

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sunday 08 Dec 2024

Second Sunday of Advent C

First Reading *Baruch 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

Philippians 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 *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 *Luke 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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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 Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate We are John the Baptists

Do we have to be like John the Baptist, eccentrically dressed and scavenging for food, to prepare the way of the Lord? No. You and I are called to be a John or Joan the Baptist, preparing people's hearts in our own time and place. But we have to allow God to prepare *our* hearts for this role. John the Baptist challenges us to 'Repent', i.e. to turn around our own lives seeking God's forgiveness. John then challenges us to see the big picture which is that 'All who live shall see the salvation of God'. Pope Francis is the exemplary universal pastor inspiring us to become 'les misericuls sans frontieres'. And young people through social media are already saying 'We are one community of human beings on this fragile planet'. The challenge for most of us is more immediate and apparently of smaller scope. The challenge this Advent is to identify the one person whose heart you can help prepare to celebrate the coming of the Lord Jesus in three weeks' time. The best method is to let that person see your faith and joy centred on that little Jewish baby lying in a manger. Do that, and who knows what may happen because that little baby is in fact the Sovereign Lord of history and of the whole cosmos. With God's grace, you don't have to be as eccentric or bizarre as John the Baptist to play your part in changing the course of history! We could take a moment to pray that, repenting of our own sins where necessary, we may prepare the heart of at least one person so that the Lord Jesus may enter in this Christmas, helping him fulfil his mission that all who live shall see the salvation of God.

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

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

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Operating
BSB: 062-786
A/C No: 00012939
Ref: Family Name



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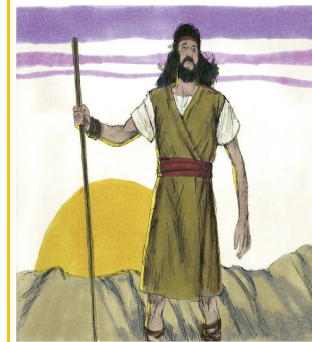
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Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay
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Tuesday-Friday

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R.E.C: Sharon Beashel
Principal: Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan
Carroll College, Broulee
R.E.C: Anna Smart

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 C



CHURCH EVENTS

Choir Practice
1PM Every second and
fourth Monday

Cenacle Prayer 9.30 am
Fridays after Mass

Croatian Mass Saturday
7th December @ 11am

Yr 6 Graduation Mass
Thursday 12th December @
9.15am
St Bernard's Primary School
Candle Ceremony Friday
13th December @ 1.45pm

Advent Discussion Group
Wednesdays Dec 11th & 18th
@ 9.30am after Mass in CMR

Craft Group 10am
Thursdays Church Meeting
Room

ADORATION TUESDAYS
@ 4pm

COFFEE CLUB Thursdays
after Mass
Venue: Corrigans Cove
Last day for 2024 will be
Thursday 19th December

Advent – Awaiting a New Age

Bishop David Walker, in 'Praying the Scriptures in Advent Year C' shares some of the following insights. Pope Leo the Great [440-461CE] when speaking about 'Advent' or Arrival anticipated not Christ's Birthday but the world's conclusion, history's consummation. Bishop Walker states: We await a 'new age', a 'new deal' a 'new human society' where the deepest human hungers are satisfied – where 'giving' triumphs over 'getting', where peace surpasses violence, and where co-operation replaces competition. In the Scriptures God's Kingdom is coming - that God's presence is taking flesh as food for the hungry, water for the thirsty, shelter for the homeless, comfort for the imprisoned, clothing for the naked. Leo's Advent Sermons were not about the coming of Christmas but about the joy that results when earth's bounty becomes shared boon - a shared blessing, not just higher corporate shared profits. The early Roman 'Advent' was not a time of preparation for Christmas but a Celebratory Season – signs of a new and blessed order of things that will result when Christ returns to reign, and God is all in all.

Happy 2nd week of Advent!



What are we waiting for?

The Liturgy Lectionary supplies the best response to this question. Bishop David points out: 'What we Christians await is not clearly Christmas – for although we joyously remember it each year, Jesus' birth in Bethlehem is an event that belong to the past. **Advent's focus is the future – a future that begins taking possession of us even before it fully arrives.** 'On that day sweet wine will flow from the mountains, milk and honey from the hills, alleluia', we pray at Morning Prayer on the First Sunday of Advent. 'What we are waiting for is nothing less than a world recreated, transfigured by the One whose coming on the cloud opens 'a new heaven and a new earth' We await the triumph of creation – of our world, of our bodies – over all the forces of death and decay ... the future in Advent, begins arriving as our present – the 'future' present. **What God does in the birth of Jesus reveals, enacts and embodies our own future, for Christmas celebrates the 'incomprehensible God' who comes 'incomprehensively near' to us**

Karl Rader in his book 'The Great Church Year' 1994 says: **At Christmas God says to us** "I am there. I am with you. I am your life. I am your time. I am the gloom of your daily routine ... I weep your tears – pour yours out to me, my child. I am your joy. Do not be afraid to be happy, for ever since I wept, joy is ... more suitable than the anxiety and grief of those who think they have no hope. ... I have sheltered safely and completely in the cold stable of your world. I am there. I no longer go away from this world even if you do not see me now ... I am there. **It is Christmas. Light the candles. They have more right to exist than all the darkness. It is Christmas. Christmas that lasts forever. Amen! Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!** Adapted from 'Praying the Scriptures in Advent', Bishop David Walker, 2000, Pgs 5-8.

Marie Weatherall

MASSES THIS WEEK
Monday 9th—Sun 15th Dec

Monday 9th: NO MASS
Tuesday 10th: Adoration
 4pm Mass 5pm
Wednesday 11th: Mass with
 Anointing of the Sick 9am
Thursday 12th: Yr 6
 Graduation Mass 9.15am
Friday 13th: Mass 9am
Saturday 14th: Mass 5pm
 Reconciliation 3.30-4.30
Sunday 15th: Mass 9am

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:
Tuesday 24th December—Christmas Eve
 Vigil 6pm & 8pm
Wednesday 25th December- Christmas
 Day Mass 10am

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
7/8 DECEMBER
Cleaning
 9-13 D & L May
5.00PM MASS
 Welcomer B Oerder
 Commentator P O'Kelly
 Reader; J Mackay
 Eucharistic Minister
 N Buick
 Computer Screen
 K Conway
9.00 AM MASS:
 Welcomer T van den
 Broek
 Commentator
 J Whiteford
 Reader: D Herring
 Eucharistic Ministers ,
 L & N Page
 Computer Screen T
 Priest
MORNING TEA:
 M & S Beashel

14/15 DECEMBER
Cleaning
 16-20 MdeSmet/J
 Maher
5.00PM MASS
 Welcomer K
 Conway
 Commentator:S
 Ebejer
 Reader: P Nolan
 Eucharistic Minister
 J Wain
 Computer Screen
 M O'Neill
9.00 AM MASS:
 Welcomer M deSmet
 Commentator B
 Basevi Reader: A
 Skinner
 Eucharistic Ministers
 D Herring, K Corbin
 Computer Screen T
 Jones
MORNING TEA:
 M & C Lowe

ST VINCENT de PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL
2024

We are packing 100 Christmas Hampers and providing at least 112 gifts for children under 14. You can help us by making a \$ donation after Mass—receipt available if needed and/or take a tag from the Christmas tree and buy a Kmart Gift Card for a child or make a \$donation in the envelope provided.

Please place you donation in the SVDP Christmas Appeal Box near the Christmas Tree.

For security reasons the Christmas donation box is emptied out after the Weekend and Weekday Masses only. Donations help us pay for the family Christmas Hampers and/or gifts for the children.


All donations need to be in by Dec 14/15. Thank you for your generous help—note we are not asking for tinned food or toys. Enquiries: Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057

Why not join our Advent Discussion Group and spiritually prepare for Christmas?
 Each Wednesday after 9am Mass in the Church Meeting Room on Dec 11 & 18.

Cost = FREE. A time to slow down, reflect on the Advent Gospel and pray.
Facilitators: Carolyn, Marie, Helen and Ken.
Enquiries: Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057

The Parish Piety Shop has cards and calendars for sale . Contact Carol Schor for further details on 0450 775 067

CHRISTMAS MORNING TEA & FAREWELL
 The Parish will be holding a Christmas Morning Tea and a farewell for Fr Loi on Sunday 15th December after the 9 am Mass.

 There will be Filipino food and a sausage sizzle, so please come along and enjoy the merriment and take the opportunity to wish Fr Loi all the best as he prepares to move to a new parish in the New Year.

Maranatha Lodge will be holding a Christmas Fair this Saturday 7th December from 10am—3pm. Music, food, fun and gifts available.
 Money raised will be used to purchase an Interactive Projector for the residents.

The Parish Office will be closed from December 20th until January 10th. The bulletins will be prepared in the smaller holiday format prior to closing. If you want to add a notice for January, please let the office know before we close.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA

Lebanon Crisis Appeal
 The escalating conflict between Israel and Hezbollah has pushed Lebanon into severe turmoil, with tragic consequences that have spread from Southern Lebanon to the entire nation. In response to a heartfelt plea for assistance by Bishop Tarabay and Bishop Rabbat, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference in partnership with Catholic Religious Australia, Caritas Australia and Caritas Lebanon, has launched the Lebanon Appeal.

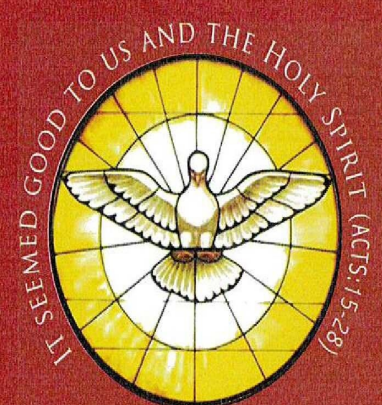
This appeal aims to provide essential humanitarian aid to our brothers and sisters suffering in Lebanon, especially those who are displaced and without homes or shelter.
 Donate today at caritas.org.au/lebanondonate

Christmas Appeal
 This Christmas, families, are facing the devastating risk of disease due to a severe lack of clean water and proper sanitation in the world's largest refugee camp.
 But with your support, we can bring hope to these families. As part of the second-largest humanitarian network in the world, Caritas Australia and our partner Caritas Bangladesh are on the ground, ready to act. Together, we can improve access to clean water, provide better sanitation, and help reduce the spread of deadly waterborne diseases this Christmas.
 Donate today at caritas.org.au/christmas

Remembering the Sick:
 Margaret Priest, Chris Bowditch, Sheree Jackson, Brendan Blyton, Wendy & Pat Roberts, Mark O'Neill, Karen Nixon, Kevin & Pat Totterell, Dawn Robinson, Maria de Rocco, Myrna Glenn, Norma Dean, Ann Marie McLoughlin, Antionette Doyle, Christine Norman, Anne Gatehouse, Tony Vogel, Suzanne Hughes, Sr Marie McAlister, Peter O'Neill, Beverley Biglia, Fr John Walter, Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Vince Burns, Patrick Burns, Carolyn Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, Diane Lanzon, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Allan Odlum, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, 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: Sr Paulinus Croker, Marion O'Grady, Patricia Suhl, Neil Leonard, Letitia Baz, Trent Fisk, Kevin Carew, Margaret Kelly, Arthur Hurrell, Vicki Lukasik, Paul Skinner, Suzanne Melton, James Quirk, Giovanni Menon, Tony Puconja, Hazel Nolan, Else McGahey, Richard Smart, Patrick Dunn, Laurence Foran, Lynton Ryan, Jacki Harding, Keith Cooke, Sarah Good, Robert Mitchell, Joyce Hurrell, Archbishop Francis Carroll, Ruth O'Malley, Julie Morgan, Suzanne Houssard, Nancy Sykes, Lillian Burkinshaw, Lynette Arundel, Patricia McKeough, Ivan Trojkovic, Brian O'Connor, Annie Scicluna, Francis Bezzina, Paul O'Callaghan, Pam Wilson, Drago Bandur, Vin Taylor, Fr Don Gunn, Krsto Jarnjevic, Tony Plascak, Janet Thornbury, Michele (Mick) Ferrante, Barry O'Neill, Frank Belsa, Del Bateman, John Dunne, Maria Ivelja, Stjepan Matasin, Peter McGann, Filomena Dela Torre



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 Pilgrims Of Hope

Let us pray that the coming Church Jubilee Year 2025 strengthens us in our faith; helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

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