

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

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

**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL**

**Mk 13:33-37**

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!’

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**CHRISTMAS HAMPERS**

We invite parishioners to donate items for hampers in the coming weeks up to Wednesday 13 December. Members will be packing 50 hampers on Thursday 14 and Friday 15 and distributing them to those in need on Saturday morning 16 December. Suggestions for suitable items are on a notice at each door. Unfortunately, no home-made goods can be accepted (OHSW) nor can chocolate (it melts). please leave your donated items in shopping bags at the main entrance.

**Young Adult Summer Eco Camp – February 7-12 2024**

This four-day event is for students and any young adults who have a concern for the care of Earth. Participants will engage with the local natural environment, hear inspiring speakers and have time to reflect and share. Through attentiveness to Earth and each other, it is envisaged that participants will feel empowered to act for the care of our planet with hope. <https://jisa.org.au/2024-young-adult-summer-eco-camp/>



**Christmas**

**MASS TIMES**

**24 December**  
Sunday 6:30pm  
Vigil – Family Mass

**24 December**  
Sunday 11:30pm  
Christmas Carols and  
Midnight Mass

**25 December**  
Monday 9:30am  
Christmas Mass

St Joseph's Catholic Church, Tranmere

**BACKGROUND ON  
THE GOSPEL READING**

Today we begin the season of Advent, which marks the start of a new liturgical year for the Church. The readings for Sunday Mass are arranged on a three-year cycle. Each year features a different Gospel—Matthew, Mark, or Luke. Readings from the Gospel of John are interspersed throughout all three years. With this year’s first Sunday of Advent, we begin Cycle B of the Lectionary, which focuses our attention on the Gospel of Mark. This week and next week, our readings from Mark’s Gospel present two important Advent themes: the Lord’s return at the end of time and John the Baptist’s preparation for Jesus.

Today’s Gospel is taken from the end of Mark’s Gospel, the chapter that immediately precedes Mark’s account of Jesus’ Passion. Having been questioned repeatedly by the scribes and the Pharisees, Jesus is now questioned by his disciples—Peter, James, John, and Andrew—who want details about his prediction of the destruction of the Temple. Jesus answers with many warnings about the difficulties that the disciples will face.

Today’s passage comes at the conclusion of Jesus’ warnings to his disciples. Jesus emphasizes the need for watchfulness. The Son of Man will come without warning; only the Father knows the exact hour. The disciples must not be caught unprepared when this time comes.

Scholars believe that Mark’s Gospel was written around the time of the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70. Mark’s audience consisted of Christians who were living in difficult social and political times, times of conflict. They were likely beginning to face persecution as followers of Jesus. In this difficult time, it helped to recall that Jesus had foretold of such difficulties. Early Christian communities took courage from Jesus’ warning to remain alert and watchful, and they found in his words a way to persevere through suffering.

Today’s Gospel reminds us that Advent is about more than our preparation for the Church’s celebration of Christ’s birth at Christmas. Advent is also about preparing ourselves for Christ’s return in glory at the end of time. Like the disciples and the faithful in Mark’s community, we must also stay alert and watchful. Our faithfulness to God, through the good times as well as the difficult times, shows us to be ready for the coming of the Son of Man.

**VOLUNTEERS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES ROSTER**

**We are seeking Liturgy Volunteers for the Christmas. If you are interested to take the roles, please write your name on the Christmas Roster, which is posted on the door of the Eastern entrance. Your support and participation will be very much appreciated.**

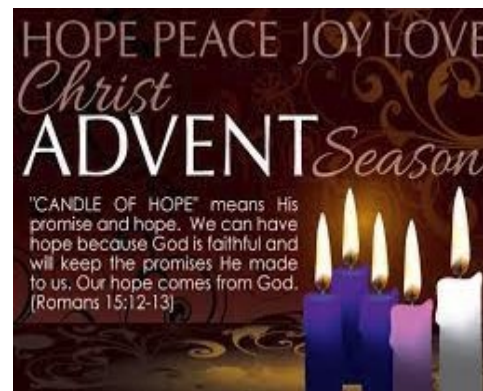


# Parish Bulletin

**First Sunday of Advent, Year B**

**2/3 Dec 2023**

*Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.*



**COME, LORD JESUS.**

The prophet Isaiah implored God to tear the heavens open and come down to save the people.

God, however, did not come among us in such a dramatic way but in the humble form of Jesus of Nazareth. God continues to enter our lives in unexpected ways. If we are watchful for the presence of Christ in each day, we will recognize him when he comes in glory.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

**cf. Ps 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.



**Pope Francis @pontifex**

Let us pray together that people with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusion programs that enhance their active participation.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING**

**Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1, 3-8**

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, ‘Our Redeemer’ is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down! – at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

**The word of the Lord**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19**

**Response: Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.**

- O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne.  
O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help. **R**
- God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. **R**
- May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength.  
And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. **R**

**SECOND READING**

**1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

**The word of the Lord.**

St Joseph's Catholic Church  
484 Magill Rd, Kensington Gardens  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5068

**Parish Priest**  
Fr Roy John Elavumkal SMM  
parishpriest@stjosephsparish  
tranmere.org.au

**Parish Secretary**  
Pat Kwok – Tue to Fri

**Planned Giving Coordinator**  
Helen Mysak – Monday

**WHS Officer**  
Angela Girolamo – Thursday

**Sacristan**  
Sundays: Terence Yeow  
& Roger Worth

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

**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**

Chair – Alan Tyson

**Parish Finance Council**

Chair -Edward Konieczny

**Child Safe Contact Person**

Anne Dudzinski Ph: 0418 847 804

**Vinnies Assistance Hotline**

1300 729 202 - 9:00am to 4:30pm

Rosters—9-10 Dec 2023 2nd Week Advent	
Time	Commentator/Readers
<b>6.30pm Vigil</b>	Fil Ciancio Chris Platten Giulia Giuliani
<b>9:30am</b>	Antonetta Bartley Aloysius Achusiogu Ifeoma Achusiogu
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	Suanne Woidt Anne Dudzinski
<b>Count team</b>	Ron Hoogland Sheila Hoogland Peter Rees Indira Seimon
<b>Altar and Flowers</b>	Dolores Arboit Christina Wong Sarita Ingham and volunteers

SUNDAY COLLECTION SUMMARY	25-26 Nov 2023
Planned Giving )	\$526.00
Open Plate	\$264.00
<b>PARISH TOTAL</b>	<b>\$790.00</b>

This week's contribution to the Diocesan Presbytery Fund : \$545.00

**COLUMBAN CALENDARS**  
A limited number (25 only) is available at the main entrance of the church. Proceeds help both the Mission and Vinnies. Please place \$10 in the attached envelope and then put the envelope in one of the Poor Boxes.

**VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL**  
By supporting the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal you will assist in two ways. At a local level our member volunteers will be able to offer assistance directly to families and individuals in dire need and facing poverty. 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 specialised care. TO DONATE; On each pew there are Vinnies Envelopes. Please take one and then return it the following week to the Poor Boxes at each entrance or by Post. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. If you require a receipt please include your name and address with your donation.



**Please remember in your prayers**  
We pray for those listed and all the deceased relatives and friends of our Parishioners.  
Sister Margaret Hocking OCD, who died peacefully on 27th Nov 2023  
  
For the Repose of the Soul:  
Stefan Sciancalepore  
  
Death Anniversary:  
  
*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.*

**If you know of sick or elderly parishioners who are house-bound or in care and would appreciate a visit, please phone and leave a message with the parish office.**

**MORNING TEA**  
After Sunday Mass  
**10 Dec 2023**  
*Please come and join us!*

**CWL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**  
The Catholic Women's League is running a Christmas Raffle on 10 Dec during the Morning Tea after the Sunday Mass. Tickets are \$1 each on sale at both Masses on 9/10 December. Proceeds will go to Vinnies. We look forward to your generous support.

**Season of Advent**

Fr. Roy John Elavumkal SMM

**INTRODUCTION:** Beginning four Sundays before Christmas, Advent is a time of preparation and expectant waiting for the promised Saviour. Each Sunday of Advent focuses on a particular liturgical theme. In our first article, we talked about Advent hope, in the second article, we explored Advent peace. In this third instalment, we consider Advent joy. Advent guides us to explore what Christmas means to us personally and to discover that the greatest gift we can give to our family, friends, and the world is ourselves! Christmas represents the divine child born in each of us and the divine attributes we can develop as we learn to express our God nature in human form. The four Sundays of Advent proclaim aspects of our divine nature HOPE, FAITH, PEACE, LOVE, AND JOY.

**ADVENT WEEK 1: HOPE AND FAITH:** The traditional themes of Advent allow us through meditation, prayer, and affirmation to contemplate ways to share our deepest gifts: hope and faith, peace, love, and joy.

Most Christians focus on hope during the first week of Advent. In Unity, perhaps inspired by the view that "faith is the assurance of things hoped for," we contemplate both hope and faith as we spiritually prepare our hearts and minds for Christmas.

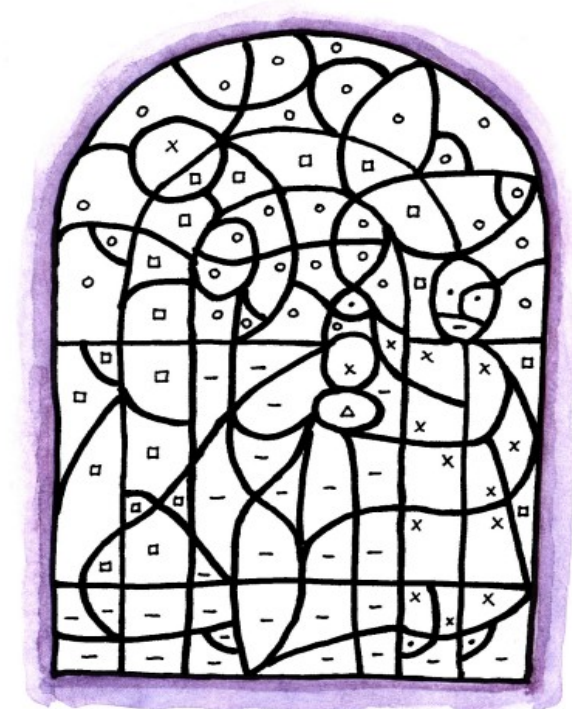
Think of it as a hope-faith continuum. Hope arises when we glimpse a new possibility. These glimpses can inspire us to make positive changes. They can motivate us to adopt new ways of thinking and behaving ...Increase your hope on this continuum, and enter the realm of belief. We believe because we have an intellectual understanding of how a thing works. We may also believe because it's what we've been taught. The challenge is that it's possible to have two contradictory beliefs concurrently.

For instance, I believe in an abundant universe. Yet, sometimes, if funds are low, the anxiety I feel betrays a residual belief in lack. Resolving these contradictions is the domain of faith. It's in the spiritual dimension that we experience faith as a deep inner knowing arising from divine intelligence.

**Australian Young Christian Workers Sol' Music**  
Every month YCW host a music event called Sol' (Solidarity) Music - aimed at uniting young people from all around Adelaide to share in their talents and tend to breaking social isolation. The event is open to all ages and fosters opportunity for community from all those from different cultural backgrounds, realities and generations.  
December 1 2023, 6pm - Dwell East End, Student Accommodation, 12 - 18 Synagogue Pl, Adelaide  
December 8 2023, 6pm - Minor Works Building Community Centre, 22 Stamford Court, Adelaide

**The Kids' Bulletin**

First Sunday of Advent  
December 3rd, 2023



*In the Gospel, Jesus tells us to always be ready. Here's someone waiting for his master to return... Use this code to colour the picture in:*

- DARK BLUE
- SKIN COLOUR
- ◻ GREY
- ✕ WHITE
- BROWN
- ▲ RED

*Advent is Here!  
Jesus is coming!*



Advent is here! It's time to begin preparing for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. Jesus came the first time long ago in Bethlehem. Now He comes to us every time we go to Mass, in Holy Communion. But we celebrate Jesus' coming in a special way at Christmas time.



Advent is the time to get ready for Christmas. We get our houses ready by cleaning and decorating. We get our souls ready by cleaning out our sins when we go to confession, and by learning and thinking about Jesus.

**Here are some things that will help you get ready for Christmas:**

~ Light a candle on an advent wreath when you say your prayers every day.

~ Read a book about Advent or Christmas.



~ Go to Confession before Christmas.

~ Do nice things for people. Remember that anything you do for someone else you do for Jesus!

Answers to Cross-word: Across: 1. she 5. saw 7. immaculate 10. over 11. preserve 15. pure 17. man 18. lamb 20. ready 22. am 23. original. Down: 2. him 3. you 4. hate 5. save 6. were 8. Mary 9. love 12. soul 13. baby 14. Adam 16. Eve 18. laws 19. born 21. Anne