

22nd December, 2024, Fourth Sunday of Advent / C

## TEMORA MISSION AREA

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

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### Sacred Heart Temora

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### St Therese Barellan

**In our Prayers:** Bernard Jardine, Barry Carroll, Robyn Richards, Neville Caldwell.

**For our Deceased:** Adden Baker, Carmel Carroll, Neil Thomson, Deceased Family, Friends, Victims of war, violence, accidents and natural disasters

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Dec 24

Christmas Liturgy

Ardlethan 7.00 p.m.



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**Reminder: NO MASS SUNDAY 29TH DECEMBER**  
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**Reflection** - *Blessed is she who Believed.* From Bethlehem, the least of the clans of Judah, and from a peasant girl, Mary, one of the least of the Jewish people, God prepared a body for Jesus, the saviour of the world. As we rejoice in the saviour who has come to visit us, we also join Elizabeth in praising Mary for her faith, her love and her obedience.

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Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Luke 1:42

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### **Advent Wreath Prayer—Fourth Week**

**ALL:** *Loving God, we thank you for your gift of love – shown to us perfectly in Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming by loving others as Christ loves us. We ask this in the name of the one born in Bethlehem, Jesus our Lord.*

**All: Amen.**





Today we light the **Angel's candle**, *purple candle*.

Today, finally, **all four Advent Candles** will be lit in sequence. The Prophets' candle, then the Bethlehem candle, then the Shepherds' candle and, finally, the last purple candle will be lit. The **last candle** is the Angels' Candle and it serves to remind us that the Angels were the heralds of Jesus' birth. Together, all four candles symbolize that Jesus is the Light of the world.

### **Fourth Week of Advent - Slow Steps to Christmas— Mary & Joseph**

As you will see in the crib at St John's Mary and Joseph have arrived – just like they arrived in Bethlehem all those years ago to be registered for the census. “While they were there the time came for Mary to have her child and she gave birth to a son. ... The angel of the Lord appeared and the glory of the Lord shone round the shepherds. .. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you, he is Christ the Lord.” (*Luke 2: 7, 9, 11*)



Richard Rohr writes, “Why do we love and admire kingdom people like Mary and Joseph, and then not imitate their faith journeys, their courage, their non-reassurance by the religious system? These were two laypeople who totally trusted their inner experience of God and who followed it to Bethlehem and beyond. Mary and Joseph walked in courage and blind faith that their own experience was true—with no one to reassure them they were right. Their only safety net was God's love and mercy, a safety net they must have tried out many times, or else they would never have been able to fall into it so gracefully”

Adapted from [\*Preparing for Christmas with Richard Rohr\*](#), pp. 66-68

### **Prayer (*The Collect of Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year C*)**

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. .



**Reminder: Community Christmas Eve Service** - we will have a service at **7pm, December 24th**. All community members are welcome please pass this message on. Thanks

Roster Dec 24th

Leader: Tracey

Reader:

Ex. Minister : John