



ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH BULLETIN

1 Cox Crescent, Dundas Valley

PO Box 248, OATLANDS NSW 2117

Tel: 9871 4414

2nd Sunday of Advent – Year B: 5-6 December 2020

From the Padre:



Sin can be a terrible burden, and the memory of past sins can even cause us real distress. It is good to know the real power of the Sacrament of Penance, and it is vital that regardless of memories and feelings, the



grace that it imparts is more than the forgiveness of sins. When we make a proper confession, which means that all serious sins are confessed in kind and number (as far as we are able), the Lord forgives us when the priest imparts absolution. He then also begins the healing of the wounds which those sins have caused in your soul and in the Church, and also in the many people affected by those sins. That is why the sacraments are the best remedy for sin. There are other ways to have our sins forgiven, like forgiving others, almsgiving and humble prayer. The beauty of the Sacrament is that we can have complete confidence that our sins are forgiven when the priest absolves us, and the healing has begun. Going to confession is like a mini day of judgment and for those who receive this sacrament, their actual day of judgment will be a joy. When the memory of past sins weighs you down, offer them to the Lord and that sorrow becomes a valuable penance towards atonement.

Christmas Mass & Confession Times:

Christmas Eve: Confessions 6.30pm – 7.15pm
Family Mass 7.30pm
Confessions 11.00pm – 11.45pm
Midnight Mass 12.00am

Christmas Day: Mass 9.30am

New Year's Eve: Mass 11.00pm

New Year's Day: Mass 9.30am

READINGS FOR MASS:

Entrance Procession

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 your heart.

***First Reading* Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11**

Prepare the way for the Lord.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

'Console my people, console them'
says your God.

'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem
and call to her
that her time of service is ended,
that her sin is atoned for,
that she has received from the hand of
the Lord
double punishment for all her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness
a way for the Lord.

Make a straight highway for our God
across the desert.

Let every valley be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
let every cliff become a plain,
and the ridges a valley;

then the glory of the Lord shall be
revealed

and all mankind shall see it;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain,
joyful messenger to Zion.

Shout with a loud voice,
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.

Shout without fear,
say to the towns of Judah,
'Here is your God.'

Here is the Lord coming with power,
his arm subduing all things to him.

The prize of his victory is with him,
his trophies all go before him.

He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,
gathering lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast
and leading to their rest the mother
ewes.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 84:9-14

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.

His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. R.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. R.

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. R.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

We wait for new heavens and a new earth.

A reading from the second letter of St Peter

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

The Word of the Lord.

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: *Mark 1:1-8*

Make straight the paths of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;
he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight,

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

NOTICES:

- ❖ **Congratulations to the 17 children who received their First Reconciliation last Wednesday evening.** Classes for 1st Holy Communion will resume in Feb 2021.
- ❖ **Sunday School (Commencing Term 1 2021)**
The Parish is preparing to offer Sunday School lessons for school-aged children in Term 1, 2021. The program will focus on Scripture and Catechism. Lessons will be held in St Bernadette's Primary School, starting at 11am on Sundays during term and finish no later than midday. If you are interested in availing of catechism classes for your children, please let the parish office know.
- ❖ **Parishioners are reminded to sanitise and to keep a safe distance of 1.5m**
- ❖ **Manning Foundation Christmas Appeal:** Will be held this weekend the 5th & 6th Dec. Only through your generosity are our Members able to provide much needed assistance to our most disadvantaged Brothers and Sister at this most special time of year." Giving is so much more than making a donation. It's about making a difference." Envelopes will be available in our Church Foyer should you require a receipt. May God, bless you for your ongoing support of us in our service of the poor. Lorraine Bonisoli.
- ❖ **Altar Gowns –** Volunteers are needed to assist with the washing and pressing of the Altar Gowns every 3rd month. If you can assist please contact the Parish Office.
- ❖ **Bishop's Christmas Appeal:** This Christmas, let us unite in demonstrating God's unconditional love and keep families together. Your compassionate gifts and prayers will help CatholicCare's Project Elizabeth to support vulnerable families to build strong, loving relationships. You can help give people the emotional and practical support they need to live their lives in love and joy. Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal: yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or through the envelopes in the foyers.
- ❖ **St Bernadette's Holy Scripture Class, online via zoom –** Prepare this Advent for the birth of Christ by joining a 3-week series presented by Dr Brant Pitre. The series will be 1 hour per week @8.00pm for 3 weeks which commenced on 1st Dec. To register send your email to jannmbonner@yahoo.com.au or call Jann on 0417 932 189.
- ❖ Parishioners please be reminded you have free access to the Parish's subscription to **'Formed' an online media platform at www.formed.org** Through this subscription you will have access to thousands of great Catholic content such as movies, video presentations, audio books, talks and eBooks. This is very useful for families with young kids and parents learning and teaching the Faith. Simply go to 'Sign Up' select

'Sign up as a parishioner' and search for your Parish name and location. You will then be prompted to insert your name and email address.

- ❖ **The weekly Parish Bulletin and The Friar's Daily Mass** can be accessed via their webpage: www.friarsofstfrancis.org

YOUTH NOTICES:

- ❖ **RETREAT UPDATE:** Please be informed the **VENUE** for the Youth Retreat has **been changed!**. Sunday 13th December at Mt Schoenstatt Retreat Centre (230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa). Please **RSVP asap** to **Roshi** on **0437061325** or roshi.weerakkody@gmail.com including any dietary requirements or transport needs so we can accommodate you.
- ❖ **Catholic Central:** Please go to <https://www.facebook.com/events/3195895270470713/> for further information and to RSVP.



IMPORTANT NOTICE: There is an email scam going around using Father Christopher Sarah's name asking for money. This is **NOT** from Father Christopher. He would never ask for money via an email. It is wise never to respond to any email asking for money but trash it immediately.

Parish Priest: Father Christopher Sarah FSF
Assistant Priest: Father Ruben Martello FSF
Assistant Priest: Father Benedict Mackenzie FSF
Parish Secretary: Joanne Habib
Parish Office: 9871 4414
Sacramental Coordinator: Frances Zore
Website: www.friarsofstfrancis.org
Email: neversdv@bigpond.com

Contributions to Planned Giving:

(Please quote in the reference either your INITIAL & SURNAME or ENVELOPE NUMBER)

Name: St Bernadette's Catholic Parish
BSB: 067 950
Account: 00000271

ROSTER FOR MINISTRIES: 12-13 Dec 2020

	Sat Vigil 6pm	Sun 8am	Sun 9.30am
Readers:	B Heath	S Carter	V Goodwin
Altar Servers:	Nicholas Chehade Liam Maze Raphael Cipollone Emily Billingsley Joshua Locke	Flitcroft Family Isaac Baron Raish Family Mary Taouk	D Mierzanowski M Mierzanowski Rafael Baricevic Firkin Family Brandon Nakhoul
Acolytes:	Motha John Bosco	Nidhin Thomas	Peter Thomas
Flower donor:	Advent – No Flowers		
Altar Gowns:	Loretta Mackenzie		
Floral Arrangers:	Advent – No Flowers		
Altar Society:	G 2: Thurs 10/12/2020 @ 9.30am: Pravin, Margaret Flitcroft, Anthoinette		
Cleaners:	G 1: Saturday 12/12/2020 @ 8.15am: S Ballienas, L Leonardi, H Sumardji, O Poon, J Bonner, E Borovnjak, Steve & Ana Furjanic		

Let us pray for all our sick relatives, friends and parishioners, especially:
 Ellie Eagan; Rima Sammour; Grace Wheatley; Jen Hogan; Lois Grant; Kathy Krahe; Emily Carter; Jan Joyce; Cosimo Arcorace; Isobel Espiritu; and all of our sick parishioners and loved ones.

Let us pray for our deceased loved ones, especially:
 Frieda Piesch; Deceased members of the Hilder and Ford families; Desmond James Fitzgerald; Rodolfo Macaraeg; Carmel Mifsud; Cahrlie & Rota Saliba; Donna Boyd; Ellen Dunn; Albert Murray; Deceased members of the Giribaldi, Zeidan and Rovera Families; Alex Ryzskow; The Holy Souls in Purgatory; ***May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.***

*Saint Michael the Archangel,
 defend us in the battle; be our protection against the malice and snares of the Devil.
 May God restrain him, we humbly pray, and You, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the
 divine power cast into Hell Satan and all the other evil spirits who roam through the
 world seeking the ruin of souls.
 Amen.*

*Most Sacred Heart of Jesus: have mercy on us. (3 times)
 Immaculate Heart of Mary: pray for us*



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