



The Word WEEKLY BULLETIN

Parishes of Holy Spirit, St Anne & St Gerard.



**O Giver of Peace,
We wait for you in hope;
eye has not seen and ear has not heard the wonders of your actions.
In gratitude we thank you for the incarnation of your Son, Jesus.
May we see with new insight and hear with new clarity
the joy of your message this summer and this advent.
Giver of Peace, hear our prayer.**

We watch

Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. MARK 13:33

Advent is a four week season of preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas and it always has a theme of looking towards the future coming of Christ at the end times. One of the prayers of the early Church which is linked with the season of waiting and longing, was the Aramaic word 'MARANATHA', which means 'Come Lord'. Use this prayer often this week as one way to begin preparation for Christmas.



Another way to bring Christ's coming into the family home is the custom of the Advent Wreath. The Advent Wreath is constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which are inserted four candles. According to tradition, three of the candles are violet, and the fourth is rose. However, four violet or white candles may also be used. The candles represent the four weeks of Advent. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday of Advent. When the blessing of the Advent Wreath is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it is blessed by a parent.

The word 'Maranatha' could be used as part of the blessing.

The lighting of the candles may fittingly be included as a part of the evening meal.

(Light the first candle on the Advent wreath.)

We watch and wait. To this waiting time we bring the experiences of the year past.

This circle of green reminds us of the love of God endless, but ever new.

As we focus on the candle, what memories of the year rise up for us?

1st Sunday of Advent - Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come.

"It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with a particular task, and commands the doorkeeper to be on watch. Therefore, keep awake -in the evening or at midnight, or at cockcrow or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly.

"And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake"

Ponder

Pope Francis in *Evangelii Gaudium* (2013) noted that in the presence of God, during a recollected reading of the text it is good to practice *Lectio Divina* – the reading of God's word in prayer asking that it to 'enlighten and renew' us.

What word or phrase stands out for me as I read this text?

What invitation is this text offering me?

What troubles me about this text?

Re read the Gospel. From the above, which is the one word or phrase that stays with you?



The Word WEEKLY BULLETIN



Parishes of Holy Spirit, St Anne & St Gerard.

First Sunday of Advent, 2-3 December 2023

Parish Priest: Fr. Arsenio Tuazon
Pastor Emeritus: Fr. John Dupuche

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

120 Oban Road, Ringwood North 3134

Phone: 70369395

Email: Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au

Website: www.holyspiritparish.org.au

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, closed Mondays

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE (Wednesday to Friday)

Jacinta Bibby

jacinta.bibby@cam.org.au

PARISH SECRETARIES

Ruth Frangeskakis

ruth.frangeskakis@cam.org.au

Jenny Philp

jenny.philp@cam.org.au

HIGH SPIRITS COORDINATOR

Elma Gama

PARISH HOSTESS

Mary Yeo

MASS TIMES:

Wednesday & Friday 9:15am

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 9am & 5pm

1st Saturday of the month 9:15am

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL—Holy Spirit

Duncan Arendse —9876 1103

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Secretary

ppc-sec@holyspiritparish.org.au

FETE COMMITTEE

Adam Stone (Chairperson) - fete@holyspiritparish.org.au

PARISH OF ST GERARD AND ST ANNE

St Gerard's: McCulloch Street, Warrandyte 3113

St Anne's: 54 Knees Road, Park Orchards 3114

Phone: 7064 3922

Email: ParkOrchards@cam.org.au

Website: www.cam.org.au/parkorchardswarrandyte

PARISH SECRETARY

Kerry McGowan

Office Hours:

TUES 1.30pm to 3.45pm

WED 1.30pm to 3.45pm

THURS 11.30am to 3.45pm

FRI 12.30pm to 3.45pm

Masses:

Tuesdays

9am St Gerard's Warrandyte

Sundays

10:30am—1st Sunday of the month @

St Anne's, every other Sunday at St Gerard's.

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL—St. Anne's

Michael Edmonds—9876 1533

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST—RECENTLY DECEASED: Antonio Italiano and Marie Louise DeSilva (Monica and Alex Stables' sister-in-law)

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: Cornelius Doensen, Mary Harry, Gail Gaine, Damien Hill, Carmel Brennan, Bronja Schoner, Noel Muir, Edoardo Luccio, Bruce Retallack and Jim Chapman

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING SICK: Angela Damora, Stella & family, Sean Hill, Valerie Mason, Adrian Ness, Carol Vallance, Chris Neate, Edna Danelutti, Helen, Justine, Christian Heskett, Will Laussen, Darren Brock, Kerry McIntyre, Lyn Read, Heather Doy, Evelyn Reinecke, Melanie Saba, Arthur McConnell, Penny Mifsud, Patricia Higgins, Stephen Cass, Christine Iezzi, Kellie Nagle, Ann Poelsma

Readings this week: Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1, 3-8; 1Cor 1:3-9; mark 13:33-37

The Word, Spirit Magazine and "Spirit Extra" are available online at www.holyspiritparish.org.au

Holy Spirit Parish Vision

At Holy Spirit Parish, we are an inviting community inspired by the Holy Spirit; welcoming everyone to worship, grow, belong and serve together as Disciples of Christ.



Holy Spirit is a child safe parish. At Holy Spirit we hold the care, safety and well being of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish.

Something to think about this Advent, a new way of understanding incarnation

An extended concept or interpretation for the 4 weeks of Advent – seeing the 4 weeks as “deep incarnation” which includes, of course, the incarnation of God in the person of Jesus the Christ, but also takes the understanding of incarnation much further, both back and forwards in time. This concept is something the Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea have written about in their website. You may like to think about it and see how expansive this understanding of the incarnation of God is.

The description of each of the 4 weeks, in this interpretation, are as follows:

Week 1: God’s incarnation in the creation of the cosmos, the birth of the universe

Week 2: God’s incarnation in the creation of the Solar System we live in

Week 3: God’s incarnation in the person of Jesus the Christ – In Jesus, God’s presence became more obvious and believable in the world. “By his incarnation (the Christ) inserted himself not just into our humanity, but into the universe which supports humanity. The presence of the incarnate word ...shines at the heart of all things”. (Teilhard de Chardin)

Week 4: God’s incarnation in each being: human and other than human.

For more information on this way of understanding Advent, search for Sisters of Mercy Cosmic Advent wreath

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for the positions of:

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

- **Chief Advisor**
- **Creatives Officer, Parental Leave Contract**

Catholic Development Fund

- **Manager, CDF Pay Support**

Parish Positions

- **Finance Administrator - St Simon's Parish, Rowville**
- **Parish Secretary - St Macartan's Catholic Church, Mornington**
- **Pastoral Worker - St Judes and St Simons Parish, Scoresby and Rowville**
- **Parish Coordinator - St Joseph's Parish, Malvern, Holy Eucharist & St Mary's Parish, Malvern East & St Roch's Parish, Glen Iris**

Further details of the above positions can be found on the Archdiocese website at:

[Job vacancies | Melbourne Catholic](#)

Should you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Human Resources at

hadmin@cam.org.au

The children at Holy Spirit have been preparing for Advent and the arrival of baby Jesus. We would love you to add some words or symbols to our posters.

There are posters for each week of Advent - *Hope, Peace, Joy and Love*.

We have written about what each one means to us by using the prompts at each word. These will be displayed in the Church before the end of the year as part of the Church's decorations for Christmas.

Thanks so much for helping us to bring school and Parish together. Marian Condon

Collection Notice For information on the Parish's policies regarding information collection and privacy please refer to: www.holyspiritparish.org.au/Collection-Notice

MONDAY

TUESDAY

9.15-10.00 am Meditation, Holy Spirit Chapel

7.00 pm Vinnies End of Year Mass, Holy Spirit Chapel followed by supper in Parish House

WEDNESDAY

9.15 am Mass, Holy Spirit Chapel

6.00 pm Rosary via Zoom

7.30 pm Parish Pastoral Council, Mary Bresnan Room

THURSDAY

7.30 pm Choir Practice, Holy Spirit Church

FRIDAY

9.15 am Mass, Holy Spirit Chapel

12.00-1.00 pm Hour of Grace, Holy Spirit Chapel

4.00-7.00 pm Hamper Drop Off, Holy Spirit Church

SATURDAY

ST VINCENT DE PAUL COMMUNITY HAMPER DISTRIBUTION—ALL DAY

6.00 pm Vigil Mass, Holy Spirit Church

SUNDAY

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9.00 am Mass, Holy Spirit Church

4.00-5.00 pm High Spirits, Mary Bresnan Room

5.00 pm Mass, Holy Spirit Chapel

Mass Coordinators:

6.00 pm: Jacek Holewa

9.00 am: Silvio Volombello

5.00 pm: Volunteers

Lectors:

6.00 pm: Judy Barber

9.00 am: Maryann Street

Welcomers:

6.00 pm: Maureen Taffe

9.00 am: Shelah Batson

Ministers of Communion: 6.00 pm: Ron & Jean Smith

9.00 am: Marian McClelland & Chris Morris

Tea and Coffee: 9.00 am: Nola Ryan and Catherine Anderson

Holy Spirit Web Site - www.holyspiritparish.org.au:

Stay in touch with our parish website.

- “News, Events”: ref menu
- “How we stay connected”, online resources such as Masses, Prayers, Newsletters, Next Zoom: ref home page

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Parish Database Update Please remember to advise the parish staff of any changes to phone and email details so we can update our database via email to Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au or phone 7036 9395.



Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm—Meeting ID: 631 950 8706 Passcode: 2p7ssZ

Hosted by Ambrose & Philomena Cornelio

Prayer requests may be emailed to Ambrose: acornelio@connecteast.com.au for inclusion weekly.

Charismatic Prayer Group Tuesdays @ 8pm in the Holy Spirit Chapel for prayer, praise and worship and fellowship. If interested, contact Jacek on 0490 884 914 or Ann on 0437 127 326.

Tuesday Meditation Tuesdays @ 9:15am in the Holy Spirit Chapel (not during School holidays). Please contact Len on 0401 519 727 if you have queries.



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS DAILY REFLECTIONS 2023.

"The Sign" is an 80 page booklet containing short, spiritually rich, daily reflections from the beginning of Advent through to the Baptism of the Lord (8 January 2024). It also features beautiful religious artworks from the masters, with enlightening "Artwork Spotlight" reflections written by Monsignor Graham Schmitzer. Copies of the booklet are available for parishioners for personal reflection. A donation for the booklet would be appreciated.

2024 COLUMBAN CALENDARS are available for purchase from the Church foyer. Beautiful calendars as always and would make an ideal Christmas gift. The calendars are \$10.00 each and there is a box on the table where you can deposit the money. Proceeds go to support the work of the St Columban Mission Society.

Christmas Volunteers needed!

The Liturgy Team are looking for volunteers for all Christmas Masses, setting up the Nativity etc. Sign up sheets are on the table at the rear of the church. Please consider how you can help and sign up for a wonderful experience. As the old saying goes "many hands make light work". We are always looking for new people to join the Liturgy committee, so this may be a good time to consider joining the team! Contact the Parish Office on 70369395 or email ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au if you have any questions.



CHRISTMAS 2023 HAMPERS & CHILDRENS GIFT WISH TREE

Please deliver all hampers and gifts to the Church on Friday 8 December between 4pm & 7pm. As there is limited space in the Parish House and it takes a lot of time to move hampers from there to the Church, we would appreciate your assistance by delivering directly to the Church. Also, the school children will be using the Church on Friday afternoon, so we do not have access until 4pm. If you wish to make a donation towards the "Christmas Dinner Appeal" to make a contribution to a family's Christmas Dinner, please take an envelope from the table at the back of the Church and place in collection bags.



December 8th is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. It is also the day on which, in 1947, Our Blessed Mother gave us the "Hour of Grace".

Our Lady asked that every year at noon on December 8th, the "Hour of Grace for the World" be celebrated.

At Holy Spirit, The Hour of Grace will be held in the Chapel from noon—1pm. All are most welcome to join.



Ignatian Advent Blessings.

Receive a blessing a day during Advent.

Register at: <https://jisa.org.au/ignatian-advent-blessings/>



On the Journey this week: Fr Joshua Whitehead says that we're invited to have a four-fold response this Advent to cooperate, to make sense of what God gives us. Mother Hilda on why we'll love Jesus to mount a crown with our thumbprints on it on our head. Fr Tony Percy says that there's a sense of urgency in Mark's Gospel, He uses the Greek word "euthéōs" (English: immediately) 42 times in his Gospel, and 11 times in the first chapter. Plus, Advent reflections from Fr John Corrigan and Sr Mary Helen Hill OP. Plus, more great music! Visit www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

Celebrant:

In anticipation of the promised coming of God's Kingdom of justice, peace and love, we open our hearts and minds to the grace of God, bringing to the altar our prayers for our needs and the needs of the world.

Reader:

We pray that we may be alert to the many signs of God's loving presence and be a sign of hope and a beacon of light to those around us searching for meaning and purpose in their lives.

LORD HEAR US.

That we may not be discouraged by the many difficulties and challenges of life, but prepare with anticipation and expectation for the coming of the new life and light of Christ's love into our hearts.

LORD HEAR US.

Lord, we give thanks for the many people in our parish community who generously give their time & talent to help us proclaim our faith. Bless them and give them all the inspiration to continue serving your kingdom.

LORD HEAR US.

We pray for all people who are ill or living with a disability, their families and support workers; that they will experience God's tender love expressed through the welcoming acceptance and support of the whole community.

LORD HEAR US.

We pray for a world torn apart by conflict; that people of good will may increase Christ's rule in places of struggle and need.

LORD HEAR US.

We pray for those who have died recently Antonio Italiano and Marie Louise DeSilva, and those whose anniversaries of death occur about this time: Cornelius Doensen, Mary Harry, Gail Gaine, Damien Hill, Carmel Brennan, Bronja Schoner, Noel Muir, Edoardo Luccio, Bruce Retallack and Jim Chapman. May they rest in the loving arms and peace of Christ.

LORD HEAR US.

Celebrant:

Blessed are you, God and Father, for giving us all good things. Hear these our prayers that we might one day share in your everlasting glory. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

REFLECTION:First Sunday of Advent

"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." - Mark 13:33

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. We make our lives too busy. We plan our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to how God is calling you right now to help build His kingdom on earth.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 63.16b-17; 64.1, 3-8

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

16 You, O Lord, are our father; “Our Redeemer from of old” is your name.

17 Why, O Lord, do you make us stray from your ways
and harden our heart, so that we do not fear you?

Turn back for the sake of your servants, for the sake of the tribes that are your heritage.

1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence.

3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

4 From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.

5 You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.

6 We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

7 There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

8 Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 80.1ab+2, 14-15, 17-18 (R.3)

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

1 Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

2 Stir up your might, and come to save us. **R.**

14 Turn again, O God of hosts, look down from heaven and see;
have regard for this vine, 15 the stock that your right hand has planted. **R.**

17 Let your hand be upon the one at your right, the one whom you have made strong for yourself.

18 Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1.3-9

Christ Jesus our Lord is the revelation we long for.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

My brothers and sisters:

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I give thanks to my God always for you

because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus,

5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—

6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—

7 so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift

as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

8 He will also strengthen you to the end,

so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 God is faithful; by him you were called into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia

GOSPEL

Mark 13.31-37++

Keep alert, for you do not know when the Lord will come.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

Jesus said to his disciples:

31 “Heaven and earth will pass away,
but my words will not pass away.

32 But about that day or hour no one knows,
neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son,
but only the Father.

33 Beware, keep alert;
for you do not know when the time will come.

34 “It is like a man going on a journey,
when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge,
each with a particular task,
and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.

35 Therefore, keep awake—

in the evening, or at midnight,
or at cockcrow, or at dawn,

36 or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly.

37 “And what I say to you I say to all:
Keep awake.”

The gospel of the Lord.

