

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

FIRST READING *Samuel 7:1-5.8-12.14.16*

The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

SALMO RESPONSORIALE

Cantero' per sempre l'amore del Signore.

SECOND READING *Romans 16:25-27*

The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

CANTO AL VANGELO

Alleluia, alleluia!

Ecco la serva del Signore: avvenga per me secondo la tua parola. Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Luke 1:26-38*

You will conceive and bear a son.

THANKS TO THOSE WHO GAVE LAST WEEK

1 st Collection	- Thanksgiving Offering.....	\$711.00
	- Loose Money.....	\$207.00
2 nd Collection	- Presbytery.....	\$295.00

LECTORS - THIS 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

LECTORS – NEXT WEEK 25/12/2011

6.00pm (SAT) - FAMILY MASS (Selected)
 9.00am (SUN) – L Catena & R Mercuri
 10.30am (SUN) – CHRISTMAS DAY (Selected)

SPECIAL MINISTERS

FAMILY MASS (Selected)
 L Calafiore, T Mirigliano & C Alberti
 CHRISTMAS DAY (Selected)

CHURCH CLEANERS

24/12/2011 S Dakin

MONEY COUNTERS

19/12/2011 A Sinopoli, L Cavedon, F Nardoza & R Comito
 26/12/2011 E Claridge, F Carabott & G Canavan

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING

RECENTLY DECEASED

Antonio MANCINI, Giovanni SCIOLA

ANNIVERSARIES

Giuseppe DE MARCO, John FEDERICO, Vincenzo & Caterina ROMANO, Gennaro & Teresa FALVO, Carmelo & Santo RENNA, Vincenzo CILAURO, Margherita BEDI, Gaetano GUMMANDO, Johnny FORTE, Pasquale & Giuseppina TIMPANO, Francesco SANTOPIETRO, Domenico MAMMONE, Pasquale CAMPISI, Grazia MURDICA, Maria ROMANO, VITO BARBAGALLO, Lorenzo & Rachele PACELLA, Carmine PACELLA, Salvatore PACELLA, Giovanni PACELLA, Pasquale & Laura MARIANI, Maria-Rosa LAMBRAIA, Giacinto GALLO, Josephine MADIONA

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



Reconciliation: Sat. 10.30am

4th Sunday of Advent Year B

18 December 2011

SELLING GOOD NEWS

Angels are messengers that God uses to promote the good news about God and God's plan for us. What we need in this world are more "angels" who will continue to promote God's Good News. Paul writes in his letter today to the people of Rome that this Good News he preaches must be "broadcast to the pagans everywhere". Obviously Paul was not thinking of the local radio station. I fear that today we Christians are reluctant to promote the faith we have been given. The science of "Apologetics" is interpreted not as one that aims to explain Christian doctrine, but rather as our attempts to apologise for the fact that we are Christians.

Reflecting on "broadcasting to the pagans", I did work for a radio station for some years, it was a large organisation and I only vaguely knew many of the people who worked at that district office.

One day a Les Woolard, who worked in transcriptions, came and sat on my desk and fired a question at me: "Are you a Catholic?" he said. I was tempted to reply "Mind your own business", but answered straight away, "Yes, I am."

Les replied, "I saw you at Mass on Sunday." I was so happy I had not snapped back at him and tried to hide my faith.

We cannot all be Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, who was able through television to reach tens of millions of people, but we can and should do our bit no matter how small. Ignorance of the Catholic Faith is a great handicap today even among our own Catholics. I am constantly amazed at the little understanding of the Mass, the Sacraments, and Church teaching that so many people have who were baptised and educated as Catholics even among my own family.

There seems to be reluctance on the part of Catholics who have a good knowledge of their faith to pass it on. A fear that by correcting, directing or suggesting matters of faith may harm a relationship. I do believe we realise that there are a lot of people out there who do want to know more about our Catholic faith, but are reluctant to ask. This was emphasised to me when I was working as chaplain at a university, there were so many students who longed to learn more about the Catholic Church and its teaching.

We must be "angels" who spread the message of the Good News. As Paul urges us, it must be broadcast to those who are struggling with little faith or with none at all. What use is cash hidden under the mattress? Hidden there it benefits no one. We must show that we are followers of Christ in our actions and in our words. It does not hurt by starting to tell friends and acquaintances that you are praying for them.

I think you may be surprised the response you will get. Mary received her message in prayer and prayer is a great means of communication.

MEMORIAL MASS

Sunday 18 December 6.00pm – John Federico (1yr)

FUNERAL NOTICE

The Rosary for Mr Giovanni Sciola will be recited on Tuesday 20 December at 6.00pm.

The Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 21 December at 10.30am.

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.

DO YOU KNOW OF ANY NEEDY FAMILIES IN THE PARISH?

If you know of any poor family who needs assistance in terms of grocery this Christmas, please contact Sr. Estelita at the Parish Office on Tel: 9460 3013 or 9465 1077 after hours.

ADVENT REFLECTION WITH MARY MACKILLOP MELBOURNE CBD

December 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.

ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLS & MIDNIGHT MASS LIVE ON THE INTERNET

The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne (CAM) will stream carols and midnight Mass live to the Archdiocesan website. To view visit www.cam.org.au at the designated time.

Carlos: 24 December, 11pm followed by Midnight Mass. More info: info@cam.org.au

9TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF THE HOLY AND MIRACULOUS INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE SUNDAY 15 JANUARY, 1.50PM

The Disciples of the infant Jesus of Prague & The Good Shepherd Parish Novena Group welcome all to the Church of the Good Shepherd, 88 South Circular Road, Gladstone Park for 1.50pm – Rosary, Novena Prayers & Chaplet. 2.45pm – Holy Mass followed by a procession carrying the Statue of Infant Jesus, Exposition & Benediction. Followed by a BBQ. Details: Gary/Darlene 9335 4742.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S DAY TIME TABLE

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)

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