



MOYNE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

St Patrick's Parish, Port Fairy
Infant Jesus Parish, Koroit

www.moyneatholic.org.au



First Sunday of Advent

Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th November, 2020

FIRST READING Is 63:16-17,64:1,3-8

*O that you would tear the
heavens open and come down*

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, 'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down! – at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.

We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

RESPONSORIAL Ps 94(95):1-2,6-9

*R/. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see
your face and we shall be saved.*

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.

O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help.

*R/. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see
your face and we shall be saved.*

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.

*R/. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see
your face and we shall be saved.*

May your hand be on the man you have
chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your
name.

*R/. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see
your face and we shall be saved.*

SECOND READING 1 Cor 1:3-9

*We are waiting for our
Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed*

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed;

and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Ps 84:8

V/. Alleluia! R/. Alleluia!

V/. Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

R/. Alleluia

GOSPEL Mark 13:33-37

*If he comes unexpectedly,
he must not find you asleep*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED



We pray for **Brian Mair** and **Kate Kelly** who died recently, and **Chrissy Freckleton** whose anniversary occurs at this time. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

WEEK DAY MASSES

Confession available after Mass.

Wednesday 10am Koroit

Thursday 10am Port Fairy

KOROIT ANOINTING MASS

An Anointing Mass will be offered in the new Koroit parish centre at **2pm, Friday 11th December**. Please note that COVID restrictions prevent us from enjoying the usual refreshments afterwards.

SUNDAY MASS RESUMES

All of the Catholic parishes in our region — Infant Jesus', St Patrick's, St Joseph's, St Pius X, and Our Lady Help of Christians, are resuming Sunday Mass in December.

Because Fr Michael Linehan retires in January, and the region's Mass schedule will need be revised then, in December we're hitting 'the pause button' on the previous alternating weekend schedule.

Being the first weekend of the month, next Sunday's Mass times are:

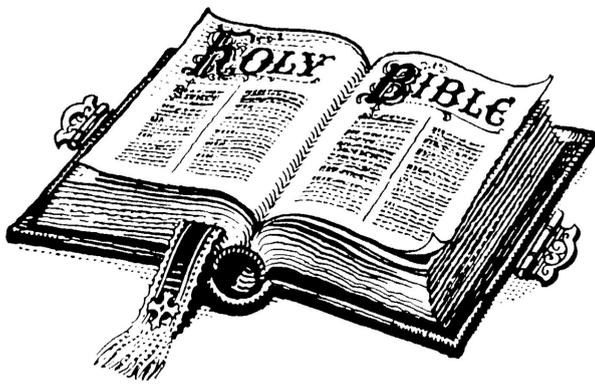
Infant Jesus, 6:30pm Saturday

St Patrick's, 10:30am Sunday

We will adhere to this Mass schedule on every weekend in December. So Koroit will have vigil Mass every weekend, and Port Fairy will have the morning Mass every weekend. Just for the month of December.

A COVIDSafe Plan is in place, aiming to keep everyone safe:

- Everyone in attendance is obliged to record their first name and a phone number, to facilitate contact tracing.
- Masks are worn throughout Mass.
- Fonts are empty of holy water.
- No communion from the chalice.
- Singing is not recommended.
- Every second pew will be roped off to make it easy to maintain the 1.5m social distancing rule. (Families from one household may still sit together of course.)



Reflection on today's Readings

by Fr Francis Fernandez

ADVENT: KEEPING WATCH IN EXPECTATION OF OUR LORD

Everybody knows, even those of us who have lived most unadventurously, says Ronald Knox in a sermon on Advent, what it is to plod on for miles, it seems, eagerly straining your eyes towards the lights that, somehow, mean home. How difficult it is, when you are doing that to judge distances! In pitch darkness, it might be a couple of miles to your destination, it might be a few hundred yards. So it was, I think, with the Hebrew prophets, as they looked forward to the redemption of their people. They could not have told you, within a hundred years, within five hundred years, when it was the deliverance would come. They only knew that, some time, the stock of David would burgeon anew; some time, a key would be found to fit the door of their prison house; some time, the light that only showed, now, like a will o' the wisp on the horizon would broaden out, at last, into the perfect day.

This attitude of expectation is one which the Church wants to encourage in us, her children, permanently. She sees it as an essential part of our Christian drill that we should still be looking forward; getting on for two thousand years, now, since the first Christmas Day came and went, and we must still be looking forward. So she encourages us, during Advent, to take the shepherd folk for our guides, and imagine ourselves travelling

with them, at dead of night, straining our eyes towards that chink of light which streams out, we know, from the cave at Bethlehem.

When the Messiah came, few really were expecting him. *He came unto his own and his own received him not.* Most men of that time had been blind to what was most essential in their lives and in the life of the world.

Watch, therefore, Our Lord tells us in today's gospel. *Wake from sleep,* St Paul echoes. For we too can forget what is most fundamental in our existence, what our life here on earth is about.

Summon the nations, say to the peoples: See, our God and Saviour is coming! Tell it, proclaim it; cry aloud.

The Church reminds us of this with a four week period of preparation, so that we can get ourselves ready to celebrate Christmas once more. And at the same time so that, with the first coming to the world of God made Man, we may be heedful of those other 'advents' of God – first when we die, and then again at the end of time. The holy season is thus a time of preparation and of hope.

Come, O Lord, and do not delay. Let us make straight His path... The Lord is soon to arrive. If we are aware that our sight is clouded and that we don't see clearly the radiance emanating from Bethlehem, from the infant Jesus, it is time to rid ourselves of whatever impairs our vision. Now is the time for a specially good examination of conscience and for a thorough interior purification which will befit us to receive and to welcome that expected guest who is God. It is the moment to take note of the things that separate us from Him, to loosen their hold and cast them from us. Our examination, then, must penetrate to the very roots of our actions and scrutinize deep down in our hearts the motives which inspire our actions.

CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION

The South West Victoria CPE Centre is offering the opportunity for education and formation in Pastoral Care, with the option to have a CPE unit recognised as 30 points should you wish to enrol in theological studies with the University of Divinity. The Centre is registered through the Association for Supervised and Clinical Pastoral Education Victoria (ASACPEV Inc.).

CPE is currently offered online and will be this way for at least the first semester in 2021, after which it will be reassessed. For more information call 0455 033 321 or e-mail Bernadette at bernadette@bernadettewurlod.com.au

CATHOLIC MISSION DIARIES

Catholic Mission, the agency which forms Australians for mission and raises funds for their ministry, has sent us some 2021 diaries. If you would like one, they are available to pick up before or after Mass. The diaries are free to take away.

ROSTERS

New rosters will be prepared in the new year, once the new Mass schedule is decided upon. For the month of December, we might make do with a revival of the December 2019 roster, with amendments made as necessary. (For example, since there is no communion from the chalice, there's no need for three extraordinary ministers of communion.)

ADVENT WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY

Join thousands of people all around the world and *Expect the Unexpected!* Sign up for a free daily email devotional that will guide you on a life-changing journey through Advent.

From 29th November you'll receive daily emails with short inspirational videos from Bruce Downes, full of real life stories and practical ways to become all that God has created you to be!

To register or for more information, visit brucedownes.org/registerforadvent or e-mail: info@brucedownes.org.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY 2020 CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia is asking people in a position to do so to dig a bit deeper this year as the Society launches its Christmas Appeal after a very tough year. To donate please visit donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-appeal

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS Second Sunday of Advent

First Reading. *Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11.*

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it.

Second Reading. *2 Peter 3:8-14.*

We are waiting for the new heavens and the new earth.

Gospel. *Mark 1:1-8.*

A voice cries in the wilderness: prepare a way for the Lord.

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