

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
Priest in Residence:	Fr. Thanh Tran	Parish Secretary: Mrs Ruth Villani	
Parish Office:	4 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe 3079	Phone: 9499 1515	Fax: 9499 9959
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. 50

14 – 15 December 2013

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: YEAR A



Lighting of the Third Advent candle:

Today's candle is rose - joyful relief from the penitential purple - signalling that 'the time' is near. When the people asked John the Baptist what they should do, he answers simply - act justly, share with those who are hungry, clothe those who have no tunic.

May we remember what we mean when we say we want to be a community who offers loving **service** to the sick, the lonely, the neglected, the ignored, the newcomers, the very young and the very old.

THE WORD

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Lord, come and save us.

V. 1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed.

It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**

V. 2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down,

The Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. **R.**

V. 3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked.

The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!


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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY:

We remember all in need of prayer at this time including Alf Cattanach, Nancy Gibb, Nita Meagher, Yvonne Homsey, Raffaella Danza, Sheila Mullane, Nora Brown, Sheila Ryan and Mary Bezzina. We remember all who provide care and support for those in need.

We remember Lina Palmieri and Guerina Zoch who died recently. We also remember Christopher Hall, Olive Blackburn, John Zahra, Esther Zahra, Julie Schembri, William Thomas, Tom Walsh, Moira Walsh and Lucia Sartori whose anniversaries occur at this time.

 **Baptisms:** We welcome Joshua Orlando, Lachlan Webber and Elizabeth Hodgson-Tan who are baptised into the faith community of the Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe this weekend. We welcome their families, relatives and friends who have come to share this special occasion, one of many steps in the lifelong journey of faith.

INCLUSIVENESS

HOSPITALITY

SERVICE

MISSION

St Joseph

Just when Joseph had resolved to dismiss her [Mary] quietly, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife." (Mt 1:20)

In the story of Jesus' birth, Joseph was called to let go of his own agenda in order to embrace the expansiveness of a God whose ways were always beyond his imagining. Reflect on a time when our world was shattered. What was that shattering experience like for us? What did God call us to do in that situation? What was our response in that situation?

Joseph's life was filled with fears and tensions: an arduous trek across inhospitable lands to Bethlehem with Mary who was nine months pregnant; the traumatic flight into Egypt (as can be seen in stricken faces of today's asylum seekers near our soil); three days and nights of frantic search and unspeakable agony, for Joseph when losing the child Jesus... Through all these ups and downs of his life, Joseph handled the tensions and fears with considerable grace. In a nutshell, Joseph clinged to what really mattered: his trust in God's goodness and providence.

Joseph can be a companion in the Advent journey. He acts discreetly, humbly and silently, yet with an unfailing presence and utter fidelity, even when he finds it hard to understand.

Blessed Virgin Mary

Though Matthew's attention is centred on Joseph, Mary is equally central – the silent, pregnant Mary. She is present as one waiting in hope for God to act. For there is no other means to go on with life, drawing on the inner strength, the presence of the living God. It alerts us to the possibility of facing total darkness in a spirit of hope. Angels come in God's good time.

The pregnant Mary reminds us that new life comes at its own rate of growth, according to laws that do not yield to a desire for quick results. She speaks to all of us caught up in a fast-paced world. In a culture that disposes quickly of what isn't working, that has little patience with either fragility or weakness, Mary reminds us that we have to wait for some things.

Like her, we may be called to witness to a God who works in the fullness of time, which can be excruciatingly slow for those who live by a schedule. Throughout the history of salvation, God proves to be a God of new life, a God who is Emmanuel, God-with-us.

Mary ultimately is our Advent companion, because she is carrying the Word-Incarnate herself. All that Jesus needed to take to himself to redeem us, and to share our human existence, he takes from Mary: through her capacity to die, she gives him; her capacity to experience human suffering, she gives him. If Jesus takes his flesh from Mary, then she is our companion who leads us into our deepest union with her Son, Jesus. It is in the joys and hopes, anguish and anxiety of our lives which are now the place where Christ forges a union between himself and humankind.

Advent presents us with four companions. Each speaks to us of waiting – in excitement (Isaiah), in desperation (John the Baptist), in trusting in God's goodness and providence (Joseph), in silent hope (Mary). During a season when we can become easily frazzled and anxious about many things, when loneliness and loss can threaten to overwhelm us, we can know that we are not alone. We have with us, among others, a faith-filled quartet who point toward an abiding Presence who continues to breathe the divine Spirit into us, bringing to new birth sons and daughters of the living God.

Maranatha – Emmanuel – Amen.

Come, O Lord – God-with-us – Amen.

Sources:

- Pope Francis, Solemnity of St Joseph Homily 19-03-2013, www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/homilies/2013/documents/papa-francesco_20130319_omelia-inizio-pontificato_en.html
- James Wallace CSsR, Three Companions for the Advent Journey <http://www.catholicireland.net/three-companions-for-the-advent-journey/>

HAPPENINGS ACROSS THE PARISH

Saturday 14 Dec	10.00am	Reconciliation – Advent Service	Mother of God Church
Monday 16 Dec	6.00pm	St Bernadette's P.S. Graduation	St Bernadette's Church
Monday 16 Dec	6.00pm	Mother of God P.S. Graduation	Mother of God Church
Tuesday 17 Dec	9.15am	Mary Immaculate P.S. Graduation & Carols	Mary Immaculate Church
Friday 20 Dec	7.30pm	Reconciliation – Advent Service	Mary Immaculate Church
Saturday 21 Dec	10.00am	Reconciliation – Advent Service	St Bernadette's Church

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES: Second Rite:

Saturday 14 December	10.00am	Mother of God Church
Friday 20 December	7.30pm	Mary Immaculate
Saturday 21 December	10.00am	St Bernadette's Church

Christmas Lunch at Mother of God Church, Sunday 15th December:

Christmas Lunch and drinks will be available after 10.30am Mass on Sunday 15th December at Mother of God Church. All are invited and all are welcome. Please bring a plate of food to share.

Mother of God School Primary School 50th Anniversary - History Book: Orders are now available

If interested in ordering a book please contact office at Mother of God School 9497 1094. Books need to be pre-ordered and pre-paid before they are printed. To preview a copy of the book please go to Mother of God School Office, 66 Wilfred Rd, Ivanhoe East. Cost of the book is \$45.00. First delivery will be before the end of term if ordered by Friday 6th Dec. After this date delivery will be early in the New Year.

Mother of God Church Roster 2014: Rosters for 2014 will be available next weekend 21 – 22 December. Thank you to all concerned for your support in the various roles in the church. – Helen 9499 3041

Thanksgiving Envelopes 5 January – 29 June 2014 are available for collection in each church.

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

So that your contributions can be recorded accurately please use these envelopes only.

New numbers were allocated last year and it is recommended that older envelopes are not used.

Statements for Thanksgiving contributions for the period 1 January – 1 December 2013 are included with envelopes. Please feel free to deliver envelopes to those nearby or unable to collect them personally. Statements for those giving by **Credit Card or Direct Debit** are also available in each church.

There are three options for Thanksgiving contributions: Envelopes, Credit Card or Direct Debit. Please contact the Parish Office: **Mail:** 4 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe 3079 **Phone:** 9499 1515 **fax:** 9499 9959; or **email:** catholicparishofivanhoe@bigpond.com

If you are unable or no longer wish to contribute as part of Thanksgiving contributions please contact the Parish Office **as soon as possible** so that envelopes are not sent when they are no longer required. - Ruth

CHRISTMAS MASSES 2013

Christmas Eve: Tuesday 24th December

Family Masses

6.00pm	St Bernadette's
7.30pm	Mary Immaculate
7.30pm	Mother of God (Carols from 7.00pm)

Later Mass

9.00pm	St Bernadette's – Korean Catholic Community
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Christmas Day: Wednesday 25th December

Morning Masses

9.00am	Mary Immaculate
9.00am	St Bernadette's
10.30am	Mother of God
11.00am	St Bernadette's - Korean / English Mass



NEW YEAR 2014

New Year's Day Wednesday 1st January 2014:

9.15am	Mary Immaculate (normal Mass time)
11.00am	St Bernadette's – Korean
7.30pm	Mother of God

2013 Christmas Mass Times and Carol Services in the Archdiocese of Melbourne:

For details of the Mass and service times of parishes in the Archdiocese of Melbourne visit www.cam.org.au

This Week's Readings: 3rd Sunday of Advent: Year A**Isaiah 35:1-6, 10****Psalm 145:6-10****James 5:7-10****Matthew 11:2-11****Saint and Feast Days:***Mon 16 Dec: St Adelaide**Wed 18 Dec: St Flannan**Fri 20 Dec: St Fachanan**Tues 17 Dec: St Olympias**Thurs 19 Dec: St Anastasius**Sat 21 Dec: St Peter Canisius***Next Week's Readings: 4th Sunday of Advent: Year A****Isaiah 7:10-14****Psalm 23:1-6****Romans 1:1-7****Matthew 1:18-24****Christmas Hamper Appeal 2013:**

The local Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is preparing hampers for delivery to deserving families in our area. Boxes will be collected from each church on 15 December. Assistance in delivering hampers welcomed. Please contact: 0419 798 120

Caritas Australia Typhoon Haiyan Appeal:

Those who wish to donate and receive tax deductions are advised to give directly via Caritas Australia.

- Melbourne Office (03) 9926 5706 or 1800 024 413, donate online at www.caritas.org.au or send to Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert St, East Melbourne 3002 or GPO Box 9830 in your Capital City.

Lectio Divina reflections App:

The *Lectio Divina* reflections App is a new and accessible way to prayerfully reflect on the Scriptures in preparation for the joyful arrival of the Christ child. *Lectio Divina* is the meditative reading of a text of God's Word, alone or with others, which leads to prayer and through that transformation of life. *Lectio Divina App* is available free worldwide for both Apple and Android devices.

iPhone: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/lectio-divina-phone/id760070889?ls=1&mt=8>

iPad: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/lectio-divina-tablet/id760044932?ls=1&mt=8>

Android phone: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.fraynetwork.lectiodivina2013mob>

Android tablet: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.fraynetwork.lectiodivina2013>

Parish of Ivanhoe Playgroup:

The Ivanhoe Playgroup offers a welcoming and supportive environment where parents and children can play, learn and have fun.

Ages: The playgroup suits children aged between 0- 4 years

Venue: Mary Immaculate Church Hall, 4 Waverley Ave. Ivanhoe

Session Times: Wednesday 9 - 11am or Thursday 9 - 11am

What to bring: A healthy snack and drink bottle for Morning Tea. Nut free please.
Sun hat / sunscreen for hot days

Activities: Weekly craft activities. Many educational toys to explore. Books. Shared Singing time. Large sandpit and bikes for outdoor play and so much more.

Further details: Contact Liz Shearer: Phone 0411 345 664 or Email: liz.shearer1@gmail.com

ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND: 21 – 22 December 2013**ST. BERNADETTE'S:**

Saturday 6.30pm

Lector

J. Murphy

Special Ministers

A. Pellizzari, T. Nibali

MARY IMMACULATE:

Sunday 9.00am

Leader

K. Donhardt

Reader

E. Donhardt

Mass Coordinators

M. Gilbo

Counters

P. Black, P. Fanning

MOTHER OF GOD:

Sunday 10.30am

Sacristan

M. Hoban

Lector

By arrangement

Special Ministers

By arrangement

Altar Society:

P. Caddy

Choir Coordinator: M. De Silva

First Collection – Thanksgiving: Envelopes: \$3,419.00 Loose cash: \$542.00 **Total: \$3,961.00**

Second Collection – Presbytery: **\$ 882.80**

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