



# THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF IVANHOE

*St Bernadette's Church, 89 Bond St, Ivanhoe West*  
*Mary Immaculate Church, 4 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe*  
*Mother of God Church, 56 Wilfred Rd, Ivanhoe East*

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Thang Vu 63 Wilfred Rd, Ivanhoe East 9499 5440  
**Parish Office:** 4 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe 3079 **Phone:** 9499 1515 **Fax:** 9499 9959  
**Parish Secretary:** Mrs. Ruth Villani  
**Parish Website:** www.ivanhoecatholics.com **Email:** catholicparishofivanhoe@bigpond.com

## Masses:

**Weekend: Saturday:** 6.30pm St Bernadette's **Sunday:** 9am Mary Immaculate; 10.30am Mother of God  
**Weekday:** 9.15am **Tuesday:** Mother of God **Wednesday:** Mary Immaculate **Friday:** St Bernadette's

No. 49

1 – 2 December 2012

## 1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT: YEAR C



### The lighting of the first Advent candle:

On this first Sunday of Advent, we give thanks for the symbols that help us to focus on the meaning of this special season. The circle speaks of God - without beginning and without end. The four candles mark for us, in human terms, the weeks of waiting, of anticipation. As we light the first candle, we hear the challenge of the Gospel - Watch yourselves!! Stay awake! Be alert to the needs of the world and of this community. May we be especially alert for ways in which we can make our community truly **inclusive**.

### THE WORD

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

V. 1. Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. **R.**

V. 2. The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray,

He guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

V. 3. His ways are faithfulness and love for those who keep his covenant and will.

The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him; to them he reveals his covenant. **R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:** We pray: Come Lord Jesus.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

### **PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY:**

We remember all in need of prayer at this time including Tony Butler, Helen Bergman, Phillip Reed and Bev Horne. We remember all who provide care and support for those in need.

We remember Tess McCarthy who died recently. We also remember Steve Berthelot whose anniversary occurs at this time. May they rest in peace.

### This Week's Readings: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent: Year C

Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 24:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 1 Thess 3:12-4:2 Luke 21:25-28, 34-6

#### Saint and Feast Days:

Mon 3 Dec: St Francis Xavier

Wed 5 Dec: St Sabas

Fri. 7 Dec: St Ambrose

Tues 4 Dec: St John Damascene

Thurs 6 Dec: St Nicholas

Sat. 8 Dec: Immaculate Conception

### Next Week's Readings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent: Year C

Baruch 5:1-9 Psalm 125 Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11 Luke 3:1-6



## **REFLECTION:**

Toward the end of 1999 people were gearing up to welcome in the new millennium. Some Christians who take the scriptures literally joined in the fun and declared that the end of the world was nigh and that Christ would return on his two-thousandth birthday. They seem to subscribe to the old adage that, 'one should never let the facts get in the way of a good story'!

Christianity took over the Roman calendar in what we now call the 4th Century of the Christian era. At Rome in 526, a scholarly monk named Dionysius Exiguus compiled a list of the dates of Jesus' birth, death and resurrection. He assigned dates in the new Christian calendar for each of these events. Given the tools at his disposal, he did an extraordinary job. We know, however, from other historical sources and from the New Testament, where it mentions who the various Jewish and Roman rulers were in Palestine, that Dionysius was four years out with his dating. The church became aware of this mistake in 1582, but to correct it the world would have lost four years! So we have all lived with it ever since.

We can, however, safely assume that Jesus knows the year in which he was born and that if our fundamentalist Christian friends are right in believing he was going to return on his 2000th birthday, he would have done so in 1996! The facts are that in every generation we have had people tell us that the sun, moon, stars, wars, famine, tidal waves and earthquakes, mentioned in today's Gospel, all demonstrate that Jesus is about to return. Clearly, we are still waiting. If only the Christians who give out these dire predictions, every so often, would take as seriously Jesus' words, 'You will know not the time, nor the place when the Son of Man will return in glory'.

Luke's community thought that Jesus would return quickly and spectacularly. They were surprised that the first generation of Christian believers was dying without seeing it all happen. Given the terrible suffering they were enduring for Jesus, the early Christians no doubt hoped that the end of the world would be soon and would demonstrate to everyone that they were not foolish to cling to Christ in the face of all opposition and persecution. The early Christians knew that there was no point professing faith in Jesus Christ unless our daily behaviour reflects his kingdom. It has been a telling point ever since. If every Christian lived out the Gospel in his or her daily life, the world would be transformed and Christ would come in spectacular fashion.

I haven't got a clue when the world will cease to exist, but on this, the first day of the Church's Year, I know that the Lord returns to us every time we love, forgive, share, are compassionate, are generous and sacrificial toward one another. It may not be as grand as dancing suns and tidal waves, but the heroic love of a parent for a child, a spouse for their sick partner and the first world sharing with the third world are spectacular enough for me to believe that Jesus' kingdom comes every day, in every hour, at every moment.

May this first Eucharist of the Church's year be a taste for us of the Kingdom of God that is both present amongst us and still to come. And may the Advent season sustain us in our waiting and give us courage in our living.

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## **HAPPENINGS ACROSS THE PARISH**

Saturday 1 Dec	10.00am	<b>Reconciliation</b>	Mary Immaculate Church
Sunday 2 Dec	10.30am	MOG Mass & MOG School Advent Mass	Mother of God Church
Monday 3 Dec	7.30pm	Baptism Preparation & Information Session	Parish Office
Tuesday 4 Dec	9.15am	Mother of God School – Junior School	Mother of God Church
Tuesday 4 Dec	7.30pm	St Bernadette's School Parents & Friends	
Tuesday 4 Dec	8.00pm	Ross McKinney Advent Lecture	St George's Anglican Church
Wednesday 5 Dec	7.00pm	Yarra Deanery Advent Service	St John's, Heidelberg
Friday 7 Dec	9.15am	Mass & St Bernadette's School Seniors	St Bernadette's Church
Friday 7 Dec	9.15am & 4pm	<b>First Friday Devotions</b>	St Bernadette's Church
Friday 7 Dec		Finance Committee Meeting	Parish Office
8 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> December		Special Collections – Melbourne Overseas Mission	
Saturday 8 Dec	6.30pm	St Bernadette's Mass-Welcome T & Prep 2013	St Bernadette's Church
Tuesday 11 Dec	9.15am	Mass & MOG School Thank You Mass	Mother of God Church
Tuesday 11 Dec	8.00pm	Ross McKinney Advent Lecture	Mother of God Church
Wednesday 12 Dec	12.00pm	Outreach Christmas Lunch	See notice in newsletter
Friday 14 Dec	9.15am	Mass & St Bernadette's School – Juniors	St Bernadette's Church

**INCLUSIVENESS**

**HOSPITALITY**

**SERVICE**

**MISSION**

**Readers and Offertory Gifts:** We welcome the following children from parish schools and their families:

Masses	Date	Offertory Gifts
10.30am MOG	2 Dec	Sara Traficante & Andrew Tucci
	9 Dec	Amy Viola & Zach Zappulla

**Reconciliation at Mother of God Church 8<sup>th</sup> December:**

Reconciliation will not be available at Mother of God Church on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December  
Appointments for Reconciliation can be made via Mother of God House 9499 5440 or Office 9499 1515.

**Thank you:** We sincerely thank Fr Len Thomas who will celebrate 9.15am Mass at Mother of God, Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December whilst I am attending Prison Ministry. We are grateful to those priests who support our parish in a variety of ways, as well as giving generously in both time and spirit. - **Fr Thang**

**Please note:** As advised by the Archdiocese, there will be **Leaving Collections** in each church next weekend

**Melbourne Overseas Mission Appeal 8 – 9<sup>th</sup> Dec:** There will be Leaving Collections in each church for the Melbourne Overseas Mission as commended by Archbishop Denis Hart who thanks all parishioners for their ongoing support. Melbourne priests and parishioners have supported Melbourne Overseas Mission for over forty years. Major projects have focussed on Papua New Guinea and Sierra Leone; other projects include Peru, Pakistan and Botswana. Each year half a million dollars of donated goods (medical, educational and clothing supplies) are shipped to 90 locations situated around the Pacific and Africa.

**Thanksgiving Envelopes 6 January – 30 June 2013** are available for collection in each church.

*Mary Immaculate, Mother of God & St Bernadette's are now all in alphabetical order.*

**PLEASE NOTE: Thanksgiving Envelopes as from 6 January 2013**

**New envelopes numbers have been allocated to each person who uses Thanksgiving envelopes from 6 January 2013 onwards - your new number has been highlighted on each envelope.**

**So that your contributions can be recorded accurately please use these envelopes only. It is recommended that older envelopes are not used. Please throw out envelopes from past years.**

Statements for Thanksgiving contributions for the period July – 25 November 2012 are included with envelopes. Please feel free to deliver envelopes to those nearby or unable to collect them personally.

If you wish to contribute to the Parish Thanksgiving program, contact details are: **Mail:** 4 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe 3079 **Phone:** 9499 1515 **fax:** 9499 9959; or **email:** catholicparishofivanhoe@bigpond.com

If circumstances have changed and you are either unable or no longer wish to contribute as part of Thanksgiving contributions please contact the Parish Office **as soon as possible**. The Parish Office **needs personal contact made** using one of the above contact details so that we can respond to and respect your wishes; and thus not mail envelopes when they are no longer required. - Ruth

**Outreach News:** Christmas Lunch has been booked at the Yarra Valley Country Club on Wednesday, 12 Dec, at noon for 12.30pm. The cost for 3 course lunch is \$17 per person. Pay at the till as you order. Please bring a gift to the value of \$5.00 for our Kris Kringle. **All are invited and all welcome.** For transport assistance & bookings: Sue 9499 1485, Helen 9499 7793 or Eileen 9499 7120 **Wed. 5 December**.

**MOG Church Working Bee - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December:**

8.30am to 12.00pm. Contact: Andrew Tosolini abtconsulting@bigpond.com.au

**Keeping up a tradition!:**

Nibbles and drinks in the courtyard of the Parish Office. 5pm – 7pm. Sunday, **9<sup>th</sup> December**.

**B.YO. EVERYTHING, especially YOUR SELVES, YOUR FAMILIES, YOUR FRIENDS.**

**Christmas Hamper Appeal 2012:**

The local Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society will be preparing hampers for delivery to deserving families in our area. We invite parishioners to join us in this activity by placing donations of non perishable food, gifts and funds in the box provided in each church.

We would also welcome assistance to deliver the hampers on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Contact: 0419 798 120.

**Mother of God School Fete:** Thank you to all the Parishioners who donated to the plant and other stalls at the MOG School Community Fete. The Day was a magnificent success, providing wonderful food and entertainment to the community, in addition to raising much-needed funds for the school. - Fiona & Andrew

**2013 Mother of God Church Roster:** The roster for 2013 is being prepared at the moment. If you would like to volunteer to be a Special Minister, Sacristan, Lector or help with the flowers at Mother of God Church we would be most appreciative of your assistance. Alternatively if there are any changes affecting the current volunteer list please contact: Helen Taylor 9499 3041.

**Launch of the Banyule Interfaith Network – BIN:** A group of people, representing a range of faiths in the city of Banyule, has been meeting as ‘BIN’ for some time - in a wonderful spirit of ‘getting to know each other’. It will be launched at the Uniting Church Community Centre, Seddon St, Ivanhoe at 2pm, this afternoon, Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December. The afternoon will include the presentation of, a simple brochure which sets out the major beliefs of each faith, the recognition of the special celebrations which occur at this time of the year and - afternoon tea! Everyone most welcome. Please pass the word!! - Merle

**Advent Richard McKinney Ecumenical Lectures 2012:**  
Lectures begin: 8pm. Supper after each presentation at 9.15pm. Donation: Gold coin

- Tuesday 4 Dec: **Rest - a - while** - St George’s Anglican Church, 46 Warncliffe Rd, Ivanhoe East
- Tuesday 11 Dec: **The Ways are Many** - Mother of God Church, 56 Wilfred Road, Ivanhoe East

**Exploring the Labyrinth of Advent – Wednesday December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm:**  
Yarra Deanery invites parishioners to come to the labyrinth in the gardens of St John’s Church, 52 Yarra St, Heidelberg to spend a few moments of quiet as Advent gets underway. Walking the labyrinth can help open our hearts & minds and make straight the way of the Lord, as well as opportunity to meet new and old friends. Prog: 7:00 pm: Gather & Prayer in the labyrinth; 7:45 pm: Food (Pizza & Refreshments); Finish by 9:30 pm.

**Christmas Lunch at Mother of God Church:**  
Christmas Lunch and drinks will be available after 10.30am Mass on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December at Mother of God Church. All are invited and all are welcome. Please bring a plate of food to share.

**From PLT Meeting - 21.11.12:**

- Our three schools have good enrolments for 2013. Staffs planning grade allocations, teachers & children.
- The Outreach group will bring its year to an end with the traditional Christmas lunch.
- All churches and associated properties underwent a safety audit recently.
- The special focus of the Liturgy group is planning for the celebration of Advent and Christmas.
- Finance Committee reported that the parish is holding its own and will begin addressing the next budget.
- The Communication group has modified the format of their weekly information output which has been well received.
- Contributions to the life of the parish by many people in a variety of ways was gratefully acknowledged.
- Meeting dates were set for 2013.
- Please note the item in the newsletter re ‘Drinks and Nibbles’ in the office courtyard on 9<sup>th</sup> December.  
- Do come if you can!!

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**ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND: 8 – 9 December 2012**

<b><u>ST. BERNADETTE’S:</u></b> Saturday 6.30pm	<b>Lector</b> C. Dixon	<b>Special Ministers</b> B. Jowett, T. Nibali	
<b><u>MARY IMMACULATE:</u></b> Sunday 9.00am	<b>Leader</b> Mc Evey family	<b>Mass Coordinators</b> M. Gilbo	<b>Counters</b> P. Black, P. Fanning
<b><u>MOTHER OF GOD:</u></b> Sunday 10.30am	<b>Sacristan</b> E. Mount	<b>Lector</b> E. Mount	<b>Special Ministers</b> D. Ervin, M. Chin, B. / S. Janus
	<b>Altar Society:</b> A. Moloney		<b>Choir Coordinator:</b> I. Chiera

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**First Collection – Thanksgiving:** Envelopes: \$1,276.00    Loose cash: \$485.30    **Total: \$1,761.30**  
**Second Collection – Presbytery:** **\$ 753.00**

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