

BRUNSWICK AND MORELAND CATHOLIC MISSION

Weekly Newsletter



St Joseph



St Fidelis



Our Lady help of
Christians



St Ambrose

Second Sunday of Advent, Year A

4 December 2022

MASS TIME

Our Lady's

Friday 10:00 am

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am

Communion Service

Wednesday 10:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

First Saturday:

10:30am – 11:00am

St Ambrose's

Thursday 10:00 am

Sunday 10:30 am

Communion Service

Tuesday 10:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Second Saturday:

10:30am – 11:00am

St Joseph's

Wednesday 10:00 am

Saturday 6:30 pm

(First Saturday only)

Sunday 9:00 am & 5:00 pm

Italian Mass:

2nd & 4th Sunday at 10:30am

Communion Service

Tuesday 10:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Third Saturday:

10:30am – 11:00am

St Fidelis'

Tuesday 9:15 am

Friday 9:15 am

Saturday 6:00 pm

Sunday 11:00 am

Italian Mass:

1st & 3rd Sunday at 9:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Fourth Saturday:

10:30am – 11:00am



FEAST OF ST AMBROSE

A Feast in honour of St Ambrose will be celebrated at Mass this Sunday 4 December at 10.30am. Please join us for Morning Tea after Mass.

All welcome!

St. Ambrose was assiduous in carrying out his office, acting with charity: a true shepherd and teacher of the faithful.

With his deep spirituality and love of God's Word, he spoke of the Lord Jesus Christ as the Wisdom of God upon whom we must meditate: *"when we speak about wisdom, we are speaking about Christ. When we speak about virtue, we are speaking about Christ. When we speak about justice, we are speaking about Christ. When we speak about peace, we are speaking about Christ. When we speak about truth and life and redemption, we are speaking about Christ."*

(The Explanations of the Psalms by St Ambrose: Psalm 36, in the Roman Catholic Office of readings for Thursday in the 6th week of ordinary time).

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Anointing of the Sick will take place during Mass at:

◇ **St Fidelis':** Tuesday, 13th December at 9:15am

◇ **St Ambrose's:** Thursday, 15th December at 10am

This will be followed by cuppa in St Ambrose's Community Centre.

All welcome.

◇ **Our Lady's:** Friday, 16th December at 10am

◇ **St Joseph's:** Wednesday, 21th December at 10am

ROSARY VIA ZOOM

You are warmly invited to join us praying the Rosary over Zoom at 9:00am each Saturday during Advent, commencing Saturday 3rd December 2022.

<https://zoom.us/j/92496488650>

Meeting ID: 924 9648 8650 By telephone: 7018 2005.

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

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

(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

Romans 15:4-9

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

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

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.'

Prayers of Intention:

For the Sick: *Phil Russell, Bernadette Steward, Teresa Fiore, Doug Bracken, Lewis Calleja, Cynthia D'Souza, Giuseppe Mazza, Patricia Belli and Gina Denk.*

Recently Deceased: *Ilija Milovac, Marie O'Toole, Benjamin Coghlan*

Anniversaries: *Patricia Morris, Joanie Harrington (1 Year), Maria Leone Family, Parisi Family, Di Dio Family, Con Conroy, Myra Conroy, Annette Conroy, Carbone Family, Calabrese Family, Daniel Robert Murphy, Nellie May Walsh, Pisano Family, Francesco Pisano, Antonio Cicone, Antonina Plati, Pietro & Carmela Quirino, Francesco Lettieri, Maria Grazia Testa, Donato Testa, Sebastiano & Maria Straniero, Antonio, Roberto & Maria Gazzi, Giulia & Olimpia Mancini, Giuseppe Di Fazio, Carmelo Frazzetto, Giuseppe Frazzetto, Vincenza Frazzetto, Vincenzo Frazzetto, Sebastiano Frazzetto, Vincenzo Guarnaccia, Carmela Randello, Carmelo Guarnaccia, Maria Randello, Margherita Pachieri, Carmela Trombino, Mmadlike Family, Isezie Family, Aabbate Family and Donato Vincendese.*

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today's readings are like Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. The biblical authors sketch profiles of individuals after whom we can model our lives as we embark on our pilgrimage to eschatological fulfilment. Isaiah depicts the righteous messianic king; Paul provides us with a glimpse of Jesus, the one who ministers to all; and Matthew describes John the Baptist, the prophet who prepared for the Advent of Christ.

The gifts Isaiah attributes to the messianic king are the same gifts that we receive with the anointing of the Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. The image of the messianic king may have been fulfilled in Jesus, but it is also offered to us as a model after which we can pattern our lives.

Paul declares that Christ came for all. Just as the Canterbury tales describe pilgrims of all backgrounds and characters, so our companions on the pilgrimage come from diverse circumstances. Since the invitation was extended to all, we are expected to welcome all. Some of Chaucer's characters were quite unpleasant, but they were part of the group. Many of the people to whom Jesus ministered were quite unpleasant, but this did not deter him. His example is set before us today.

John the Baptist lived a life of radical self-denial, but he did not require this of others. He preached repentance or change of heart, not a rejection of the circumstances of life. He called for a return to righteousness, to relationships rooted in honesty and respect. He condemned presumption and arrogant reliance on one's religious origin, complacency and the shirking of responsibility, disinterest in the welfare of others.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA GLOBAL GIFTS CAMPAIGN AND EMERGENCY APPEALS

If you are looking for ways to support Caritas throughout Advent and the Christmas period, you may be interested in Global Gifts: find more information: <https://www.globalgifts.org.au/>

For emergency appeals supporting Ukraine, Indonesia Earthquake, Pakistan Floods, Africa Food Crisis, Bangladesh, Philippines and Afghanistan. Please visit website:

<https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/>

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Envelopes for the Vinnies Christmas Appeal are now available. The appeal benefits needy people in our parishes who are cared for by the members of our St V. de P. Conference who volunteer for this work of mercy. Sincere thanks to them for their great generosity! New members are always welcome.



CONGRATULATIONS Sr. Cesarina Belperio

On Wednesday 7 December at 9.00am at St Luke's Church in Lalor, a thanksgiving Mass in Italian will be celebrated for the 70th anniversary of religious consecration of Sister Cesarina Belperio. For this occasion, some of our parishioners, together with Sr. Marjetka will participate in the celebration. Sister Cesarina belongs to the Missionary Sisters of St Anthony M. Claret. The same order as Sr. Marjetka.

Sacramental Life:

The Moreland and Brunswick Catholic Mission welcome with joy through the sacrament of **Baptisms**, this weekend.

Benjamin James Lumsden

Alessia Merola

Cecilia Estelle Iudiciano

Zara Franco

Lucas Joe Giglietta

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION AND COMMUNION SERVICE



Tuesday at 10.00am at ST JOSEPH'S

"Here is our God

He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes."

ALL WELCOME!

ST AMBROSE AND OUR LADY'S SCRIPTURE REFLECTION AND COMMUNION SERVICE

Tuesday 10:00am – 11:00am at St Ambrose Church,
Communion Service and Rosary.
Prayer for peace in Ukraine.

Wednesday 7, December at 3pm at Our Lady's Community Room, Communion Service and Gospel Reflection in Italian.
"Cura di se con la Bibbia". All welcome!

Meditation Group

The Meditation group has finished for 2022. We will resume on Tuesday, 7 February 2023 for both groups: 3 pm for face-to-face, in the Spirituality Room in the Luby Centre and 7.30 pm for the zoom Meditation group.

Update: Final Heart to Hearts Soup Kitchen for the Year

The Heart to Hearts soup kitchen at Our Lady's will close for the year on 15 December 2022, and will re-open on **Thursday 2 February 2023**. A special thanks to Gerry McCabe and all parish volunteers who enable this great ministry to continue.

Piety Stall

A variety of Christmas cards are available - 5 for \$3.50 at the Piety Stall St Fidelis. All proceeds go towards the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society in our parish which cares for people in need.

St Joseph's Presents: Carols

In the schoolyard **TUESDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2022**

Please join us for a night of fun, food and singing in the James Street Yard. BYO chairs, rugs and picnic or come early and purchase from one of the food stalls. Gates open at 5pm for a 6.30pm start.

SONGS/FOOD AND DRINK STALLS/CHRISTMAS STALL/RAFFLE

Contact

Parish Priests

Fr Linh Pham

Fr Greg Bourke

**After Hours or Emergency please call
Mob: 0452 180 037**

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Safety of Children and All Vulnerable People

We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people, as a central and fundamental responsibility, of our parishes. The Parish Statement of Commitment and the Reporting Process, are on display in all churches, and all Parish Policies are available, on the website: bmcatholicmission.org.au