

SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA



36 Queen Street (PO BOX 23) Moruya NSW 2537

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Web: <http://cg.org/au/Moruya>

Priest: Fr George Azhakath msfs

Secretary: Mrs Pat Anderson

Parish Office hours: Wed. and Fri. 10am—3pm

Mass Times:

Moruya: Sat: Vigil 6.00 pm Sun: 10.00 am

Tue: 5.30 pm. Wed, Thu & Fri: 9.15 am

Sat: Reconciliation: 10—10.30 am

Tuross Mass: Sun. 8am Bodalla: Mass: 2nd Thursday of the month 9.15am. Fifth Sunday of the month 3 pm .

Schools: St Mary's Moruya: 4474 2817

Carroll College Broulee 4471 5600

Caring Group: Tuross Head: 0497 315 534 Moruya: 0431 354 993

Devotions: Daily Rosary after mass. First Friday Adoration & Benediction. 9.45—10.45 am



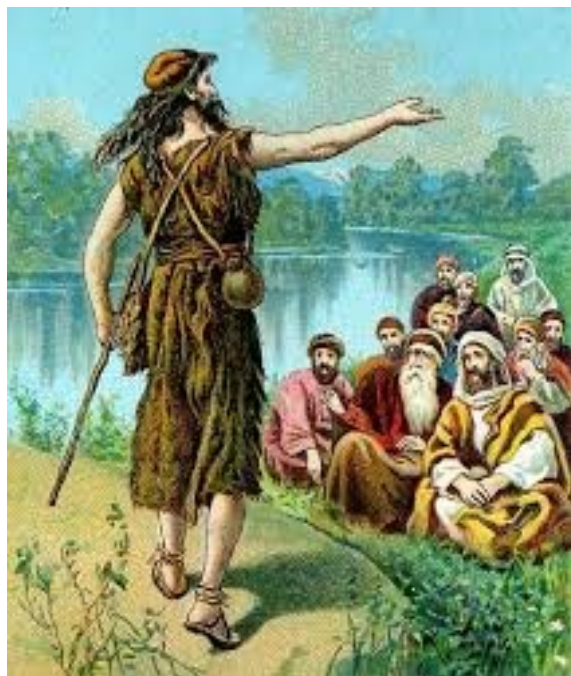
2nd Sunday of Advent

YEAR B

December 5 & 6 2020

The Preaching of John The Baptist

REPENT AND RETURN TO THE LORD



Today's readings remind us that the past, present and future comings of Jesus into the world are the fulfilment of the saving plan of God. Today's scripture readings deal with coming home—Babylonian exiles coming home, *shalom* or perfect peace coming home, our going home with Jesus at his second coming and Jesus the Saviour coming home into our lives during Advent. All the three readings focus on the absolute necessity of our readying ourselves by contrition and penance for Christ's coming. In the first reading, Isaiah assures his people that the Lord will restore their homeland to them and care for them as a shepherd cares for the sheep. Today's responsorial Psalm also speaks of the return of *shalom* (perfect peace) and pardon to the people. The second reading gives an answer to those who scoff at the expectation of the second coming of Christ, explaining that God's ways of reckoning time is different from ours and God has His own reasons for delaying Christ's second coming. It gives us the assurance that Jesus is sure to come again although we do not know when. Hence, while we wait, we should be leading lives of holiness and godliness. Finally, the Gospel tells us that the restoration of the fallen world has already begun, starting with the arrival of John the Baptist, the messenger and forerunner of the Messiah. John speaks of one, more powerful than he...Jesus Christ...who will baptise

us with the Holy Spirit. Each of us has received the gift of the Holy Spirit in baptism and now we are in the Spirit each day, waiting for the return of our Lord. Thus we become John the Baptiste's successors, preparing for Christ's return which will bring a new and perfect world.

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

PRIEST: Lord, Jesus Christ, you are the Saviour of the world. We ask you to bless this advent wreath which we honour as a remembrance of your first coming at Bethlehem and your final coming in glory. Strengthen our hearts with the example of your love that we may receive you with joy and gladness on the day of our redemption when you will come to reign as King for ever.

Prayer for lighting the candle.

ALL: O God, we remember the promise of your Son. As light from this candle, may the blessings of Christ come upon us brightening our way and guiding us by His truth. May Christ our Saviour bring light into the darkness of our world and to us as we wait for His coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(One candle is lighted and then the following prayer is said)

ALL: O Emmanuel, Jesus Christ desire of every nation, Saviour of all people, come and dwell among us.

PRIEST: During this Advent season may almighty God let the light of his Son shine upon us. May he fill our hearts with joy at his coming and lead us to life everlasting. Amen.

CHRISTMAS MASSES AT SACRED HEART PARISH MAROUYA & DISTRICTS.

Christmas Eve Vigil: 6pm. Outdoors. St Mary's School. (Bring chair/rug)

Christmas Day: Moruya - 8am & 10am. Tuross Head: 8am. Bodalla: 9.30am.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Is 40:1-5. 9-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

‘Console my people, console them’
says your God.
‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem
and call to her
that her time of service is ended,
that her sin is atoned for,
that she has received from the hand of the Lord
double punishment for all her crimes.’

A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness
a way for the Lord.

Make a straight highway for our God
across the desert.

Let every valley be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
let every cliff become a plain,
and the ridges a valley;
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed
and all mankind shall see it;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’

Go up on a high mountain,
joyful messenger to Zion.
Shout with a loud voice,
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.
Shout without fear,
say to the towns of Judah,
‘Here is your God.’

Here is the Lord coming with power,
his arm subduing all things to him.
The prize of his victory is with him,
his trophies all go before him.
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,
gathering lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

This is the Word of the Lord,

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

(R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. **(R.)**
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. **(R.)**
3. The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. **(R.)**

Second Reading: 2 Pt 3:8-14

A reading from the second letter of St Peter

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, ‘a day’ can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Lk 3:4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mk 1:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;
he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, ‘Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.’
This is the Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

THE WORD AND LIFE this week...

1. Making use of Advent as a season of reflection and preparation. We are invited by the Church to prepare for Christmas. Christmas is the time for reflection and personal renewal in preparation for the coming of Jesus in to our lives. Through his epistle today, St. Peter reminds us, on the one hand, of God's great desire to come into our lives and, on the other, of our need to be prepared for that event when it happens. We want God's help and comfort but we are not prepared to change our ways to enhance genuine conversion. For God to come to us, we also need to go to him. We need to let every day become Christmas and the "Day of the Lord" for each one of us.

2. Do we accept Jesus or reject him during this Christmas season? It was their stubborn pride and self-centeredness, which blinded the eyes of the Jews and kept them from recognising Jesus as their long awaited Messiah. The same stubborn pride, the same exaggerated sense of our own dignity, blinds the intellects of many of us today who not only fail to accept Christ and His good tidings, but also prevent others from accepting him. The mad rush for earthly possessions and survival of human society, the rejection of all things spiritual in man's make-up, the general incitement of the animal instincts in man...all these are signs of the rejection of Christ. Let us accept Jesus as our personal savior and Lord during this Christmas season and remain, or become, true Christians in our daily conduct. Let us use these days of preparation for Christmas to prepare ourselves for his daily coming and his Second Coming, remembering that it will occur for each one of us on the day of our death.

3. Being preachers of the good news: John's preaching reminds us also of our important task of announcing Christ to others through our lives at home and in the community. When we show real love, kindness, mercy and a spirit of forgiveness we are announcing the truth that Christ is with us. Thus our lives become a kind of Bible which others can read. John the Baptist invites us to turn this advent season into a real spiritual homecoming by making the necessary preparations for the arrival of the Saviour into our lives.

Entrance Antiphon: O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

Communion Antiphon: Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: Lord, we thank you for coming into our hearts in Communion. We believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. You are our life and our hope. Draw us more deeply to yourself and transform our hearts through your abiding love. May we come to know Sunday as a special day of faith, the day of our Risen Lord. May our celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday consecrate this day to you. **O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, All Praise and All Thanksgiving be every moment thine.**

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND HOUSE BOUND: We continue to pray and extend our support to those who are in near lock down at Banksia Village, IRT Moruya; and the sick members of our Parish: Gail Fenton, John Gerber, Ben Pollock, Catherine Hulse, Kathleen Ebbelaar, Carmel Trenholme, Dale Moore, Gerry Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Jean Marrion, Monique Driver, Ester and Peter Morgan, Andy McCosker, Paul Croese, Pete Podgorczyk, Pauline & Peter Morgan, Trish Tarlington and Ron Parnell. Love and prayers to all of them for a speedy recovery. Please advise the Office if you would like to be added to or taken off the list for prayers.

ADVENT REFLECTION GROUP: Gathering every Tuesday after 5.30pm Mass. All welcome. .

YEAR 6 GRADUATION MASS: Will be held on Wednesday 9th December at 10.30am.

CHRISTMAS ROSTER: Please indicate on the form in the foyer if you are available for the various ministries over the Christmas period.

2021 ROSTERS. If you would like to be involved in one of the various Rosters in the parish next year, please indicate on the sheet provided or advise the Office. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer are able to help in a ministry, please let the office know. We are grateful to everyone who helps out and hope you are able to attend the Parish Christmas Party on Thursday 5 pm so we can all join in thanking you.

ANGLICAN CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH: This year because of COVID restrictions, there will NOT be the traditional lunch as served in past years. However, all are still invited to come along and join in with others sharing some sandwiches and Christmas cake as they gather outside the hall after 11am. ALL WELCOME!



1. PARISH SECRETARY POSITION: People are invited to apply for the position of Parish Secretary for Sacred Heart Parish, Moruya. This is a part-time permanent position 12 hours per week, Wednesdays and Fridays 9am—3pm. **ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS:** Experience with Microsoft suite & database packages; strong communication and liaison skills; strong organizational skills; ability to work in a team environment and show personal initiative; Desire to share in the mission of Christ in the Catholic tradition. **SALARY** will be subject to Clerk Award Level 4 rates. Please email your application (including resume) to George.azhakath@cg.org.au Applications addressed to Fr George Azhakath, must be received by Friday 22nd January, 2021. Copy of duties available on request. The position to commence 3rd March, 2021.

BODALLA MASS THIS THURSDAY 10TH DECEMBER AT 9.15 AM.



Paddy Pollock, John Tarlington, Jan Morris, Ray Timms, Han de Grave, and John Munce celebrated their 80th birthday together.

SINCERE THANKS:

A big 'thank you' to Dawn Head who has been doing the flowers for over 40 years. We wish her well and also Lorraine Stephens who has been taking communion to the sick, helping with the linen and also helping with the flowers. They have done an excellent job. Our prayers and blessings to them and their families. *From all of us at Sacred Heart Moruya.* If anyone can help in the future on this roster, please advise Louise or the Office.



Happy Birthday to Rhonda Zammit

who celebrated on 3rd December.

Best wishes to all celebrating a birthday, especially the 80 year olds We thank God for the gift of you.



Animals in our Garden!



PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Bar-B-Que Christmas party will be held on Thursday 10th December at 5.00pm in the Church Grounds.

All are welcome,

SPECIAL INVITATION TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS.

Big 'thank you' to all volunteers who have helped in a Ministry throughout the year.

We will provide the meat.

Donations of salads or sweets would be appreciated if possible.

A raffle will be held in conjunction with this event.

There will be a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize drawn.

DONATIONS TOWARDS PRIZES APPRECIATED

Preferably Christmas Hamper

Please leave your items at the parish office.

BRING A CHAIR OR A RUG.

