

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### **First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18**

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,  
Israel, shout aloud!  
Rejoice, exult with all your heart,  
daughter of Jerusalem!  
The Lord has repealed your sentence;  
he has driven your enemies away.  
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;  
you have no more evil to fear.  
When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem:  
Zion, have no fear,  
do not let your hands fall limp.  
The Lord your God is in your midst,  
a victorious warrior.  
He will exult with joy over you,  
he will renew you by his love;  
he will dance with shouts of joy for you  
as on a day of festival.

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

**R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for  
among you is the great and Holy One of  
Israel.**

1. Truly, God is my salvation,  
I trust, I shall not fear.  
For the Lord is my strength, my song,  
he became my saviour.  
With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation. R.
2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!  
Declare the greatness of his name. R.
3. Sing a psalm to the Lord  
for he has done glorious deeds,  
make them known to all the earth!  
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. R.

### **Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7**

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

### **Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

### **GOSPEL:** Luke 3:10-18

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!' A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

### **Response to Prayers of the Faithful:**

God of joy, hear our prayer

### **Wisdom Connection**

This Sunday's spirit of rejoicing that God is near is the joyful attitude with which we can respond to God's nearness all the time. God comes to us in love, whether or not we are ready to receive him. Like the crowds with John the Baptist, we wonder what to do in response to God's nearness. Do we avoid God because of fear or apathy due to lost hope? or do we respond joyfully as John the Baptist suggests, being generous and honest, just and fair, and aware of our responsibilities as son or daughter, brother or sister, student or friend, employee or teammate? Our challenge is to bring the hope we have found in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Good News of a God who is near, to everyone.

# Welcomę Parish of Cororooke

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Coragulac, VIC 3249

Email: cororooke@ballarat.catholic.org.au



**Moderator:** Maureen Finn 0428329231  
**Supervising Priest:** Fr Michael O'Toole  
**School Principal:** Leanne Eastman  
**Parish Sec:** Gracesyn Perrett 52331464  
**Child Safety Officer:** Leanne Eastman  
**St Brendan's:** 9.30am Sunday/  
5pm 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
**St Joseph's:** 10:30am Lay-led /  
Mass 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

## St Brendan's: Lay Led 9.30am 19<sup>th</sup> Dec

**Minister:** J Miller

**Commentator:** O'Dowd Family

**Reader:** Speirs Family

**Leaders:** J Miller/L Darcy

## St Joseph's: 19<sup>th</sup> Dec Mass @ 10.30am

**Family:** Hickman

## ALTAR & SACRISTY DUTIES:

**St Brendan's:**

19<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> Dec: A McCarthy & D Howard

**St Joseph's: Dec: D Melville**

**Counters:** 19<sup>th</sup> Dec: P O'Shea

**RECENT DEATHS:** Mary Green

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Frank Finnigan, Jan Finlay, Christopher Fay, Mary Cole, Kate Mahoney, Fred Newcombe, Mark Nagle, Christopher Roache, Eric Monaghan, Margaret Hickey, June Turner, Molly Mahoney & Connor Remmerswaal

**Those seeking our prayers for  
healing and well being.**

*Leah Spokes, Geraldine Finn,  
Goldie Elsum, Doug Swanson , Ross Soares*



**All:** Loving God, You sent John the Baptist as a voice crying out in the desert, open our ears to hear his message and shape our lives so that they will become a straight path to you. We light this pink candle in joy, the joy that we have in Jesus, our Saviour, the one who is anointed by God to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners.

Let us prepare, then, the way of the Lord. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

## CHRISTMAS 2021

*St Brendan's Christmas Vigil...*

*Friday 24<sup>th</sup> @ 6.00pm with Fr Val*

*St Joseph's Christmas Day @10.30am*

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

**Dec 12<sup>th</sup>:** Carols @ 7.00pm

**Dec 19<sup>th</sup>:** Mass @St Josephs

**Dec 24<sup>th</sup>:** Christmas Vigil St Brendan's @ 6.00pm

**Dec 25<sup>th</sup>:** St Joseph's @ 10.30am

**Dec 26<sup>th</sup>:** Lay led @St Brendan's

## CAROLS:

Everyone is invited to sing Carols on Sunday Dec 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7.00pm in the Church then outside for Christmas songs and a special visitor!

We wish Fr Kevin a speedy recovery from his eye surgery this week. We look forward to your welcome return to say Mass for St Joseph's on the 19<sup>th</sup> Dec

**Thank you** to Leanne Eastman for her presence and contribution to our Parish Leadership Team.

### ***CatholicCare Victoria Giving Tree Appeal***

This pandemic has been hard on us all. But as with every disaster, COVID-19 is making the already vulnerable more vulnerable still. Your generous donation to this year's Giving Tree Appeal will provide practical and financial support for struggling Victorian families - from three square meals a day to help with utility bills... every gift you choose helps. To donate go to <https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/campaign/donate/14/giving-tree-appeal>

### ***Vinnies Christmas Kindness Appeal***

This Christmas donate to Vinnies. Your gift can change a life. There are families who are experiencing poverty and homelessness this Christmas and your help can provide them with much needed essentials like food, clothing and a place to call home. To donate go to <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-kindness>

### ***Mary Mackillop Heritage Centre & Museum – Christmas Gifts and Accommodation***

With Christmas coming up, please consider supporting the work of the Sisters of St Joseph by purchasing a [2022 Josephite Calendar](#) (\$8.00) and/or a present from the [Museum Gift Shop](#) (communion & confirmation gifts, devotional items, Vatican Library collection, rosary beads, holding crosses, candles, cards, statues, crucifixes, books and Peruvian handmade items) <https://www.mmhc.org.au/facilities/gift-shop/>. Accommodation is available at the Mary Mackillop Heritage Centre for events like the Boxing Day Test, Australian Open or the theatre in the heart of Melbourne. For those staying in the apartments, there is free onsite parking located across from Fitzroy Gardens and the Cathedral. Contact Kate for accommodation enquiries, ph. 9926 9300.

### ***Parish Nativity Scenes***

The coordinators of the “Making a scene at Christmas” nativity displays are asking parishes to send in photos of their nativity scenes so they can be added to an online display, which will featured on the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat website. Please email these images to [jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au). Looking forward to receiving the beautiful images of the many nativity scenes around the diocese.

### ***Making a Scene at Christmas***

A display of over 500 Christmas nativities from more than 60 countries will be held in the Bridge Mall Ballarat on December 11-20, 2021. Entry by gold coin donation. All welcome. More information available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/making-a-scene-at-christmas/>

### ***Synod of Bishops***

Catholics across Australia are invited to participate in a period of local consultation for the next international Synod of Bishops, which has the theme, “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission”. The People of God are invited to use a guided, prayerful reflection method to consider a series of questions and make submissions via an online portal. Those submissions will help the Bishops develop a national report to support the global process leading to an international gathering in 2023. Find out more at <http://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

