

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)
Priest in Residence:	Fr. Lasbert Sinaga		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: 6.00pm 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. 2

9 – 10 January 2015

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD: YEAR B

(1st Sunday in Ordinary Time)

THE WORD

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

- V. 1. Lord God, how great you are, clothed in majesty and glory, wrapped in light as in a robe!
You stretch out the heavens like a tent. **R.**
- V. 2. Above the rains you build your dwelling. You make the clouds your chariot, you walk on the wings of the wind, you make the winds your messengers and flashing fire your servants. **R.**
- V. 3. How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your riches. There is the sea, vast and wide, with its moving swarms past counting, living things great and small. **R.**
- V. 4. All of these look to you to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up: you open your hand, they have their fill. **R.**
- V. 5. You take back your spirit, they die, returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the earth. **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Alleluia!

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: Lord hear us: Lord, hear our prayer

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY:

We remember Vince Bezzina, Keith Smith, Jim Murphy, Mary O'Toole, Silvia Scalia and Sung Bui who are in need of prayer at this time. We remember those who provide care and support for those in need.

We remember those who have died recently, as well as Antonino Marino and Arthur Overton whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

This Week's Readings: The Baptism of the Lord Year C

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 Psalm 103:1-4, 24-25, 27-30 Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7 Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Saint and Feast Days:

Mon 11 January: St Theodosius

Tues 12 January: St Aelred of Rievaulx

Wed 13 January: St Kentigern

Thurs 14 January: St Felix of Nola

Fri 15 January: St Ita

Sat 16 January: St Ursa

Next Week's Readings: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

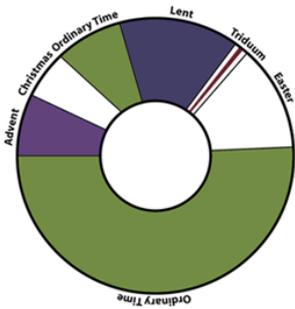
Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 95:1-3, 7-10 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 John 2:1-11

INCLUSIVENESS

HOSPITALITY

SERVICE

MISSION



What is the Ordinary Time?

The word 'Ordinary' sounds a bit dull or boring. It means something that is not different, special, exceptional or interesting. However, Ordinary Time is not simply *time in between* nor ordinary in contrast to special or extraordinary. Ordinary is the same as ordinal, meaning – time counted in order and relationship. Ordinary Time or Sundays of the Year is the longest season in a liturgical calendar, taking 33 or 34 weeks in the Church Year. It is divided into two sections: one section of 4-8 weeks after Christmas Season (there will be 5 weeks this year), and another lasting about six months after Easter Season. Its liturgical colour of green points to our Christian growth and life, entering into the paschal mystery of Jesus Christ: grappling with its mystery and how to live it in our daily lives.

A Spirituality for Ordinary Time

After days of feasting and resting over Christmas and New Year, most workers and professionals are back to work. Life is back to normal. Ordinary Time effectively occupies on 63% of the liturgical year. Like most of us, for the main part of our life, most days involve pretty normal, mundane, routines: catching the train to work, being caught up in traffic, don't know what to buy for weekday meals, doing our daily chores, doing weekend laundry and ironing; relating to others... Nothing special about these items. A woman photographer and writer reflects on Ordinary Time: "In my life, not all photos or writing need to be about celebrations of life, birthdays, graduations, weddings, holiday gatherings. Life is more than that, and when you write and take pictures, suddenly you realize what life is in its truest sense of the word. Life is 'more.' We just don't realise that life is going on around us when it is happening most of the time."

We are called not to let the Ordinary Time stay ordinary or sit around and wait for something 'special' to celebrate. Similarly, spiritual life is not merely about spiritual highs and lows. It is ultimately living in balance and harmony in the deep knowledge and conviction that we are beloved sons and daughters of God. This certainly comforts me as I am packing up and moving to a new role – Ministry to Priests. By the way, packing is never easy. We often accumulate things over the years and packing up is a timely reminder to let go of things that are not essential or necessary.

The biggest spiritual challenge of our lives perhaps is to claim and live a life in the conviction that we are God's children, and that is who we really are. This is because the world tells us who we are by: What we have, what I do, and what others are saying about me. All of these attributes have negative and positive effects on how we see who we are, but they are not the core of who we really are. The core claim and conviction is that we are the beloved daughters and sons of God.

Ordinary Time starts after the Baptism of the Lord. This feast gives us an essential message that Jesus is the beloved Son of the Father and the Spirit has sealed this moment. Based on this very awareness our Lord could undergo anything: his patience toward his disciples, teaching about the mercy and compassion of God, reaching out to the outcasts and marginalised, and ultimately the passion. Our Lord is a great teacher, he teaches us by saying and doing it himself first. Now he is calling us to do the same.

This is my last official article as your Parish Priest. It was not easy to write an article every week. Some weeks were smooth, others took longer time. I have found inspirations from movies, TV Shows, music, books... However I was always grateful to the editorial team and I would like to name and thank them: Merle Gilbo, John Costa and Ruth Villani. As I often said to them – it's all a team effort!

On 13th January Fr Raju Jacob will begin his priestly ministry in the Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe. I wish him well and pray that his ministry here will be fruitful.

I would like to leave you with the most ancient blessing which is taken from the Book of Number chapter 6. This text is used for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God:

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
 May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace. Amen

Sources: <http://americamagazine.org/content/all-things/spirituality-ordinary-time>
 Nouwen, Henry. *The Life of the Beloved*. Talks at the Crystal Cathedral, Garden Grove, California. 1992

ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND: 16 – 17 January 2016

ST. BERNADETTE'S:

Saturday 6.30pm

Lector

C. Dixon

Special Ministers

B. Jowett, A. Pellizzari

MARY IMMACULATE: Leader

Sunday 9.00am

As available

Reader

As available

Mass Coordinators

E. Ballao

Counters

J. & H. Pidutti

R. Wickremesinghe

MOTHER OF GOD:

Sunday 10.30am

Sacristan

J. Curry

Lector

J. Curry

Special Ministers

As available

Altar Society:

I. Chiera

Choir Coordinator: School holidays

First Collection – Thanksgiving: Envelopes: \$1,301.00 Loose cash: \$313.90 Total: \$1,614.90