

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (24:37-44)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left. 'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Background on the Gospel Reading

Loyola Press

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of a new liturgical year for the Church. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. It is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. Key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Matthew will be the primary Gospel proclaimed (Lectionary Cycle A). In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus speak about the need for wakefulness, for watchful waiting, for the coming of the Son of Man.

Matthew's Gospel is dated by most scholars after 70 A.D. Most believe that Matthew wrote for a primarily Jewish community, but one that was no longer centered on the Temple in Jerusalem. These were Jewish Christians trying to come to terms with their relationship to Judaism in a new situation: Judaism after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. There may have been Christians who believed that the events of the world around them gave evidence of the imminent return of the Lord in glory.

The passage from Matthew we read today is rather straightforward. No one knows the precise time of the coming of the Lord in glory, so watchful waiting and vigilance are required. The passage speaks to the uselessness of looking for signs; there will be none. As a thief sneaks in during the night, so will the Lord's coming in glory be.

The question for us as members of the Christian community, then, is how do we prepare for this? Today's passage speaks more about the manner of waiting, rather than the details of the preparation. Jesus compares the vigilance required of Christians to the vigilance of a homeowner who knows the plans of the thief. If one knows that the thief's action is imminent, one remains watchful. As Christians, we know that our Lord is coming even if we cannot know the precise timing. Jesus calls us to be watchful and vigilant, like the homeowner. If we become lax in our Christian living, we may be caught unprepared.

Advent wreath, candles and Star

Fr. Roy John Elavumkal SMM

History: One of the most recognizable Catholic symbols of the Advent season is the Advent wreath. It symbolizes the passage of the four weeks of Advent in the liturgical calendar of the Western Church. The concept of the Advent wreath originated in pre-Christian times when people would gather evergreens and light candles to ward off the darkness of winter and serve as a sign of hope that spring would come. By the 16th century, Catholics in Germany began using the wreath as a sign of Christ's coming. From there the tradition slowly spread throughout the world as Germans immigrated to various countries. **Symbolism of the Wreath:** The circular wreath represents the fact that God has no beginning and no end. The evergreen branches stand for everlasting life. **Four candles:** representing Christ as the light of the world—adorn the wreath. Traditionally, three of the candles are purple, a sign of penance. (Sometimes the three candles are blue.) These candles are lit on the first, second, and fourth weeks of Advent. On the third week a rose candle is lit. This week is known as "Gaudete" Sunday, Latin for "rejoice." The rose candle symbolizes joy. (Make sure to check out the priest's vestments at Mass on this Sunday. They might be rose to match the rose candle that you will be lighting.) In addition to these four candles, many people place a white candle in the centre of their Advent wreath. This candle is called the Christ candle and is lit on Christmas Day to represent the birth of Christ. The candles should be lit each day of the appropriate week and for the subsequent weeks. For example, during the third week you will light two purple candles and the rose one. **Christmas Star:** The Christmas star symbolizes the star of Bethlehem, which according to the Biblical story, guided the three kings, or wise men, to the baby Jesus. The star is also the heavenly sign of a prophecy fulfilled long ago and the shining hope for humanity.



First Sunday of Advent

26/27 November 2022

Parish Bulletin

Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

PSALM 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9

R: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say: Let us go to God's house. And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R**

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name. There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David. **R**

For the peace of Jerusalem pray: Peace be to your homes! May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!. **R**

For love of my brethren and friends I say: 'Peace upon you!' For the love of the house of the Lord I will ask for your good. **R**

*Stay awake,
you must be ready.*

WALK IN
GOD'S LIGHT.

We do not know when
Christ will come again in
glory. Nor do we know
the day of our death.

This should not worry
us. What is important is
to live this day well by
being respectful and
loving towards each
other and seeking to
walk in God's light.
If we do this, we will be
ready whenever God
calls us to eternal life.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Psalm 24:1-3

To you, I lift up my soul,
O my God.

In you, I have trusted;
let me not be put to
shame.

Nor let my enemies
exult over me; and let
none who hope in you be
put to shame.

SECOND READING

Romans 13:11-14

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.



St Joseph's Catholic Church
484 Magill Rd, Kensington Gardens
SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5072

Parish Priest
Fr Roy John Elavumkal SMM
parishpriest@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

Parish Office Hours
Mon to Fri 9:30am – 12:30pm
Ph: (08) 8431 6932
info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

Parish Secretary
Melissa Hernandez – Tue-Fri
Police Checks Unit
Hiacinta Msomi – Sunday
Planned Giving Coordinator
Helen Mysak – Monday
WHS Officer
Angela Girolamo – Thursday
Sacristan
Weekdays: Michael Pierce
Sundays: Terence Yeow & Roger Worth


Mass Times
Sunday 9:30 am
Saturday Vigil Mass 6:30 pm
Tuesday to Friday 9:15 am
Confessions
Saturday 6:00 pm
Rosary
Tues to Fri 8:45am
Adoration of the Eucharist
Friday before Mass 8:30am
Novena to St. Joseph
Wednesday after Mass

St. Joseph's Primary School
Principal - Adrian Grbin
Ph: 8431 2834
Knights of the Southern Cross
Michael Boyle Ph: 8337 3270
Parish Pastoral Council
Chairperson – Alan Tyson
Ph: 0412 389 875
Youth Representative
Nancy Ngure Ph: 0431 896 610
Child Safety & REC
Anne Dudzinski Ph: 0418 847 804

LOVE HEALS

Rosters for 3/4 December 2022 2nd Sunday of Advent	
Time	Commentator / Readers
6:30pm	Anne Marie Platten Fil Ciancio, Giulia Giuliani
9:30am	Paul Halliwell Sandy Mazzarolo, Sheila Hoogland
Children's Liturgy	Nickie and Evangeline
Count team	Paul Halliwell Paul Roocke Danielle Roocke Denise Rutt
Altar	27th Nov to 18th Dec Dolores Arboit Christina Wong
<i>All those who have volunteered please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start time and report to the commentator for that mass</i>	

SUNDAY COLLECTION SUMMARY	19/20 NOVEMBER
First Collection	\$ 567.15
Planned Giving (Envelopes & Electronic)	\$ 453.00
Open Plate	\$ 302.75
TOTAL	\$ 1,322.90



Pope Francis
@Pontifex

Spiritual consolation is an experience of interior joy that allows us to see God's presence in everything. It strengthens faith, hope, and the ability of doing good; it helps us never give up in the face of difficulties because it gives us a peace that is stronger than any trial.

23 Nov 2022



Please remember in your prayers

We pray for those listed and all the deceased relatives and friends of our Parishioners.

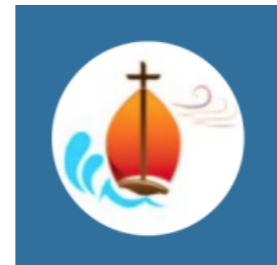
Deceased: Crescenzo and Angela Laudato, Suja Cheriyan

Anniversary of death: Sebastian

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; present them to God the Most High.

Sick: We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish and our relatives and friends who are unwell.

Special Intention:



Prayer for the Assembly of the Federation of Catholic Bishops Conferences of Oceania Fiji, 5-10 February 2023

O God, you revealed yourself in Christ Jesus as loving, merciful and just. Guide our Bishops of Oceania as they meet together to further Pope Francis' call to become a listening Church. Open their hearts to the voice of the Holy Spirit, that they might truly discern and faithfully serve the needs of your People and your World. Colour our way of life and give witness to your presence among us. You who live and reign, God, for ever and ever. Amen.



It's Time to get Ready for Christmas!

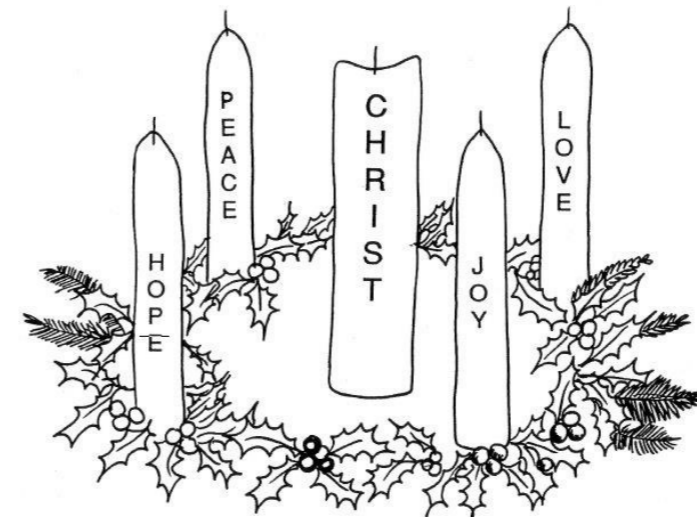
Advent is here! In a few weeks it will be Christmas, so it's time to start getting ready!



During Advent we remember Jesus' first coming, and get ourselves and our homes ready to celebrate His birthday. Lighting the candles on an Advent wreath helps us to remember that Jesus, the light of the world, is coming. We start with one candle, and every week light one more, so that the closer we get to Jesus' coming the brighter it gets.



In Advent we also think about Jesus' second coming. In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the people to be prepared for that time. We must never let ourselves forget that this world and this life are only temporary and that we have something much greater to look forward to: Jesus and Heaven!



A reminder that a **Working With Children Check** is required for those over the age of 14 who undertake any of the following roles: Readers, Commentators, Count Team, Children's Liturgy, Choir, Flower Team, etc. Please see Hiacinta or Melissa in the office to complete the form required along with 100 points of identification. If you are unsure of the date of expiry of your current WWCC do not hesitate in contact us. To comply with Archdiocese regulations, all volunteers need to sign a Code of Conduct, please take one copy from the entrance and please return it signed to the office.

Mask Mandates have been lifted by the State Government. Although the mandates have been lifted, we highly recommend you continue to wear a mask while inside the Church.
Our Parish is committed to Health and Safety

Parish Announcements

Special Collection

This Sunday there will be a special collection - First Collection Renewal Parish Appeals Archdiocese of Adelaide.

Caritas Australia

The Parish donated \$3,189.80 to Project Compassion this year! Thanks to everyone who donated generously to this program.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL Christmas Appeal

By helping the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal, you will be helping in two ways. At a local level, our members and volunteers will be able to offer assistance directly to families and individuals. At a broader level, you will be contributing to the large and varied network of short and long term support services for people in SA who need special care. On each pew there is an envelope, fill it out and return it to the Poor Box or send in by post. Donate online at www.vinnies.org.au or by phone at 131812. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

VINNIES Christmas Hampers

We invite parishioners to donate items for hampers to alleviate cost of living for those in dire need. Please leave your items in shopping bags at the main entrance. Details of suitable items are on posters at the side doors. The last date for contributions is Sunday 11 December. Please do not donate: chocolate or other items that melt, out of date food, dented tins or broken packets or homemade food (Health & Safety rules)

Blessing of Cribs and decorating the Christmas Tree

On the 3rd Sunday of Advent, December 11th, we can bring our family Nativity sets to church and arrange them along the altar rails to be blessed. On the same day, all children are invited to put the ornaments on the sanctuary Christmas tree, a time of excitement and enjoyment for all of us.



Catholic Charities Thanksgiving & Centacare 80th Mass

Wednesday December 7 2022 at 12.10pm in St Francis Xavier Cathedral. All are welcome to join the Thanksgiving Mass for Catholic Charities and Centacare's 80th Anniversary on December 7. The Mass will be followed by an expo and sausage sizzle in Mary MacKillop Plaza.

Golden Jubilee Mass Bishop Greg O'Kelly SJ

Friends and parishioners would be most welcome to join in a Mass of Thanksgiving for the 50th anniversary of his ordination to priesthood. We will celebrate Mass at the St Ignatius Church, Norwood, at the 10am Mass on Sunday December 11, followed by light refreshments in the Hall. Your presence and prayers for his ministry would be much appreciated.

Christmas

MASS TIMES

24 December
Saturday 6:30pm
Vigil – Family Mass

24 December
Saturday 11:30pm
Christmas Carols and
Midnight Mass

25 December
Sunday 9:30am
Christmas Mass



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Tranmere