pauline O'Day (President)

Ph: 9484 2445

#### Parish Mass Schedule

##### Weekend Masses:

**Saturday:** 6:00pm

**Sunday:** 9:00am (Italian),

10:30 am, 6:00 pm

##### Weekday Masses:

**Monday to Friday:** 9.10am

**Healing Mass:** 1st Thursday of

the month at 1.30pm

##### Devotional Practices:

**Adoration of the Blessed**

**Sacrament:** Wednesday after

9.10am Mass

**Holy Rosary:** Thursday

(English) & Friday (Italian) after

9.10am Mass

**Legion of Mary:** Thursday

7.30pm, in the Presbytery

##### Reconciliation:

Weekdays: 30 minutes before

Mass or by appointment

##### Baptisms & Weddings:

By appointment only

**Plenary Council 2020: What is God asking of us in Australia at this time?**

The Plenary Council 2020 is a gathering of the Church in Australia to make decisions for the future. All people are invited to contribute to the Plenary Council agenda by sharing their experience of faith and of the Church. The Plenary Council agenda will be developed from the stories you share and the questions you raise. Our questions about and our hopes for the Church will arise from hearts that listen to the Spirit. This week, we are inviting all our parishioners to pray the Advent Plenary Council prayer each day as a way of preparing to share our stories.



**YOU ARE INVITED TO SACRED HEART SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CAROLS THURSDAY 13TH DECEMBER AT 7.00PM AT SACRED HEART CHURCH**

**Dates to Remember**

- Thursday 6th December:** 1.30pm  
Mass with Anointing of the Sick
- Saturday 8th December:** 9.10am  
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Thursday 13th December:** 7.00pm  
Sacred Heart Christmas Carols

**Welcome!**

This weekend through Baptism we welcome: **Gennaro Ciccaldò, Carmine Ciccaldò & Renato Ciccaldò** into our Parish family

**Last Week's Collection: 25/11/18**

1st Collection for our Church: \$982.65  
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$574.20  
Thank you for your kind generosity!



**Plenary Council Advent Prayer**

Be still  
Be still and know  
Be still and know that I am  
Be still and know that I am your God.  
God of this Advent time as we watch, wait, long and hope,  
Awaken our hearts to your presence  
Encourage us in our efforts to listen humbly to each other  
Inspire in us the words to speak boldly with each other  
Create within us a spirit of discernment  
Give us hopeful hearts as we continue our journey to the Plenary Council.  
We ask this in the name of Emmanuel - God-with-us. Amen.

**RCIA**

We have commenced the program preparing 2 adults for the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion, Confirmation and Reconciliation. We like to invite Catholic adults who would like to accompany them, share their faith and pray with them as they are initiated into the Catholic faith and life. If you are interested or would like to have some more information, please see Fr. Jan after masses.

**Bible Study: Gospel of Mark, The Person of Jesus**

**When: 13th Nov - 11th Dec (Tuesdays for 6 weeks)**  
**Where: Sacred Heart Church, Preston**  
**Time: 7.30pm - 9.00pm**  
**By: Fr. Phuong Vu, SVD**



**Advent Season Reflection**

**Saturday 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd December, 9.30am-5pm**  
**St. Joseph's Home, 112B St Georges Road, Northcote**  
The Little Sisters of the Poor in Northcote will host four days of reflection over the Advent Season, guided by Fr Edward Moloney from the Corpus Christi Seminary, Melbourne. The reflection days are for single Catholic women aged 18-35 who desire to enrich their spiritual growth during the Advent Season. These days will include Spiritual talks, Eucharistic Adoration, Holy Mass, Sacrament of Reconciliation, and time for personal and communal prayers.  
**Enquiries:** Sr Mary Lourdes on 9489 8444 or [Admin1.mel@lsp.org.au](mailto:Admin1.mel@lsp.org.au)

**Sacred Heart - A Giving Tree 2018**

With the generous assistance of parishioners, the St. Vincent de Paul Conference provides Christmas hampers to families in the Preston area. The 'Giving Tree' will once again be in the Church foyer for the first 3 weeks of Advent, allowing us to fill and deliver hampers in time for Christmas. Tokens hung on the tree will be requests for food items, gift cards or cash donations. To help us fill the hampers, please:  
\*Take a token (as many as you like) from the tree.  
\*Buy the item/s listed on the token.  
\*Place it in or near the large box in the foyer on or before Sunday 16th December - no need to wrap the item/s.  
\*Place envelopes containing cash donations or gift cards into the small sealed box.  
Your assistance will be deeply appreciated by the families we visit. If you have any queries, please contact Pauline O'Day (President) on 9484 2445.



**Morning Melodies: Chris Doheny's**

**Aussie Christmas Show Special Lunch for Parishioners, Relatives and Friends**

You are invited to join us for a pre-Christmas luncheon at the Darebin RSL on 21st December. Seniors' menu offers a broad choice of main course and desserts with hints of Christmas for \$18. A great chance for old friends and new to catch up and maybe look ahead to resuming more activities and outings next year. Please pass the message on. Contact Pauline O'Day on 9484 2445 or Eileen Stevens on 0402 448 652, as soon as possible if you would like to attend.



**Advent Silent treatment: Welcoming Mystery in our Lives**

**Saturday 8th December, 9am-4pm**  
St Augustine's Church, St Joseph's Hall, Bourke Street, Melbourne  
A Silent Retreat day in the heart of Melbourne, conducted by Fr Victor Farrugia. BYO Lunch. Free parking.

**Rotary Club of Manningham Christmas Luncheon**

You are invited to join us for a **Community Christmas Luncheon.**  
**When:** Saturday 15th December, 2018  
**Time:** 12:00 Midday  
**Where:** The Salvation Army Hall - Gooch & High Streets, Thornbury (enter via Gooch Street)  
Please RSVP Fred Farrugia by 7th December on 0408 569 464 or Email: [fredfarrugia@optusnet.com.au](mailto:fredfarrugia@optusnet.com.au)  
**\*Transport available if needed.**



**WE PRAY FOR:**

The elderly and the sick  
*Margaret Doyle, Luis Gandarillas, Irene Navascues, Dale O'Keefe, Veronica Parkes, Rosie Potter & Yvonne Tierney*



Our loved one who died recently  
*Venanzia Bongiovanni*

Those recommended to our prayers  
*Maria Elisabetta Ciancio (1st Anni.), Filippina Paoli, Giovanni Paoli, Vittorio Pilla, Clara Sassini e Domenico Sassini and all deceased members of the Vetere family.*

O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception: Festa Della Madonna**

**Sunday 9th December, 1.45pm**  
**St Monica's Church, 820 Mount Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds**  
The Italian Prayer Group of St Monica's parish invites all parishioners, both local and from across Melbourne, to attend the celebrations of the Festa Della Madonna. The novena commenced on Friday 30th November in the Symons Centre next to the church and will culminate with a Festa (festival) commencing at 1.45pm on Sunday 9th December. There will be food, drinks, cakes and sweets, with music provided by the Bellini Band. All are invited to attend to mark this very special day of the liturgical calendar.  
**Details:** Franco Priscoglio on 0407 832 564

**Cleaning Roster: Saturday 8th December 2018**

**Pauline/Volunteer**  
Thank you for your help!

**Roster for weekend of 8th - 9th December 2018**

	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6.00pm	Mary Harb Marlene Vergou	Barbara Fitzgerald Vincci Lee
Sun 9.00am (Italian)	Mancini M. Paiano T.	Malavisi I. Recchia I.
Sun 10.30am	Alan Castles Ivana Lo Bello	Eileen Stevens Giovanna D'Intino
Sun 6.00pm	Carolina Constable Peter Constable	Damian Casamento