

FIRST READING *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

SALMO RESPONSORIALE

A te, Signore, innalzo l'anima mia, in te confido.

SECOND READING *Thessalonians 3:12-4:2*

When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

CANTO AL VANGELO

Alleluia, alleluia!

Mostraci, Signore, la tua misericordia e donaci la tua salvezza. **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL *Luke 21:25-28, 34-36*

Your redemption is near at hand.

THANKS TO THOSE WHO GAVE LAST WEEK

1 st Collection	- Thanksgiving Offering.....	\$731.00
	- Loose Money.....	\$293.00
2 nd Collection	- Presbytery/Priests.....	\$304.00

LECTORS - THIS WEEK 29/11/09

6.00pm (SAT) – E Krygger
 9.00am (SUN) – R DeZan & S LoBartolo
 10.30am (SUN) – M Sernia & S Miano

SPECIAL MINISTERS

S Dakin
 L Catena, L Cavedon & M Crupi
 T Nguyen, A Filippone & S Dakin

LECTORS - NEXT WEEK 06/12/09

6.00pm (SAT) – MALTESE MASS (Selected)
 9.00am (SUN) – R Fato & C Brunetti
 10.30am (SUN) - G Canavan & A Vinelli

SPECIAL MINISTERS

MALTESE MASS (Selected)
 T Forte, G Moltisanti & R Mercuri
 S Rottura, G Santinon & L DeMarco

CHURCH CLEANERS

05/12/09 S Dakin

MONEY COUNTERS

30/11/09 D Herbert, C McMahon, J Galea & R Comito

07/12/09 R & E Cornelious, R & G Silvio & J Galea

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING

RECENTLY DECEASED

Giovanni CAPUTI, Don Peppe LEPORE (Sacerdote in Italia), Lina VENDITTI (d. Rec. Italy)
Angelo TODARO (d. Rec. Italy)

ANNIVERSARIES

Giuseppe TARANTO, Saverio NICOLAZZO, Giovanni CARUSO, Gina DI DONATO,
Maria-Francesca VIRGONA, Mario DI VINCENZO, Felice TARANTO, Joao PEREIRA

ST JOSEPH THE WORKER

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SUNDAY MASS TIMES:

Sat 6.00pm - English
 Sun. 9.00am - Italian
 Sun. 10.30am - English

Fr Emmanuel Bonello–Parish Priest

Sr Doreen Bentley-Pastoral Associate

Mr Peter Chowne -School Principal

Mrs Liz Pistoni – Parish Secretary

Maltese Mass

1st Saturday of the Month 6.00pm

Baptisms – Sunday 12.00pm

Marriages - By Appointment



WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Mon. 9.10am Comm. Service
 Tue. 10.00am Italian
 Wed. 9.10am - English
 Thur. 9.10am - English
 Fri. 9.10am - English
 Sat. 8.30am - English

Reconciliation: Sat. 10.30am

1st Sunday of Advent, Year C

29 November, 2009



Be hopeful always

Today's reading from Luke's gospel contains powerful images that evoke deep feelings within us. Jesus' public ministry was coming to a close. He had painted a bleak picture of the trials ahead.

He pointed to a future dominated by visitations of havoc and disaster that "will come upon all who dwell on the face of the earth". He spoke of the distress of whole nations, along with natural catastrophes of all kinds, affecting sky and sea. Yet in the face of such impending trials, Jesus does not leave us with despair. He offers hope. His hearers, then and now, must be ready and "stay awake", so that they could stand with confidence before the Son of Man. Disasters do not have the final word. That belongs to the sheer goodness and love of God who is ever intent on our redemption. In the last months, we have been living through extraordinary times in human history. The prevailing global mood is one of pessimism. People feel deeply worried by the future that awaits them. Unprecedented financial and economic crises affect practically everyone. Natural disasters on a global scale such as hurricane Katrina, tsunamis, earthquakes, bush fires, severe winter chills, brutal warfare in the Middle East, and the spread of terrorism all contribute to a mood of depression. At times, gloom and disaster overwhelm any optimism that we might feel. In the face of these catastrophic forces and events, we can so easily give in. Without a steady hope, many are tempted to look to illusory comforts and forms of self-indulgence to distract from the crises of our time. And yet, today's scripture asks us not to despair or give way to hopelessness, however serious the situation. We must stay awake. In this respect, the Gospel is always a "wake-up call". It is a message of hope: whenever events in our lives turn us upside down or inside out, God is near as our strength and guide. A time of crisis is always an opportunity for believers to turn to God, and to find in Jesus the way of freedom and peace. This is also the message coming to us from today's reading from the prophet Jeremiah. Just when the people were about to give up in despair, Jeremiah came with a message of hope and liberation. The beginning of Advent therefore is a time to remember the stories of how God acted in the past. For God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. But as we recall these beautiful stories, we have the foundation for a life of hope. That does not mean indulging in naïve and presumptuous optimism. However, it does mean we must pray for the courage to live through events that we can neither understand nor control, with faith and trust in God. The God of love keeps on being love. Our Father is always true to himself and to us. In Jesus, we see the true face of God turned lovingly toward us. Let us, as true believers, live therefore in confidence, and turn to God at all times.

BAPTISMS

Congratulations to **Riley Attard** child of John and Kathryn, **Andrew Minutolo** child of Anthony and Catherine, and **Ruby Fung** child of David and Maria who will be baptised this weekend. We welcome them into our parish community and assure the families of our prayerful best wishes on this happy occasion.

PARISH LITURGY TEAM

The parish Liturgy Team will meet on Thursday 3 December at 7.30pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

MEMORIAL MASSES

Tuesday 1 December 7.30pm – Attilio Federico (d. rec. Italy)

Wednesday 2 December 7.00pm – Maria Mancini (1 yr)

ITALIAN LADIES

Martedì 1 Dicembre ore 9.00am in cappella ci sarà una riflessione sull'Avvento. Seguita alle ore 10.00am dalla Santa Messa. Vi aspettiamo numerosi per la preparazione al Santo Natale.

MALTESE MASS

A reminder that the Maltese Mass will be celebrated next Saturday 5 December at 6.00pm

FEASTS

Monday 30 December – St Andrew, Apostle

Thursday 3 December – St Francis Xavier

ST ANDREW APOSTLE

St. Andrew, the Apostle, was born in Bethsaida of Galilee, a brother of Simon Peter, both fishermen. Andrew was a disciple of John the Baptist, whose testimony first led him and John the Evangelist to follow Jesus. Andrew at once recognised Jesus as the Messiah, and hastened to introduce Him to his brother, Peter. Thenceforth the two brothers were disciples of Jesus.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER (1506 – 1552)

Apostle of India and Japan, and one of the greatest missionaries of the Church since Saint Paul. One of the first companions of St Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, Francis was the Jesuits' first foreign missionary. Ordained in 1537, Francis departed for India in 1541 and reached Japan in 1549. In 1552 he set out for China, landed on the island of Sancian within sight of his goal, but died before he reached the mainland. Working against great difficulties, language problems, inadequate funds, and lack of cooperation, often actual resistance, from European officials, he left the mark of his missionary zeal and energy on areas which clung to Christianity for centuries. He was canonized in 1622 and proclaimed patron of all foreign missions by Pope Pius X.

SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB – “REASONS FOR HOPE IN THE CHURCH”

TALK BY DR ANTHONY PADOVANO

Reasons for Hope in the Church forum talk by Dr Anthony Padovano.

Date: Monday 7 December

Time: 7.30pm for 8.00pm (finished before 10.00pm)

Location: Veneto Club Bulleen, Sala Venezia

There is no dinner provided so you come just for a coffee beforehand and the talk and discussion.

There is a bistro downstairs if you wish to have dinner there (see details in the flyer on notice board).



ADVENT 2009

PREPARING FOR CHRIST IN OUR ORDINARY LIVES

1st Sunday of Advent “Praying at all Times”

Gospel

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. *Stay awake, praying at all times* for the strength to survive what is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’ *Luke 21:25-28. 34-36*

DID YOU KNOW?

- ★ Advent is the beginning of the Church’s liturgical year. A recurring theme in the Gospels of Advent is looking toward the end of times.
- ★ Today begins the cycle of readings for Year C in the Lectionary. This means that most of the Gospel readings are taken from the Gospel of Luke.
- ★ The Advent wreath is one way of preparing for the coming of the Christ child. The circle of greenery is a symbol of God’s love without beginning or end, while the candles represent the four weeks of preparation time. One candle is lit each Sunday during Advent.

SYMBOLS & IMAGES

The images of the end times used by Luke were common in Jewish Apocalyptic literature of the time. For Christians, looking forward towards the final coming of God as Lord of all history and all creation is an action filled with hope, because their ‘liberation is near at hand.’

MAKING CONNECTIONS

This week, be attentive to the time you spend in waiting – in traffic, in a shop, on the phone. Use these small moments of waiting to prepare yourself for the coming of Christ at Christmas.

LOURDES MASS

Saturday 5 December at 10.00am, St Patrick’s Cathedral.

A special day of healing and hope for sick and infirm people, their carers and all parishioners.

To be celebrated by Archbishop Denis Hart.

The intention of the Lourdes Day Mass is to support to those disadvantaged by illness or poor social circumstances.

The celebration of the Liturgy will be followed by a blessing of the sick with water brought from the spring at the Shrine of Lourdes.

Wheelchair access is by the side door, off Albert Street.