

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 3:4,6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (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.'

## Advent Wreath and candles

Fr. Roy John Elavumkal SMM

The Advent wreath first appeared in Germany in the year 1839. Eventually, the Advent wreath was created out of evergreens, symbolizing everlasting life in the midst of winter and death as the evergreen is continuously green. The circle reminds us of God's unending love and the eternal life He makes possible. The Advent wreath is a symbol of the season, with a candle lit each of the four Sundays leading up to and on Christmas Day. The light of the flickering candle flames reminds us who Jesus is: *"In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."* (John 1:4-5).

Advent candles shine brightly in the midst of darkness, symbolizing and reminding us that Jesus came as Light into our dark world. The candles are often set in a circular Advent wreath. The most common Advent candle tradition, however, involves four candles around the wreath. A new candle is lit on each of the four Sundays before Christmas. Each candle represents something different, although traditions vary. Often, the first, second, and fourth candles are purple; the third candle is rose-coloured. The **first candle** symbolizes **hope** and is called the "Prophet's Candle." The prophets of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah, waited in hope for the Messiah's arrival. The purple colour symbolizes royalty, repentance, and fasting. The **second candle** represents **faith** and is called "Bethlehem's Candle." Micah had foretold that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem, which is also the birthplace of King David. The second candle is also purple to symbolize preparation for the coming king. The **third candle** symbolizes **joy** and is called the "Shepherd's Candle." To the shepherd's great joy, the angels announced that Jesus came for humble, unimportant people like them, too. In liturgy, the colour rose signifies joy. This candle is coloured rose to represent joyfulness and rejoicing. The **fourth candle** represents **peace** and is called the "Angel's Candle." The angels announced that Jesus came to bring peace- He came to bring people close to God and to each other again. This colour is also purple to represent the culmination of love through the Messiah. The (optional) **fifth candle** represents **light and purity** and is called "Christ's candle." It is placed in the middle and is lit on Christmas Day. This candle is white to represent pure light and victory.



# Parish Bulletin

Second Sunday of Advent

3/4 December 2022

**Repent,  
for the kingdom of  
heaven is close at  
hand.**

**GOD'S KINGDOM  
IS NEAR.**

John the Baptist urged the people to prepare for the coming of the kingdom by repenting of their sins. Their baptism by John in the Jordan river was an important ritual act of sorrow. But they also had to express their sorrow by reforming their lives.

The sacrament of reconciliation, and right living, are excellent means through which we can prepare for the feast of Christmas.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**  
**Isaiah 30:19,30**

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of our heart.



## Liturgy of the Word

### 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 loin-cloth 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 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 cobra's hole; into the viper's 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.

**PSALM 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13,17**

**R: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgment. **R**

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. **R**

For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. **R**

May his name be blessed for ever and endure like the sun. Every tribe shall be blessed in him, all nations bless his name. **R**

### SECOND READING

Romans 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.

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**Parish Priest**  
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**Parish Office Hours**  
Mon to Fri 9:30am – 12:30pm  
Ph: (08) 8431 6932  
[info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au](mailto: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 10/11 December 2022 3rd Sunday of Advent	
Time	Commentator / Readers
6:30pm	Josh Page Dorothy Pierce, Michelle Page
9:30am	Antonetta Bartley Grace Yeow, Maureen Fernando
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	Anne and Suanne
<b>Count team</b>	Frank Mazzarolo Sandy Mazzarolo Terry Pickering Christine Holmes
<b>Altar</b>	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	26/27 NOVEMBER
First Collection	\$ 482.85
Planned Giving (Envelopes & Electronic)	\$ 2,896.50
Open Plate	\$ 301.20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 3,680.55</b>



**Pope Francis**

**Prayer Intention**

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

*December 2022*



**Please remember in your prayers**

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

**Deceased:**  
**Anniversary of death:** Filomena and Rosario MUSOLINO; Mario, Antonio and Angelamaria DI MARZO, Alfred KARUSI

*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:** Santina (she is in an induced coma after surgery)



**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.

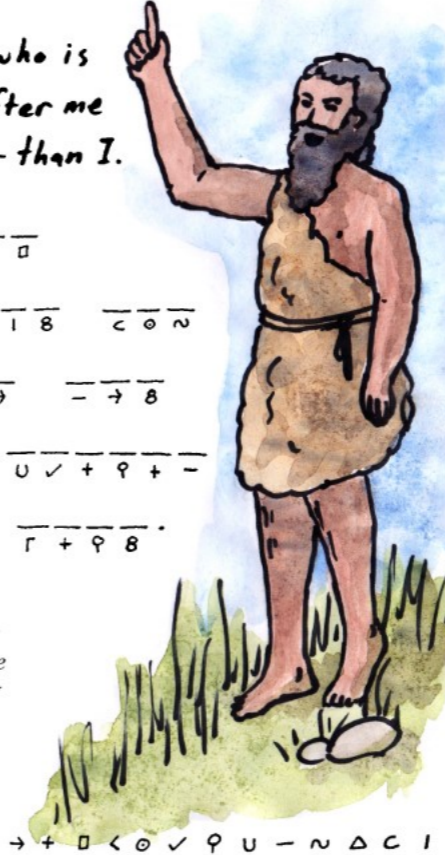


*The one who is coming after me is mightier than I.*

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x n v - + l 8 c o n  
Δ + - → - → 8  
→ o □ c U ✓ + ♀ + -  
n < 7 r + ♀ 8

*What did Saint John the Baptist say about the one who was coming after him? Use the code to find out!*

h x 7 8 r → + □ < o ✓ ♀ u - ~ Δ c l  
A B D E F H I L N O P R S T U W Y Z



## The Immaculate Conception

This Thursday we will be celebrating the Immaculate Conception of Our Blessed Mother. The words "Immaculate Conception" mean that she had no sin on her soul, not even original sin, from the first moment her life began!

Why do you think God saved Mary from all sin? He wanted her to be the perfect mother for His Son Jesus. If you could make your own mother wouldn't you make her perfect too?



Mary is also a model to all people of how to live a good Christian life and to serve God as best we can. We should thank God for giving us such a beautiful example in His holy Mother. We should pray to Mary every day and ask her to help us love her Son Jesus more. Can you say an extra 'Hail Mary' on Our Lady's feast day?

## Parish Announcements



**Bible Diary 2023**  
Readings for each day, reflections, Saint of the day, prayers and more  
If you wish to purchase there are a limited stock available at the office at \$10 each



**Special Collection**  
The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is supporting a special Advent appeal for the people of Ukraine. Collections in dioceses, eparchies and parishes on the **Third Sunday of Advent** will support Mudra Sprava, the organisation has three focus areas: Evacuation of people from frontline territories; Food packages for people in need; Shelters for internally displaced persons.



**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.

### 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.



### CWL Christmas Raffle - Tickets \$1.

Tickets available on weekend Masses on 3rd Sunday of Advent 10/11th December and drawn during **Morning Tea on Sunday 11th December**. 6 prizes to be won! Proceeds to be donated to Vinnies.

### Divine Will Holy Mass

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated by Fr Roman Palma CR on Thursday December 8, 2022 at 7pm at the Maronite Catholic Church, 379 Goodwood Road, Westbourne Park. Supper following Holy Mass. All welcome.

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**