



# WELCOME TO ST MARYS PARISH

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Office Hours - Mon, Tues, Fri 9.00am - 1.00pm

# The Living Word

**Second Sunday of Advent, Year A**

**4 December 2022**

## First Reading Is 11:1-10

*He judges the poor with justice.*

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,  
a scion thrusts from his roots:  
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,  
a spirit of wisdom and insight,  
a spirit of counsel and power,  
a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.  
(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)  
He does not judge by appearances,  
he gives no verdict on hearsay,  
but judges the wretched with integrity,  
and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.

His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless,  
his sentences bring death to the wicked.  
Integrity is the loincloth round his waist,  
faithfulness the belt about his hips.  
The wolf lives with the lamb,  
the panther lies down with the kid,  
calf and lion cub feed together  
with a little boy to lead them.  
The cow and the bear make friends,  
their young lie down together.  
The lion eats straw like the ox.  
The infant plays over the cobra's hole:  
into the viper's lair  
the young child puts his hand.  
They do no hurt, no harm,  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord

as the waters swell the sea.  
That day, the root of Jesse  
shall stand as a signal to the peoples.  
It will be sought out by the nations  
and its home will be glorious.

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R. cf. v.7**

**(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time,  
and fullness of peace for ever.**

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,  
to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice  
and your poor in right judgement. (R.)
2. In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.  
He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to the earth's bounds. (R.)
3. For he shall save the poor when they cry  
and the needy who are helpless.  
He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor. (R.)
4. May his name be blessed for ever  
and endure like the sun.  
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,  
all nations bless his name. (R.)

## Second Reading Rom 15:4-9

*Christ, the hope of all people.*

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

## Gospel Acclamation Lk 3:4, 6

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Prepare the way of the Lord, make  
straight his paths:**

**all people shall see the salvation of God.**

**Alleluia!**

## Gospel Mt 3:1-12

*Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.*

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'



## Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

John proclaimed that the reign of God was 'at hand' as he immersed and plunged followers into the waters of the Jordan River. (His nickname was John the Immerser, or 'baptiser' in the Greek.) He used flowing water to symbolise the washing away of the past for those who repented so that they could be totally focused on the 'at hand' person who would inaugurate God's kingdom.

In this passage, John does not identify the 'Someone!' But he realised that this 'Someone' would have divine power to affect the future by immersing, baptising, his followers with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

At this stage of Advent, we should be like John's disciples, filled with a sense of anticipation, looking forward to the *coming towards us* ('Advent' in Latin) of the One who can flood our minds and bodies with the Holy Spirit and can immerse our hearts in Divine Fire.

We could pause for a moment to thank God that, even though we are unworthy to carry His sandals, there is One who is coming towards us wanting to transform us with Divine Power.

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## ST MARY'S PARISH MOTTO

"Reaching out to each other  
- growing together in love"

St Mary's Mooroopna acknowledge the Yorta Yorta Nation and the Aboriginal people who have walked this land for thousands of years

### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Sat Vigil 6.30pm  
Sunday 10.00am

### RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation Sat 10.30am—11.00am

### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Mon 5th Dec	Mass	6.00pm
Tues 6th Dec	Holy Hour Exposition Mass	5.00pm 6.00pm
Wed 7th Dec	Mass	6.00 pm
Thur 8th Dec	Mass	6.00pm
Frid 9th Dec	Mass	9.00am

### PARISH / SCHOOL NEWS

#### EASY WORSHIP

Sat 3rd Dec Sarah Richards  
Sun 4th Dec Liz Donnelly

Sat 10th Dec Valoia Family  
Sun 11th Dec AM Carroll

### Through the eyes of children

Moses led the Hebrews to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients.



How do you make the holy water asked a little boy. To which his friend replied  
"You boil the hell out of it!"

## Welcome to the Second Sunday of Advent

# PEACE

### The Bethlehem Candle (Candle of Preparation)

God kept his promise of a Saviour who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means "get ready". Help us to be ready to Welcome you O God. (Luke 3: 4-6)



### Advent Prayer

God of peace, during this Advent season, keep us from getting caught up in the busyness and chaos of the world around us.

Help us to slow down, so that we may find rest in the Prince of Peace, your son, Jesus Christ.

As we prepare for his coming, make us instruments of your peace in our homes, in our schools, in our work and in our world.

AMEN

### CHANGE OF OFFICE HOURS

Our parish office hours have been altered to the following times :-

Monday 9.00am—1.00pm  
Tuesday 9.00am—1.00pm  
Friday 9.00am—1.00pm

### THE CATHOLIC SHOP Christmas Catalogues Available in the Narthex

Featuring lovely statues, nativity scenes, wall crosses, Christmas cards etc. at affordable prices are available  
Feel free to take one.

View the full range at [www.thatcatholicshop.com](http://www.thatcatholicshop.com)

All proceeds to AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

## St Brendan's Parish Raffle



\$2 per ticket or 3 tickets for \$5  
Drawn 4pm on 16 December

**Tickets available after Mass at St Mary's  
on 3rd and 4th of December**

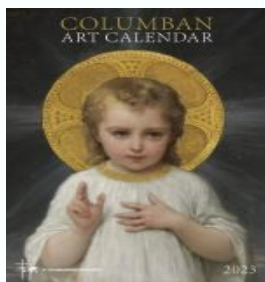
### Prizes:

- 1st Prize—\$600 petrol voucher
- 2nd prize—\$350 jewellery pendant
- 3rd prize—\$155 home appliance package
- 4th prize—Christmas basket
- 5th prize—Toy basket
- 6th prize—Pampering basket
- 7th—Garden basket
- 8th—Toy basket
- 9th—Baby basket
- 10th—Well being basket

## Columban Calendars

Will be available after mass  
next weekend.

**Cost will be \$8.00 each.**



## Reconciliation

**Will be held on Thursday 15 December at 7:00pm.**

**This will follow mass at 6:00pm**

## VINNIES VICTORIA FLOOD APPEAL

As the first stage post floods is passing and some people are able to return to their homes, our role is one of recovery which is to assist people who have lost essential furniture and personal effects.

Donations can be made at Vinnies Shop or Mooroopna Conference Centre.

Or EFT to *St Vincent de Paul Society*  
BSB: 063 000

Account: 106 07556

Reference FLOOD22 + Mooroopna Conference ID

Thank you for your ongoing support.

**We will have a second collection for this purpose this weekend 3rd & 4th December.**

## International Day of People with Disability

Saturday, December 3 marks the International Day of People with Disability and provides us with an opportunity to celebrate the lives, contributions and achievements of the 4.4 million Australians with disability.

Pope Francis calls us to ensure the active participation of people with disabilities in the civil and ecclesial community.

Currently, many people with disabilities do not enjoy access to society on an equal basis with others. Each person in the community needs to be accepted as a brother or sister.

God of all people,  
You have made us in your image,  
delighting in your creation.

Help us to see and to receive each person as a beloved and unique part of your body. We are part of the body of Christ  
AMEN.

## Thank you!

After 5½ years, the time has come to sign off as your Parish Secretary. We had a wonderful celebration at the Mooroopna Golf Club on Thursday evening and I would like to thank all those who helped to make it so special. The poem, the tributes, the song, the powerpoint display and the presentations were humbling. It has been a privilege to be your Parish Secretary and I depart the role with so many happy memories and so many new friendships formed. Thank you for making me feel appreciated and for your unending support.

- Brenda





Readings  
this Week

Isaiah 11:1-10  
Romans 15:4-9  
Matthew 3:1-12



Readings  
for next  
Sunday

Isaiah 35:1-6,10  
James 5:7-10  
Matthew 11:2-11

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### YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR .....

**Sick List:** Graeme Weir, Cherie Mammone, Jim McIntyre, Pat Keane, Pat Treacy, Irene Murphy, Irene Biesiekierski, Dennis Corboy, Barry Monaghan, Fr Steve Bohan, Parish Priest at Yarrowonga, Annette Kay (friend of Rosemary Haigh,) Kim Smyth, Noela McIntyre, Sam Sali, Rosemary Wingrave, Angelo Conti  
**Recently Deceased :** Jayne French, Dawn Dean  
**Anniversaries :**

**ALTAR HELPERS 2nd Dec** Sheila Griffin & Kath McCarty **2nd Dec** Not required

**BINGO : 3rd Dec** Maree Williams, Josie Wood, David McIntyre, Emma Difede, Chris & Miriam Hoggarty

3rd and 4th December	COMMENTOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY
6:30 pm	Checca Richards	Cecily Dumaresq	Miriam Hoggarty	Annette Rau
10.00 am	Tom Dumaresq	Inez Raleigh	Marg Lee	Rosemary Wingrove
<b>10th and 11th December</b>				
6:30 pm	Chris Horarty	Marie O'Meara	Angela Iocona	Checca & Sarah Richards
10.00 am	AM Carroll	Anthony Butts	Inez Raleigh	Tom & Cecily Dumaresq