



Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



PARISH BULLETIN: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C - 12 DECEMBER 2021



"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." Parish Vision Statement, 2004



Prayer Intentions

SPECIAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY

Popes Intention

Catechists

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

We pray for protection for all from the pandemic, especially this new variant.

We pray that we will show love and care through our acceptance of the regulations placed upon us by authorities during this time of uncertainty.

We pray for our teachers and students as they finish the year and go on holidays - may they be kept safe.

We pray for our deceased loved ones and those who have died recently.

We pray for peace in the world, especially those areas where conflict still exists.

May the sick be comforted by our prayers:

Therese Rumph, Judy Periera, Carol Ogilvy-Garnock, Michael Platts, Libby McGruer (Lomas), Moira Tindale, Edna Reed, Betty Cowell, Joyce Cotterill, Jen Farrell, Carmel Croker, Heather Whitby, Larry Bedingfield, Yvonne Murphy, Margo Birmingham.

Pastoral

TEAM

COOMA PRESBYTERY: 02 8331 7609

Parish Priest: Fr Mick MacAndrew
(after hours 0419 010 870)

Assistant Priest: Fr Adrian Chan
0411 676 064

PARISH CONTACTS

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School Principal: Mrs Susan Tighe

www.stjbombala.nsw.edu.au

Chair Parish Council:

Mrs Anna Vincent: 02 6458 5208

Chair Finance Committee:

Mrs Carol Ogilvy-Garnock: 02 6458 3365
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PARISH WEBSITE

www.cg.org.au/bombala

The Parish Bulletin is available each week on our website

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Please assist the team by having items in by Wednesday pm. Items may come in by phone, note or email.

Parish Calendar

Mon: Feast St Lucy

Tue: Feast St John of the Cross

Wed: End of Year School Mass
9.30am Bombala

Sun: Mass Delegate 8am
Mass Bombala 10am

**Parish Reconciliation:
7.00pm Bombala
Tuesday 21 December**



REMEMBERING THEIR FAITH AND LOVE

Clark Peadon, John Kelland, Sally Reed, John Scott, David Cottrell, Mark Bruce, Ann-Maree Stokes, Sr Margaret Keane rsj, Des Twigg.

ANNIVERSARIES

Carol Badewitz, Nola Hehir, Helen Parkes, Vin Crotty, Del Duffell, Jim Twigg, Kitty Guthrie, Mort Smith, Toby Mustard, Tori Finnane (O'Hare), Dot Ogilvy, Brian Murphy, Jareth Hillyer.

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

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The things that count most in life are the things that can't be counted.

E.C. McKenzie



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2021

CHRISTMAS EVE

5pm Delegate
6.30pm Bombala
9pm Nimmitabel

CHRISTMAS DAY

9am Cooma
10am Merimbula



**ST MARY
OF THE CROSS
MACKILLOP**



*Be generous and then God will love and bless you. 20.8.1886
I am not afraid of difficulties. They rather make my courage rise. 26.3.1873
Are not God's ways wonderful? 18.9.1873
Find happiness in making others happy.*



Meet Him with Joy

Advent is a time for reflecting on how we want to be found when Christ returns as King and judge. (Archbishop Anthony Fisher, OP)



CANDLE LITURGY



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Leader: We have lit the first two candles, one for hope and one for peace. Today we light the third candle, the candle of joy. This should be the easy one, because joy is all around us - in the children, the lights, the music, the gathering together. But how often do we let our preparations - or our memories - push joy to the side? Joy is like an underground spring that wells up within us, but joy is also a choice, an attitude. Like a muscle, it needs to be exercised. So today we open ourselves to joy, trusting that God has already planted it in us. All we need to do is give it care and offer it to share. (Three candles are lit• 1 pink and 2 purple)

ALL: Loving God, we open ourselves to you, trusting that this is how you made us: You created us for joy-filled hearts and lives. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained, but must be shared. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, that we may walk in the light of Christ. AMEN

The Third Sunday in Advent is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin. This name comes from the first line of the opening prayer for the Third Sunday in Advent, which encourages parishioners to "rejoice in the Lord always".

ADVENT (quiet reflection)

Rejoice in God always, and again I say, rejoice, for God has created you with the capacity for love.

We will find what makes us joyful,
And make that our gift to the world.

Trust in God's good will for all of creation,
And open yourself to God's gentle, transforming love.

We will welcome new possibilities in our lives.

We will offer ourselves to God's goodness.

We will go forth in hope, and peace, and joy.



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 all prophets of hope, that they will dispel our fears and stir us to work together for a new creation.

Daily Prayer Intention

We pray for all who have fled or been forced from their homeland, that like the exiles of Baruch's day they will one day return home in safety and peace.

Prayer of the Faithful

LEADER: With a sense of joyful expectation we bring before the Lord our needs and the needs of the Church and the world.

Reader: For the Church: that it may stand like Jerusalem upon the heights proclaiming with a renewed sense of hope the word of the Lord.

We pray to the Lord:

For all in positions of authority: in the darkness of our world, give them passion to create a more just society.

We pray to the Lord:

For peace everywhere: God of peace, hope us to renounce whatever separates us from you and our brothers and sisters. May nations torn by racial and religious prejudices find a way to embrace peace with justice.

We pray to the Lord:

For all families: may they know the blessings of Advent and may those who are estranged forgive one another and be reconciled.

We pray to the Lord:

For our faith community: may we hasten the coming of the Lord through love and loving actions.

We pray to the Lord:

For our deceased loved ones: may they live in the presence of the Lord forever. **We pray to the Lord:**

For Our Lady's intercession for our unspoken needs:

We pray, Hail Mary....

LEADER: God of joy and celebration, we rejoice and give thanks that you are always near to those who call on you. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord and Saviour.
AMEN

Christmas Stamps

A woman went into her local post office to buy some stamps for her Christmas cards.

"What denomination do you want?" asked the lady at the counter.

"Good God!" she replied, "Has it come to this these days?"

I suppose you'd better give me twenty Catholic, twenty Presbyterian and twenty Anglican".





Last Tuesday, 7th, was the Graduation of the Year 6 students at St Joseph's. It was a very special Mass for the Children, followed by a celebration dinner for students and parents in the Supper Room at the Exhibition Hall.

We were very proud of and congratulate; Miller Stewart, Henry Power, Alexander Bruce, Connor Reed, Keira Chamberlain, Clarissa Marrapodi, Mathew Reed, Matilda Campbell and Torin Hillyer.

This coming Tuesday, our assemblies will be held: K-2 between 11-12 noon and Years 3-6 in the afternoon between 2-3pm. The final school Mass for 2021 will be on Wednesday, 15 Dec. Our water safety and awareness program will be on Monday, 13 Dec. at the pool.

Delegate Ecumenical Christmas Carols

With Reverend John Kuruvilla & Canberra Carolers
St Andrew's Community Church - Sunday 12 December at 2pm
and afterwards at Delegate Country Club

Everyone is invited

The Work of Christmas

By Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:

- To find the lost,
- To heal the broken,
- To feed the hungry,
- To release the prisoner,
- To rebuild the nations,
- To bring peace among the people,
- To make music in the heart.

CHRISTMAS CARDS: On sale in the side porch at Bombala.
STAMPS: Please save your stamps from Christmas cards to assist the Peruvian Josephite Missions.

LOOKING BACK 40 YEARS AGO
17 December 1981

The Final Bell Rings at
St Joseph's Convent School Delegate

After 61 years of wonderful service to the Delegate & border districts, the bell at St Joseph's Convent School Delegate rang for the final time on Thursday, 17 December 1981, thus creating an extraordinary chapter in the history of the area.

The Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart (North Sydney) opened the school in 1921 and have remained in charge until the closure. Over 60 Josephite's from the original three sisters, Josephine Cahill (who later became Mother General), Rodrigues Miller & Alphonsus Kirton, to the current sister, Sister Dominica Bampton, have called Delegate home for a period. We thank God for the wonderful love, dedication and commitment the sisters have given to the children, families and people of the district.

Many lifelong friendships have been formed at "St Joey's" along with many significant achievements - not just those in the classroom but also those in the music room, the concert hall, the sporting field and every aspect of school life shared there.

More than 600 students have attended the school representing over 300 families. It is interesting to note that the Walker, Ryan, Jones, Stewart, Reed, Callaghan, Ingram, Morrison, Stokes, Clarke & Dunn families attributed to almost 1/3 of all the students. John & Margaret were the most common Christian names of the students.

As of 1982, Sr Marie Ellen Daniel of the Josephite Motor Mission Sisters based at Nimmitabel, along with Mrs Jean Manning and Mrs Janie Roberts, will commence twice weekly religious education at St Joseph's for Catholic students attending the local public school.



ANNIVERSARY LIST: From the commencement of 2022, we are hoping to do an anniversary list for each month. A new list is in both porches at Bombala and on the Mary MacKillop Altar at Delegate. Could you please add any deceased family or friends and the month of their death to this list to enable us to compile the monthly list for inclusion in the bulletin. If you know that your family or friends are already on the current list, which has been published over the last few years, then don't worry about adding them to the list, as they will be included. **Thank you.**



Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



Third Sunday of Advent, Year C

12 December 2021

First Reading Zep 3:14-18

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,
Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart,
daughter of Jerusalem!
The Lord has repealed your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away.
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your
midst;
you have no more evil to fear.
When that day comes, word will come to
Jerusalem:
Zion, have no fear,
do not let your hands fall limp.
The Lord your God is in your midst,
a victorious warrior.
He will exult with joy over you,
he will renew you by his love;
he will dance with shouts of joy for you
as on a day of festival.

Responsorial Psalm

Is 12:2-6 R. v.6

**(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the great and
Holy One of Israel.**

1. Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. (R.)
2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to
his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the
peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name. (R.)
3. Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One
of Israel. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 4:4-7

The Lord is near.

I want you to be happy, always happy in
the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your
happiness. Let your tolerance be evident

to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is
no need to worry; but if there is anything
you need, pray for it, asking God for it with
prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of
God, which is so much greater than we can
understand, will guard your hearts and your
thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

**The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News
to the poor.**

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 3:10-18

What, then, must we do?

When all the people asked John, 'What
must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has
two tunics he must share with the man
who has none, and the one with something
to eat must do the same.' There were tax
collectors too who came for baptism, and
these said to him, 'Master, what must we
do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than
your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in
their turn, 'What about us? What must we
do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No
extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among
the people, who were beginning to think
that John might be the Christ, so John
declared before them all, 'I baptise you with
water, but someone is coming, someone
who is more powerful than I am, and I am
not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he
will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his
threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into
his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire
that will never go out.' As well as this, there
were many other things he said to exhort
the people and to announce the Good News
to them.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Some people have an image of God
who must be obeyed out of fear.
Rules of behaviour are kept as part
of a deal to avoid punishment. But St
Paul was imitating God when he told
the Philippians that all he wanted
was their 'happiness'. God's deepest
desire is that we share divine bliss.
St Thomas Aquinas tells us that the
goal of human life is this beatific
happiness.

Of course, there is a way of life which
responds to the Divine Lover. John
the Baptist insists on rules of social
justice, particularly those which
forbid taking advantage of the
vulnerable. But these are the
minimum. He envisages a response
of extravagant generosity. It will take
Baptism in the Holy Spirit and Fire to
make this possible.

This was effected by the One foretold
by John. He doesn't name him, but
we know it was Jesus of Nazareth
who had the power to unleash such
over-the-top generosity. Jesus sent
his Holy Spirit at Pentecost as if in
wind and fire. This created a new
community which, the Acts of
Apostles tells us, responded with
acts of unrestrained generosity to
the vulnerable and needy.

We might pause for a moment to
pray for a generous spirit responding
in gratitude to the Divine Lover who,
as Risen Lord, has the power and
will to enable us to be filled with
Divine Bliss.

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