

The Parish Pump

The Weekly Bulletin for St John's, Dennington and St Pius X, West Warrnambool
Priest: Father Michael Linehan Presbytery: 76 Morriss Road, Warrnambool
Phone: 5562 5033 email: warrnamboolwest@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Postal address: c/- Post Office, Dennington Vic 3280. www.ballarat.catholic.org.au
4 December 2016 **2nd Sunday of Advent**

Seniors' Mass

The senior parishioners' Mass at 10 a.m. on Thursday 8 December at Mercy Place will be followed by a Christmas morning tea. All Welcome.

Seniors' Christmas Dinner

This year's Christmas Dinner for senior parishioners will be on Wednesday 7 December. Once again, it will be at Davidson Oval, Caramut Road. It will follow 11 a.m. Mass and the anointing of the sick at St Pius X Church. All welcome. Invitations are available in the church foyer.

Columban Calendars & Cards

Christmas cards and Columban Calendars for 2017 are available in the church foyer. Calendars are \$8 each and Christmas Cards are \$3 for a pack of eight.

Readers at Mass

New copies of *Break Open the Word* are available at the back of the church for people who proclaim the readings at Sunday Mass (or on Saturday nights). The new copies are for 2017, but please note that they begin with the readings for this weekend, the First Sunday of Advent, Year A. When you are rostered to read on the following weekend, please take home a copy of *Break Open the Word* and use its text and commentary to help prepare the readings. **THANKS** are extended to all who fulfil this important ministry.

Bingo Helpers Needed

Please consider whether you could contribute to parish life by helping, even if only occasionally, to do some voluntary work at bingo sessions on Thursday nights or Saturday afternoons. Without bingo, the parish will find it difficult or impossible to meet all its obligations, so if you would be willing to contribute to our parish in this way please contact Louise at the parish office on 5562 5033.

Mass at SJOG Chapel

Father Madden will be celebrating Mass in the St John of God Chapel next week 7 December at 2 p.m. All parishioners welcome.

St Pius X School Graduation

At the 10 o'clock Mass next Sunday, children from 2016's Grade 6 at St Pius X School will graduate from primary school.



Anniversaries

Mary McKinnon. Tom Esam.
Rosemary Claffey.

Thank You for Giving

Presbytery last week: \$597.80

The Meaning of Advent Candles

Last weekend we offered an interpretation of the meaning of the Advent Wreath. Today *The Parish Pump* presents another version, taken from the website <http://catholicism.about.com>:

The Advent wreath is a popular Catholic Advent custom that originated in Germany. An Advent wreath consists of four candles (three purple, signifying penance, and one rose, signifying joy), surrounded by evergreen branches. One purple candle is lit the first week, two the second week, two purple and one rose the third week, and finally all four are lit in the last week of Advent. The light of the candles signifies the light of Christ, who will come into the world at Christmas.

The History of the Advent Wreath

While the Advent wreath is a feature in many Catholic homes and even Catholic churches during the season of Advent, it actually originated among the Lutherans of Eastern Germany in the 16th century. It was quickly adopted by both Protestants and Catholics throughout Germany, and it was brought to the United States by German immigrants, both Catholic and Protestant, in the 19th century. The Advent wreath has deeper origins as well, extending back to pre-Christian customs of burning candles during the darkest months of winter. Medieval Christians retained the custom while seeing such lights as a symbol of Christ.

Mass Rosters Next Week Readers

6 p.m. R. Farrar
10 a.m. J. Guinan

Prayers of the Faithful

6 p.m. J. Farrar
10 a.m. L. Dooley

Ministers of Communion

6 p.m. L. O'Keefe
N. Russell
Peter Haberfield
N. Stapleton
K. Johnson
10 a.m. S. Malone
M. Healey
B. Houlihan
T. Patterson
M. Pickett

Local Sunday Masses

Sat.	6 p.m. 6 p.m.	St Pius X OLHC
Sun.	8:30 a.m. 9 a.m. 10 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	St Joseph's OLHC St Pius X St Joseph's Allansford (1st, 3rd & 5th: Mass) Purnim (1st, 3rd & 5th lay-led) Purnim (2nd & 4th Mass) 6 p.m. St Joseph's

Weekday Masses

Monday 5:	7:30 a.m. St Pius X
Tuesday 6:	7:30 p.m. St Pius X
Wednesday 7:	11 a.m. St Pius X
Thursday 8:	10 a.m. Mercy Place
Friday 9:	9:15 a.m. St Pius X
Saturday 10:	10 a.m. St Pius X

Confessions

Saturday mornings after Mass or when you can find Father Michael: no appointment necessary.