

## TEMORA MISSION AREA

### Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Ardlethan/Sacred Heart Ariah Park

Website: [www.cg.org.au/ardlethan](http://www.cg.org.au/ardlethan) Email: [Ardlethan@cg.org.au](mailto:Ardlethan@cg.org.au)

### Sacred Heart Temora

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Parish Priest Fr Sijo Jose

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### St Therese Barellan

**In our Prayers:** Robyn Richards, Neville Caldwell,

**For our Deceased:** Bruce Baker, Ken Horan, Neville Popple, Will Mills, (*anniversaries*) Deceased Family, Friends, Victims of war, violence, accidents and natural disasters



### 28 January

Ariah Park 6.00 p.m. Mass

### Mass

Temora 10.00 a.m.

### Liturgy

Ardlethan 9.00 a.m. Barellan 10.00 a.m.



### Reflection

**The Time has Come.** These are the first recorded words of Jesus in Mark's Gospel. In a variety of contexts we have probably used them ourselves when we felt that an important decision could be delayed no longer. At some point in our life, perhaps even today, the decision in question will be whether to follow Jesus wholeheartedly or in a superficial way.

### Thank you Fr Alex

As your time with us draws to a close we would like to thank you Fr Alex for your presence with us, one that we have appreciated and enjoyed. May you continue to experience the blessings and companionship of our good God as you return to your ministries in Canberra.

### An Australia Day Reflection ~ South Land of the Holy Spirit

*"And we are a 'Land Down Under'.*

Australia is a place to which people have been attracted over the millennia to forge a new future. First, the original inhabitants coming down through Asia, and then the settlers, migrants and refugees of the last 240 years. (*Of course, the convicts were a less voluntary part of the movement of peoples!*)

Most were attracted by a vision of a different future, a future where human beings could relate to each other differently to the old order in Europe, and more recently in the Middle East or Africa or Asia or Central or South America. People were and are prepared to take the risk of being dis-located, of re-locating because of that vision of a different future, particularly a future not determined by the violence of feud and warfare which had characterised their homelands for generations, centuries, and even millennia. ....

Those mapping expeditions gave us our name 'Australia'? De Quiros, the great Portuguese explorer of the 16th Century, set out on a quest for 'Terra Australia del Espiritu Santo', South Land of the Holy Spirit. Right from the start, the full title of our land was bound up with the Holy Spirit. I am confident that 'Australia' is a work of the Holy Spirit, no chance event in world history but a gathering of peoples for a Divine purpose.



One of the most distinctive works of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost was the breaking down of ethnic, tribal and language barriers between people. That is why Christianity spread like wildfire across the Roman Empire.

They have come, in their millions, to escape the histories of societies where everyone 'knew their place', to a land where we relate to each other for our inherent worth. Hence the great Australian characteristic: 'egalitarianism'. Have we responded to the Holy Spirit perfectly? No. Our treatment of the earliest inhabitants of this land was shameful and is not yet fully remedied. Our treatment of those genuinely fleeing persecution in their homelands falls short of what God desires. But on the whole, we are creating a version of the Kingdom of God under the Southern Cross of which we can be proud.

So, Australians All, let us rejoice."

*Fr Michael Tate*



## Australia Day

### Prayer for Australia Day

God of Australia .... We bring you our gratitude for the diversity and wealth of this land and its people; for its weathered old mountains, fertile valleys, and vast plains; for its riches of mine and agriculture, forest, and grazing lands; for the first Australians, who know and love this continent with an intimate, profound

sensitivity; for the courage, vision and sacrifice of the early settlers; for the diverse races who now call Australia home: For these and all your gifts we offer you, O Lord, our joyful, thankful hearts.

*Bruce Prewer*

**Roster 28 January**

Leader: Linda

Reader: Tracey