

Alleluia, alleluia!
 Lord, show us your mercy and love,
 and grant us your salvation.
 Alleluia!

**BACKGROUND ON
 THE GOSPEL READING**
 Loyola Press

Jesus tells his disciples that the coming of the Son of Man will catch many people unprepared. Jesus tells his disciples that they are to always be ready for the day of the Lord.

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.



Parish Bulletin

St Joseph's Catholic Church Tranmere Parish, 484 Magill Rd, Kensington Gardens, SA 5068
 www.stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au (08) 8431 6932

First Sunday of Advent, Year A **29/30 Nov 2025**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

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 Jeru salem.'

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.

The word of the Lord

SECOND READING

Romans 13:11-14

The time has come, our salvation is near.

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.

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

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

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

1. 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**

2. 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**

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

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

*Stay awake,
 You must
 be ready.*

YOUR LIBERATION IS NEAR!

The early Christians expected the Lord's return in glory to be very soon. St Paul explained to them that the Lord was delaying in coming for a good purpose, to give them the opportunity to grow in love and make progress in the kind of life they were meant to live. May we also make good use of the present time to deepen our love for one another that we may be ready on the day Christ comes to set us free.

PRAYER BEFORE HOLY MASS

Heavenly father, we are about to offer this wonderful memorial of the passion and death of your Son. Bless our Priest as he stands in the person of Christ and makes present for us the great sacrifice of Calvary.

Bless our Ministers here present today- our ministers of the Eucharist, our readers, our Altar Servers, our musicians and ushers. When we reflect on the magnificence of these Sacred Ministries, we are somewhat overawed at our calling. But also we are overjoyed that You have asked us to stand at Your altar and serve You.

Help us to be reverent and to be faithful to our responsibilities. May this Eucharist that we are about to offer be a bond of unity and a sacrament of love for our people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOSPEL

Matthew 24:37-44

Stay awake, you must be ready.

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.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

DEFIBRILLATOR



An Automated External defibrillator (AED) has

been installed in the church near the main entrance door for use in case of emergency. A clear sign has been placed and instructions are posted next to the device.

FIRST AID KIT



The parish First aid kit is located in the Sacristy, inside the cabinet. A sign has been placed on the cabinet door to make it easy to locate when needed.

**A Farewell to
 Fr. Anthoni
 At St Joseph's Church
 Tranmere
 Sunday 30th Nov 2025
 Morning Tea following
 9:30am mass**

*You are warmly invited
 to join us as we fare-
 well Fr. Anthoni and
 thank him for his faith-
 ful service.*



BLESSING OF CRIBS & DECORATING THE CHRISTMAS TREE
3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, 14 DECEMBER 2025

Families are warmly invited to bring their Nativity sets to church on this special day. These will be arranged along the altar rails and blessed during the liturgy, a beautiful way to prepare our homes for Christmas. Following the blessing, all children are encouraged to help decorate the sanctuary Christmas tree by placing ornaments on its branches. This joyful tradition will be a time of excitement, community, and celebration as we continue our Advent journey together.



St Joseph's Catholic Church
Tranmere Parish

Parish Priest
Fr Anthoni Adimai SdM
parishpriest@stjosephsparish
tranmere.org.au

Assistant Priest
Fr Benny Lawrance SdM

Parish Secretary
Pat Kwok – Tue to Fri
info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

Finance Officer
Christine Sullivan— Mon, Tue
finance@stjosephsparish
tranmere.org.au

WHS Officer
Angela Girolamo – Thursday

Sacristan
Sundays: Terence Yeow
& Roger Worth

Parish Office Hours
Tue 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: 8217 8300

Knights of the Southern Cross
Michael Boyle Ph: 8337 3270

Parish Pastoral Council
Chair – Alan Tyson Ph: 0412 389 875

Parish Finance Council
Chair— Brendan Moran

Safeguarding Contact Person
Anne Dudzinski Ph: 0418 847 804

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

ROSTERS— 6/7 Dec 2025 Second Sunday of Advent	
Time	Commentator/Readers
6.30pm Vigil	Anne Marie Platten Chris Platten Giulia Giuliani
9:30am	Sandy Mazzarolo Antonetta Bartley Mikayla Bartley
Children's Liturgy	Suanne Woitd Jessie Yesudas P
Count team	Peggy Buckler Gareth West Doreen Ryan Wendy Rahaley
Altar and Flowers	Dolores Arboit Christina Wong Sarita Ingham and volunteers

All those who have volunteered please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start time and report to the commentator for that Mass

SUNDAY COLLECTION SUMMARY	22/23 Nov 2025
Open Plate	\$321.35
Planned Giving	\$408.00
PARISH TOTAL	\$729.35
Contribution to the Diocesan Presbytery Fund	\$681.90

CALLING ALL Liturgy Volunteers for Christmas Masses

We are seeking volunteers to assist with liturgical roles for our Christmas Masses. If you are available and would like to be involved, please add your name to the Christmas Roster posted on the Eastern entrance door. Your support and participation will help make our celebration special. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Let's pray together

Please remember in your prayers
We pray for those listed and all the deceased relatives and friends of our Parishioners.

For the Repose of the Soul:
Death Anniversary:
Maria Sziller
Kingston Vimalathanan
Ajith Perera

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

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.

Christmas Masses Times

24 December 2025
Wednesday 6:30pm
Vigil – Family Mass

24 December 2025
Wednesday 11:30pm
Christmas Carols and
Midnight Mass

25 December 2025
Thursday 9:30am
Christmas Mass

Parish Office Closure: Christmas & New Year

Please note that the **Parish Office will close at 12:30pm on Friday, 19 December 2025**, and will **reopen on Tuesday, 6 January 2026**.

While the office is closed, **regular Masses on Saturdays, Sundays, and weekdays will continue as usual.**

We wish all parishioners a joyful and blessed Christmas season, and thank you for your understanding during this holiday period.

ARCHDIOCESE EVENTS

Walking Together Through Advent - 2025 Advent Reflection Resource

Advent is a time of waiting, watching and preparing for the coming of Christ into our midst – Emmanuel, God with us. As we prepare for the 2026 Archdiocesan Synod, we are invited to listen to the Word of God and to one another. The Advent season offers us time and space for shared reflection. *Walking Together Through Advent*, is the 2025 Advent group reflection resource from the Archdiocese and is now available at your parish or online at www.togetheronetheway.au/resources.

Advent Reflections 2025 'The coming of Jesus in 2025'
Hallett Cove Catholic Church at 7pm, Wednesday December 3, 10, 17 and Monday 22 December 22
Mercy Centre, 4 Victoria St. Mile End at 10am Monday 1, 8, 15, 22 December
Presenter: Kevin Liston.
SA Catholics for an Evolving Church (SACEC)
For more information and to register for pre-reading: E: Kevin.liston1@gmail.com or Ph: 0411 197 829.

Embrace Life Forum: Understanding Palliative and End of Life Care - A Catholic Perspective



Tuesday December 2 | 6pm-7.30pm | Cathedral Hall (free parking)
Join us for a compassionate and informative workshop where we reaffirm the sacred dignity of every person, explore the essentials of holistic palliative and end-of-life care, share examples from Calvary's physical, emotional, spiritual, and practical support, and provide space to answer your questions. **Guest Speakers: Dr Mark McCarthy** - Regional Director of Mission (Calvary Healthcare, SA & NT) and **Kevin Hardy** - Deputy Director of Clinical Services Palliative Care (Calvary North Adelaide Hospital). **All Welcome.** (flyer attached)
Embrace Life is an initiative of the **Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide** promoting the dignity of every human life. **For more information:** Please contact the office of Justice Healing and Inclusion at jhi@adelaide.catholic.org.au

Oblate Youth SA Christmas Carols
Tuesday December 9, 7pm-9pm, St. David's Parish (2-4 Vizard Rd, Tea Tree Gully).
Oblate Youth SA cordially invites you to our **Carols & Raffle Night** youth fundraiser!
\$10 per ticket (eftpos available), \$2 raffle tickets, children 10 and under are free. Light refreshments available on the night. Donations and proceeds of the raffle will go towards supporting youth ministry and events. **Registrations required** and can be completed via the Oblate Youth SA Facebook or Instagram page or via the QR code.



The Kids' Bulletin

www.thekidsbulletin.com
Sort the letters to fill in the blanks at the bottom



Romans 13:11-14
In today's second reading Saint Paul tells the Romans to throw off the works of darkness and put on the

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

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!



Answer to puzzle on front page: armor of light