



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Leader: Our lives are constantly filled with the ups and downs, the mountains and valleys, of everyday living that challenges us to keep focused on the God who comes to save us. We now recognise God's presence amongst us here and light our Advent candle which reminds us of the joy and expectation of the season.

An appointed person now lights the candles on the wreath.

Leader: Let us pray:

All: O God, who sent John the Baptist to proclaim a baptism of repentance, let these two candles prepare the way for the Lord within us. Forgive our sins and fill us with your Holy Spirit. Make us ready to celebrate the birth of our Saviour. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Next week's Readings

1st Reading: Isa, 35:1-6,10
2nd Reading: James, 5:7-10
Gospel: Mt, 11:2-11

Next Weekend's Mass Times

Saturday—Minyip, 6.30pm
Sunday— Warrack, 8.30am
Nhill, 10.30am

**Tuesday, December 13:
Thanksgiving End of Year
Mass at 6pm in the church.**

Sunday, December 4 Second Sunday of Advent,



St Joseph's Hopetoun School Report

Grade 6 Graduation This weekend we celebrate our Grade 6 students' Graduation. Our warmest congratulations to Neha, Seisia, Bronte, Bonnie & MacKenzie on their Graduation from Primary School. We wish them God's blessings in their journey onto high school and look forward to them visiting us from time to time in the years ahead.

Christmas Concert Our concert is on Wednesday 14th December, beginning at 6.00pm. All parishioners are warmly invited to come along and enjoy the entertainment! Student's have been working hard on learning their lines for the script and have been busy creating dances under the guidance of Mrs Crowe. We look forward to a great night!

Thank You As this is the last school's report from St Josephs Hopetoun for this year, I take this opportunity to thank all parishioners for all your support of our parish throughout the year. Your presence at our special masses and events have been greatly appreciated.

Wishing you all the blessings of the Christmas season. We look forward to working with you again in the new school year. God Bless!

The Season of Advent

It's a time traditionally marked for remembering the years of preparation and consecration prior to the coming of the Messiah. For many centuries, the Church has identified the beginning of the Christmas celebration with a time of reflection and expectation called Advent. The word Advent means "coming" or "arrival" and when used in combination with Christmas, reminds us of the anticipation and expectation held over hundreds of years by the people of Israel for their Messiah and promised King.

For centuries before Christ, Hebrews rabbis methodically and passionately taught the Jewish people that the Messiah was coming. They taught that the people should be ready to embrace their King when he appeared. They emphasized the need for holy living and obedience to God's law.

Today we mark Advent in the Christian church with the display or a wreath—its circle reminds us of God Himself, eternal and endlessly merciful. It is evergreen—reminding us of the hope of eternal life. The four outer candles incorporated into the display represent the time of waiting and preparation for the Messiah during the four Sundays of Advent. The light of the candles reminds us of the Light of the world, and the prophetic promise of His coming.

Christmas Card and Columban Calendars

These items are available for sale at the back of the church.

Our Diocesan Community Publication is available at the back of the church. There are a number of interesting articles and photos of people you may know in this edition.

New Liturgy Roster

Please find a roster for the next three months at the back of the church. Take a copy home with you. Thank you.

Parish & St Patrick's School Christmas Raffle.

Once again Catholic Church Insurance has donated us a beautiful Christmas Hamper to raffle this year so we will join with the school community in this wonderful fundraiser. Raffle books are available at the back of the church. Could you please sell tickets and return the books and money to either Ann at the church by Sunday, 11 December or the school office by Friday, December 9. The raffle will be drawn at the End of Year celebrations on Tuesday, December 13. Thank you for your support.

St Mary's Parish Warracknabeal

Parish Priest Fr Neville Stanislaus.
11 Lyle Street Warracknabeal, 53941062
Parish Secretary,
Cath Bellis—stmpcw@gmail.com,
0434086534

St Mary's Primary School,
Principal, Joy Quarrell, 53982001

St Joseph's Hopetoun. P.O Box 141
Parish Secretary, Jacki Hogan 50833566
St Joseph's Primary School.
Principal, Cynthia Maiden, 50833296

St Patrick's Nhill, 33 Leahy Street, Nhill.
Contact Ann Munro—53929272
St Patrick's Primary School.
Principal, Kathryn Bendall, 53911575

St Mary's Rainbow
Contact Kath White, 53957261

St Augustine's Beulah
Contact Brendan Naylor, 50837242

St Patrick's Minyip
Contact Margaret Murphy, 53857479

Last Weekends Collections

Warrack:	
Planned Giving	\$ 55.00
Presbytery	\$155.25
Hopetoun	
Planned Giving	\$147.00
Presbytery	\$5.00
Nhill	
Planned giving	\$152.00
Presbytery	\$162.00

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve:
5.00pm, Nhill
7.00pm, Rainbow
8.30pm, Hopetoun

Christmas Day:
8.30am, Warracknabeal

NHILL	Reader & Prayers	Lay Leaders	Eucharistic Minister	Offertory Procession	Monthly Collector	Counter	Cleaner
Roster for Dec 4	I Dart	I Dart & K Clohesy	L Grayling	_____	Robert Picone	R Weir	M Millington
Roster for Dec 11	K Clohesy	_____	A Munro	L Welsch	Robert Picone	J Kennedy	M Millington

Pray for our Sick

Una Bartlett
Marj Parker
Fred Webb

Recent Death

Kathy Pilgrim
Michael Harvey (Kaniva)

St Patrick's School

1, 2, 3 ... read with me

Next Session:
Monday, 5 December
9-10am
Creating tomorrow's
bookworm