

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Sunday of Advent Year A

First Reading *Is 2:1-5*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 121:1-2. 4-5. 6-9. R. see v.1.

(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

2. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name. There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David.

3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray: 'Peace be to your homes! May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!'

4. For love of my brethren and friends I say: 'Peace upon you!' For love of the house of the Lord I will ask for your good.

(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Second Reading *Rom 13:11-14*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is

even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under the cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

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 *Mt 24:37-44*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Stay awake, you must be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left. 'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ

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The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Wake up to the Poetry

Our Lord loved to unfurl the scroll of the Prophet Isaiah in his local synagogue. The poetic image of swords being hammered into ploughshares reverberated into his renouncing violence against the Roman occupying army in his own time. When will this picture come true for all human beings for all time? Only God knows! We don't know any more than we know when a burglar might target our home. But our ignorance of God's timetable is no excuse for being fatalistic and sleepy. We have our own span of life providing the timetable for our own contribution to the hammering of swords into ploughshares. Recent Popes, especially St John Paul II, have taken up this theme for our times, teaching more restrictive criteria for using armed force, even dropping the term 'just war' to very small print in the Catechism. We could pause for a moment to pray to be awake to our opportunities to shape society in the light of the vision of Isaiah and the practice of Jesus the Prince of Peace.

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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



ST BERNARD'S PARISH
BATEMANS BAY
2 David Avenue, Batehaven NSW 2536



P.O. Box 3220, Batehaven, 2536.
Tel: 4472 4153
E: batemansbay@cg.org.au
Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay
Office Hours: 10am to 2pm
Tuesday-Friday

Priest: Rev. Tom Thornton
0408 623 303
Secretary: Roslynn Trompp
Finance Admin: Anne Jackson
PC Co-ord: Marie Weatherall
Asst. PC Co-ord: Carolyn Evenden

Principal: Mrs. Jo Wain
St. Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven
R.E.C: Sharon Beashel
Principal: Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan
Carroll College, Broulee
R.E.C: Erica Drewsen



For the celebration of the Word and the Eucharist

Upcoming Events

Choir Practice
Monday @ 1pm

Cenacle Prayer
9.30 am Fridays
after Mass, and
1st
Saturday of the
month @ 9.30am

Wrap With Love
Afternoon Tea
Wednesday 30th
November 1-3pm
Craft Group -
10am
Thursdays

Adoration
Tuesday @ 8am

COFFEE CLUB
Venue:
Corrigans Cove
All Welcome
COFFEE N
CHAT

FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT—YEAR A

MASSES THIS WEEK:

Monday 28th November—Sunday 4th December

Monday 28th: Mass 9am
Tuesday 29th : Adoration 8am, Mass 9am
Wednesday 30th: NO MASS
Thursday 1st: Mass 9am
Friday 2nd: Mass 9am
Saturday 3rd: Reconciliation 9.30am,
Vigil 6pm
Sunday 4th: Mass 9am



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Saturday 24th:
Christmas Eve—Mass 6pm & 8pm

Sunday 25th:
Christmas Day—Mass 9am

ST BERNARD'S PARISH

has a new Parish Priest who commences here on 10th January, 2023.

He is *Fr Loi Viovicente* who is presently Parish Priest of North Belconnen in Canberra.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND THE WALBUNJA PEOPLE OF THE YUIN NATION. WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THEIR ELDERS, PAST, PRESENT AND EMERGING



The Year of Walking Together

The Risen Lord walked together with the disciples on the road to Emmaus, drawing them from anxiety to hope, from confusion to joy.

Jesus, centre of our common Emmaus walk, with You alone to guide us, make Your home in our hearts; as we pour "new wine into fresh wineskins" (Mk 2:22)

Like Mary, imbued by the Holy Spirit, may we give birth to a renewed faith and united pastoral action in this Arch-diocese in the years ahead.

St Mary of the Cross, our Great Australian Intercessor, pray for us.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us. All Saints of God, who name and sanctify our parishes, pray for us. *Amen*

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

will take place after the Saturday Vigil and Sunday Mass on November 26 & 27.

There will be a collection after mass and/or you may like to take a tag from the Christmas Tree and provide a \$ donation or buy a K-Mart Gift Card for a gift for your particular child. Place donations or K-Mart Cards in the SVdP Christmas donation Box after Sunday or weekday mass located in the foyer of the church.

If you need a receipt let us know.

Many thanks for your continued support of our families in need.

ADVENT SEASON

In the lead up to Christmas, Advent commences on the weekend of 26th –27th November. During this time there will be another **2nd Rite of Reconciliation on Tuesday 13th December @ 6pm at St Bernards.**

Advent Reflection Group

will take place on Wednesday November 30th @ 9-30am – 11 am in the Church Meeting Room. A booklet will be supplied for those attending the 4 sessions. *All are welcome*

FAREWELL AND THANKS CELEBRATION

To be held on Saturday 17th December—after the 6pm Vigil Mass. Fr Eden who has been in the Parish as a student, deacon and priest, and Fr Tom would like the chance to say thanks for your support.

The celebration will be in the form of a BBQ /Sausage Sizzle, so please take the time to stay after mass. This will be the last opportunity for this celebration, as both priests will be moving during the week after New Year's Day.

SOUTH COAST COMMUNITY KITCHEN OUTREACH

If you have a couple of hours on a Friday afternoon and could deliver food parcels in the Batemans Bay, Catalina and Denhams Beach area, then this is the volunteer job for you.

How often depends on you. Ring Lisa 0475 267 711 for further information.

Join the Pastoral Care Team going to the residents at the Glen.

We have 7 Catholic Residents at the Glen who look forward to a visit and HC.

We need one person to join our team and to go once a month to the Glen.

Orientation to the Glen, 1:1 training provided and all resources. Phone Carolyn 0400 021 119 or Marie W 0405 028 057

WORTH THE WAIT

The beginning of this new Liturgical Year (Year A) is a good time for us Catholics to reflect on how blessed we are to have a liturgy that provides us, over a three year cycle, with most of the text of the four Gospels of the New Testament at Sunday Mass.

For this year (Year A) Matthew is the major source of the Sunday Gospel readings. In the following two years we have Mark (Year B) and Luke (Year C). John might be seen as a sort of fourth man used to supply some deeper insights he gained through many decades of prayer and meditation, on the life of his beloved Master. The Confraternity of Divine Worship which selects readings appropriate to the Season tries to find readings in the Hebrew Scriptures (including the Psalms) which gel with the Gospel.

In his Gospel, Matthew's aim is to show that God's saving plan for the Jewish people is realised in the person of Jesus Christ. He is writing for a Jewish Christian readership In the First Century AD. He repeatedly draws attention to the Hebrew Scriptures where they point to Jesus as being prefigured in some characters, like Moses the Liberator, or in the sayings of the Prophets.

The history of the Jewish people is one of waiting for God's intervention and the fulfilment of his Covenant with Abraham, Noah and Moses. For us Christians, God's intervention began when the Virgin Mary, under the power of the Holy Spirit, conceived a child. Mary became the first Adventist as she waited for the arrival of that child. Joseph, her husband, receives angelic guidance that Mary would "bring forth a son and you shall call his name Jesus." (Matt 1:21)

The Church in its Liturgy encourages us to relive the nine months of Mary's pregnancy by having a feast for the Conception (The Annunciation), then The Visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth, already six months pregnant with John the Baptist, whose birthday we also celebrate. And yet four weeks out from celebrating the birth of Christ the Church asks us to think about the after life.

Let us think about life being lived at two levels. At one level, Mary and Joseph were ordinary law abiding citizens. That's why they were on their way to Bethlehem, Joseph's ancestral town, as required by the Roman census. But at another level they are divine agents in an event that will change the course of human history. God will enter into and become part of humanity in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, later to be called the Christ, the anointed one of God.

The roller-coaster history of the Jewish people was aimed at achieving this moment in time. And why? To show the Jewish people and through them, the whole world that God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. (See John 3: 16-17)

We are blessed to believe in Jesus Christ, true God & true Man. Stay awake. Be alert. Today Jesus through Matthew gently reminds us that "The Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." (Matt 24:44) At another level he is already here. Speak to him.

Joe Quigley

Remembering the Sick:

Sr Marie McAlister, Peter O'Neill, Barry O'Neill Beverley Biglia, Fr John Walter, Mara Pranjic, Lola, Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Pam Wilson, Antony and Andrew, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Femia and Mark, Roberto Alivio, Vince Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, 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, those in hospital and nursing homes.

Death Anniversaries: are listed in the Memorial Book at the front of the Church and names can be added to it if dates are provided.

We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community: Travis Basevi, Judith Dewick, Flavia Clyburn, Nita Gorzalka, Michael Dove, Wayne Sing, Linda Russell, Ruby Swinton, Anna Backo, Lois White, Vincent Corbin, Pero Simic, Michael McNamara

Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions

December

For volunteer not-for-profit organisations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international co-operation.

BATEMANS BAY & MORUYA DISTRICT FUNERALS

Caring for Eurobodalla shire families for over 50 years
Batemans Bay 44728886
Moruya 4474 3555 Narooma 4476 3888

INDUSTRIAL REPLACEMENTS
1 Sharon Road, Batemans Bay
Buy fuel any time
EFTPOS VISA AMEX MASTERCARD

OCEAN BREEZE TAKEAWAY
Fish & Chips, Burgers, Sandwiches & Coffee
100% BEEF BURGER
248 Beach Road
Batemans Bay NSW 2536
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MAYDAY Plumbing And Gas
Fully licensed Plumber and Gas Fitter
Gutter Cleaning General Maintenance
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0427 373 826

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Ray and Anne Brown

COASTAL CONCRETE & QUARRY

02 4474 0320

Kate & Tara your vets at Surf Beach

EUROCOAST Veterinary Centre
4471 3400