

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Second Sunday of Advent C
First Reading Bar 5:1-9
A reading from the prophet Baruch
Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.

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.
The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 125. R. v.3
(R.) 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.
2. The heathens themselves said: ‘What marvels the Lord worked for them!’ What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. 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.) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Second Reading Phil 1:3-6. 8-11
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.
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.
The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

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 Lk 3:1-6
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
All people shall see the salvation of God.
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.
The Gospel of the Lord
R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA
The advent of God’s coming with its promise of fulfilment happens within world history. The first reading locates God’s act of restoration in the city of Jerusalem. The gospel situates the ministry of John within a particular period of world history. They point us to historical experience as the place and the time of restoration, of incarnation, of redemption. They show us that God works within everyday life, in conventional places, during regular time. In fact, from a human point of view, the extraordinary events of salvation took place within what was quite ordinary. John proclaims the kind of transformation that results in a change of heart. Reversals characterise such transformation: the robe of mourning is replaced by the splendour of glory; tears are turned into rejoicing; those led away by enemies are brought back by God; valleys are filled, mountains are levelled, winding roads are made straight; even nature offers itself as shelter for the people of God. Those who are shamed and discarded are made glorious; those who suffer are comforted; the oppressed are freed; all of life’s obstacles are removed; the way to God is made straight; the natural world enjoys peace and harmony. The transformation or repentance of heart takes place within human life, within relationships of justice between people and with the earth, in right living, in genuine unselfish love. It produces the fruits of righteousness of which Paul speaks. Advent is the time to prepare ourselves for this.
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YEAR OF ST JOSEPH
As we come to the end of the Year of St Joseph we pray this prayer:
Dear St Joseph, all our confidence is in you and since you are so powerful with Jesus and Mary, intercede for us and for those whom we love and serve. Amen

SAINTS OF THE WEEK
Monday 6th - St Nicholas.
Tuesday 7th - St Ambrose
Wednesday 8th - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday 9th - Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin
Friday 10th - Our Lady of Loreto
Saturday 11th - St Damascus I



ST BERNARD'S PARISH BATEMANS BAY

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Carroll College, Broulee
R.E.C: Erica Drewsen

HOPE & HOSPITALITY

Upcoming Events:

Church/Online:
Cenacle PrayerTues at 4.45pm

The Marian Movement of Priests

Adoration: Friday at 5:30pm



Bench Ministry By Request

Craft Group every Thursday @ 10 am

Coffee Club Thursday 9th @ Corrigans Cove after Mass

Yr 6 Graduation Mass 9.15am Friday 10th

Saturday 11th Croatian Mass 11am

Giving Mass 9.15am Wednesday 15th School.

PPC Meeting Wednesday 16th 5pm Meeting Room

Rite II Advent Reconciliation Wednesday 22nd 6pm Church

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C



John, a cousin of Jesus, had left his commune on the edges of the Jordan River to enter deeper into solitary, ascetic preparation in the desert for the advent of the Lamb of God c. 29 – 30 A.D. He is the last prophet of the Old Testament, who preached the theme of repentance and conversion, baptizing the people with the Baptism of Repentance for the forgiveness of sins. John told them to hear and to listen, for the time is now to turn their lives around and return to God who loves them.

God had chosen John to become the precursor of the long-awaited Messiah, Jesus the Christ, so that the Children of Israel would be ready for his coming; but not just for them, as Christ would bring redemption to all people. John’s basic virtue was humility intricately linked to the truth that – *“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 ... he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit”* (Mk 1:7-8). At the start of his ministry, Luke, quoting Isaiah 40:3-5, has John proclaim, *“Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight ... all mankind shall see the salvation of God”* (Lk 3:1-6), reflecting the prophecy of Baruch, *“take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever ... God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain ... the filling of the valleys”* (Bar 5:1-9).

In response to the prophesy of the new exodus when God will save his people in the future like he did in the past, John’s audience turned up for baptism in repentance from *immorality, impurity, greed, hatred, jealousy, anger, drunkenness, carousing, selfishness*, and the like (Gal 5:19-21; Prv 14:24-35; CCC 1740-1742). These are plainly obstacles, the *mountains* to be levelled and the *valleys* to be filled in preparation for Christ’s coming, as they not only distract, but can easily turn them away from the true love of God, neighbour and the peace wrought by Christ.

Clearly, the mood this weekend is, alertness, excitement, joy, and fresh hope. Not in the sense of just “hoping something good will turn up,” but in “the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ’s promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit” (CCC 1817-1821). Together, let us *prepare a way* in order to celebrate God’s hospitality at Christmas.
Fr Martins

**Pope Francis
Monthly Prayer
Intentions
December
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

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Tues 7th: 5.30pm Mass
Wed 8th: 9am Mass
Thurs 9th: 9.00 am Mass
Fri 10th: 9.15 am Mass (Convent)
Sat 11th: 9am Mass/Rosary
9.30am Reconciliation
6pm Mass
Sunday 12th: 9am Mass
5pm Family & Youth Mass

ROSTERS

4/5 December
Church Cleaning
R & K Ison (6-10)
Commentator
6pm M Bridges
9am M Lowe
5pm N Gorzalka
Readers:
6pm J Quigley
9am C Lowe
5pm S Ebejer
Eucharistic Ministers
6pm K Lovering
9am A Scicluna
5pm B Maynard
Computer Screen
6pm T Jackson
9am D May
5pm J O'Sullivan
REGISTRARS
6pm P O'Kelly
9am P Jobes
5pm M Devine

11/12 December
Church Cleaning
Favetta/O'Neill/Nugent (13-17)
Commentator
6pm P O'Kelly
9am A Brown
5pm S Ebejer
Readers:
6pm J Mackay
9am A Skinner
5pm M Devine
Eucharistic Ministers
6pm M Bridges
9am Sr Marie
5pm D Gorzalka
Computer Screen
6pm K Conway
9am T Priest
5pm M O'Neill
REGISTRARS
6pm G & M Weatherall
9am M & C Lowe

PARISH LIVESTREAM MASS

Sunday 9am Mass:
https://www.facebook.com/StBernardBatemansbaychurch/live_videos/

St Vincent de Paul Conference



Christmas Appeal

Continues

Can you help spread some kindness this

Christmas by making a \$ donation if you are able, to our Christmas Box or take a tag from the Christmas tree and provide a \$ donation for that particular child. Tax deductible receipts are available. NOTE: We are not collecting tinned food or toys. Appeal ends December 19th.

Parish Advent Retreat/Reflection Group

Every Wednesday after 9am Mass in the Meeting Room

Advent Resource Booklet provided

Facilitators:

Sr. Marie and Marie Weatherall

All Welcome.

**CHRISTMAS
MASS TIMES**

Christmas Eve Friday December 24th

6pm Children & Family Mass

8.30pm Christmas Carols

9.00 pm Mass

Christmas Day Saturday Dec 25th

9am Mass

4.00pm Mass

Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday Night Vigil Mass Dec 25 -

6 pm Mass

Sunday December 26 - 9am Mass

5pm Mass

**RITE II ADVENT
RECONCILIATION**
Wednesday 22nd
December @ 6pm.
All are welcome.

ROSTER FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES IS IN THE FOYER - IF YOU CAN ADD YOUR NAME WHERE YOU CAN ASSIST IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED. Those who have volunteered online have been included on the list it will be updated each week.

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

If you would like to join the Parish e-platform giving for both the Priest and the Church, the details are as follows:

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

**FEAST OF THE
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION OF
THE BLESSED
VIRGIN MARY**

Wednesday 8th
9am Closing Mass for the
Year of St Joseph
12 noon Holy Hour
Exposition
Rosary



Thank you for supporting the 2021 Parish November practice of prayer, Masses and Cemetery Rosary for the Holy Souls



Combined Churches

Christmas Luncheon will be held at the Salvation Army this Christmas Day at 12 midday. The PPC is calling for volunteers. Spreadsheet will be available in the foyer to fill out if you can help or contact Angela Horsfall on 0449 103 603



GRADUATION MASS

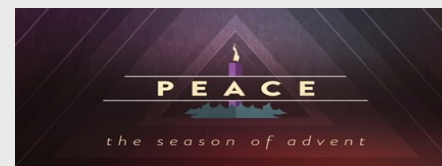
YEAR 6
GRADUATION MASS
WILL BE HELD
ON FRIDAY
10TH DECEMBER
@ 9.15 AM

All are welcome to attend.

**9.15AM MASS FRIDAY 10TH
DECEMBER WILL NOW BE HELD AT
THE CONVENT**

Mary MacKillop Calendars 2022 can be purchased from Sr Marie - limited stock. Cost \$10 Ph: 0429 383 333

LIVING FAITH IN THE EVERYDAY



Contemplating the Face of Christ

As we journey further into Advent we are focused on Preparation as we aspire to be **People of Hope & Hospitality!**

The reflection in the Year C Advent Booklet invites us to reflect on the Letter of St Paul to the Philippians – a very familiar text:

'I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the One who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ'. (Phil 1:316)

St Paul was in prison when he wrote these words. It is interesting to know this as we reflect on his tone. He is a man of joy and is at peace. Times of difficulty do not take these things away from him. Instead, they seem to cause him to reach out to Jesus more strongly, thus increasing his joy and peace.

So what about us? These are testing times for people of faith, and it is easy to feel insecure about that.

When we read the words of St Paul to the church of Philippi in this weekend's

reading, we get a sense of how close they all were. It was not always easy. There were arguments and tensions, but there was also joy and real solidarity. People hung in because they were loved and supported (**hospitality**), and they knew they were travelling together towards the same destination:

'the day of Christ!'

Pope Francis is adamant in his teaching that we will not get far if we do not keep very close to Jesus Christ – a disposition he describes as

'Contemplating the face of Jesus.'
(Shane Dwyer – Evangelisation Brisbane)



Death Anniversaries: John Gallagher, Stephen Fry, Adalbert Planinsic, Sean Griffin, Maureen Noyeaux, Susan McNamara

We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community:
Joan Herne, Dr Bryan Chester, Lorraine Grace, Waine Williamson, Pat Cooper, Theresa Humphrey, Linda Weatherall, John Mula, Eva Maria Easton, Allan Mitchell, Margaret Harris, Wayne O'Toole, George Fitzgerald, Robyn Lynette Mundy, Lorna Gunn, Savannah Leane, Bill Guist, Kevin Allen, Evelyn Young, Isobel Evans, Michaeline Hatton, Ingeborg Fissler, Danielle Kempton, Wendy Bowell

Remembering the Sick:

Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Pam Wilson, Eileen Hogg, Antony and Andrew, Lois White, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Femia and Mark, Roberto Alivio, Vince Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, Daniel Coffey, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Dawn Robinson, Allan Odium, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Janet Thornberry, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke, and those in our local Nursing Homes and Hospital

Prayer For A Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced
Remember those whose lives are at stake.
May we who have no risk factors
Remember those most vulnerable.
May we who have the luxury of working from home
Remember those who must choose
Between preserving their health or making their rent.
May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those that have no safe place to go.
May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market
Remember those who have no margin at all.
May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
Remember those who have no home.
As fear grips our country.
Let us choose love.
During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbours.
Amen.

**Ursuline Sisters of Louisville
Prayer: Historic Saint Paul Catholic Church**



Coffee Club

Thursdays after Mass.
@ Corrigan's Cove
All are welcome

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