



# Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



## PARISH BULLETIN SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B, 10 DECEMBER 2023



### PARISH VISION STATEMENT 2004



"Created by God, Loved by Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit ... We come together inspired by our patrons, St Mary the Virgin and St Joseph, her husband, to worship, study and serve."

**St Mary's Bombala  
St Joseph's Delegate  
St Peter's Corrowong**



### PRAYER INTENTIONS

#### POPES INTENTION DECEMBER For Persons with Disabilities



We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

We pray for rural dioceses and parishes struggling with limited resources, that they will find creative ways to build community and continue proclaiming the Gospel.

We pray for all who dedicate their lives ceaselessly to the work of justice and peace, that their passion for a new world will call us to a change of heart.

We pray for the church around the world. May Christian communities everywhere welcome this new year of grace with joy and thanksgiving.



We pray for our sick and infirm family, friends and parishioners; may the light of God's presence bring them healing and comfort:

Donna Nash, Sally-Ann Thompson, Jane Nash, Keith & Barbara Brownlie, Wendy White, Barry Reed, Jim Parkes, Ashton, Danielle & Stewart Hurley, John & Anna Vincent, Marlene Kennedy, Kim Peisley, Val Perkins, Natalie Lestone, Meryl Knight, Jen Farrell, Tom Kennedy, Patricia Guthrie, John Elliott, Betty Cowell, Peter Hopkins, Heather Whitby, Larry Bedingfield, Erika & Margo Birmingham



### PARISH CALENDAR

- Mon:** Saint Damasus
- Tue:** Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Wed:** Year 6 Graduation & End Year Mass Bombala 9.30am  
Saint Lucy
- Thu:** Saint John of the Cross
- Fri:**
- Sat:** Ecumenical Christmas Carols Delegate 2pm
- Sun:** Mass Delegate 8am  
Morning Tea to follow  
Mass Bombala 10am

### PARISH CONTACTS

#### PARISH PRIEST

Father Mark Croker  
02 8331 7609

#### ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

02 6458 3776

#### School Principal

Mrs Susan Tighe

#### PARISH COUNCIL

#### Chair Parish Council

Mrs Anna Vincent

02 6458 5208

#### Chair Finance Committee

#### Bursar - Mr John Vincent

02 6458 5208

#### PARISH WEBSITE

[www.cg.org.au/bombala](http://www.cg.org.au/bombala)

#### PARISH BULLETIN

Mrs Anna Vincent

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Ms Chris Page 02 6458 4885

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Delegate

[joeysdelegate@gmail.com](mailto:joeysdelegate@gmail.com)



Please assist the team by having items in by Wednesday pm.



### REMEMBERING THEIR FAITH AND LOVE

#### Recently Deceased

Joyce Cotterill, Jenny Moser

#### December Anniversaries

Carol Badewitz, Vincent Crotty

Del Duffell, Tori Finnane

Kitty Guthrie, Nola Hehir

Jareth Hillyer, Brian Murphy

Toby Mustard, Brian Nash

Kevin O'Mara, Dot Ogilvy

Helen Parkes, Mort Smith

Jim Twigg



*"We have loved them in Life:  
Let us not forget them in death."*



*"In the twilight of life, God will not judge us on our earthly possessions and human success, but rather on how much we have loved."* Saint John of the Cross

Quotes and Thoughts

**SAINT MARY  
OF THE CROSS  
MACKILLOP**



Rest assured that I shall not forget any of you. (7.12.1899)  
Never is God nearer to us than when danger threatens. (11.12.1880)  
Forgive from your heart anyone who has pained you. (12.12.1890)  
*Death of Maggie MacKillop, Mary's sister, 13.12.1872.  
Mary MacKillop returns to Sydney, December 1902.*

## CANDLE LITURGY



### ADVENT WEEK 2 - THE 2ND CANDLE IS PURPLE AND REPRESENTS PEACE

**CELEBRANT:** As it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah: A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God. *(2nd candle is lit)*

**ALL:** God of light, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. When we worry, are anxious or feel overwhelmed, help us to seek quiet spaces and trusted companions who will listen to us. May these times, places and people of peace remind us that you come to us to be one of us, with us and for us. Amen.

### FINDING GOD IN OUR WORLD A summons

This December let us all by our loving actions and attitudes give witness to the Good News.

**Weekly Prayer Intention** - We pray for those in prison. May they be treated fairly and be encouraged by the hope of freedom and new life.

**Daily Prayer Intention** - We pray for young people completing their secondary schooling or tertiary degrees this year. May they be blessed with the opportunity to choose a rewarding path in life.

### Prayer of the Faithful

*Response: (R)*

*Lord, hear our prayer*



**CELEBRANT/LEADER:** Dear friends, the word of God encourages us to wait in hope and peace for the day of salvation. Full of expectation, let us pray for the coming of God's reign.

**READER: For** Pope Francis and the bishops of the Church. May they continue to open our hearts and minds to the knowledge and proper understanding of God's love for us. We pray to the Lord. *(R)*

**For** church communities around the world. May they be a strong and comforting sign of God's saving love for the whole of creation. We pray to the Lord. *(R)*

**For** world leaders. On this United Nations Day of Human Rights, may they pledge to respect the God-given dignity of all human beings and uphold their fundamental rights. We pray to the Lord. *(R)*

**For** the fragile and diminishing Christian population of the Holy Land. May Christians there remain strong in faith and bear witness before all to the peace of Christ. We pray to the Lord. *(R)*

**For** fire-fighters and emergency service personnel as summer approaches. May they stay safe themselves as they labour to protect the community from dangerous events. We pray to the Lord. *(R)*

**For** all members of our faith community. May we accompany one another in prayer and peace through this Advent season of divine promise. We pray to the Lord. *(R)*

**For** the sick of our parish and for all who have asked for our prayers. For those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May God welcome them into the eternal kingdom. We pray to the Lord. *(R)*

**For** Our Lady's intercession for all our needs and especially for the people of Ukraine and the Middle East. We pray **Hail Mary**...

**CELEBRANT/LEADER:** God of all comfort and consolation, you never cease to renew our hope for the transformation of the world. Free us from fear and help us play our part in your work of love. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. **AMEN**

### LOOKING BACK 97 YEARS AGO

January 1926

### CONCERT AT CATHCART

One of the largest audiences ever held in the Cathcart School of Arts was seen on Friday night last, when cars from all parts of the surrounding districts brought large numbers to hear a concert organised by Rev Father John A Roche (Bombala). The hall was taxed to its utmost, and from the great enthusiasm displayed everyone enjoyed the concert. Father Roche said he was anxious to make the concert a success, and was pleased to see such a large audience present. Cathcart was a small town, with a very small Catholic population, but he could not find words adequate enough to express his gratitude to all denominations for uniting to make the event such a huge success. He complimented the Rev. JC Mathers (Methodist minister of Bombala) for coming out ten miles from town and helping the success of the concert by contributing several songs. Mr AJ Ashby (editor of the Delegate Argus), Mr C Coulter (manager of Bombala CBC Bank), Mr FA Gee (motor car proprietor of Bombala), Mr ET Sparks (Delegate Post Office), Mrs CF Morris (Delegate Hotel), Mrs Greenwood (Cathcart) and Mr E Pearson (Bombala) as well as all other artists on the programme. With the exception of three, all were members of different Protestant churches. People were present from Candelo, Wyndham, Rocky Hall, Delegate, Bombala, Bibbenluke and Nimmitabel. At the end of the concert the hall was cleared and dancing carried on till the early hours of Saturday morning.

### POPE FRANCIS HAS MADE THE FOLLOWING TWEET



Pope Francis  
@Pontifex

...

Let us continue to pray for the serious situation in Israel and Palestine. It is the ordinary people who suffer. Let us ask for peace. And may we not forget the dear Ukrainian people, who are suffering so much and are still at war.

As the Parish of Bombala-Delegate we acknowledge that we walk upon the traditional lands of First Nations peoples. We pay our respects to them and recognise the continuing gift of their culture to the life and spirit of Australia.



# HYMNS - ONE LICENSE 3642645A

## 1. Bring Forth the Kingdom *Marty Haugen*

1. You are salt for the earth, O people:  
Salt for the Kingdom of God!  
Share the flavour of life, O people:  
Life in the Kingdom of God! **(R)**

**Refrain: Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy,  
Bring forth the Kingdom of peace;  
Bring forth the Kingdom of justice,  
Bring forth the City of God!**

2. You are a light on the hill, O people:  
Light for the City of God!  
Shine so holy and bright, O people:  
Shine for the Kingdom of God! **(R)**

## 2. Like a Shepherd *Saint Louis Jesuits*

**Refrain: Like a shepherd He feeds His flock  
And gathers the lambs in His arms  
Holding them carefully close to His heart  
Leading them home**

1. Say to the cities of Judah  
"Prepare the way of the Lord"  
Go to the mountain top, lift your voice  
"Jerusalem, here is your God". **R**

2. I myself will shepherd them  
For others have led them astray  
The lost I will rescue and heal their wounds  
And pasture them, giving them rest. **R**



**We want this Church  
to be here for our  
kids and grandkids  
and their kids  
thereafter.**

### NO CERTAINTY – NO ASSURANCE



When Bishop Philip Brooks, author of "O, Little Town of Bethlehem," was seriously ill, he requested no friends come to see him. But when an acquaintance of his named Robert Ingersoll, a famous anti-Christian propagandist, came to see him he allowed him to come in right away.

Ingersoll said, "I appreciate this very much. Especially when you aren't letting any of your close friends see you." Bishop Brooks responded, "Oh, I'm confident of seeing them in the next world, but this may be my last chance to see you."



**Christmas Eve: 5pm – Delegate, Merimbula  
6pm - Cooma  
7pm - Bombala, Eden  
8pm - Nimmitabel  
9pm - Pambula**

**Christmas Day: 8am - Adaminaby, Berridale  
10am - Cooma & Jindabyne**



Bombala

## Christmas Cards

**Packets of 8 cards for \$4**

## Upcoming Events



**Year 6 Graduation & End of Year Mass  
St Mary's Church Bombala  
Wednesday 13 December 2023 9.30am**



**Delegate Ecumenical Christmas Carols  
St Joseph's Church/School Centre  
Saturday 16 December 2023 2pm**

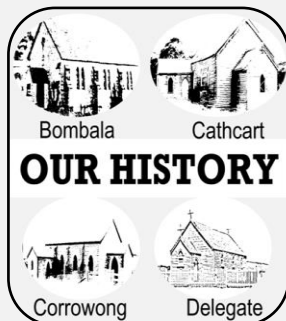
## The Universal Declaration of Human Rights turns 75



10 December 2023 marks the 75th anniversary of one of the world's most groundbreaking global pledges: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

This landmark document enshrines the inalienable rights that everyone is entitled to as a human being - regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

## BOMBALA-DELEGATE CATHOLIC PARISH - IN THE MONARO MISSION *Country of the Bidwell, Ngarigo and Yuin People*



The first Catholics arrived in the area from 1826 as assigned servants (convicts). Scottish, Irish, and later German immigrants built up the presence from 1833. Father Patrick Newman was the first resident priest in 1864. Prior to this, priests travelled from Queanbeyan and Cooma. Churches were built in Bombala 1867 & 1942 (St Mary's), Delegate 1877 & 1915 (St Joseph's), Cathcart 1878 (St John's) and Corrowong 1894 (St Peter's). Schools opened in 1866-1886 (privately Catholic), Bombala 1886 and Delegate 1921. In 1888 the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart, North Sydney (St Mary MacKillop) arrived and provided continuous ministry for 133 years. Monaro & South Coast Parishes were transferred from the Sydney Archdiocese to Goulburn Diocese in 1917 and to the Archdiocese of Canberra-Goulburn in 1948. Our first priestly vocation was Fr Ernest Baragry who was ordained as a Missionary of the Sacred Heart in 1941. Delegate was a Parish in its own right from 1955-1973. 2008 saw the welcoming of the World Youth Day Cross & Icon and the Consecration of St Mary's Church Bombala following repairs and restoration. St Joseph's Church Delegate celebrated its Centenary in 2015.



# Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



**Second Sunday of Advent, Year B**

**10 December 2023**

## First Reading **Is 40:1-5. 9-11**

*Prepare the way for the Lord.*

'Console my people, console them' says your God.  
'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.'  
A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.  
Make a straight highway for our God across the desert.  
Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley;  
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'  
Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion.  
Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem.  
Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.'  
Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8**

**(R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.**

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people.  
His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. (R.)
3. The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

## Second Reading **2 Pt 3:8-14**

*We wait for new heavens and a new earth.*

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

## Gospel Acclamation **Lk 3:4. 6**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:**

**all people shall see the salvation of God.**

**Alleluia!**

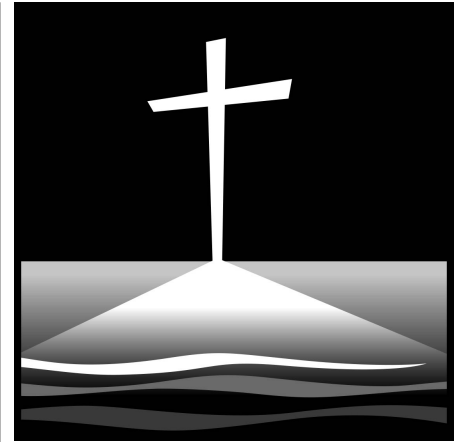
## Gospel **Mk 1:1-8**

*Make straight the paths of the Lord.*

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;  
he will prepare your way.  
A voice cries in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight,

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'



## Reflection by **Dianne Bergant CSA**

In the wilderness God's salvation comes to a broken people. In the midst of what is seemingly an impossible situation, hope emerges with vigour. In this context, hope is an openness to surprise, the surprise that God is in no way limited to the imaginings of human minds and the consequences of human history. This is the kind of hope that is proclaimed in the wilderness by John; it is the kind of hope that trusts that from the impossible, God can work a new creation.

There is something of a time warp in Christianity. What is future is made present. The prophetic oracle announces the future as if it is already happening. This sense of the future-present prompts new ways of living. As the future takes root in human lives, the present is transformed into a new creation and the Day of the Lord appears.

God's future comes through the wilderness into the broken city and inspires a broken-hearted people. The contrite heart is a broken heart, an emptied-out heart, a hope-filled heart. It is a heart that is unencumbered by the past and that lives currently in the passing of time and the fragility of being alive. The contrite, broken heart can be filled only by what is promised in the future. This is the paradox of Advent. In the middle of the wilderness, God works the impossible in those whose hearts are ready for the surprise of hope.

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