



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 (after hours)
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. 48

29 – 30 November 2014

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: YEAR B

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: Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

- V. 1. 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.
- V. 2. 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.
- V. 3. 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.

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

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: Lord of Light: Hear our prayer

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

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY:

We remember Peter Fleming, Fr Burns Huggan, Margaret O'Brien, Katharina Dimitscheff, Tran thi Kim Chi, Sung Bui, Amy Nguyen, John Coonan, Kathryn Lengyel and Gino Villani who are in need of prayer at this time. We remember those who provide care and support for those in need.

We remember Monsignor Aldo Rebeschini, Monsignor James Murray and Bishop Jeremiah Coffey who died recently. We remember Frank Rocco whose anniversary occurs at this time. May they rest in peace.

This Week's Readings: 1st Sunday of Advent: Year B

Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8 Psalm 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:33-37

Saint and Feast Days:

Mon 1 December: St Eligius

Wed 3 December: St Francis Xavier

Fri 5 December: St Sabas

Tues 2 December: St Bibiana

Thurs 4 December: St John Damascene

Sat 6 December: St Nicholas

Next Week's Readings: 2nd Sunday of Advent: Year B

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 Psalm 84:9-14 2 Peter 3:8-14 Mark 1:1-8

From the desk of Fr Thang:

A New Liturgical Year

Happy New Liturgical Year!

Happy Christian New Year to be precise!

This weekend commences the beginning of another Liturgical Year, marked always with the First Sunday of Advent. Advent is a late inclusion to the liturgical calendar in the sixth century. Pope Gregory the Great (590-604 AD) initiated a four-week liturgical preparation for Christmas. The early Church had only one annual feast, Easter, which celebrated the whole mystery of our Lord's birth, life, public ministry, death and resurrection.

In this new Liturgical Year, on most Sundays, we will hear Jesus-events from the Gospel of Mark (Year B). Three major themes occur in Mark: the identity of Jesus, the nature of God's kingdom and the characteristics of genuine discipleship.

At a recent priestly retreat, Tasmanian Scriptural scholar Fr Chris Hope presented the Gospel of Mark to us. According to Fr Chris, the Evangelist's main interest is the person of Jesus himself. He follows Jesus through his public ministry in Galilee with his calling, on the way [beginning and ending with the curing of two blind men] sandwiched with the three predictions, and finally in Jerusalem before the passion. The question "Who is this Jesus?" dominates the first half of Mark's Gospel. Mark presents Jesus as a teacher with a special type of authority, a miracle worker, and a healer, someone who is the fulfilment of the ancient promise of a Messiah, though different from what his companions expected of a Messiah.

Fr Chris also reflected deeply upon Mark's questions and our answers. For this week, I would like to outline some so that when the Gospel of Mark is proclaimed we might appreciate what Mark is trying to present of Jesus' events to us: What does bringing the Good News of Jesus mean, day after day? Who is this Jesus for me today?

This week, the Evangelist Mark calls us to be on guard, stay awake, and be ready to greet the master on his return. Advent is season of hopeful waiting.

As driving and walking to visit some people in our parish this week, I could not help to see the jacaranda tree. This tree reminds me of a wonderful poem by the late Good Samaritan Sister Verna Holyhead, a teacher, scriptural scholar, retreat director, and liturgist, called *Advent Bursts*:

Advent bursts violet and beautiful like the jacaranda tree on the very brink of an Australian summer.

It is a tree of contradictions, like this southern season of the Church's year:

green-leafed in winter, autumn gold in spring, blossoming from bare trunk to welcome in November.

A myriad trumpets cluster for short fanfares before it lays a purple carpet to greet its king who is not yet – but coming.

(I have a permission from the Sisters of the Good Samaritan to use this poem. I wish to thank them for this.)

As Advent begins we pray:

"Keep us alert, O Lord our God, as we await the advent of Christ your Son, so that, when he comes and knocks, he may find us watchful in prayer and exultant in his praise."
(Collect, Monday of 1st week of Advent)

HAPPENINGS ACROSS THE PARISH

Saturday 29 Nov	10.00am	Reconciliation	Mary Immaculate Church
Saturday 29 Nov	6.30pm	Mass & St Bernadette's P.S. New families	St Bernadette's Church
Sunday 30 Nov	10.30am	Mass & Mother of God School - Seniors	Mother of God Church
Monday 1 December	7.30pm	Baptism Preparation Session	Parish Office
Tuesday 2 December	9.15am	Mass & NOG School – Preps & Juniors	Mother of God Church
Tuesday 2 December	4.15pm	Christian Meditation (last session 2014)	Mary Immaculate Hall
Wednesday 3 Dec	9.15am	Mass & Mary Immaculate PS 5M & 6SO	Mary Immaculate Church
Friday 5 December	9.15am	Mass followed by First Friday Devotions	St Bernadette's Church
Saturday 6 December	10.00am	Reconciliation	Mary Immaculate Church
Sunday 7 December	5.00pm	Parish Gathering	Parish Office courtyard
Monday 7 December	7.00pm	Yarra Deanery Advent Gathering & Meal	St Clement's Church, Bulleen
Wednesday 10 Dec	12 Noon	Outreach Christmas Lunch	Yarra Valley Country Club

Prayers of the Sick: Please note that as from February 2014 our practice is to leave names on the sick list for a month. To extend the time, please make personal contact with the Parish Office.

Baptisms 2015:

Baptisms are celebrated as part of the Liturgy within weekend Masses at each of our churches in most cases. Baptisms are booked through personal contact by the parents of the child concerned. Baptism preparation sessions are facilitated by Anita Moloney at the Parish Office on the first Monday of the month. In 2015 Baptisms will be offered at 2.00pm on the first Sunday of the month at Mother of God Church. – **Fr Thang**

St Bernadette's School Mass Saturday 29th November:

We welcome the children and their families who have been invited to come to the 6.30pm Mass at St Bernadette's Church. We wish them well as they commence the 2015 school year at St Bernadette's School.

Mother of God School Mass Sunday 30th November:

We welcome the children and their families from the Senior School at Mother of God School who have come to the 10.30am Mass at Mother of God Church. We welcome readers: Mya Bongiorno-Webb Sunday 30 November and Roberto Calderera on 7 December.

Meditation Group December 2014 & February 2015: The Meditation Group will have its last meeting for 2014 on Tuesday 2 December and will reconvene on Tuesday 3 February 2015.

St Bernadette's First Friday Devotions - Friday 5th December:

Mass will be celebrated at 9.15am and immediately after Mass there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. All are welcome to spend time in prayer with the Blessed Sacrament.

Important Notice from Outreach: There will **not** be a lunch and games day on December 3rd.

The next time we gather together will be at 12 Noon on Wednesday 10 December at Yarra Valley Country Club for our Christmas lunch. Thank you - Sue, Eileen and Helen.

Christmas Lunch Reminder:

Please contact Sue 9499 1485, Helen 9499 7793 or Eileen 9499 7120 by Monday 1st December if you plan to come to our Christmas celebration at the Yarra Valley Country Club on December 10. Yarra Valley Country Club is a popular venue and we need to confirm our booking at least a week ahead. We look forward to the happy time we have experienced and thank you for your consideration. You are welcome to include family or friends. Cost: \$25 per person plus KK gift. – Outreach Group.

Parish Gathering Sunday 7th December:

Is your diary filling up very quickly? That seems a familiar story. So, right now, mark Sunday, 7th December, 5.00pm as a **must** and come to the traditional parish gathering in the court yard behind the Parish Office. It's BYO everything so no need to book. JUST COME

An Advent Gathering in the Yarra Deanery Monday 8th December:

The tradition continues. We will again gather on the wonderful Piazza at St. Clement's Church, Bulleen (off Manningham Rd) to listen to the stories of the people in our salvation history and to reflect on what message they bring to us. Happily, this year, it will be on the feast of Mary Immaculate, Monday 8th December, beginning at 7.00pm. Everyone is **most welcome** to join in this prayerful preparation for Christmas and to stay for supper.

Christmas Lunch 14 December at Mother of God Church:

All are invited and welcome to the Christmas Lunch after the 10.30am Mass at Mother of God Church on Sunday 14 December. A donation of food items on a plate to share at this gathering will be much appreciated.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper Appeal 2014:

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 by placing donations of non-perishable food, gifts and funds in the box provided in each church. **Boxes will be collected from each church Sunday 14 December.** We also would welcome assistance to deliver the hampers on Tuesday 16th December. Contact: 0419 798 120.



Parishioner request for assistance:

John is a member of the parish St Vincent de Paul Conference who is looking to rent a small unit or bungalow in the Ivanhoe area as from 1st December. Please contact John 9499 7869 as soon as possible if you are able to assist in this matter. Thank you – John.

Mother of God Church Roster:

Rosters are being prepared for next year for assistance at the 10.30am Mass. We are looking for volunteers to go on the rosters to help in the roles of Sacristan, Reader, Special Minister and altar service. If you would like to assist at the Masses please ring Helen Taylor on 9499 3041. If there are any changes to the roster from current volunteers please ring me. - Helen

INCLUSIVENESS

HOSPITALITY

SERVICE

MISSION

Working Bee Thanks: So unexpected, Saturday morning's weather was cool for the Working Bee! Mostly pruning, weeding and cleaning up around the Parish Office and Mary Immaculate Church, we managed to fill the big 4 m² garden waste bin to the brim again!

Dedicated volunteers to be thanked this time round are: Michael Rocco, Eugene Ballao, Joe Bona, Sue and Pat Kelly, Lucy Dal Pozzo, John Costa, Elsa Pertile, Peter Overton, Merle Gilbo and Pia Boutsakis.

Special thanks to Joe Bona, who single handedly, beyond the Working Bee, even during Monday's rain, built a new fence at the back of the toilets and replaced the rotten gate & post at the back of the car park.

Thanks received from CatholicCare:

CatholicCare would like to thank the community of the Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe for its generous donation of \$874.40 to our 2014 Church Appeal. Your generosity supports the vital work of CatholicCare. We work on behalf of the Archdiocese in Melbourne and Geelong to fulfil the Church's mission of service to the community, helping families and individuals to develop strong and healthy relationships. We help ease the pain of difficult life transitions through counselling and build new connections for those who are vulnerable and isolated. Thank you for enabling us to continue our vital work. – Fr Joe Caddy, CEO CatholicCare

2014 Rerum Novarum Oration: *A Stitch in Time. Early Intervention in Psychiatry: Young People at Risk* 7.00pm light refreshments for 7.30pm start on Monday 1st December at Australian Catholic University, Philippa Brazil Theatre, Daniel Mannix Building, 8 Brunswick St, Fitzroy. **All Welcome**

Professor Patrick McGorry AO will be giving the Rerum Novarum Oration for 2014. He is an Irish-born Australian psychiatrist known for his development of early intervention services for youth. He is Professor of Youth Mental Health at the University of Melbourne, and was named 2010 Australian of the Year. His respondent will be Professor John Gleeson, a clinical psychologist and Head of the School of Psychology at the Australian Catholic University. His research interests include psychological treatment of youth with psychosis. RSVP / Inquires justice@cam.org.au or (03) 9926 5727

Lourdes Day Mass 2014: *Saturday 6 December*, 10.30am at St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne. The Order of Malta Australia and the Development Office of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne invite you to the Lourdes Day Mass, a Mass for the sick and fragile in our community which will be celebrated by Most Reverend Denis Hart DD, Archbishop of Melbourne. A blessing of the sick will follow the celebration of the Liturgy with water brought from the spring at the Shrine of Lourdes. Gift bags for all attendees including a bottle of Lourdes water, Rosary beads and more. Wheelchair access by the side door of Albert St - vehicles can approach this entrance. **Contact:** 9926 5731

St Anthony's Alphington Celebrates 100th Anniversary: In 2015 St Anthony's Parish Alphington will celebrate its 100th Anniversary with a calendar of events throughout the year! We would like to hear from any past parishioners who may have lost contact with our parish. Why not join us in the preparations and celebrations? Do you have a story to tell, memorabilia to share etc.? For details of what is planned visit our history. We would love to hear from you! **More info:** www.stanthonyalphingtonhistory.webs.com or www.holyspiritandstanthonysparish.com **Contact:** 0425 748 738

ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND: 6 – 7 December 2014

ST. BERNADETTE'S:

Saturday 6.30pm

Lector

S. Moorhen

Special Ministers

B. Jowett, T. Nibali

MARY IMMACULATE: **Leader**

Sunday 9.00am

J. McCormack

Reader

F. Tosolini

Mass Coordinators

M. Gilbo

Counters

E. Ballao, T. McKinley

MOTHER OF GOD:

Sunday 10.30am

Sacristan

E. Mount

Lector

E. Mount

Special Ministers

M. Pollard, G. Reardon, M. / P. De Silva

Altar Society:

A. Moloney

Choir Coordinator: P. Verrocchi

First Collection – Thanksgiving:

Envelopes: \$1,472.00

Loose cash: \$1,094.40

Total:

\$2,566.40

Second Collection – Presbytery:

\$1,206.50

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