



Third Sunday of Advent

Year A - Sunday, 14th December 2025

Entrance Antiphon

Philippians 4:4-5

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

First Reading

Isaiah 35:1-6, 10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

God himself will come and save us.

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,
let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,
let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;
they shall see the glory of the Lord,
the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands,
steady all trembling knees
and say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy,
for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy,
everlasting joy on their faces;
joy and gladness will go with them
and sorrow and lament be ended.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:6-10. R. see Is 35:4

(R.) Lord, come and save us.

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. **(R.)**
3. It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

Second Reading

James 5:7-10

A reading from the letter of St James

You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a
farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of

the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring
rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart,
because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make
complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be
brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to
be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers,
in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke
in the name of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Isaiah 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and
he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is
to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus
answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see;
the blind see again, and the lame walk,
lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and
the dead are raised to life and the Good
News is proclaimed to the poor; and hap-
py is the man who does not lose faith in
me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus
began to talk to the people about John:
'What did you go out into the wil-
derness to see? A reed swaying in the
breeze? No? Then what did you go out to
see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no,
those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces.
Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I
tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of
whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my mes-
senger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I
tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a
greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the
least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

The Gospel of the Lord



Communion Antiphon

Cf Isaiah 35:4

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

St. Laurence O'Toole, Leongatha and St. Joseph's, Korumburra

St Laurence O'Toole Leongatha

St Kevin's Meeniyan

St Joseph's Mirboo North

St Andrew's Tarwin Lower

Parish Safeguard Officer: Sam Wright

Parish Priest: Fr Stanly Devasia

Parish Secretary: Ann Hemming
37 Ogilvy St. (PO Box 166) Leongatha 3953

Telephone: 5662 2020

Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs 8.30-4.30

Closed All Day Wednesday & Friday

Email: leongatha@cdsale.org.au

St Joseph's Korumburra

PO Box 90 Korumburra 3950

Telephone: 5662 2020

email: leongatha@cdsale.org.au

Parish Safeguard Officer: Pamela McKillop



<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61576079216409>



WEEKEND MASSES

Leongatha

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 11.00am

Korumburra

Sunday 9.30am

Tarwin Lower

Mass— Mass on Saturday before 3rd Sunday at 4.00pm

Liturgy with H/C Saturday 4pm before 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th Sunday.

Mirboo Nth

Mass— Mass 1st Sunday at 4.00pm

Liturgy with H/C 9.30 Sunday 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th

Meeniyan

Mass— Mass Saturday before 2nd & 4th Sunday at 4.00pm

Liturgy with H/C 9.30am on 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday's

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Eileen Ritchie, John Adamo, Vincenzo Murdica, Dianne Allen

Anniversaries: Michele Pronesti, Maria Cester, Rick Cester, Trishy McGilp, Robert Taylor, Gaetano Migliorisi
The deceased Clergy of the Diocese of Sale

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace."

PARISH ROSTERS

LEONGATHA:

Flowers:
Cleaning:
Greeting:
Reader:
Special Minister

20th Dec

No Flowers
M&B Thomas
T Murphy
P&J Charles
M Thomas
M Murphy
J Bleaser

21st Dec

Shirleyanne Wright
J Salvatore
J Schelling
K Joseph
M Holloway

KORUMBURRA:

21/12 Cleaning: T Mareko
28/12 Greeter: A D'Souza
December
Reader: F Preston
Commentator: S Fitzgerald
Special Minister: Anthony, Sue, Maree
Laundry: M Jackson
Flowers: No Flowers

Weekday Mass or Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion Times

KORUMBURRA

Tuesday	End of School Year Mass	2.00pm
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Wednesday	Mass & Advent Reconciliation	5.00pm
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LEONGATHA

Tuesday	Mass	5.00pm
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Thursday	Mass at Woorayl Lodge	11.00am
	Mass & Advent Reconciliation	5.00pm

Friday	Mass	9.30am
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RECONCILIATION TIMES

Leongatha: Friday after 9.30am Mass & before or after 5.30pm Mass on Saturday.

Korumburra: Sun before 9.30am Mass

The Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary

St. Laurence O'Toole Church Leongatha

Saturday: Before 5.30 pm Mass—5.00pm

Sunday: Before 11am Mass—10.30am

We are a child safe parish. Any children, young persons and adults at risk have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you are concerned about any form of abuse, or believe that someone is at significant risk, you should immediately raise your concerns with one of our Parish Child Safety Officers. They can be contacted through the Parish Office. Telephone 03 56 622 020

Christmas Mass Times 2025

Christmas Eve Mass

Tarwin Lower 5.00pm

Mirboo Nth 5.00pm

Leongatha 7.30pm

(Pioneer Hall - Mary MacKillop College)

Christmas Day Mass

Korumburra 9.00am

Meeniyan 9.00am

Leongatha 10.30am

Advent Reconciliation:

Leongatha 18th Dec 5pm Mass & Reco

Korumburra 17th Dec 5pm Mass & Reco

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

The Right Question

John was languishing in prison, held captive by the local agent of the Roman Empire. Perhaps he was looking for evidence that Jesus was the One who would throw off Roman despotism. In answer to his questing, Jesus replied that John should rather look at what was happening on the ground in His healing ministry and orientation to the poor. *Those* are the signs that the reign of God has begun.

I admire John the Baptist because he was prepared to seek and accept the answer to the question which was crucial to him, even though the answer might upset his preconceptions. He was a true seeker after Truth.

All our activities as a parish in building community, forming faith, serving the poor, participating in the liturgy, should be undertaken so that a seeker after Truth might see and hear the evidence of the presence and mission of the risen Lord Jesus Christ amongst us.

We could pause for a moment to simply pray in the spirit of Advent: 'Come, Lord Jesus' to satisfy the restlessness of the questing heart.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

St Laurence's Parish:

Stewardship envelope:	\$800.00
Stewardship cash (1st offering)	\$352.85
Presbytery (2nd offering)	\$607.45

St Joseph's Parish

Stewardship envelope:	\$610.00
Stewardship cash (1st offering)	\$126.70
Presbytery (2nd offering)	\$226.15

Thank you for your contributions, they are greatly appreciated.

Newcomers or Update Details

Welcome and thanks for worshipping with us at Korumburra and Leongatha Parishes.

If you are new to the Parish or have changed your details or need Thanksgiving Envelopes, please complete your details and drop the form on a Collection plate or drop off to the Parish Office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

New Parishioner ☐ Change of Address or Phone # ☐

Thanksgiving: Envelopes ☐ or Electronically ☐

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Gaudete!

The third Sunday of Advent was traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday. The word, *gaudete*, (pronounced *gow-day-tay*) is from Latin and means *Rejoice!* The name was given to this Sunday because the entrance antiphon for the day is: *Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near. When Advent was observed as a more penitential season, this third Sunday was a break from the sombre mood and was more celebratory. The rose-coloured candle in the Advent wreath and rose-coloured vestments convey a mood of joy and celebration.*

Parish/Diocese News

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal envelopes can be placed on any of the collection plates.

Stay Updated on Diocesan Events: There are many **exciting events** happening across our **Diocese**! Stay informed and up to date by visiting the **Diocesan Events Page**. It's a great resource to find details on upcoming celebrations, gatherings, and important dates. **Visit:** <https://www.cdsale.org.au/events>

LEONGATHA PARISH:

Catholic Women's League are holding a Christmas Raffle. Tickets \$2 each and are available this weekend and 20/21 Dec. Raffle will be drawn after the 11am Mass on 21 Dec.

Now available at Piety Stall— "The Promise" an Advent Daily Reflection booklet \$7 each and 2026 Columbian Calendars \$11 each. Also packs of Christmas Cards.

Gospel Reflection Group meets on Mondays during the school term from 1.30-3pm in the Parish Centre. This is a small friendly group that reads the coming Sundays Gospel then discusses and relates it to their everyday life, finishing with a cuppa. Everyone is most welcome.

Wednesday Adoration and Prayer: we invite you to come and join our Hour of Prayer on Wednesdays 11 to 12 noon in St Laurence's church. We will say the Rosary and sing hymns but there will be lots of time for quiet personal prayer where you can just sit with the Lord or read the Scripture, etc.

St Laurence's Mothers' Prayer Group - prayer group for those wanting to pray for their children, grand-children or nieces and nephews etc. To be held after 9.30 Mass on the second Friday of the month in the Parish Centre. You are most welcome to join this group united in prayer to save our children.

To subscribe to the weekly bulletin please use the link to join. <https://www.catholicparish.app/subscription?id=001OI00000B2zMFI&req=subscribe>

KORUMBURRA PARISH:

Dear Parishioners, We invite you to join us in celebrating the end of our school year at our forthcoming whole school mass: St Joseph's Primary School will celebrate on Tuesday, December 16 at 2 pm

Community Carols will be held at Coleman Park, Korumburra on Sunday 21 Dec at 6pm, organized by the combined Churches of Korumburra

Cuppa after mass first Sunday of the Month

To subscribe to the weekly bulletin please use the link to join <https://www.catholicparish.app/subscription?id=001OI00000B2zMDIA&req=subscribe>

St Mary's Cathedral Sale, cordially invites you to attend

JUBILEE OF PRISONERS

"I was in Prison and you came to visit me"
Matthew 25:36



Hope Beyond the Walls

People from across the Diocese of Sale are warmly invited to gather for a special day of Prayer and Solidarity for those who are imprisoned within our justice system, and those who serve through prison ministry, offering pastoral care and hope. Together, we are all called to bear witness to the transforming love of Jesus Christ—a love that brings mercy, reconciliation, and justice. In a world longing for hope, let us stand united as signs of Christ's light, praying for hope, dignity, and renewal for all.

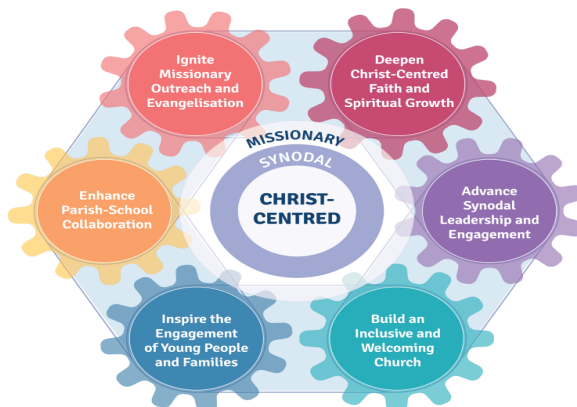


Mass celebrated by
Bishop Greg Bennet

**Sunday, 14th December
2025 at 9:30 am**

Hosted by
**St Mary's Cathedral
47 Foster Street, Sale**

DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLAN FRAMEWORK 2026-2030



<https://www.cdsale.org.au/diocesan-assembly-1>