



WELCOME TO ST MARYS PARISH

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The Living Word

Third Sunday of Advent, Year C

12 December 2021

First Reading Zep 3:14-18

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,
Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart,
daughter of Jerusalem!
The Lord has repealed your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away.
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your
midst;
you have no more evil to fear.
When that day comes, word will come to
Jerusalem:
Zion, have no fear,
do not let your hands fall limp.
The Lord your God is in your midst,
a victorious warrior.
He will exult with a joy over you,
he will renew you by his love;
he will dance with shouts of joy for you
as on a day of festival.

Responsorial Psalm

Is 12:2-6 R. v.6

*(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the great and
Holy One of Israel.*

1. Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. (R.)
2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to
his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the
peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name. (R.)
3. Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One
of Israel. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 4:4-7

The Lord is near.

I want you to be happy, always happy in
the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your
happiness. Let your tolerance be evident

to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is
no need to worry; but if there is anything
you need, pray for it, asking God for it with
prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of
God, which is so much greater than we can
understand, will guard your hearts and your
thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation Is 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 Lk 3:10-18

What, then, must we do?

When all the people asked John, 'What
must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has
two tunics he must share with the man
who has none, and the one with something
to eat must do the same.' There were tax
collectors too who came for baptism, and
these said to him, 'Master, what must we
do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than
your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in
their turn, 'What about us? What must we
do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No
extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among
the people, who were beginning to think
that John might be the Christ, so John
declared before them all, 'I baptise you with
water, but someone is coming, someone
who is more powerful than I am, and I am
not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he
will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his
threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into
his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire
that will never go out.' As well as this, there
were many other things he said to exhort
the people and to announce the Good News
to them.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Some people have an image of God
who must be obeyed out of fear.
Rules of behaviour are kept as part
of a deal to avoid punishment. But St
Paul was imitating God when he told
the Philippians that all he wanted
was their 'happiness'. God's deepest
desire is that we share divine bliss.
St Thomas Aquinas tells us that the
goal of human life is this beatific
happiness.

Of course, there is a way of life which
responds to the Divine Lover. John
the Baptist insists on rules of social
justice, particularly those which
forbid taking advantage of the
vulnerable. But these are the
minimum. He envisages a response
of extravagant generosity. It will take
Baptism in the Holy Spirit and Fire to
make this possible.

This was effected by the One foretold
by John. He doesn't name him, but
we know it was Jesus of Nazareth
who had the power to unleash such
over-the-top generosity. Jesus sent
his Holy Spirit at Pentecost as if in
wind and fire. This created a new
community which, the Acts of
Apostles tells us, responded with
acts of unrestrained generosity to
the vulnerable and needy.

We might pause for a moment to
pray for a generous spirit responding
in gratitude to the Divine Lover who,
as Risen Lord, has the power and
will to enable us to be filled with
Divine Bliss.

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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

10.30am to 11.00am Saturday

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Mon 13/12	Mass	6.00pm
Tues 14/12	Exposition Mass	5.00pm 6.00pm
Wed 15/12	Mass	6.00pm
Thur 16/12	Mass Reconciliation	6.00pm 7.00pm
Frid 17/12	Mass	10.00am

PARISH / SCHOOL NEWS

EASY WORSHIP

Sat 11th Dec	Liz Donnelly
Sun 12th Dec	AM Carroll
Sat 18th Dec	Sarah Richards
Sun 19th Dec	Liz Donnelly

Bulletin Bloopers

The Associate Minister joyfully unveiled the Church's new Planned Giving Slogan last Sunday.

"I upped my please, so now it's time to Up yours !! "



Welcome to the Third Sunday of Advent JOY

This Sunday is Gaudete or Rejoicing Sunday. In the previous 2 Sundays we have lit purple candles, representing Hope and Faith, whereas this Sunday we light the pink candle as rose is a liturgical colour used to signify Joy. In the third article of his Advent season, Fr Richard Leonard SJ says Christmas should be about being filled with a growing sense of Joy. This same theme of rejoicing is taken up in the scripture reflection.



Advent Prayer

Come Advent God, and complete the special work of love which you began in Jesus of Nazareth.

Many are cast down with spiritual needs, thirsting for the peace of your forgiveness and the warmth of your healing love.

Come to them with the grace they desperately need, at evening, or midnight, morning or midday.

Come, Lord Jesus

Updated Covid Protocols for Mass at St. Mary's, Mooroopna Weekend & Weekday Masses

- We can now welcome 50 VACCINATED or UNVACCINATED people at our Weekend Liturgies
- NO BOOKINGS ARE REQUIRED,
- SOCIAL DISTANCING MUST BE PRACTISED

A reminder that QR Code or Manual check-in is required at all masses and masks MUST be worn inside the church



In an age where there is Criticism, Spin and Half Truths, maybe we need some wisdom.

The LORD detests lying lips but he delights in men who are truthful. A prudent man keeps his knowledge to himself, but the heart of fools blurts out folly.



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES For ST MARY'S

Christmas Eve Frid 24th Dec

6.30pm for Carols
7.00pm for Mass

Christmas Day Sat 25th Dec

10.00am for Mass

Please note—for both masses

- No bookings required
- Proof of vaccination required
- QR Code check-in
- Masks optional

We are looking for Readers and Special Ministers for these times. If you can help, please register on the form in the Narthex and indicate which Mass time you prefer.

Reconciliation—Thurs 16th Dec, 7.00pm

Please Note—St. Brendans Parish

Are offering an Outdoor Garden Mass
For everyone at 6.00pm Fri 24th Dec

- No booking required
- QR Code check-in

VIDEO MASS

There will not be a Video Mass this week and the last one will be Friday, 17th. December at 10.00am.

We thank Tom Diamond from St. Mary's School for his dedication and skill in bringing these to us during the course of the pandemic.

Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst

Post Graduate Theology Scholarships

Designed to support the mission formation of parishioners through formal theological studies, especially those seeking pastoral leadership roles.

50% of the tuition fee will be re-imbursed.

Apply now for Semester 1, 2022. by contacting
Dr Chris Cotter, 03 5445 3600. **Flyer on Notice Board**

Caritas Australia Global Gifts

TAKE THE PLEDGE TO END EXTREME POVERTY

Your Global Gift this Christmas will bring hope and joy to the world's most vulnerable people. You can help mothers, families and communities thrive this Christmas in what has been another difficult year. What better time to spread hope and joy than in the season of giving.



By giving a Global Gift, you can help make Christmas shine brighter for mothers like Maria..

Further information & Flyer on Notice Board

Order online at www.globalgifts.org.au

St. Joseph's & St. Monica's Parishes, Bendigo

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons with Ministry and Parish experience for the position of **Pastoral Associate** in the Parishes of St Joseph's Quarry Hill and St Monica's Kangaroo Flat, Bendigo.



This a part-time position (0.5) of some 15 - 20 hours per week. A working knowledge of Parish Ministry and life is essential.

Ideally the successful applicant will be able to commence work in early 2022.

A position description is available on the Diocesan and Cathedral websites.

Further enquires can be made to the Administrator, Fr Brian Boyle, by calling the Cathedral Parish Office on 5443 4400.



Readings for
this week:

Zephaniah 3:14-18
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:10-18



Readings for
next week:

Micah 5:1-4
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-44

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YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Sick List: Graeme Weir, Pauline Griffith, Fr Owen Doyle, Cherie Mammone, Jim McIntyre, Pat Treacy
Dominic & Theresa DeMaio, Gerard Murphy, Bernadette Dickason, Pat Keane, (Mons Peter's nephew)
Pat Goggin, Rob Backway, Noela McIntyre

Anniversaries Antonio & Marianna Conti

ALTAR HELPERS 10th December Josie Cortese, Carmel Fasano 17th December Not required

BINGO 18th Dec Maree Williams, David McIntyre, Carly Martin, Josie Wood, Jaz

11th & 12th December	COMMENTOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY
6:30 pm	Liz Donnelly	Mavis Murphy	Sarah Richards	Pat Noble
10.00 am	Peter Stein	Sheila Griffin	Anthony Butts	Noela McIntyre
18th & 19th December				
6:30 pm	Chris Hogarty	Cathie McMaster	Angelo Conti	Angelina Vigliaturo
10.00 am	Brenda Pye	Anthony Butts	Cecily Dumaresq	Tom & Cecily Dumaresq