

1st Sunday of Advent - Year A

30th November - 1st December 2019

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9. R. see v.1.

R/ Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

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: Matthew 24:37-44

Stay awake, so that you may be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken one left. 'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the house-holder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

The Gospel of the Lord

Sacred Heart Parish Prayer

Loving God, we honour the heart of Jesus, your beloved Son. We remember how he opened his heart in love to all people. Open our own heart to receive the gifts that continue to flow so richly from the heart of Christ, who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Sobriety, when lived freely and consciously, is liberating...

happiness means knowing how to limit some needs...

and being open to the many different possibilities which life can offer."

Pope Francis, Laudato Si' #223



Sacred Heart Parish

Preston

322 Bell St, Preston 3072

Parish Contacts: Phone: (03) 9480 3398 Or (03) 9484 2124

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



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A

30th November - 1st December 2019

Walking in the light of the Lord

Today we begin the season of Advent. On this day the Church invites us to prepare to receive the Lord. Advent means a waiting – an anticipation of the arrival of someone we love and honour to enter into our lives and be one with us. During this season we anticipate the coming of Jesus in three ways. We look at the past as we anticipate and 'relive' the birth of Jesus in history. We look to the present as we prepare ourselves to receive him in our daily lives. We accept His presence in the Word and Sacrament and resolve to proclaim Him in living by the Gospel values. Finally we look into the future to the coming of God's kingdom in its fullness.

The Advent season begins where ordinary time left off – with the coming of Christ at the end of time. Paul and Matthew issue an urgent call for their readers to be watchful, to be awake and ready for the Day of the Lord. The warning in their message is contrasted by the vision of the prophet Isaiah to God's people who had struggled through decades of oppression, exile and desolation. In contrast the prophet foretells a time of universal peace, a world illuminated by the light of the Lord. This promise is something to rejoice in and to strengthen them to bear through the struggles of the present.

The call to watch out for the coming of the Lord might seem like a threat to some but it is meant to challenge us to be fully alive in the here and now. The mission of Jesus, after all, was to set us free - not to leave us imprisoned in the darkness of fear or anxiety. "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10)

This time of Advent then is given to us not to stay fixed in the past but to learn from it: nor is it time to become blinded by the gloom of the present or stay and weighed down by our struggles and limitations. The past is gone, the future yet to be. It is in the "now" that we can make a difference that will affect the future of our planet and the world we share.

It is time to lift up our hearts, open our eyes, and see the work of God around us.

Each act of kindness, each opportunity taken to defend the rights of another; each word of forgiveness; each rejection of violence as a solution radiates God's love in the world and proclaims 'God with us.'



Office Hours:

Tues to Fri: 10.00am - 12.30pm

Parish Priest:

Fr Jan Szweda, SVD

Priest in Residence:

Fr Ennio Mantovani SVD

Parish Office: Cristina Agius

School Principal: Mark Tierney

School Phone: 9487 1001

Sacrament Co-ordinator:

Judeline Wadhvani

Child Safety Officer:

Belinda Cooney: 0433 579 640

Kay Dufty: 0431 376 212

Child Safety Committee:

Belinda Cooney, Teresa Dang, Kay Dufty, Robert Dullard (Chair), Mary Harb, Sharron Kotz, Pauline O'Day, Fr Jan Szweda

Parish Council Members:

Catherine Zanatta (chairperson), Kay Dufty (secretary), Tony Eley, Gerard Grant, Ophelia Swai, Anisasio (Pauline) Veamatahau, Mark Tierney, Ben Fortuna, Solomon Konchakara, Natalie Baran

St. Vincent de Paul Society:

Pauline O'Day (President)

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 (Eng) & 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

Advent Season

Today we begin the season of Advent and with this we begin the new liturgical year. On this day the Church invites us to be ready and prepared to receive the Lord. Advent means waiting and we wait eagerly for someone we love, we care and we are ready to invest our time on Him. During this season we anticipate and await the coming of our Jesus. There are three aspects of Jesus' coming into the world. We look at the past as we anticipate the celebration of the birth of Jesus in history that took place 2000 years ago. Secondly, we look to the present as we prepare ourselves to receive him in our daily lives. We accept him in the Word and in the sacrament of the Eucharist. Finally we look into the future and await his coming at the end of times in majesty and glory to judge the world.

Dadirri

Be still, do not rush things. Let life happen by itself. Work with it, trust in the spirituality and wisdom that is around you. With confidence, we wait for God too. His time is 'right time'. Wait for Him to make His Word clean. 'Right time', gentle time, don't rush. Sometimes waiting is painful. Sometimes it's a struggle. But, Circle is always turning. 'Right time' will come. Be patient. Be still. Listen.

Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr-Baumann of the Ngangikurungkurr people Daly River in NT

**Dadirri means inner, deep listening and quiet, still awareness.*

Dates to Remember

- Thursday 5th December:** 1.30pm
Mass with Anointing of the Sick
- Sunday 8th December:** Children's Liturgy - 10.30am
- Monday 9th December:** Mass at 9.10am & 7.30pm
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Thursday 12th December:** - 7pm
Christmas Carols Night

Welcome!

This weekend through Baptism we welcome **Oliver Jorgandiovski** into our Parish family

Last Week's Collection: 24/11/19

- 1st Collection for our Church: \$1124.30
 - 2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$561.70
 - Collection For the Catholic Deaf: \$260.00
 - Vinnies Bushfire Appeal: \$486.00
- Thank you for your kind generosity!



You are invited to Sacred Heart Christmas Carols

Thursday 12th December, 7pm at Sacred Heart Church

Everybody is welcome!



Sacred Heart - A Giving Tree 2019

With the generous assistance of parishioners, our St Vincent de Paul members provide Christmas hampers to families and individuals in the Preston area. The 'Giving Tree' will remain in the Church foyer for the first three weeks of Advent, allowing us time to collect enough items to fill hampers in time for Christmas.



Please help by:

- * Taking a token or more tokens from the tree and purchasing the items written on the tokens.
- * Returned items are placed in a container provided (no need to wrap them).
- * Cash donations returned in envelopes should be placed into the small sealed box in the piety Stall.

A sign up sheet will be available next weekend for volunteers to help prepare and deliver hampers with members of St Vincent de Paul.

NB. The last day to return items will be Sunday 15th Dec.

Help would also be appreciated to pack and deliver hampers with members of St Vincent de Paul. A sign up sheet is available in the foyer.

Christmas cards are also for sale this weekend.

Vocation News

As we enter into the season of Advent I write to thank you for the support of vocations this year. In what has been a challenging year for the Church and the priesthood, Archbishop Peter has accepted three local men for formation to Corpus Christi College next year. Several others are in the process of formation for the year after.

Fr David Cartwright and Fr Nicholas Pearce
Melbourne Vocations Team

1st Advent Sunday - 1st December: Stay Awake!

Jesus urges us to be ready. Today let us pray for the young people in our parish community, that they may be ready and alert to hear the Lord calling them to the faithful vocations of marriage, priesthood, consecrated or single life.

Next week - Special collection for the: **Melbourne Overseas Mission Appeal**

Feast of the Immaculate Conception: Festa Della Madonna

Sunday 8th December, from 1.30pm
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 29th November in the church and will culminate with a Festa (festival) at 1.30pm on Sunday 8th 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.



Cost: Free Details: Franco Priscoglio on 0407 832 564

Women's Advent Retreat

Saturday 7th December, 9.30-5.30pm
112B St Georges Road, Northcote
An Advent Retreat for women will be hosted by Little Sisters of the Poor at St. Joseph's Home. This is a free event but registration is essential for catering purposes. Further enquiries or bookings: Sr Mary Lourdes on 9489 8444 or voc.mel@lsp.org.au

Australian Nativity Scene

Monday 9th December to Friday 10th January
St Elizabeth's Parish, 107 Baker Rd, Dandenong North
Wilson Fernandez has been creating the Australian Nativity Scene (ANS) for sixteen years. This intricate display is now regarded as one of Australia's best nativity scenes. Wilson creates the village and township of Christ's birth with handmade huts, stables, buildings, bridges, palaces, houses and temples surrounded by mountains, rocks, lakes and rivers to convey the story of Christmas. It features scenes like Mary and Joseph looking for a place to stay and finding only a stable free, the birth of Jesus, visits from the shepherds, the three kings and ends with the holy family fleeing to Egypt. This event is free and open to everyone. Children are to be accompanied by a guardian. Melway Ref: 81A8. <https://www.facebook.com/AustralianNativityScene/>
Viewing time: After Mass and any other time by appointment only. Details: Wilson on 0428 927 110 or 9795 6217

Roster for weekend of 7th - 8th December 2019

	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6.00pm	Teresa Dang Marlene Vergou	Charlotte Bains Mary Harb
Sun 9.00am (Italian)	Mancini L.	Capobianco A. Pavan M.
Sun 10.30am	Sonia Bading Ophelia Swai	Ivana Lo Bello Giovanna D'Intino
Sun 6.00pm	Anna Liggieri Carolina Constable	Robert Dullard Sharron Kotz

WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick
Maureen McLeod & Charmaine Nuqui



We Commemorate
Maria Elisabetta Ciancio, Rachela Ciavarella, Maria Liggieri (1st Anni.), Giovanni & Filippina Paoli and Domenico & Clara Sassini

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

Friar Alessandro at St Patrick's Cathedral



You are invited to an evening of Christmas music & readings with internationally acclaimed Franciscan tenor Friar Alessandro. Friar is on his first ever tour to Australia and will be accompanied by Vivian Choi (Piano) and the Artes Christi Choir & Orchestra.

ENTRY FREE or by Donation with all donations supporting the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. DETAILS: Sat 7th Dec (7.30pm), St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne.

Lourdes Day Mass

Saturday 7th December, 10.30am - St Patrick's Cathedral
A blessing of the sick will follow the celebration of the Liturgy with water brought from the spring at the Shrine of Lourdes.

On this occasion we celebrate Our Lady's appearance to a young girl, Bernadette, in 1858 in Lourdes, France. Through a set of private revelations, Mary revealed herself as 'the Immaculate Conception'. This is an occasion to come together in prayer with those who are sick, infirm or elderly and their carers. Each Mass participant will receive a gift pack containing a small bottle of Lourdes water (sourced from the Grotto), rosary beads and prayer materials. Individual blessings are available

Free online Advent Resource

St Columbans Mission Society has produced an Advent resource 'Lead kindly light' for the four Sundays in November/December (Year A). The resource was inspired by the hymn 'Lead kindly light' by John Henry Cardinal Newman who wrote it after a life seeking on-going conversion. The resource can be found at: <https://www.columban.org.au/media-and-publications/educational-resources/advent-catholic-resource-lead-kindly-light-year-a>

Cleaning Roster: Saturday 7th December 2019

Anna O'Neill/Volunteer
Thank you for your help!

