



Gospel Mt 11:2-11

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Half way through Advent we pause for a moment to celebrate Gaudete Sunday, a Sunday for rejoicing. Isaiah paints a picture of regeneration. The desert that once seemed to be dead is now bursting with life; eyes that lacked sight, ears incapable of capturing and holding sound, limbs without strength, and tongues devoid of speech are all given new life. There will be no death in that age of fulfilment, no limitations, no mourning. As we move deeper and deeper into the reality of God's presence in our midst, we will discover the meaning of true fulfilment.

John the Baptist is a standard for judging the privilege of entering here and now, the kingdom of heaven. He was the herald of the coming of Jesus, the one who prepared for him, but John himself died before the death and resurrection of Jesus opened the flood gates of the eschatological tide. By comparison, even the least in the kingdom of God is far greater than this prophetic herald. John also serves as a model of patience in suffering. His circumstances teach us that moving toward eschatological fulfilment is not without cost.

Just as Matthew presents us with the example of John the Baptist, so James describes the patience required of those who await the age of fulfilment. That age of fulfilment will dawn in its time; all we can do is discharge our responsibilities regardless of how demanding they might be, and wait for that day patiently, convinced that it will come in God's due time.

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Third Sunday of Advent, Year A

14 December 2025

First Reading Is 35:1-6, 10

God himself will come and save us.

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,
let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,
let it rejoice and sing for joy.
The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;
they shall see the glory of the Lord,
the splendour of our God.
Strengthen all weary hands,
steady all trembling knees
and say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.
'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy,
for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.
They will come to Zion shouting for joy,
everlasting joy on their faces;
joy and gladness will go with them
and sorrow and lament be ended.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:6-10. R. see Is 35:4

(R.) Lord, come and save us.

or

(R.) Alleluia!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)

3. It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading Jas 5:7-10

You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!*



St Patrick's Parish Cooma

St Columbkille's Parish Jindabyne



Third Sunday of Advent / A

14th December 2025

PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST

Father Mark Croker
0428 190 759

02 6452 2062

Sacramental Program

Father Mark Croker
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PARISH WEBSITE

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Parish Secretary

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ST PATRICKS SCHOOL

02 6452 1721

School Principal

Dr Mangan

School Website:

www.stpatscooma.nsw.edu.au

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Darren 0429 904 291

WEEKEND MASS & LW&HC TIMES

Adaminaby

No Mass until further notice

Berridale

2nd & 4th Sunday

Vigil Mass Saturday 3.30pm

All other Sundays

LW&HC 10am Sunday

Cooma

Mass Sunday 10am

Mass Tue, Thu & Fri 10am

Except 3rd Friday

Mass Yallabee Lodge 9.30am

Mass Hudson House Respect 11am

Jindabyne

Vigil Mass Saturday 5pm

Except 5th Sunday

LW&HC 5pm Saturday

Nimmitabel

5th Sunday

Vigil Mass Saturday 5pm

All other Sundays

LW&HC 5pm Saturday

Numeralla

2nd Sunday LW&HC 5pm

4th Sunday Mass 5pm



PRAYER INTENTIONS

POPES INTENTION DECEMBER



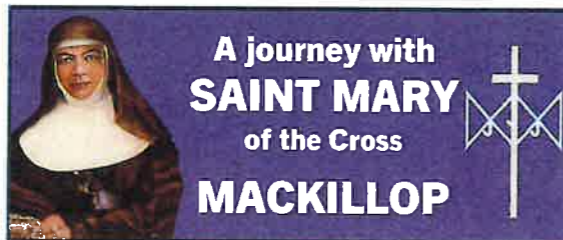
for Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

We pray for all the baptised, that their love and peace will draw many into the freedom they enjoy as the children of God.

We pray for students graduating from secondary school or higher education, that they will make wise choices about their future path in life.

We pray for rural dioceses and country parishes, including our own, that they may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit, finding creative ways to build a vibrant community and proclaim the Gospel with renewed faith and hope.



A journey with
SAINT MARY
of the Cross
MACKILLOP

Only what you will, my God.
(1.12.1898)

First Mass celebrated in Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel, North Sydney 8.12.1913



PARISH CALENDAR

Week 15 December 2025

MON
TUE 10am Mass
WED Delegate MPS Mass 11am
Bombala Parish 12.30 Mass
THU 10am Mass
FRI 10am Mass
SAT
4th Sunday of Advent
3rd Sunday of the Month
3 pm Delegate Vigil
5pm Bombala Vigil Mass
5pm Jindabyne Mass
5pm Nimmitabel LWHC
SUN 10am Cooma Mass
10am Berridale LWHC



REMEMBERING THEIR FAITH AND LOVE

Recently Deceased

Marjorie Avery 92 yrs
sister of Fr Hilton Roberts;
Joseph Chandy, Leo Upton,
Christine Schatzle, Joanne Dodd.

Anniversaries & Intentions
Danny Nassar, June Kennedy



"We have loved them in Life:
Let us not forget them in death."



We pray for those who are sick in our community, may they be able to see Christ's presence in their most difficult moments:

FREE - 3 drawer Filing Cabinets available x 2 FREE.

Fireproof Safe- FREE (for your important documents) please see Sharon at Parish Office

∞ BAPTISM CONGRATUALTIONS ∞

We would like to warmly welcome into our Parish family newly Baptised at St Patrick's Church on 13th December 2025
William Anthony Clarke, son of Mitchell and Chloe Clarke nee Kopecky-Geach and
Lincoln William Berry, son of William & Elle Berry nee Boller

JOSEPHITE CALENDAR 2026: Also, COLUMBAN CALENDAR available \$10 each.

One evening, a businessman stopped for the night at a little country pub near London called The George and Dragon. He asked the lady at reception if they were still serving meals. "No!" she snapped. "Meals stop at 8pm sharp. Not even a sandwich after that!" The man sighed, "Alright then... what about breakfast in my room tomorrow morning?" "Absolutely not!" she barked. "Breakfast is at 7.30am in the dining room. Prompt. No exceptions." The man paused for a moment and then asked quietly... "Okay... any chance I could have a quick word with George?"



Prayer of the Faithful

Response: (R)
Lord, hear our prayer

PRIEST: In this time of Advent, God's Word brings comfort and challenge. Nourished by its teaching we turn to our God for what we need.

COMMENTATOR:
*We pray for the Church: (pause) that we may acknowledge our deepest longings for wholeness, vitality and dignity, and seek to find fulfilment of these in Christ. Lord hear us.

*We pray for leaders of governments; (pause): that God will inspire them in their service as they work for the greater good of those whom they serve. Lord hear us

*We pray for the rain needed to alleviate the harsh conditions of drought and extreme fire danger. We pray with the prophet Isaiah that our dry lands may exult and bring forth life-giving abundance. Lord hear us

*We pray all who are poor and go without essentials each day: (pause): that hearts may be opened to their needs and that food, medicine and friendship be provided to them. and joy into the lives of those most in need. Lord hear us

*We pray for the young people who are leaving school at the present time: (pause): that in their youthful generosity they may consider the ways they can help the needy of our society Lord hear us.

*We pray for all who have died – whose time of waiting is over (pause). May they enjoy forever the perfect peace and joy of their God who has called them to their eternal home. Lord hear us.

We pray with Mary for our own intentions: Hail Mary

PRIEST: We make these prayers through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Christmas Lunch

Tickets last day please make sure you have received your ticket this weekend, numbers to be finalised.
We would love for you to join with the Parish community to celebrate Christmas. Please see Sharon after Mass



READING FOR NEXT SUNDAY

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT-YEAR A

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14
Second Reading: Romans 1: 1-7
Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-24



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

7pm Tuesday 16th December- COOMA

Other Parishes offered after Mass

CHRISTMAS EVE 24 DECEMBER

ST JOSEPH'S BERRIDALE 4PM
ST JOSEPH'S DELEGATE 4.30PM
ST PATRICK'S COOMA 6PM
ST ANDREW'S NIMMITABEL 6PM
ST MARY'S BOMBALA 6.30PM

THREDBO CHAPEL- LWHC (Pending Leader)

CHRISTMAS DAY 25 DECEMBER

ST MARY'S ADAMINABY 8AM
ST PATRICK'S COOMA 10AM
ST COLUMBKILLE'S JINDABYNE 10AM

Weekend 27 & 28 December 2025

(4th Sunday)

Berridale 3.30pm Vigil Mass
Jindabyne 5pm Vigil Mass
Nimmitabel 5pm LWHC
Cooma 10am Mass
Numeralla 5pm Mass

NEW YEARS DAY

Bombala Mass New Years Eve 9.30am
Cooma Mass New Years Day 10am