

LITURGY OF THE WORD First Sunday of Advent B

First Reading *Is 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
Oh that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.
You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down – at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.
The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4*

R. Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne. O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted.

May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name.

R. Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Second Reading *1 Cor 1:3-9*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.
May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.
I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.
The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation
Ps 84:8
Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mk 13:33-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.
Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cock-crow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'
The Gospel of the Lord
R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate Timely Living and the End of History

Our Lord portrays himself as the Master who goes away on a journey. It is certain that he will return, even if no-one in his household knows exactly when. That is *our* situation. What do we do in anticipation?

Our Lord, the Master, indicates we have a choice. We can close our eyes and enter into the world of dreams where we create our own fantasy futures, or we can stay awake and alert to do what Our Lord wants us to do: 'He left his *servants* in charge, giving to each his work.'
You and me – his servants – have a particular role or work in and for this phase of human history. A deep down intuition, prompted by the Holy Spirit, indicates what this is. We must be true to this assignment. We could take a moment to pray that, when the Lord returns, we may hear: 'Come, good and *faithful* servant, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world.'
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It is the beautiful
task of advent to
awaken in all of us
memories of
goodness and thus
to open doors of
hope

- Pope Benedict
XVI



ST BERNARD'S PARISH
BATEMANS BAY
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St. Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven
R.E.C: Sharon Beashel
Principal: Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan
Carroll College, Broulee
R.E.C: Erica Drewson

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B



Jenny Rzepa



Mick Lowe



Judith Barroman



Nola Beatty



Fr Martins

Welcome to a new beginning, a new liturgical year ushered in by the season of Advent. Advent is a season of renewal, a time when we renew our baptismal commitment in preparation for the birth anniversary of Jesus and his second coming in glory. Within the next four weeks, Evangelist Mark provides the road map to guide and to facilitate the individual and communal spiritual journey and renewal in preparations for Christmas.

As we undertake a spiritual renewal during this season, the Parish of St. Bernard's for the past three months, have been through a process of prayer for discernment to renew her Parish Pastoral Council, Leadership and the Parish Pastoral Plan for 2021-2023. This weekend witnesses the commissioning of the New Pastoral Council along with the Ex-Officio as a visible sign of the season of renewal and a new beginning.

The Parish Pastoral Council is the hub of the parish ministries and mission. By participation, the members work with the Parish Priest in the spirit of collaboration, co-responsibility and interdependence to ensuring the ongoing pastoral wellbeing of the parish, her vision and mission. We, therefore, congratulate the nine new parish pastoral council members and thank them for committing to exercising their baptismal gifts through pastoral leadership in the parish for the next two years and beyond.

We take this opportunity to thank the outgoing Chairperson, Bernie Basevi together with the outgoing members of the parish pastoral council for going above and beyond for the parish for many years. May God reward their generosity abundantly.

As we renew the Parish Pastoral Council at the start of a new liturgical year and a season of renewal, we invite all Team/Ministry leaders and members to consider the need to renew their membership by inviting others to join them, as we reposition our parish in order to meet the demands of our mission and pastoral vision that "*all may be one*".

Wishing one and all a happy new liturgical year and a spirit-filled journey with Mary to the feast of the Nativity.



Pat Jobes



Saskia Ebejer



Peter O'Kelly



Maria Devine



Miranda Vidovic



Jo Wain



Sharon Beashel



Nathan Enfield

Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions

For a life of prayer
We pray that our
personal relationship
with Jesus Christ be
nourished by the
Word of God and a
life of prayer

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Tues 01: 5.30 Mass
Wed 02: 9am Mass
Thurs 03: 9am Mass
Fri 04: 9.15am Mass
Sat 05: 9am Rosary/Mass
9.30am Recon 6pm Mass
Sun 06: 9am Mass 5pm Mass

ROSTERS 28/29 NOVEMBER

Church Cleaning
D & L May (30/11-4/12)
Welcomers
6pm B Wilson
9am C Connell
5pm D Ebejer
Commentator
6pm M Bridges
9am B Basevi
5pm K O'Sullivan
Readers:
6pm P O'Kelly
9am A Brown
5pm S Ebejer
Eucharistic Ministers
6pm A Rogers
9am L Stevens
5pm L Favetta
Computer Screen
6pm K Conway
9am T Jackson
5pm J O'Sullivan
REGISTRARS
6pm M & S Beashel
9am B Basevi, G Norris
5pm J McCarthy

ROSTERS 5/6 DECEMBER

Church Cleaning
M de Smet J Maher (7-11)
Welcomers
6pm Sr Marie McAlister
9am L Page
5pm M deSmet
Commentator
6pm M Bridges
9am A Skinner
5pm P O'Kelly
Readers:
6pm J Mackay
9am T Jackson
5pm K O'Sullivan
Eucharistic Ministers
6pm A Rogers
9am N Page
5pm Y Oerder
Computer Screen
6pm K Conway
9am T Priest
5pm M O'Neill
REGISTRARS
6pm P Billington
9am B Basevi, G Norris
5pm N Beatty

STAY AWAKE!!!

As we begin another liturgical year, we focus on the coming of Christ. We wait for his coming in our own lives; we wait for his coming at Christmas; and we await His second coming at the end of time.

In the first reading Isaiah is pleading with the people to stay true to God's words and not wander away and become hard hearted! He recalls all the wondrous works that had been done for them and reminds them that God is the potter and we are but clay in God's hands.

St Paul talks about our faithful God as he thanks the Corinthians, and in turn us, for the teaching and example that we give to those with whom we live, work and play. Do we value the witness that our everyday life gives? Our faithfulness is what gives people around us hope! St Paul exclaims with gratitude that this faithful God will provide and go on providing the Spiritual Gifts until the Second Coming.

In the Gospel Jesus asks us to 'Stay awake'! What does this mean. Are we not to get any sleep? No of course not! This watchfulness, this alertness, this vigilance is above all, LOVE. We live our lives as a response to this Love so we will be ready and not 'asleep' when we are called home.

During Advent the word 'waiting' is often referred to! We experience this in our daily lives in so many ways. How do I cope with waiting? Waiting for an appointment, in line at the supermarket, for results of a medical condition, for sleep to come, for 2020 to end, for many things. Perhaps I need to see my waiting as a prayer where I can practice patience and join with all those who wait in our world enduring oppression of all kinds, those who struggle to work for solidarity and reconciliation. Advent is a time of hope – let us pray that this hope grows stronger each day through this Holy Season.

Come, Lord Jesus. Give me the grace to make this day fit for You to see and may I be ready at any moment to meet You face to face.

God bless,
Sr Marie



BE ON GUARD! STAY AWAKE!

Today begins a special time of year for us as we begin the season of Advent in Year B, that period of waiting before Christmas. To help each of us prepare our own hearts for the birth of Christ, let's try to take a few moments each day, perhaps before a meal to pray together and maybe set up an Advent Wreath in our homes.

Loving God, during this first week of Advent, help us remember that we are your people and that you are our God by loving you and loving our neighbour through being Generous of Heart.

Holy Spirit, guide the choices we make so that we choose to do what

shows our love of others, especially those in need.

Lord Jesus, we wait in joyful hope for you. Open our hearts and the hearts of all people to renew our love, trust and hope in you and each other.

Amen.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Monday 30th November



St Andrew the
Apostle



THE JESSE TREE

This year our school, St Bernard's, has prepared a Jesse Tree to mark the journey to Christmas through symbol & Scripture. The Jesse Tree helps us connect the custom of decorating Christmas trees to the events leading to Jesus' birth. The Jesse tree is named from Isaiah 11:1: "A shoot shall come out of the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots." Jesse was the father of King David. We adorn a Jesse tree with illustrated ornaments that represent the people, prophecies, and events leading up to the birth of Jesus. The ornaments of the Jesse tree tell the story of God in the Old Testament, connecting the Advent season with the faithfulness of God across four thousand years of history. Each day from December 1 the children will come and place an ornament and the related Scripture verse on the Jesse Tree.

PARISH ADVENT PROGRAM 2020

The Parish Advent Program will commence in the Church meeting room on Wednesday 25th November and continue on the following three Wednesdays: **2nd December, 9th December, 16th December.**

Sessions: Morning—9.30 am Evening 7.00pm

The program will be based on a booklet produced by the Wollongong Diocese called *Adore—Advent & Christmas Reflections*.

Co-ordinator: Joe Quigley (0404 357 744)

MEET SEMINARIAN MARK HA

Born and raised in Vietnam. Mark arrived in Australia in 2013 to complete his Bachelor of Accounting at University of Canberra. While studying at Uni, Mark joined a group in the Archdiocese Canberra/Goulburn called "Man Overboard"—a group of young people that meet once a month at the Archbishop's house to pray, discern their vocation and share a meal. Mark felt his call to the priesthood through sharing in the group and decided to enter the Seminary of the Good Shepherd in Homebush, Sydney, to train for the priesthood for the Archdiocese Canberra/Goulburn. For Mark, it was a big decision for him to give up the many freedoms and leave material things behind as he followed his calling to become a priest. After four years of studying and discerning, Mark is assigned to the Parish of St Bernard's for pastoral experience to mark his fifth year of formation. Mark is excited and looks forward to meeting everyone in the parish.



MARY MACKILLOP
CALENDERS ARE 4 SALE
@ \$8 IN THE PIETY SHOP

Combined churches Christmas Day lunch will be held at St Bernard's Church at 12 midday. Phone the Parish Office on 44724153 to book a place, as numbers are limited.

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

From 1st October 2020 there will only be one collection which will be deposited in the Parish Operating Account this will include existing Credit Card transactions, Direct Debits, collection box and Tap machine. The collection will then be apportioned with a percentage forwarded to the Archdiocese for the Central Presbytery Fund each month.

If you would like to join the Parish e-platform giving, the details are as follows:

**Acc. Name: St Bernard's Operating Account BSB: 062-786
Bank Acc:000012939 Ref: Family Name**

Please note: For banking at any bank but not the Commonwealth Bank

If you currently have a direct debit to the Central Presbytery Fund a suggestion is that it be cancelled and combined into the St Bernard's Operating Account in order to facilitate the continuity of funds. Please contact Anne Jackson in the Parish Office on a Friday from 10am-2pm if you need any further information.

Remembering the Sick:

Femia and Mark, Roberto Alivio, Vince Burns, John Dillon, Trish Hamilton, Daniel Coffey, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, James Lee, Mary Henderson, George Fitzgerald, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Dawn Robinson, Margaret Harris, Bill Giust, Allan Odum, Luke Ward, Rosemary Cooley, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Janet Thornberry, Judy Betts, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke, and those in our local

Death Anniversaries:

John Gallagher. Stephen Sly, Peter Baird, Gizella Bowmaker, Adalbert Planinsic, Sean Griffin
We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community: Cathy Leoszko, Elizabeth Gallagher Kenneth Torkington, Shirley Keir, Ken Bow, Steven Thomas, Maureen Kinross, Nora Trompp Peter Varkulevicius, Ian McAdam, Jan Schor, Pio Liberale, Amelia Davis, Glenda Gallagher, Ivy Rootsey, Evert Ordelman Regina Mass, Mato Katic, Anacorita Villanueva Senci, Philip Lewis P. Bernasconi

Parish Coffee Club

You are invited for coffee and chat Thursdays after Mass.

VENUE: Corrigans Cove

CHURCH WORKING BEE

Monday 14th December
2.00pm

Tasks will include: straighten pews, dusting, vacuuming, cleaning windows, weeding and general cleanup. All are Welcome



Bible Study/Faith Formation—Wed 9.30am

Craft Group—Thurs 10am-12pm

Men Alive—1st & 3rd Wed 8 am

Adoration—Friday 5.3– pm

Reconciliation—Saturday 9.30am

Singalong—Mondays 1 pm in the Church + Zoom

Bring some Joy to a family at Christmas

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal, due to Covid-19, will be different this year. **From Nov 29 -Dec 14** we are asking for gifts of money to help us purchase food and gifts vouchers for those who need assistance at Christmas. You can place your donation in the SVDP box placed near the Christmas Tree in the foyer of the Church. Note: we are unable to accept food or toy donations this year.

Thank you for your support.

<p>Batemans Bay, Moruya & Narooma District Funerals Mark Hewson JP Funeral Director Phone 02 4472 8886 Moruya 02 4474 3555 Narooma 02 4476 3888</p>	<p>INDUSTRIAL REPLACEMENTS 1 Sharon Road, Batemans Bay Buy fuel any time EFTPOS VISA AMEX MASTERCARD</p>
<p>OCEAN BREEZE TAKEAWAY Fish & Chips, Burgers, Sandwiches & Coffee 100% BEEF BURGER 248 Beach Road Botolphoven NSW 2536 02 4472 1802</p>	<p>ST BERNARDS PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLLING NOW Ph 4472 4446 Member of the Eurobodalla K-12 Catholic Schools' Community</p>
<p>CARROLL COLLEGE ENROLLING NOW Ph 4471 5600 Member of the Eurobodalla K-12 Catholic Schools' Community</p>	<p>excell ideaspeople with a passion for print P 4472 1599 E batemansbay@excellprint.com.au www.excellprint.com.au Shop 1/25, Old Princes Hwy Batemans Bay NSW 2536</p>
<p>Ray and Anne Brown COASTAL CONCRETE & QUARRY 02 4474 0320</p>	<p>Kate & Tara your vets at Surf Beach EUROCOAST Veterinary Centre 4471 3400</p>