

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C

5 December 2021

LITURGY AND BULLETIN

**OPENING PRAYER** God of power and mercy, open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy. Amen.

FIRST READING: A reading from the prophet Baruch

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

# **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Response: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. (R.)

2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. (R.)

3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage

as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. (R.)

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. (R.)

SECOND READING: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness; Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.



#### **REFLECTION on Living the Gospel – Make way!**

This gospel is a reminder to us that Advent is a season of preparation. In this case, the preparation is all about making way for the love of God in our lives. The love of God surrounds us all the time. It's like a rapidly flowing stream and sometimes we have placed boulders in the stream that send the water flowing around us. The call to make a way for the Lord is a call to clear

the rocks out of the stream; to remove the obstacles that are directing the love of God around us and allow it instead to flow directly through us. Greg Sunter. (LiturgyHelp)

# PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray with thanksgiving for all whose lives are good news for others, that they will keep kindling fresh hope in the hearts of the poor. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all whose human rights are violated by dictatorial regimes, that they will achieve justice by peaceful means. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

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. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all people in aged and palliative care, that they will be looked after with respect, compassion and love. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for emergency service personnel preparing for the summer fire season, that their dedicated care for the community and for nature will keep everyone safe. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who suffer in mind, body or spirit, including Paul Fa'Oa, Richie Simpson, Rongo Tee Peeti, Duncan McDiarmid, Helen Montgomery, Judy Nielson, Karen Suitor, Bob Haigh, Teonie McMahon, Jeremy Nelson, Helen Campbell-Davys, Ian Vardanega, John Shiels, Tony Riley, Rupert Ermet, Val Biggers and Celia Roach. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for Ricky Banks, Jan McCurley, Clare Gowan, Margaret Norsa, Martin Hennessy, recently deceased ...and for our own deceased relatives and friends: that they will reach the perfect goodness promised by the Day of Christ. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

## **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

Father, teach us to judge wisely the things of earth and to love the things of heaven. Amen.

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Father Mick Burke Mobile: 0448 414 541 Pastoral Associate: Br Brian Berg Braidwood Contact Numbers: Ph. 4842 2444; Mobile: 0408 687 915 Parish email: braidwood@cg.org.au Parish Website: http://cg.org.au/braidwood/Home.aaspx Br. Brian email: bcberg@edmundrice.org SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Marylou Gorham Ph. 4842 2413 PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays: 9am – 3pm; Fridays: 9am – 12pm Next weekend Mass time: Vigil Saturday at 6pm in St Bede's School Hall. Weekday Mass: Tuesdays at 10am Meditation: Thursdays in Presbytery at 10.30am Social Justice Group: Tuesday 7 December at 10.30am, at the Presbytery Markets: 18 December 2021

Due to the desperate shortage of priests and lack of those retired unable to supply, Christmas Mass times are as follows: Braidwood 24<sup>th</sup> – 5.30pm; Bungendore 24<sup>th</sup> – 7.30pm Bungendore 25<sup>th</sup> – 8.30am; Gundaroo 25<sup>th</sup> – 10am Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>, Feast of the Holy Family Bungendore – 8.30am; Braidwood – 10.30am

Times for the Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation will advertised next week. I am aware these revised times for Christmas Mass don't meet with the approval of all parishioners but we need to be realistic about the availability of a priest in the future. Mick Burke

#### Dear Parishioners,

The church is closed to the public for the duration of the roof repairs. Mass is now held in the St Bede's school hall, Saturdays at 6pm. <u>We have now moved to the 2sqm rule</u> allowing a few more people to attend Mass. I would appreciate, if you intend to join us, your letting us know so that seating can be arranged accordingly. All are welcome, regardless of vaccination status. Masks are still mandatory and communion will be distributed as before. Phone 4842 2444; Helen 0430 169 849 or Brian 0408 687 915. The 2 collections will once again be taken up during Mass.

## Our November markets were cancelled due to the saturated grounds. Maybe this month.

**Parish Christmas Celebration** following Mass on 4th December. Please bring a plate of nibbles, finger food to share. Drinks provided. Everyone welcome.



**Our Christmas Mass** will be held Friday 24 Dec at 5.30pm in the church grounds if the church is not finished. There will also be **Mass on 26 Dec** at 10.30am which is the Feast of the Holy Family.



## "Walking Together – Advent"

Short zoom briefing will be held this Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> at 3pm to discuss how parishes can use the family-themed Archdiocesan <u>Walking Together</u> resource to help build up the local community during Advent.

No need to book. Just log in to the briefing on:

Zoom link:https://zoom.us/j/96186839540Meeting ID:961 8683 9540Time:3pm this Wed 24th NovHas anyone started using this resource? If so would you like to share your thoughts on it?

"New Life in Christ" an Advent resource from Brisbane, has arrived. If attending Mass please collect from the table. Otherwise please let Brian or I know if you would like a copy.

#### Vinnies meeting on 10 December at 1.30pm.

**Cbm (Christian Blind Mission)** are once again offering Meaningful Christmas Gifts through their catalogue. It is on the table at the back of the hall, along with order forms and an envelope with the reply paid address.

Caritas has global gifts on offer. See the back table. Aid to the Church in Need has a gift shop catalogue out. Find it on the table also.

Far East magazines also available for interested parishioners.

1 <sup>st</sup> Collection: BSB: 062-786	For 2 <sup>nd</sup> collection: BSB: 062-786	
Account: 00029248	Account No: 00017755	
Account Name: St Bedes Braidwood CPF	Name: St Bedes Parish Braidwood.	
Reference: BRAIDWOOD & SURNAME	Reference: name or giving number if you have	
	one.	

**Readings for next week: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Advent Year C:** 1<sup>st</sup>: Zeph. 3:14-18. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Phil. 4:4-7. Gospel: Luke 3:10-18.

		Ministry Rosters for our Masses			
Date	Acolyte	Welcomer	Readers	Music	
4 Dec	James	Cathy F	Michael/Cathy F	Helen H	
11 Dec	Felix	Geraldine	Rod/Bobbie	Helen H	
18 Dec	Les	Helen P	Wendy H/Germaine	Helen H	
24 Dec	Geoff	Cathy F	Wendy M-B/Ann	Helen H	
26 Dec	Felix	Geraldine	Michael/Cathy F	Helen H	
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Please notify me if you will be away during the Christmas period, so we can organise replacements.

Look after each other, Helen Hart