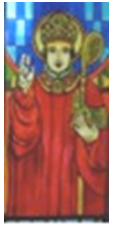




# St Finbar's Catholic Parish



86 Centre Rd, Brighton East, VIC, 3187

Presbytery/Office: 9593 2122 School: 9592 4479

Parish Email: [brightoneast@cam.org.au](mailto:brightoneast@cam.org.au) Parish Website: <http://pol.org.au/brightoneast>

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

## 17th December—2023

### Parish Staff

Parish Priest: Fr Ian Ranson

Retired Priest: Fr Clemente Cafarella

Parish Secretary: Mrs Carmel Cristiano  
(Tues & Thurs, 9.00 am—3.30pm)

St Vincent de Paul: 1800 305 330

Acting School Principal: Ms Michelle Hill

### Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday 9.30am

### Weekend Masses

Saturday: 9:30am, 5:30pm Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am

Baptisms & other sacraments:

please call the office to organise.



Traditionally, the third Sunday of Advent is called *Gaudete* Sunday, the Sunday of Joy. The joy of this Sunday comes both from the message of the readings and from the anticipation that Christmas is nearing. As described in the Isaian passage, the Messiah is the one imbued with the spirit and with the power of the prophet, the one who will fulfill the promises of God. It becomes obvious in the Gospel that the Messiah is the one proclaimed by the Baptist. John cleared a path for the coming of the anointed one, and from that time on the lives of believers have been the pathway through which the Messiah has entered the world.

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### Let us pray

*For peace in our World.*

## Christmas Masses 2023

### Reconciliation

**Communal Prayers**  
followed by **Individual Reconciliation**  
*Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> Dec at 7.00pm*

### Christmas Eve, Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Dec

*9am, 11am mass*

*Christmas Eve Family Mass, 5.30pm*  
*Christmas Eve Mass 9.00pm*

### Christmas Day, Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Dec

*9.00am, 10.30 am*



## Have you thought?

### A time to Rejoice!

This Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent is traditionally known as *Gaudete* Sunday. *Gaudete* is the Latin word for *Rejoice!* Advent was originally celebrated as a five week season and with the same fasting and penitential nature as the season of Lent. The third Sunday, *Gaudete*, was like a break for rejoicing in the midst of the fasting. When Advent was reduced to four weeks and the nature of the season altered, *Gaudete* Sunday was retained. The colour of this Sunday is rose – a celebratory colour – and it is reflected in the vestments worn by the priest and in the colour of the third candle used in Advent wreaths.

## DECEMBER—Month of Divine Infancy

18th St Gatian

19th St Fausta

20th St Philogonius

21st St Andrew Dung Lac

22nd St Flavian

23rd St Victoria

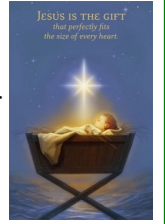
### Roster for Next Week

4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent-Year B 24.12.23	5.30pm	9.00am	11.00am
Lector	Julie McInerney	Rod Watson	Richard Wakeham
Minister	Volunteer	Mary Callea	Jenny Reiche
Audio Visual Operator	Carmel Cristiano	volunteer	Teresa Myer

Dear Heavenly Father,

this Advent season, we especially are in need of peace. War rages on in our world. It impacts the daily lives of millions in different ways. This year, as much as ever, we need Jesus, Prince of Peace, in our world and in our hearts. During Advent in 2023, we pray that Jesus transforms our world as we await His coming again.

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Lorenzo Poletta will have on display for sale in the Church foyer this Saturday 16th & 23rd Dec before and after masses, the beautiful religious icons.

Perfect Christmas gift!

All proceeds goes directly to the Redemptoris Seminary in NSW & WA.



### Advent Reflection 2023

When: Thursday 10.00 am.

Where: Marian Room Material will be provided. Come along and prepare for this wonderful time in welcoming the Birth of Our Lord Jesus.

### Christmas Cards and Columban Calendars.

St Vincent de Paul Society are selling Christmas cards & the Columban calendars after Masses this weekend & through December. Calendars \$10. Christmas cards: 5-packs \$5 and 10-packs \$10

## THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

As the year concludes, let us look back at the highs and lows with a heart open to learning. Trust that whatever happened is part of a bigger plan, guided by a force beyond our control. Let go of worries, find strength in surrender and step into the future with hope.

Life's journey is a mix of joy and challenges, shaping us into who we are meant to be. Embrace the simplicity of letting go, placing ourselves in God's hands to guide us on our path, in all situations.

“Dear God, guide us on this journey of life. Illuminate our path with Your wisdom, fill our hearts with love and grant us strength in challenges.

May we find purpose in each step and may Your grace lead us to joy and fulfillment.

Amen.”

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### SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE

St Finbar's Parish hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community.