

8 December 2019, 2nd Advent Year A

TEMORA MISSION AREA

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

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St Therese Barellan Pastoral Associate: Sr Janet Glass rsj

In our Prayers: Tracey Passlow, Ian Bonny, Fr Francis Carroll, Ray Fairman, Kashaya Kuemmel, Maxine Keshan,

For our Deceased: Recently deceased, those who have died from terrorism and natural disasters, community members, relatives and friends



<u>15—16 December</u>	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 ← →

God's Kingdom is near. John the Baptist urged the people to prepare for the coming of the Kingdom by repenting of their sins. Their Baptism by John in the Jordan River was an important ritual act of sorrow. But they also had to express their sorrow by reforming their lives. The Sacrament of Reconciliation and right living are excellent means through which we can prepare for the feast of Christmas.

We do not proclaim the Gloria during Advent

Advent Wreath

The second candle to be lit is the **Bethlehem Candle** and it serves to remind us of the birthplace of the Messiah.

School Christmas Service

It was a joy on Friday to welcome the children from our local school as we celebrated the wonder-filled feastday of Christmas. Thank you Bruce for setting up, your assistance during the service as well as Eileen and Robyn for your presence with us. May we keep the children and their families in our prayers during this Advent season.

Church Cleaning

After our Liturgy on **22 December** we will take the opportunity to clean the church. Thank you in anticipation to those who will be able to assist. Thank you Andrina for your dusting of the church in readiness for the School Christmas Service and thank you Bruce for tidying the grounds.

Another word of appreciation to those who set up the crib last Sunday.

Christmas Mass Times

Ariah Park—6.00 p.m. (*Vigil*)

Ardlethan 8.00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Fr Sijo will be available after Mass next Sunday, 15 December, for those who would like to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Plenary Council

May we continue to pray for the success of the Plenary Council as it continues its listening and discernment processes.

Confirmation 2020

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in Ardlethan on Sunday, **21 June**.

Prayer for the Blessing of Rain

Eternal God, in wisdom and love you created our earth to sustain us and give us life. We turn to you now in faith, hope and love, asking you to look with favour on our drought-stricken land, on our starving animals, on our failing crops. Strengthen, sustain and give new heart to our farmers and to all who are affected by drought; be with those who support them. In your loving providence, send abundant rain and restore our parched earth. Father of all compassion, hear our prayer through Jesus Christ your Son, in whom the promise of new life has dawned, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, the Lord the giver of life:

Renew your faithful people; Renew the face of the earth.

Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Mary, help of Christians – Pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop - Pray for us.

Let us Reflect:

*Each year we are brought to the season of Advent,
a time when we focus again on the gift of God,
Jesus, who enters each life continually.*

In today's Gospel John the Baptist reminds us to prepare for this coming.

How aware am I of this gift of God?

How prepared am I to allow the teachings of Jesus to influence my life and my way of relating and living?

Meister Eckhart, a mystic of the 12th-13th century asks:

“What is the point of Jesus being born in Bethlehem if he is not born in our hearts.”

Let us sharpen our awareness of this mystery and reality in our lives.

Roster: 15 December	Acolyte: John	Reader: Mae
Minister: Paul	Gifts: Griffin Family	Welcomer: Robyn