

27th November 1st Advent Year A

TEMORA MISSION AREA

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

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Parish Priest Fr Sijo Jose Email: Sijo.Jose@cg.org.au

St Therese Barellan

In our Prayers: Frances Vince, Jim Bonny, Barry Carroll, Neville Caldwell, Ray Fairman, Kashaya Kuemmel,

For our Deceased: Our family and friends and those who have died recently from tragedies and natural disasters

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December 3-4 Ariah Park 6.00 p.m. (Liturgy)

Mass Temora 6.00 p.m.

Mass Ardlethan 8.00 a.m. Barellan 10.00 a.m.



Reflection

Walk in God's light. We do not know when Christ will come again in glory. Nor do we know the day of our death. This should not worry us. What is important is to live this day well by being respectful and loving towards each other and seeking to walk in God's light. If we do this, we will be ready whenever God calls us to eternal life.

Advent Wreath ~ what is that all about?

A short explanation by Fr Kevin Walsh, Sydney

The Origins of the Advent Wreath

The origins of the Advent wreath are found in the folk practices of the pre-Christian Germanic peoples who, during the cold December darkness of Eastern Europe, gathered wreaths of evergreen and lighted fires as signs of hope in a coming spring and renewed light. Christians kept these popular traditions alive, and, by the 16th century, used these symbols to celebrate their Advent hope in Christ, the everlasting Light. From Germany the use of the Advent wreath spread to other parts of the Christian world.

Traditionally, the wreath is made of four candles in a circle of evergreens. The circle represents Eternity – God's life and love. The evergreen leaves represent Life as we wait for the coming of our Redeemer.

Advent...a time of waiting, a time of hope. This waiting time gives us the chance to think about our relationships, our commitments, our challenges and how we can make room for God, so that we can be people of hope.

Candle of Hope As we begin the season of Advent, we look for signs of hope in our world. People helping each other. Walls of separation being broken down. Family and friends gathering again to celebrate Christmas. Recovery from floods and cessation from war... We find signs of hope in a young family,

travelling a long way from home, expecting a baby and being surrounded by the compassion of strangers. We light the first candle for the hope we find in the world, as we wait to celebrate the coming of Christ into our world and into our lives.

Advent Wreath Prayer

All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven. May the light that shines forth from the candle illumine our way as we journey towards Christmas. We ask this through Christ who is the Light of the World. Amen

We do not proclaim the Gloria during Advent

Christmas Liturgy Times

Ariah Park Vigil—6.00 p.m. 24 December

Barellan—7.00 p.m. 24 December

Ardlethan—8.00 a.m. 25 December

United Nations Day Disability

The theme this year is ***“Transformative solutions for inclusive development: the role of innovation in fuelling an accessible and equitable world“.***

The annual observance of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) on 3 December was proclaimed in 1992 by the United Nations General Assembly resolution 47/3. The observance of the Day aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities.

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/2022/10/international-day-of-persons-with-disabilities-2022/>

Advent Reflection

Jan Richardson writes:

“I have also come to know in my bones the fierce hope that lives so deeply in Advent—a hope that draws us into a season luminous with mystery and possibility. At the heart of Advent is the story of love that comes to us, that crosses a seemingly impossible distance to meet us, that enters into our life and every single thing it holds. No matter what.”

On That Night,

A Blessing

Jan Richardson

On that night when you are holding your very last hope, thinking to let it go as too small to be saved or sanctified;

on that night when you turn away at last from the far horizon over which you had thought your life would come to find you;

on that night, believe me, this is where

the ache will give way to the mystery and the blessing that seemed so distant will quietly come to meet you, holding your heart in its two luminous hands.

Roster 4 December

Reader: Bernard