

As we come and worship, we remember the wurundjeri people, the original custodians of this land

FIRST READING Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11

I exult for joy in the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

My soul rejoices in my God.

SALMO RESPONSORIALE

La mia anima esulta nel mio Dio.

SECOND READING Thessalonians 5:16-24

May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

CANTO AL VANGELO

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lo spirito del Signore Dio e' sopra di me, mi ha mandato a portare ai poveri il lieto annuncio! Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 1:6-8. 19-28

There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.

THANKS TO THOSE WHO GAVE LAST WEEK

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|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| 1 st Collection | - Thanksgiving Offering..... | \$845.00 |
| | - Loose Money..... | \$253.00 |
| 2 nd Collection | - Presbytery..... | \$275.00 |

LECTORS - THIS WEEK 11/12/2011

6.00pm (SAT) – G Canavan & E Saliba
 9.00am (SUN) – C Brunetti & G Barbaro
 10.30am (SUN) – E Bartlett & R Sawi

SPECIAL MINISTERS

J Pullicino & S Dakin
 P Sparano, R Pino & L Cavedon
 C McMahon, J Frangiosa & J Kearney

LECTORS - NEXT WEEK 18/12/2011

6.00pm (SAT) - D Pullicino & E Krygger
 9.00am (SUN) – L Calafiore & R DiGuglielmo
 10.30am (SUN) – S Miano & J Iaria

SPECIAL MINISTERS

N Ziino & E Saliba
 D Biasibetti, R DeZan & S Lobartolo
 P Nguyen, J Kearney & S Rottura

CHURCH CLEANERS

17/12/2011 R DeZan & S Brima

MONEY COUNTERS

12/12/2011 J & J Kearney, E & K Bartlett & C McMahon
 19/12/2011 A Sinopoli, L Cavedon, F Nardoza & R Comito

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING

RECENTLY DECEASED

Lucia SALVADOR, Maria PALCICH

ANNIVERSARIES

Luigi LONGO, Nina BRULLO, Donata QUINTILI, Gina CAMPOMZZI, Francesco VACIRCA
 Slavica MANDIC, Maria TOMAC, Lucy COCCO, Maria Francesca FURCI, Sabatino CARUSO,
 Beatrice CARUSO, Giovanni & Ida MERCURI, Antonio PASCUZZI, Rafaele & Lucia CENTOFANTI,
 ITRIA BARRESI, Vincenzo CRUPI, Chiali DINOTO, Giuliana DICESARE, Antonio INFANTIO
 Giuseppe NICOLAZZO, Eduardo & Maria ALDUCCI, Giovanni & Angela VILLELLA

ST JOSEPH THE WORKER

NORTH RESERVOIR

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 Parish House/Office Tel: 9460 3013 Fax: 9460 8832 Mb: 0431 643 674
 E-mail: stjtw@westnet.com.au
 www.stjosephtheworker.org.au
 School Tel: 9469 7800 Fax: 9462 2949

SUNDAY MASS TIMES:

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

Fr Emmanuel Bonello – Parish Priest
 Sr Estelita Manabo-Pastoral Associate
 Mr Peter Chowne -School Principal
 Mrs Liz Pistoni – Parish Secretary

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

Maltese Mass

1st Saturday of the Month 6.00pm

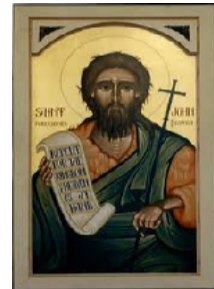
Baptisms – Sunday 12.00pm
 Marriages - By Appointment



3rd Sunday of Advent Year B

11 December 2011

Taking John the Baptist Seriously



John the Baptist is a commanding figure. He is the great link between the Old and New Testaments: the last of the Old Testament prophets and the first of the New. His job was to prepare the way for the Lord and that is precisely what we are being invited to do as we prepare once again for the great feast of Christmas. We may be tempted to respond by saying that we have heard this every time Christmas comes round, but how are we supposed to relate to this seemingly eccentric character from a bygone age? Well, eccentrics can be attractive and there is ample evidence that John drew huge crowds to listen to his message. For centuries the people of Israel had been desperate for someone to liberate them from the mess they were in; and although John was offering them no easy options, his challenge to repent was accepted as a good start and his promise of more to come as providing hope for the future. In pointing the people in the direction of Jesus he was doing what all the prophets before him and the disciples after him were called to do. And of course our vocation is to be disciples of Jesus in our own time and place, pointing others in his direction. And now we may be tempted to respond: “But how is this to be done in the midst of so many who are not interested or couldn’t care less?” St Paul offers us a spirited way forward when he suggests that we be “happy at all times” and goes on to warn us not to “treat the gift of prophecy with contempt”. It is important that we do not grow weary, but recognise that our very demeanour can inspire others and that we become a prophetic presence in our world simply by being true to what we believe and know to be right. Why not try to recapture that childhood joy of Christmas and think again about the extraordinary mystery we are about to celebrate: that the baby born in Bethlehem was truly the Son of God, coming to speak to us in our own language so that we could realise how precious we are and how much God loves us. That should certainly give us something to be happy about again and enable us to radiate our joy to a world still desperate to be liberated from the mess in which it finds itself. The great Archbishop of El Salvador, Oscar Romero, who was murdered in 1980 while celebrating Mass in his own Cathedral because he was not afraid to be a prophetic voice seeking liberation for his people, wrote about our call to be prophets. He reminded us that we cannot do everything but, while we may never see the end results, we can all do something and do it very well. He spoke of us being “prophets of a future not our own.” If we could all just put a smile on the faces of our families and friends this Christmas it would not be a bad start.

SIR U

ITALIAN LADIES

Martedì 13 Dicembre, Preghiera e Riflessione in cappella ore 9.00am. Segue Santa Messa di ringraziamento e chiusura delle attività per l'anno 2011. Arrivo di Babbo Natale e la tradizionale "Befana". Vi aspettiamo numerose con i nipotini.

FUNERAL NOTICE

The Rosary for Maria Palcich will be recited on Monday 12 December at 7.00pm. The Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday 13 December at 12.30pm.

FEASTS

Tuesday 13 December – St Lucy

Wednesday 14 December – St John of the Cross

CUPPA



Next weekend after the 10.30am Mass there will be a cuppa in the Narthex. Please stop and enjoy the hospitality of the parish as it will be the last one for the year.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS

The 2012 Columban Calendar is NOW available at the Piety Stall for only \$8.00. By buying one of these calendars you will be helping our missionaries at the same time. This calendar also makes an excellent gift for family or friends.

CALENDARI ITALIANI 2012 IN VENDITA

In vendita Calendari Italiani 2012 prezzo \$8.00. Può essere un regalo per Natale.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Please take a star from the Christmas Giving Tree and bring a gift to those in need and place it near the tree.

ADVENT REFLECTION WITH MARY MACKILLOP MELBOURNE CBD

December 14 & 21, 12.15pm – 12:45pm.

Like 30 minutes of quiet in your busy day? Join us as we reflect with Mary MacKillop at this Advent Time. A time of looking forward with new hope. A time of waiting and preparation as we invite Jesus to come and be 'born in our hearts'.

Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, 362 Albert Street, East Melbourne.

"WE WAIT IN HOPE" – 2011 ADVENT RESOURCE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The Archdiocesan Office for Youth (AOY) has created an Advent Resource based on the Gospel readings for each day. Created to assist young people, both individually and in youth groups, to enter more deeply into the season of Advent. It can be downloaded from the AOY website:

www.cam.org.au/youth/programs/

CATECHISTS' REUNION WITH SR. RITA FITT (Sr Anthony Mary)

Sr Rita invites any Catechists who taught Religious Education and Sacraments in government schools or the parish (especially during the 1970's – 1980's) to come to a reunion on SUNDAY 22ND JANUARY 2012 at St Joseph the Worker Church Hall, 79 Wilson Blvd, North Reservoir at 2.00pm for afternoon tea.

Sr Rita is looking forward to connecting with her wonderful friends who were so committed to the children and families. Please take this as your invitation to come along. Others may wish to join us – the youth or disco committee, Italian Class etc.

Please contact Emilia (Giusti) Sacchetta on 9435 7475 or 0418 120 902 for further details.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S DAY TIME TABLE

SATURDAY 17th DECEMBER 2011

Working Bee 8.00am – 3.00pm, Lunch will be provided. Please come along and help us do some cleaning in and around the Church to prepare for Christmas.

TUESDAY 20th DECEMBER 2011

7.30pm General Reconciliation Ceremony

SATURDAY 24th DECEMBER - 2011 CHRISTMAS EVE

7.00pm Christmas Eve Family Mass

11.30pm Carols singing followed by the Midnight Mass

SUNDAY 25th DECEMBER 2011 CHRISTMAS DAY

9.00am Mass in Italian

10.30am Mass in English

MONDAY 26th DECEMBER (BOXING DAY) PUBLIC HOLIDAY

No Communion Service, the church will remain closed

SATURDAY 31st DECEMBER 2011

Mass at 6.00pm

SUNDAY 1st JANUARY 2012 NEW YEAR'S DAY

Mass times as normal Sunday: 9.00am (Italian) 10.30am (English)

Special times for Individual Confessions during the week before Christmas

(Orario speciale per le Confessioni individuali durante la settimana prima del Natale)

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| Wednesday (Mercoledì) | 21.12.2011, 9.30am |
| Thursday (Giovedì) | 22.12.2011, 9.30am |
| Friday (Venerdì) | 23.12.2011, 9.30am |
| Saturday (Sabato) | 24.12.2011, 9.30am & 6.00pm |

SUMMER SCHOOL OF EVANGELISATION 8 -15 JANUARY

A life-changing experience for 16-35 year old Catholics and the young at heart!

If you've always wondered if there is more to your Catholic faith or you've been wondering about the meaning of life, a week at Summer School will provide answers you could never even imagine!

Details & Registration: www.summerschool.org.au