

TEMORA MISSION AREA

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

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

St Therese Barellan

In our Prayers: Frances and Robin Vince, Barry Carroll, Neville Caldwell, Ray Fairman, Kashaya Kuemmel,

For our Deceased: Recently deceased, those who have died tragically and from Covid 19; Marlene Caldwell (*anniversary*)

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11—12 December Aria Park 6.00 p.m.

Mass Temora 6.00 p.m.

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

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Latest Protocols see <https://cgcatholic.org.au/>

Reflection

Prepare a Way for the Lord. The season of Advent is a time in which we prepare for the Lord's coming. We prepare for the feast of Christmas which commemorates his first coming as a child in Bethlehem. And we prepare also for his final coming in glory. We do this by heeding John the Baptist's call to repentance, and by striving for 'peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'.

Advent Wreath Prayer - For Second Week of Advent

Today we light the second Advent candle – the candle of Faith or sometimes called the Bethlehem Candle as it serves to remind us of the birthplace of the Messiah.

We pray: *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.*

For personal prayer

Father when we pray we expect you will give us everything we ask for, but sometimes we do not get what we want. Many expected Jesus would have a royal birth but instead he was born in an old stable. Help us to understand that following Jesus is often difficult and not what we expect, Amen.

“The Lord is born, the Redeemer who has come to save us. Yes, it is a celebration... [but] we always face the danger, we will always have within us the temptation to make

Christmas mundane, worldly. ... When the celebration stops being about contemplation—a beautiful family celebration with Jesus at the centre—it begins to be a worldly celebration: all about shopping, presents, this and that... and the Lord remains there, forgotten. Even in our own life: yes, He is born, at Bethlehem, but [then what?]... Advent is [a time] for purifying the memory of this time past, of that dimension.” ... “Because the Lord who came then will return! He will return! He will return to ask us: “How did your life go?” It will be a personal encounter.

Pope Francis

Fr Richard Leonard sj writes, ‘So, as we all wait together in line this Advent let's say yes to all that salvation holds for us: yes to God's personal love; yes to Jesus' kingdom of justice and peace; yes to every opportunity to serve the Gospel and yes to knowing that our God is a companion to us at every step of our journey, even in the most unexpected ways. Scottish poet **John Bell** expresses it this way:

‘Light looked down and saw the darkness.

“I will go there”, said light.

Peace looked down and saw war.

“I will go there”, said peace.

Love looked down and saw hatred.

“I will go there”, said love.

So he,

the Lord of Light,

the Prince of Peace,

the King of Love,

came down and crept in beside us.’



School Christmas Service—TBA

Reflection

“In today’s readings we hear four voices encouraging people to image a good future that God has in store for them. They all invite us to image the best and then act accordingly, ... in all this we need each other’s help and encouragement. We need to call out the best in each other like Paul does with the converts and rejoice with people in the changes they have made for the better. ... If our community is to be constantly converted to the Lord we all have to breathe in encouragement and breathe it out. Perhaps this Advent we could exercise that encouragement in a simple, practical way. That will be a change for the better. In the words of Cardinal St Newman: **“To be human is to change. To be perfect is to have changed often.”**

Fr Denis McBride cssr

Christmas Mass Times

Ariah Park—6.00 p.m. 24 December (*Liturgy*)

Temora 6.00 p.m. 24 December

Barellan 8.15 p.m. 24 December

Ardlethan—8.00 a.m. Christmas Day



Roster 12 December

Leader: Suzanne

Reader: Mae

Minister: Ian

Welcomer: Sr Maureen