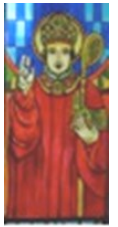




# St Finbar's Catholic Parish



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>

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

10th 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.



### Two Gospels

John immersed, baptised, his followers in water, symbolising the washing away of the sins of the *past*. But he could not empower people by drenching them in the dynamic life of God. John anticipates 'Someone' (not named!) who *does* have the power to inundate, baptise, people with the Holy Spirit.

From the heading of St Mark's Gospel, we know that that 'Someone' is 'Jesus Christ, Son of God' who came to flood our lives with that Divine Power which can effect a completely new *future* for humanity.

That is why St Mark took the term 'gospel' (good news) which was used on inscriptions announcing an Emperor's birth or victory, and used it to describe his inspired rendering of the mission of Jesus Christ, which was to inaugurate the 'Kingdom of God', overcoming the pretensions of all Emperors of any kind throughout history.

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the Good News of our being baptised with *water* in the 'Name of the Father and of the Son and of the *Holy Spirit*.'

© Fr Michael Tate

### Let us pray

*For peace in our World.*

### Recent death:

*Horst Oelsner (Funeral 13.12.23)*

### Anniversary:

*Damian Moloney*

*Dr Diane McGreal*

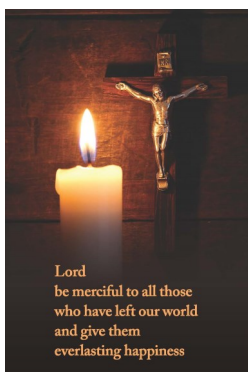
*Maxine Dunin*

*Francesca Galtieri*

*Kaye Anderson*

*Ken Hubble*

*Fr John Pierce*



Lord  
be merciful to all those  
who have left our world  
and give them  
everlasting happiness

## GOSPEL FOCUS

### Preparing the Way

The gospel passage quotes the prophet Isaiah (although text combines Malachi 3:1; Isaiah 40:3; and Exodus 23:20) and casts John the Baptist in the role of fulfilling the prophecy of the voice that cries in the wilderness, 'Prepare a way for the Lord'. The description of John in camel-skin and eating locusts and wild honey is designed to align him with Elijah, the great prophet of Jewish history. In a very short and sharp passage the gospel ties the coming of Jesus to the expectation of a messiah that has run through Jewish history and been foretold by the great prophets.



## DECEMBER—Month of Divine Infancy

11th St Damasus I

12th Our Lady of Guadalupe

13th St Lucy

14th St John of the Cross

15th St Mary di Rosa

16th St Adelaide of Burgundy

### Roster for Next Week

3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent-Year B 17.12.23	5.30pm	9.00am	11.00am
Lector	Benjamin	John Little	Helen Evans
Minister	Clare Sabatino	Mary Callea	Jenny Reiche
Audio Visual Operator	John Sabatino	volunteer	Teresa Myer

Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day. We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us. We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence. We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light. To you we say,  
"Come Lord Jesus!"

© Hallow.com



*Thank You!*

**Christmas Giving Tree for the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project.**

*A BIG THANK YOU to everyone for your support of our Parish Christmas Giving Tree! The BASP volunteers will deliver your hampers in the coming days. Your gifts will bring joy to those many households.*

**Christmas Cards and Columban Calendars.**

Sadly, we've lost the habit of writing letters to people! **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

**St Finbar's Church Garden Pre-Christmas Tidy-Up Gardening Working Bee**

Contact: Veronique 0408 360 444

Working With Childrens Check is essential. It is free for volunteers. If you do not have one yet, go to this website : [Working with Children Check \(service.vic.gov.au\)](http://Working with Children Check (service.vic.gov.au)) otherwise Veronique is happy to assist with your application.

**Advent Reflection 2023**

Starting Thursday 7th Dec, 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 Masses 2023**

**Healing Mass & Luncheon**  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec at 11.00am followed by lunch in the Marian Room (no 9.30am Mass)

**Parish Advent Carols – in Church**  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec, 7.00-9.00pm

**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

**Ecumenical Advent Study**

A look at the wonder of the Christmas Story in the gospels of Matthew and Luke.

- St Stephens Anglican Church 111 North Rd, Brighton. Enquiries: 0435 767 867
- Leader: David Noble
- No cost bible study
- 7pm Tuesdays: 5th, 12th & 19th December

### 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.