



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. 50

13 – 14 December 2014

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: YEAR B



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 young and the old, and newcomers.

THE WORD

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: My soul rejoices in my God.

- V. 1. My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **R.**
- V. 2. The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him. **R.**
- V. 3. He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy. **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: Lord of joy: Hear our prayer

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 Mike McGuire, Sarah O'Shaughnessy, 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 for and support those in need.

We remember all who have died recently. We also remember Valentin Vukic, Steve Berthelot, Peppina Nibali and Phaolo Tran Nguyen Khoi whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

 **Baptisms:** We welcome Orlando, Rafael & Leonardo Di Ciero and Sarah Pemberton who are baptised into the faith community of the Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe this weekend. We welcome their families, relatives and friends who share this special occasion, one of many steps in the lifelong journey of faith.

This Week's Readings: 3rd Sunday of Advent: Year B

Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11

Luke 1:46-50, 53-54

Thessalonians 5:16-24

Mark 1:6-8, 19-28

Saint and Feast Days:

Mon 15 December: St Valerian

Wed 17 December: St Olympias

Fri 19 December: St Anastasius

Tues 16 December: St Adelaide

Thurs 18 December: St Flannan

Sat 20 December: St Fachanan

Next Week's Readings: 4th Sunday of Advent: Year B

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

Psalm 88:2-5, 27, 29

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

St John the Baptist

John the Baptist appears on the second and third Sundays. Last Sunday we were introduced to John's familiar features: a lone figure in the desert, dressed with camel skin, eating locusts and wild honey. His messages are blunt and direct: personal conversion, make our paths straight to prepare of the ways of the Lord. This Sunday, John gives witness to the figure and mission of the "the One who is to come." While the religious leaders have their own ideas about the Messiah, John boldly proclaims "I am not": the Christ, not Elijah, nor the Prophet. He is simply a witness; one who announces the arrival, or the advent, of the promised one.

So John can be our companion when all temptations put us at the centre of attention. He calls us to let go of our ego and let God enter our life. When we are called to bear witness to our faith, may John be our companion.

St Joseph

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; three days and nights of frantic searching 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 clung 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 unflinching presence and utter fidelity, even when he finds it hard to understand.

Blessed Virgin Mary

Mary, a silent, pregnant young woman, is present as one waiting in hope for God to act. 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, and instant sensational social media. 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. This is happening in our parish when we are exploring, listening, discussing and discerning a way forward with our three churches, three schools, three presbyteries, a convent, a development on tennis court in order to serve the People of God in Ivanhoe better. Throughout the history of salvation, God proves to be a God of new life, full of surprises, 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.

Maranatha – Emmanuel – Amen.

Come, O Lord – God-with-us – Amen.

Sources:

- Glenstal Bible Missal, For Sundays and Sacraments, 1983.
- James Wallace CSsR, Three Companions for the Advent Journey, <http://www.catholicireland.net/three-companions-for-the-advent-journey/>

HAPPENINGS ACROSS THE PARISH

Saturday 13 Dec	10.00am	Advent Reconciliation	Mother of God Church
Monday 15 Dec	6.00pm	Mother of God P.S. Year 6 Graduation	Mother of God Church
Monday 15 Dec	6.30pm	St Bernadette's School Graduation	St Bernadette's Church
Tuesday 16 Dec	6.30pm	Mary Immaculate P.S. Carols & Graduation	Mary Immaculate Church
Thursday 18 Dec	8.00pm	Finance Committee Meeting	
Saturday 20 Dec	10.00am	Advent Reconciliation	Mary Immaculate Church
Tuesday 23 Dec	7.30pm	Advent Reconciliation	St Bernadette's Church

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.*

Please note: Collectors needed for Leaving Collections at each Mass:

As advised by the Archdiocese, there will be Leaving Collections after Mass in each church this weekend for the appeal for Melbourne Overseas Mission.



Melbourne Overseas Mission Appeal 13 - 14 December 2014:

As advised by the Archdiocese, there will be Leaving Collections after Mass in each church this weekend for Melbourne Overseas Mission. Melbourne priests, parishes and parishioners have supported Melbourne Overseas Mission for over forty seven years. Major projects have included West Africa - Sierra Leone, Ghana and Gambia; Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Pakistan and Botswana. Each year around half a million dollars of donated goods (medical, educational & clothing supplies) are shipped to 90 locations situated around the Pacific and Africa.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES: Second Rite:

Saturday 13 December	10.00am	Mother of God Church
Saturday 20 December	10.00am	Mary Immaculate
Tuesday 23 December	7.30pm	St Bernadette's Church

Austin Hospital Mass: We have been informed by the Austin Hospital Pastoral Care Department, that after a short review by the hospital administration, it has now been decided to retain two monthly chapel services. An Ecumenical Service will be held on the first Sunday of the month and a **Catholic Mass will be held on the third Sunday of the month.** *Please note Mass will no longer be on the fourth Sunday but on the third Sunday of the month.* This new programme starts in January 2015. In the month of December 2014 Mass at the Austin Hospital will be on Christmas Day. Thank you for your support in achieving this outcome!

– Fr Mario, St John's Church, Heidelberg



Christmas Lunch 14 December at Mother of God Church:

All are invited and welcome to the Christmas Lunch to gather together 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 is much appreciated.

Mother of God Church Roster for 2015:

Roster for 2015 has now been prepared and emailed to the relevant people. If you do not have an email address, a copy of the roster will be available in the Church foyer with your name on it. Please take one. **Please note:** I am retiring from the preparation of the rosters and if anyone would like to prepare next year's roster please contact me or Parish Office. Thank you all for your assistance with the rosters. - Helen Taylor

The Joy of the Gospel: 10.30am on Thursday 18th December at the Parish Office. All welcome. - Merle

Thanksgiving Envelopes 4 January – 28 June 2015 are available for collection in each church.

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

PLEASE NOTE: Thanksgiving Envelopes as from 4 January 2015 new envelopes numbers have been allocated to each person who contributes by Thanksgiving envelopes.

Statements for Thanksgiving envelope contributions 5 January – 29 November are included with envelopes. Statements for Credit Card or Direct Debit contributions will be available on request mid-December.

Please feel free to deliver envelopes to those nearby those or unable to collect them personally assists parishioners concerned, as well as saving postage costs. Thanks to all who assist the parish in this manner. If wishing 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 unable or no longer wish to contribute as part of Thanksgiving please contact the Parish Office personally using the details above **as soon as possible** so that envelopes are not sent when no longer required. - Ruth

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.

INCLUSIVENESS

HOSPITALITY

SERVICE

MISSION

Baptisms 2015: It is recommended that Baptisms are celebrated as part of the Liturgy of the Mass at weekends in each of our churches in most cases. Baptisms are booked through personal contact made with the Parish Office by the parent/s of the child / children concerned. Baptism preparation sessions are facilitated by Anita Moloney on the first Monday of the month held at the Parish Office. In 2015 there will also be an option for Baptism at 2.00pm on the first Sunday of the month at Mother of God Church. - **Fr Thang**

Pastoral Leadership Meeting notes - 26 November 2014: Among the items on the agenda were:

- The gathering of material for the Christmas edition of the parish newsletter.
- The formulation of a mission statement in view of the recent survey.
- The outcome of the recent annual review of the website - its ongoing content and operation affirmed.
- A budget for the next year and the ongoing possibility of dealing with necessary maintenance issues.
- First Eucharist for the 26 catechist children, bringing to an end the sacramental programme for 2014.
- The Mass of Thanksgiving for the children of our three schools celebrating the end of their year of 'Daring to Dream'.

Young Catholic Singles of Melbourne:

Young Catholic Singles of Melbourne 21-35 is a brand new group designed to provide opportunities for young Catholic singles to meet in a friendly, relaxed environment. The group will hold monthly functions open to single Catholics between the ages of 21 and 35. Please join us for a meet-and-greet barbeque on Sunday 21st December, 1.00pm at Hays Paddock (Leason St, Kew East). Sausages and non-alcoholic drinks will be provided. Please bring a gold coin donation to cover the costs of catering. Hope to see you there! Contact: <http://www.meetup.com/Young-Catholic-Singles-of-Melbourne/>, yscmevents@gmail.com

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.

Fees: \$80 per term. **Further details:** Contact Liz Shearer: Phone 0411 345 664 or liz.shearer1@gmail.com

Feast of the Infant Jesus of Prague:

Sunday 18 January 2015, 1.50pm – 4.00pm at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 88 South Circular Rd, Gladstone Park. You are invited to the 12th annual celebration of the Feast of the Infant Jesus of Prague. There will be Rosary, Novena prayers and Chaplet and Mass celebrated by Most Rev Bishop Hilton Deakin. Tea and coffee will be provided after the service. **Contact:** Gary on 9335 4742

ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND: 20 – 21 December 2014

ST. BERNADETTE'S:

Saturday 6.30pm

Lector

J. Murphy

Special Ministers

A. Pellizzari, T. Nibali

MARY IMMACULATE: Leader

Sunday 9.00am

M. Sibillin

Reader

J. Pidutti

Mass Coordinators

S. & P. Kelly

Counters

S. & P. Kelly

MOTHER OF GOD:

Sunday 10.30am

Sacristan

M. Hoban

Lector

M. Hoban

Special Ministers

F. Tosolini, T. Barker, R. Beltrame

Altar Society:

I. Chiera

Choir Coordinator: M. De Silva

First Collection – Thanksgiving: Envelopes: \$1,685.00 Loose cash: \$477.45 **Total:** **\$2,162.45**
Second Collection – Presbytery: **\$ 832.65**

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