



Brighton Catholic Parishes Newsletter  
**St James**  
 &  
**St Joan of Arc**



SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT

8th December, 2019

**Services**

**Sunday Mass**

Sat 6.00pm & Sun 9am  
 at St James Church

Sun 11am & 5.30pm at  
 St Joan of Arc Church.

**Weekday Masses**

Tues at 6pm & \*Thur  
 9.15am at St James.

Wed & Fri at 9.15am at  
 St Joan of Arc.

\*First Thursday of the  
 month at noon, chapel at  
 Cabrini Hospital, Btn.

**Weddings  
 & Baptisms**

By appointment.

**Parish Groups**

**Card Players:**

First Thursday of the  
 month in the St Joan of  
 Arc presbytery meeting  
 room from 11.30am.  
 Next meets Feb 2020

**Meditation:**

Mon 10am- presbytery  
 at St Joan of Arc  
 Next meets 2020

**Prayer Group:**

Thursday at 8pm in  
 St Joan of Arc Church  
 Next meets 2020

**Social Justice Group:**

Every second Thursday  
 of the month in the  
 presbytery at St Joan of  
 Arc at 7.30 pm

**Reflection On The Readings**

The greatest obstacle to conversion of heart is complacency – a complacency that especially stems from privileged status ('We have Abraham for our father') and a sense that one is different from the despised outsiders and so can rest secure. Jesus will 'baptise with the Holy Spirit and with fire'. That is, he will seek to catch up human lives into the fire that is God's love, communicated through the Spirit (Rom 5:5). But only hearts that are truly repentant and converted will be able to be grasped within a 'baptism' of this kind. John's baptism with water is a preparatory rite of conversion, readying human hearts for the entrance of this message about God's love, the true 'knowledge of the Lord' that Jesus will impart.

*Brendan Byrne SJ*



**Remember In Our Prayers**

**Illness:** Dalia Borell, Ruth Brokensha, Barbara Gallo, Marta Elena Hinds, Gabrielle Marylees, Margaret McGrath, Freddie McGuigan, Kevin Nichollis, Mary O'Connor, Catherine Ryan, Edward Shelley, Rob Smith, Emily Somers, Brian Taylor, Barbara Turner, Robin Turner

**Recently Deceased:** Ruby Hickey

**Anniversaries:** Peter McPherson Carr, Peter Laidlaw Gillon, Margaret & Jack Kyne, May Ray, Corey Slykerman

**Parish Contacts**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Martin Dixon

**Pastoral Associate:** Carole Cheng      **Organist:** Mary Taylor

**Cantors:** Adam Kaczanowski & Marie-France Urruty

**St Joan of Arc & St James Parishes**

**Office Address:** 118 New St, Brighton. 3186    **Tel:** 9593 1703

**Email:** Brighton@cam.org.au    **Web:** www.cam.org.au/brighton

**Parish Accountant:** Marina Stevenson    **Parish Secretary:** Elaine Bolitho

**Parish Office Hours:** Tue-Fri: 9.30am-3.30pm.

**St James School**

**School Principal:** Brendan Flanagan    **Tel:** 9596 4766

**St Joan of Arc School**

**School Principal:** Tony McMahon    **Tel:** 9592 3840

## Services This Week

- ◆ This Sunday we welcome our Prep students, parents and teachers to the 9am and 11am Masses
- ◆ Please support our appeal this weekend for the education of nursing students through the Presentation sisters mission at Aitape in remote PNG



### Fair Trade Christmas Stall

Don't miss out on purchasing some very thoughtful gifts from the Fair Trade stalls this Sunday before and after the 11am Mass. Decorations from El Salvador, coffee from Timor Leste and goods from SisterWorks, who are refugee women starting up small businesses. Stalls will open soon after 10am so call in even if not attending the 11am Mass.

### Aitape Nurses' Appeal

This weekend, there will be a leaving collection to support our students in Aitape. Aitape is in Sandaun province, a very remote part of PNG, and we are supporting students to complete a diploma in Community Health.

Two of our students, Jacinta and Marazean, will graduate this year. We have 3 students completing 1st year successfully and would like to offer 3 new places to school leavers to start training in 2020. Costs of tuition and accommodation is \$2000 per student per year.

Tax deductibility is available through Catholic Mission, and donations can be made by cash, cheque or credit card. Please return donation forms/money today, or to the parish office or place in the collection plate next weekend.



*Photo: Jacinta with a baby she has delivered.*

### Stewardship Envelopes

Many thanks to all of the parishioners who support the parish financially each year. Giving envelopes are now available for collection from the church foyer. Please email us at [Brighton@cam.org.au](mailto:Brighton@cam.org.au) if you cannot locate your envelopes.

### Advent Meditations with Holy Icons

Parishioners are invited to join the Sts James & Joan of Arc Prayer & Liturgy group for 20 minutes of quiet meditative prayer with candlelit Icons during Advent. Meet each Saturday before the 6pm Mass at St James.

**Saturday 14th and 21st Dec.**

**Venue:** The St James Presbytery, back room  
**Time:** 5.25pm - 5.45pm. All very welcome.



### Card Players

A BIG Thankyou to the card players for raising \$225.00 for the St Vincent de Paul Society. Many thanks also to Eula and Michael Scott and Kay Killen for catering so beautifully for the group throughout the year.



### St Vincent de Paul

Columban Calendars are on sale at both churches and St Vincent de Paul Christmas cards are available at St James.

Many thanks for your support.

We acknowledge the Boon Wurrung people of the Kulin nation as the traditional custodians of this place we now call Brighton

## Brighton Catholic Parishes Christmas Services

### St James Church

**Christmas Eve:** 6pm Family Mass & 9pm Mass

**Christmas Day:** 9am Mass

### St Joan of Arc Church

**Communal Penitential Service:** Tues 17th at 7.30pm  
(No 6pm Mass at St James)

**Christmas Eve:** 6pm Family Mass, 8pm Reflective Mass  
10pm Mass with carols at 9.30pm

**Christmas Day:** 8.30am Mass & 11am Mass



*We look forward to you joining us this Christmas*

### Please Pray For Vocations

"Prepare a Way for the Lord" John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus.

How do we prepare the way for Jesus in the lives of our young people? Do we pray for them?

Encourage and support them? Invite them to serve, and thank them? How can we be like John the Baptist to those people who do not know Jesus?



### **'A Time To Hope'**

#### ***Finding Encouragement In Prayer And Ministry***

Fr Paul Castley is well known to us as a visiting celebrant when Fr Martin is away. You may not know that Fr Paul has ministered in secondary teaching, pastoral formation and is an established author.

His latest book 'A Time To Hope' provides uplifting hope to those who are disheartened and dismayed by the abuse in the church. It provides an invitation to take prayer seriously and to gradually grow towards God in Christ.

A copy of the book is available in the church foyer for you to view. Add your name to the order form and we can place an order on behalf of the parish. Copies are \$22.95.

### Glasses Thankyou

Many thanks to parishioners for donating glasses to enable sight for people in Third World Countries. More glasses are always needed but not the cases as the transport costs are prohibitive. Collection boxes are in the church foyers for you to drop off your glasses anytime.

*A Kiwanis Project*



### ADVENT CONCERT 2019: MAGNIFICAT

**Sunday 22 December, 3pm**

**St Patrick's Church, Mentone**

Come and listen to music of Advent season with St Patrick's Choir directed by the concert's organist Myfanwy McIndoe, with Evgeny Chebykin on the French horn as guest conductor. Free admission.

### **Catholic Theological College**

*2020 Study Options Now Available!*

#### **Graduate Certificate in Teaching Meditation:**

Meditation in the Christian Tradition;  
Applied Meditation; Meditation and Wholeness.  
Audit and Credit options available.

Contact the Academic Records Office for enrolment information and appointments.

+61 3 9412 3309 – [AssistantDean@ctc.edu.au](mailto:AssistantDean@ctc.edu.au) – 278  
Vitoria Parade, East Melbourne [ctc@ctc.edu.au](http://ctc@ctc.edu.au)

### ***St James Church Roster***

#### **Saturday 6pm Mass on 14 & 21 Dec**

**Overhead/Set Up:** Vin Underwood (O)

**Special Ministers:** Vin Underwood, Elisa Wilson, Bella Parker

**Collector:** Wendy Lord-Henry

**Reader/Com:** Lois White, Ruth Martinez

#### **Sunday 9am Mass on 15 & 22 Dec**

**Overheard/Set Up:** Louise Blangiardo

**Special Ministers:** Vickie-Lee Young, Marj Hess, John Blangiardo

**Collector:** Paul Whitehead

**Welcomer:** Brian Dowling

**Reader /Com:** John Egan, Peter Toms

**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 cobras hole; into the vipers 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.

**SECOND READING:                    ROM 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 to your name.

**GOSPEL:                                    MT 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.'



Next Weekend

Is 35:1-6, 10 James 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11

**LIVING GOSPEL**

**Prepare Ye!**

*John the Baptist's call to "Prepare the way of the Lord" is a summary of the purpose of the season of Advent. Every year, as we celebrate the Nativity, we celebrate once again the presence of God in our world. God became incarnate in the world through Jesus but also always was and continues to be incarnate in the world through each person. If we are to accept this reality and live it out, we need to remind ourselves this Advent to prepare the way for the Lord to be present in and through us every day of our lives.*