

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Second Sunday of Advent B
First Reading *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11*
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
Prepare the way for the Lord.
‘Console my people, console them,’ says your God. ‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.’ A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’ Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, ‘Here is your God.’ Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.
The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8
(R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.
1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land.
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven.
3. The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps.
(R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Second Reading *2 Peter 3:8-14*
A reading from the second letter of St Peter
We wait for new heavens and a new earth.
There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, ‘a

day’ can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up. Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.
The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation *Luke 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 *Mark 1:1-8*
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
Make straight the paths of the Lord.
The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, ‘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. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.’

The Gospel of the Lord
R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate
Two Gospels
John immersed, baptised, his followers in water, symbolising the washing away of the sins of the *past*. But he could not empower people by drenching them in the dynamic life of God. John anticipates ‘Someone’ (not named!) who *does* have the power to inundate, baptise, people with the Holy Spirit. From the heading of St Mark’s Gospel, *we* know that that ‘Someone’ is ‘Jesus Christ, Son of God’ who came to flood our lives with that Divine Power which can effect a completely new *future* for humanity. That is why St Mark took the term ‘gospel’ (good news) which was used on inscriptions announcing an Emperor’s birth or victory, and used it to describe his inspired rendering of the mission of Jesus Christ, which was to inaugurate the ‘Kingdom of God’, overcoming the pretensions of all Emperors of any kind throughout history. We could pause for a moment to thank God for the Good News of our being baptised with *water* in the ‘Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.’
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ZOOM ROSARY

You are invited to join us to pray the Rosary via Zoom.

TO JOIN:

Meeting No: 697 896 1059
Password: 8Py80J

Every Wednesday & Friday @ 4pm
Every night @ 8.30pm



ST BERNARD'S PARISH BATEMANS BAY

2 David Avenue, Batehaven NSW 2536

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Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay
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Tuesday-Friday

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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

**SECOND
SUNDAY of
ADVENT
YEAR B**



**Upcoming
Events**

**Choir Practice
1PM Mondays**

**Cenacle Prayer 9.30 am
Fridays after Mass**

**ENJOY THE GOOD
NEWS
Resumes 2024**

**Wrap With Love
Resumes 2024**

**Kinder Nativity and
Christmas Giving Tree
Wednesday 13th
December 1.30pm**

**Craft Group Thursdays
10am**

**ADORATION
TUESDAYS @ 4pm**

**COFFEE CLUB
Thursdays after Mass
Venue: Corrigans Cove
Resumes 2024**

Becoming awake to God.

As I reflect on the readings this week I thought of the many inspirational people I have lived with, experienced and read about – **people who have influenced my life and lived faith. They have helped me with the task of becoming awake to God, to companions on the journey, to the world, to the wisdom that lies within waiting only to be tapped.** I think of family members, teachers, those I shared community life with, the Scriptures, Spiritual writers and inspirational people I have encountered on the journey. Hopefully, in some small way, I too, have been a good influence on people.

Joan Chittister OSB, in her book ‘*In the Heart of the Temple*’ speaks of this influence: Once upon a time, some disciples begged their old ailing Master not to die. ‘But if I do not go, how will you ever see?’ the Master said to them. ‘But what is it that we can possibly see when you are gone?’ With a twinkle in his eye, they say, the Master answered: ‘All I ever did in my entire life was sit on the riverbank handing out river water. **After I’m gone, I trust you will notice the river.**’ [2004, pgs53-54]

Prepare a way!

The anticipation of Christmas is building in our Advent readings. Are we awake to God in our life now. As Leonie Duck [**St Vincent de Paul Reflections 2023**] states: ‘Last week we were exhorted to stay awake! This week, in Mark’s Gospel, **we are told that it’s really time - both then, and now – to prepare a clear and smooth way for the Lord.** The popular and respected, John the Baptist, tells us it’s not him. And that the One we are waiting for is significantly superior to him.’ [Dec 10, 2023]

Intensity ensures I make the most of the waiting time; of every moment. How will I prepare for the Lord? Or rather must we not prepare the way within us, setting up in our hearts a straight and true way?

As **Origen in Homily 21** states: “ Prepare the way by a worthy manner of living , and with good works make straight the path **so that without hindrance the Word of God may tread this way to you,** and give you understanding both of his coming and of his mysteries, to Him be glory forever and ever.”

What might God be asking me to consider ?

Marie Weatherall.





MASS THIS WEEK

Monday 11th December

Sunday 17th December

Monday 11th: No Mass

Tuesday 12th: Mass 5pm

Adoration 4pm

Wednesday 13th: Mass 9am

Thursday 14th: Mass 9am

Friday 15th: Mass 9am

Saturday 16th: Mass 6pm

Reconciliation 4.30-5.30pm

Sunday 17th: Mass 9am

Masses in Aged Care Facilities

- Mass First Wed of Month @10.30am Denhams Beach Community Care (Opal)
- Mass 2nd Wed of the month @10.30am The Glen
- Mass 3rd Wed of month @2pm The Manor
- Mass 4th Wed of month @2pm Maranatha Lodge

ROSTERS

9/10 DECEMBER

Cleaning

11-15 R & K Ison

6.00PM MASS

Welcomer J Anderson

Commentator: B

Maynard

Reader: J Mackay

Eucharistic Minister

L Rodwell

Computer Screen

J O'Sullivan

9.00 AM MASS:

Welcomer L Foran

Commentator B Basevi

Reader: L Page

Eucharistic Ministers

S Beashel, N Page

Computer Screen T Priest

MORNING TEA:

M & C Lowe

16/17 DECEMBER

Cleaning

18-22 Favetta/O'Neill/
Nugent

6.00PM MASS

Welcomer: B Oerder

Commentator: S Ebejer

Reader: M Bridges

Eucharistic Minister

J Wain

Computer Screen

K Conway

9.00 AM MASS:

Welcomer L Pagel

Commentator: C Lowel

Reader: M Lowe

Eucharistic Ministers

L Stevens, C Schor

Computer Screen D May

MORNING TEA:

M & S Beashel, L Foran

Advent program for 2023

The first session of the Advent program will begin on Wednesday 29th November and will run for the following three Wednesdays—6th, 13th, 20th December.

9.30-11am in the Church Meeting Room.

Facilitated by: Marie Weatherall

For info ph: 0405 028 057

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal:

'Grant a Wish for a family'

St Vincent de Paul continues the annual Christmas Appeal

If you are able, could you make **\$ donation after mass** [receipt supplied if needed] for Christmas food Hampers we have ordered from Food Bank NSW.

or you may wish to take a **tag from the tree and help a child receive a gift.**

Place in the envelope chosen a **\$ donation or buy a K Mart Gift card for that child** and place in the SVDP Christmas Box near the tree.

All Donations in by Dec 10 please.

We **thank you** for your continued and faithful support of St Vincent de Paul Conference

Note: we are not collecting tinned food or toys.

SAVE THE DATE:

The Parish will be providing a **breakfast of Sausage Sandwiches/Egg and Bacon Rolls on Sunday 17th December after the 9am Mass.**

All are welcome

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

BSB: 062-786 Bank Acc:

00012939

Ref: Family Name

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



Sunday 24th December
Christmas Eve – 6pm & 8pm

Monday 25th December
Christmas Day- 10am

COMBINED CHURCHES CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

@ Salvation Army and

Anglican Church

A community event for those who are alone or in need

Please call 02 4472 9644

Numbers are limited. Due to Covid19 restrictions, bookings by 18th December are essential

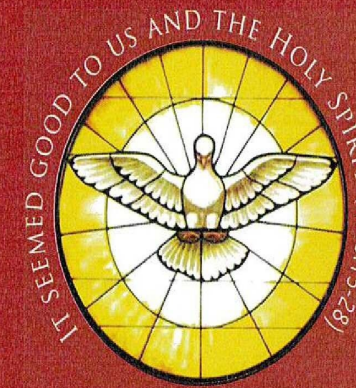


Remembering the Sick:

Kevin & Pat Totterell, Dawn Robinson, Maria de Rocco, Laurence Foran, Julie Morgan, Myrna Glenn, Norma Dean, Ann Marie McLoughlin, Antionette Doyle, Christine Norman, Anne Gatehouse, Tony Vogel, Suzanne Hughes, Trent Fisk, Carolyn Burns, Sr Marie McAlister, Peter O'Neill, Beverley Biglia, Fr John Walter, Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Vince Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Allan Odlum, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, 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: Francis Bezzina, Paul O'Callaghan, Barbara Fogerty rsj, Carmen Morphet, Anne Dryden, Pam Wilson, Drago Bandur, Shirley House, Vin Taylor, Fr Don Gunn, Krsto Jarnjevic, Tony Plascak, Janet Thornbury, Michele (Mick) Ferrante, Barry O'Neill, Frank Belsa, Henry Thomas, Rosa Spano, Geza Markovits, Del Bateman, Kayleen Mortlock, M aree O'Brien, John Dunne, Maria Ivelja, Stjepan Matasin, Peter McGann, Dante Pasqualin, Loretta Jones, Filomena Dela Torre, Christopher Horsfall, Dawn Millman



YEAR OF THE Holy Spirit

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT
FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE

O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, Grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolations. Through the same Christ Our Lord

AUGUST 2023 - AUGUST 2024

Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions

December

For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

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