



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. 51

20 – 21 December 2014

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: YEAR B



Lighting of the Fourth Advent candle:

Mary's time of waiting - and ours - as nearly reached its end. As we light the fourth candle, we remind ourselves that Jesus birth in time was the beginning of his **mission** - a **mission** he calls us to share - to be the loving presence of God in our world.

THE WORD

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

- V. 1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **R.**
- V. 2. 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever and set up your throne through all ages.' **R.**
- V. 3. He will say to me: 'You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me.'
I will keep my love for him always; for him my covenant shall endure. **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 hope: Hear our prayer

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done.

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 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 Hugh McBride who died recently. We also remember Yvonne Homsey, Kerry Carroll, John Masters and Hazel Brodie whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

 **Baptism:** We welcome Sienna Stagliano who is baptised into the faith community of the Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe this weekend. We welcome her family, relatives and friends who have come to share this special occasion, one of many steps in the lifelong journey of faith.

This 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

Saint and Feast Days:

Mon 22 December: St Flavianus Tues 23 December: St John of Canty
Wed 24 December: Christmas Eve Thurs 25 December: The Nativity of the Lord
Fri 26 December: St Stephen Sat 27 December: St John the Evangelist

Next Week's Readings: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph: Year B

Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Psalm 104:1-6, 8-9 Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 Luke 2:22-40



Paul Kelly's *How To Make Gravy* is an authentic Australian folk carol. Of course, this song is in the spirit of the early white settlement, made up largely of convicts and criminals! In his 2010 memoir, also called *How To Make Gravy*, Kelly tells that it was inspired by the often-forgotten spoken prologue Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*. It ends: "There's never been such day in old LA, but it's December 24th and I am longing to be up north." Irving intensified the feeling of "Christmas by writing about not being there."

Kelly's *How To Make Gravy* is written in form of a letter. Joe, the narrator, is a prisoner who writes to his brother, Dan. It is Christmas week and Joe who usually makes the gravy at the family gathering, is separated from his family, friends and is feeling so lonely: "Won't you kiss my kids on Christmas Eve" and "I'm even gonna miss Roger 'cause there's sure as hell no one in here I want to fight." The image of Joe asking his brother to look after his family, but not to dance too close with Rita as "she's the one to save me" reveals a man who feels helpless to stop possible changes in his relationship with her.

Isaiah, who lived in the 8th century before the Birth of Christ wrote consolingly and prophetically: "The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. Those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them." The Prophet proclaimed the coming Wonder-Counsellor and Prince of Peace and of the light and life he would bring.

Christmas arrives again here in our land with all the promises of memories and celebration. We celebrate the Birth of Jesus because the light did dawn. The Nativity of our Lord in a small humble, and poor town of Bethlehem was not only the fulfilment of God's promise, but also the dawn of a new age.

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to all people of goodwill."

In 1996 when Paul Kelly rang Lindsay Fields who was organising a Christmas charity record about his new song *How To Make Gravy*, he said: "I have a Christmas song... but it doesn't have a chorus and it's set in prison."

How To Make Gravy does not have a chorus and it is set in prison which can describe the life of many people on many levels. Christmas is a time that we are called to connect, reconnect, build bridges among family members, neighbours, members of our three parish communities, singing the heavenly chorus: "*Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to all people of goodwill.*" During the year, I have listened to sad stories about people's inability to connect because of resentment, hurt, alienation... which all, unfortunately occur in families.

At Christmas we celebrate the marriage between heaven and earth: Jesus Christ comes into our broken world to share our human nature and so enable us to connect better with God and each other. May we reconnect all aspects of our lives: the joys and hopes, anguish and anxiety and praise God in the heavenly chorus: "*Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to all people of goodwill.*"

Sources: Paul Kelly, *How To Make Gravy*, (Penguin Books, 2010)
ec-web.elthamcollege.vic.edu.au

Graphics: © en.wikipedia.org

HAPPENINGS ACROSS THE PARISH

Saturday 20 Dec	10.00am	Advent Reconciliation	Mary Immaculate Church
Tuesday 23 Dec	7.30pm	Advent Reconciliation	St Bernadette's Church
		Christmas Mass Times	See newsletter & church poster

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.*

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

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES: Second Rite:

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

Thank you from Fr Thang:

I would like to thank parishioners for their best wishes, cards and gifts received recently. Sincere thanks to all parishioners, families and schools in the parish community for their assistance and support during the year.



Outreach Wishes Everyone a Joyful, Peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year:

We sincerely thank parishioners and friends for their support and attendance at our various activities held during the past year. Further information and dates will be available in the New Year. - Sue, Helen and Eileen

Congratulations:



We congratulate Bernadette Milesi who celebrated her 90th birthday last weekend and wish her well on this momentous occasion. We take this opportunity to thank Bernadette sincerely for her commitment and generous contributions to the parish at a variety of levels as well as to Mother of God School community.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper Appeal:

The local Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank parishioners, as well as the children and families from the three parish primary schools for their generous contributions to the Christmas Hamper Appeal which were much appreciated and will assist and support many of our neighbours in need.

Special Collections: Sincere thanks to all concerned for contributions given to recent special collections
Totals include leaving collections and credit card donations:

- World Mission Sunday 18 – 19 October – \$842.00
- Catholic Deaf – John Pierce Centre - \$932.45
- Melbourne Overseas Mission 13 – 14 December - \$841.20

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



Newsletter notices, items, prayers and anniversaries: Needed: Tuesday 23 December

Newsletter for Christmas Day and weekend 27-28 December will be prepared and printed much earlier than normal so that they can be collected and taken to each church on Wednesday 24th December. **** Notices need to be in no later than **Tuesday 23 December.**

Newsletters for the month of January will be prepared in advance and notices will need to be given to the Parish Office no later than **Wednesday 31 December.** Contact details for Parish Office: Phone 9499 1515, Fax 9499 9959; or email: catholicparisfofivanhoe@bigpond.com

Thank you - Thanksgiving Envelopes 4 January – 28 June 2015:

Thank you to those who have collected their Thanksgiving envelopes for the period 4 January – 28 June 2015.

Thank you to those who delivered envelopes to others – thanks for your time, energy, generosity and effort.

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:** catholicparisfofivanhoe@bigpond.com - Ruth

Giving a Voice to Families - 2015 Synod on the Family

Following the recent Synod on the family, Pope Francis and the Bishops' Synod are again seeking input ahead of their 2015 meeting. In response to feedback during the previous process, a simplified questionnaire has been developed for our local Church. The survey can be found at: www.surveymonkey.com/s/Synod2015.

The on-line survey will be open until midnight on Tuesday 10th February 2015. While using the on-line survey is preferred, hard copy responses can be submitted up to Friday 6th February 2015. A simple guide with questions is available from Life, Marriage & Family Office website: www.cam.org.au/lifemarriagefamily
Any questions about the process can be directed to the Life, Marriage & Family Office on 9287 5579.

INCLUSIVENESS

HOSPITALITY

SERVICE

MISSION

CHRISTMAS MASSES 2014



Christmas Eve: *Family Masses*

Wednesday 24th December

6.00pm	St Bernadette's
7.30pm	Mary Immaculate
7.30pm	Mother of God (Carols from 7.00pm)
7.00 - 9.00pm	St Bernadette's – Korean Catholic Community

Please note: There are no later Masses on Christmas Eve



Christmas Day: *Morning Masses*

Thursday 25th December

9.00am	Mary Immaculate
9.00am	St Bernadette's
10.30am	Mother of God
11.00am	St Bernadette's - Korean Catholic Community

NEW YEAR 2015

New Year's Day

Thursday 1st January 2015

10.00am	Mother of God
11.00am	St Bernadette's – Korean Catholic Community

2014 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

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 **Fees:** \$80 per term.

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

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 and relaxed environment. The group will hold monthly functions open to single Catholics between the ages of 21 and 35. Contact: <http://www.meetup.com/Young-Catholic-Singles-of-Melbourne/>, yscmevents@gmail.com

Southern Stars Social Club welcomes new members, single Catholics 25 – 60. There is at least one event every two weeks: coffee and restaurant nights, walking events, film afternoons, social dancing. Tennis Afternoons are available monthly. Contact details: Southern Stars Social Club, PO Box 272, Ashburton, phone (03) 9885 2167 or email: sssc.online@gmail.com. Website: <https://sites.google.com/site/sstarssc/home>

ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND: 27 – 28 December 2014

ST. BERNADETTE'S:

Saturday 6.30pm

Lector

J. Gray

Special Ministers

Sister Carmel, B. Jowett

MARY IMMACULATE: **Leader**

Sunday 9.00am

As available

Reader

As available

Mass Coordinators

M. Gilbo

Counters

S. & P. Kelly

MOTHER OF GOD:

Sunday 10.30am

Sacristan

As available

Lector

As available

Special Ministers

As available

Altar Society:

As available

Choir Coordinator:

First Collection – Thanksgiving:

Envelopes: \$2,746.00

Loose cash: \$611.65

Total: \$3,357.65

Second Collection – Presbytery:

\$ 916.15

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