

St Brigid's Parish Catholic Church

9 Thomas St, Quirindi NSW
PO Box 44, Quirindi 2343
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
Willow Tree, NSW

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St Joseph's School website is -
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Parish Priest: Fr Henry Kingsley Eton
Secretary: Ms Bern Press

02 6746 1133

Mon & Tues 9.00 - 11.00am
Friday 9.00am - 12.00pm

11 December 2022 - Third Sunday of Advent

Please Pray For Those Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Maureen Lenehan
Deceased: Bob & Sarah Robinson; Andrew Robinson; Eric Robinson; Ray Lamb; Max Everleigh; Barry Donnelly; Vince Mitchell; Edna & Nipper Hewatt; Walter Jenise;
Anniversary: Colin Gee; John Donovan; Thelma Reaper; Patrick McCulloch; Frank Conroy; Maude Press; Margaret Harrison; Peggy Lawson; Bernard Perkins; Patricia Callinan; Vincent Lantry; Dawn Davidson; Fred Barr; Florence McNamara; Jacqueline Sharpe; Allan Sinson; Patrick Barr; Barbara Plunkett; Sr Mary White RSJ; Vera Graham; Margaret Doolan; George McGregor; Esther Whitted; Dulcie Withers; Mavis Burraston; Bert Carpenter; Edward Eiseley; Mabel Lobsey; Terrance Austin; Calma Slolk

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God Rest In Peace. Amen.

And for those who are ill: Joan Guyer; Peter Bridge; Micharia, Lynn & Neil Sadler; Lorraine Guyer; Joste Norman; Kevin McNamara; Va & Graham Callaghan; Deb Foddy; Skye Evans; Leanne Young; Fran Wallace; Carole Scanlon; Maureen Irvine; Chris George; Theo Gleeson; David Henry; Dawn & Colin Graham; Mary Smith; Billy Coddin; Gail Martin; Wendy Brown; Sue Thomson; Lisa Brown; Clare Crane; Bill Gleeson; Lucy Gigli; David Bonsey (Name Eason's brother in law) all the members of the Parish who are ill.

Other Intentions:

Roster
17/12/22 R: H Passfield
18/12/22 R: M Corbould
C: K Sweep & C Taylor

Flower/Altar Roster for December - D Webster & H Hurley

Coming Event

- Tues 13 No Mass today at St Brigid's
- Wed 14 No Mass today at Werris Creek
- Wed 14 Parish Pastoral Council Meeting at 5.00pm at the Presbytery
- Thurs 15 Combined Churches Carols in the Park, Willow Tree, 7.30pm, Please bring a chair. Lions BBQ 6.30pm. All welcome
- Mon 19 Mass at Eloura at 2.00pm no mass at St Brigid's on this day**

The Parish of St Brigid Quirindi and the Catholic Diocese of Armidale are committed to the care and well-being and protection of children, young people, and people at risk in our community. Our message is that child protection and dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. Please parents/guardians, ensure that your children are accompanied when leaving the church during Mass to go to the toilet or for any reason.

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



Third Sunday of Advent

The third candle is lit today. The colour is pink/rose and symbolizes Joy. It is called the "Shepherd's Candle. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

Eloura Masses The next mass will be Monday 19th December at 2.00pm. Please note the change of date. There will be no mass at St Brigid's on this day. In 2023 it will be the 2nd Tuesday of every 2nd month. All invited to attend.

Christmas Raffle. With only 3 weekends before Christmas, it is fitting that the Christmas Raffle should start now. The 1st Prize will be a \$40 voucher from Quirindi Pharmacy and 2nd Prize a donated "Surprise". Please be in it to win as it will be drawn before Christmas for sure. If the raffle table is not manned, please write you own ticket and place money in box provided. All proceeds are going towards new kitchen blinds in the Fr Stan Campbell Hall.

Immaculate Mission School 2023 in Armidale Young people aged 15-35 are invited to spend the first 10 days of 2023 going deeper in faith at the Immaculate Mission School. The program includes talks on the faith, praise & worship, daily Mass, Adoration & the Rosary, fun community & Friendship. This is an awesome opportunity to hear more about our Catholic faith through speakers such as special guest Fr Drake McCallister who will be joining us from Franciscan University Steubenville in Ohio, USA. From the 5-10 January its open to those over 35 and families. Come and join us for an amazing time to grow in faith and love for God and make new friends!
When: 1-10 January 2023 (over 35s & Family programs 5-10th)
Where: NEGS Armidale
Who For: Young people aged 15-35, also families and those over 35

Cost: \$490.00 includes accommodation, food, speakers, talks and activities.
For family rates, additional information and To Register visit: <http://www.sistersoftheimmaculate.org.au/lms>

Christmas Mass Schedule 2022

Christmas Eve Mass Saturday 24 December
5.00pm - St Thomas More, Werris Creek
7.00pm - St Brigid's, Quirindi
Christmas Day Mass Sunday 25 December
7.30am - Immaculate Heart of Mary, Willow Tree
9.30am - St Brigid's, Quirindi

UKRAINE APPEAL The Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference are encouraging Catholics to respond to the call from the head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Australia, Bishop Mykola Bychok CSsR, to provide financial support to people in the war-torn nation as winter arrives. All donations raised during the Advent appeal will support the work of *Mudra Sprava* (Wise Action), a Patriarchal Charitable Foundation in Ukraine. The organisation has three focus areas: Evacuation of people from frontline territories; Food packages for people in need; Shelters for internally displaced persons. **Special Collection envelopes are at the back of the church for this purpose.** Please keep the people of Ukraine and Russia in your prayers.

Planned Giving \$716.00 + Loose \$60.00 = \$776.00

A PRAYER FOR THE Third Sunday of Advent

Joy-filled Giver of Life,
let the anticipation of your birth
fill us with overflowing joy.
May our excitement and anticipation
be a sign to the world
that you are always near.
Amen.

St Vincent De Paul Appeal Aussie families are struggling to survive the increasing cost-of-living pressures this Christmas. Your generosity can provide urgent relief for a family who's doing it tough this Christmas and give them hope for a better future. Starting 1st December till 18th December 2022. Envelopes at the back of the Church.

St. Vinnies Welfare Assistance Welfare Assistance will be every Thursday 11.00am to 2.00pm. Phone 0490 886 337 between 9.00am & 5.00pm Monday to Friday for an appointment.

Combined Churches Carols in the Park at Willow Tree this Thursday 15 December at 7.30pm. Please bring a chair. Lions BBQ at 6.30pm. All welcome.

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

World Youth Day 2022. Preparations are now well underway for our Diocesan Pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Lisbon next year. Pope Francis has released his message for this year, with the theme: "Mary arose and went with haste" (Lk 1:39). We particularly encourage you to consider inviting any young people between 15-35 to join us for WYD in Lisbon next year on our 22 day pilgrimage: "Journeying to Jesus with Mary" Led by Bishop Michael Kennedy. Inclusions: Return Flights, all internal transport, accommodation & meals. Cost \$5,990.00 per person. Places are limited; register your expression of interest now! 22 July to 13 August 2023

armidale.catholic.org.au/world-youth-day-2023. This will be a life-changing opportunity to join millions of young people as we gather with Pope Francis for a celebration of our Catholic faith!

Act of Spiritual Communion. My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

First Collection \$373.00

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 happy 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 wilderness to see? A reed waving 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 messenger 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.

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Breaking Open the Word

ARE YOU THE ONE?

One can only begin to imagine the excitement, questioning and discussion that must have accompanied the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Reports were flying thick and fast about the carpenter-turned-preacher from Nazareth, whose preaching was accompanied by miraculous healings, and disconcerting sayings. Was it true that Isaiah's prophecy about the eyes of the blind being opened, and the deaf once again being able to hear was being fulfilled?

John the Baptist had spoken with courage about the messiah that was coming and this led to his imprisonment. He had preached that the coming messiah would be a figure of purification and judgement upon Israel. Could it be that Jesus was the promised one? John could not reconcile Jesus' message and ministry with the message for which he had risked his life. Jesus' response to John's question is simple – you must make your judgement based on what you see. If Isaiah's prophecy is being fulfilled, then there is no need to look any further.

A challenge for James' community was that they recognised Jesus was indeed the saviour, but how were they to manage until his return at the end of time? Their impatience for the Lord's return was leading them into the trap of being fractious with each other. James provides both them and us with the timely reminder that patience with the Lord and each other is a better way to prepare to greet the Lord on his return.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
God himself will come and save us.

Isa 35:1-6, 10

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 in 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. cf. Isa 35:4

R. Lord, come and save us. (or Alleluia!)

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

THE SAVING WORD

11 DECEMBER 2022



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

A reading from the letter of St James

James 5:7-10

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

Isa 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.

ANTIPHONA

Antiphona: the substitution of another **D**