



The Word WEEKLY BULLETIN



Parishes of Holy Spirit, St Anne & St Gerard.

1st Sunday of Advent 27-28 November 2021



**God of our waiting,
We light this candle to remind us of the great promise
that your Son, Jesus,
will be born anew among us.
We pray that you may deepen our awareness
of the mystery of God in our lives,
as revealed in your Son, Jesus.**

An invitation into an Advent of peace, prayer, hope and gladness

First Sunday of Advent

**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.
In what ways are you preparing a way for the Lord to come into your life?**



**Use the Advent Wreath as a focus for prayer.
Pray for all those who need to hear the word of God in their lives.
This week, find ways to be 'good news' to others,
especially those who are sick, alienated or marginalized.**

1st Sunday of Advent - Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36

- 25 "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves.
26 People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.
27 Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory.
28 Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."
34 "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly,
35 like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth.
36 Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

REFLECTION: This is an end-times prophecy. Luke is telling his readers to be alert for the coming of the Son of Man. The community is waiting but there is a danger of complacency or fear. So the gospel passage is a call to be on guard.

Recognizing how God is working is difficult. Prophecy may not be fulfilled for a long time; faithfulness is what happens in the meantime. Things may look like destruction, but this is actually God's kingdom breaking into our world.



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First Sunday of Advent 27-28 November 2021

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 9am-4pm, closed Mondays

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Elma Gama

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SCHOOL PRINCIPAL—Holy Spirit

Duncan Arendse —9876 1103

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Secretary ppc-sec@holyspiritparish.org.au

FETE COMMITTEE

John Cilia (Chairperson) - fete@holyspiritparish.org.au

PLEASE NOTE:

IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE PREMIER AND THE BISHOPS OF VICTORIA, MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED ON WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY MORNINGS, SATURDAY EVENING AND SUNDAY MORNING UNDER STRICT GUIDELINES.
Please see following page for more details.

Readings, Prayers of Intercession and a Gospel reflection are included in the word, which is available from the parish web site:
www.holyspiritparish.org.au/The-Word-Newsletter

Recorded Masses available at: www.holyspiritparish.org.au/Online-Resources

Important information, Spirit Extra, the Spirit Magazine and other Parish matters are available on the website:
www.holyspiritparish.org.au

PLEASE NOTE NEW PHONE DETAILS FOR THE PARISH OFFICE: 70369395

Email: ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au

Please contact us if you have any enquiries

PARISH OF ST GERARD AND ST ANNE

St Gerard's: McCulloch Street, Warrandyte 3113

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

Phone: 9876 1509

Fax: 9876 6179

Email: ParkOrchards@cam.org.au

Website: www.cam.org.au/parkorchardswarrandyte

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9am-3pm, closed Mondays.

PARISH SECRETARIES

Ana Saro

Tuesday & Wednesday

Kerry McGowan

Thursday & Friday

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL—St. Anne's

Michael Edmonds—9876 1533

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH PHONE NUMBER

Please note we have transitioned to the NBN
phone number of **70369395** permanently.
Please delete the old numbers from your phone
directories. They are now disconnected.

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST—RECENTLY DECEASED: Anne O'Callaghan 9Funeral Tuesday 30 November 11am Holy Spirit Church)

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: Rose Barnao, Fiore D'Assisi, Rafaella Colletti, Josephine Gangi, Julian Cole, Susan Neylon, Rosa Audini, Damien Hill, Sally Conway, Gangolf Honig, Ray Kyatt, Norman Kirwan, Gail Gailen, Carmel Brennan and Leo Hortin

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING SICK: Ben Lobo, Angela Damora, Warren Darbyshire, Stella & family, Pauline Curlis, Sean Hill, Valerie Mason, Dominique, Paul Sanderson, Kerry O'Leary, Adrian Ness, Dennis Price, Enio Bordignon,

Readings this week: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Thess 3:12-4:4; Luke 21: 25-28,34-36

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

Dear Parishioners,

As we emerge from lockdown, we are pleased to be able to join together to celebrate Mass again. Weekend Masses will be celebrated on Saturday at 6pm and Sunday at 9am for fully vaccinated parishioners. **QR check in and proof of vaccination will be required.** **NO BOOKING REQUIRED**

Sunday Mass for those with unknown vaccination status will be celebrated at 5pm each Sunday. **Maximum capacity is 50.** **NO BOOKING REQUIRED**

Weekday Mass celebrated Wednesday & Friday mornings at 9:15am in the Chapel.

COMMENCING WEDNESDAY 1 DECEMBER, THE WEDNESDAY 9:15 MASS WILL BE FOR FULLY VACCINATED ONLY.

FRIDAY MORNING MASS WILL CONTINUE TO BE A "VACCINATION STATUS UNKNOWN" MASS.

You will still need to book by ringing the Parish Office. 70369395

The chapel will remain open on Wednesday and Friday mornings after Mass has been celebrated for Private Worship.

You will need to bring your mobile phone to all masses to use the QR code system. If you do not have a phone, or your phone does not work with the QR system, there will be COVID Marshals on duty to assist.

Please arrive early to ensure you register and are seated well before Fr Arsenio is ready to commence Mass.

All Masses will continue to be celebrated under guidelines, which have been approved by Archbishop Comensoli.

Under no circumstances should anyone awaiting test verification, including Clergy (even without presenting symptoms) attend a church or parish setting until a diagnosis is confirmed. Additionally, under no circumstances should anyone attend who is closely connected to people who are awaiting test results or who have tested positive.

The restrictions are as follows:

- **You must show proof of vaccination at "Fully Vaccinated" Masses**
- **Sanitize your hands on arrival.**
- **Sanitise your hands as you approach Father for communion.**

Communion during covid-19 at this time may only be taken by hand.

For those who might like to read the Archdiocesan Guidelines for parishes, they can be found on the CAM website: melbournecatholic.org/covid-19-guidelines

We remember the following during the month of November:

Parishioners who have died this year:

Leonard Maynes, Robert O'Sullivan, Frank O'Dea, Mia Buskes, Guiseppe Battaglia, Patricia Kett, Faye Smith, Gloria & Neil Thomas, Maria Riseley, Carmela Romero, Ron Cunningham, Salvatore Maniaci, Peter Hennessy, Mary Currie, Graham Eve, John Currie, Frank Saliba, Angelo Silvestrini, Edna Leeson, Maria Den Elzen, Edna Barro, Paddy Richards, Elsa Di Giovine, Debbie Neilsen, Michael Horne, Judy Wilson, Shirley O'Brien, Brian Hegarty, Christine Coffey, Anne O'Callaghan

Family & Friends:

Bill Frangeskakis, Vladas, Elena and Kes Urmelis, Con Canty, Bridie Canty, Lilian and Raymond Pathe, Colleen & Leo Grasby, Peter, Merle Canty, Family & Friends of M. Nordio., Tay Swee Chye, Maria Koh, John & Betty Tay, Lucy Koh, Theresa Chong, Michael & Ana Holewa, Rosemary, Ivan & Jeremy Scheffer, Erin & Percy Stewart, David Stewart, Ellen, James & Patrick English, Peter Heskett, Rod & Maria Graham, Ruth Barber, Bill & Shirley Webb, Maurice & Helen North-Coombes, Leo & Geraldine Hortin, Lenore & Charles Hardman, Betty & Henry Stewart, Artemio Marasigan Sr, Artemio Marasigan Jr, Maria & Agostino Zordan, Gwen Camm, Barry Heath, Christopher Heath, Bert Camm, Sofia Wick, Andrew Wick, Morrison & Ryan Families, Marlene Cabral, Eileen & Les Wright, Jayne Wright, John Chubb, Bernadette Wright, Wendy & Joe Pearl, Feliks & Olga Gawel, Antoni & Stefania Wierzbiki, Josef Farbotko, Teresa Panek, Robert Williams, Frances Kain, Jim Kain, Margaret Dwyer, Jack Dwyer, Sr Ses Bau, Carmel Andrews, Enzo Angelico, Benito Tan, Aurura Tan, Antonio Tan, Pasquale (Pat) Bovalina), Simon Bonnici, Gino & Bruno Volombello, Domninic & Chiarinna Soccio, Carmel Villella, Angelina & Vincenzo Folino, John & May Mooney, John, Marina & Votak Chart, Relatives and friends of the Borg & Bonnici families, Duffy family, Enio Bordignon, Jean & Fin Maher, Family & Friends of the Quinlan Family





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.

EVENTS THIS COMING WEEK - 29th November—5th December 2021

MONDAY

TUESDAY

9.15-10.00 am Meditation, Chapel (VACCINATION STATUS UNKNOWN)
8.00 pm Charismatic Prayer Group, Chapel (VACCINATION STATUS UNKNOWN)

WEDNESDAY

9.15 am Mass, Holy Spirit Chapel (FULLY VACCINATED)
7.00 pm Rosary via Zoom

THURSDAY

8:00-9:00 pm Choir, Holy Spirit Church (FULLY VACCINATED)

FRIDAY

9.15 am Mass, Holy Spirit Chapel (VACCINATION STATUS UNKNOWN)

SATURDAY

6.00 pm Vigil Mass, Holy Spirit Church (FULLY VACCINATED)

SUNDAY

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9.00 am Mass, Holy Spirit Church (FULLY VACCINATED)
5.00 pm Mass, Holy Spirit Church (VACCINATION STATUS UNKNOWN)
7.30-8.45 pm ALPHA via Zoom

HOLY SPIRIT ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 4th-5th December 2021
Web: www.cam.org.au/ringwoodnorth/Parish-Groups/Parish-Rosters

COVID Marshalls: 6.00 pm: Terry & Maureen Taffe 9.00 am: John & Jan Woolley

Mass Coordinators:

6.00 pm: Dominic North-Coombes 9.00 am: Bill Lanigan 5.00 pm: Volunteer please

Lectors:

6.00 pm: Vin Dwyer 9.00 am: David Heath 5.00 pm: Volunteer please

Welcomers:

6.00 pm: Shirley Graham and Marita North-Coombes

9.00 am: Sally Weekes and Nola Ryan

5.00 pm: Volunteers please

Tea & Coffee: 6.00 pm: Volunteers 9.00 am: Edna Danelutti and Anna Fantin

As we resume our "Covid normal" celebration of Mass, we will be returning to most of our usual practices. Everything we do must be in accordance with the DHHS guidelines, so there will be some changes to the way we operate!

We are required by the State Health Department and the Archdiocese to provide Covid Marshals at all parish masses and events in order for them to take place. If there is no Covid Marshal, the event cannot proceed. If you are able to assist with being a Covid Marshal please call the parish office urgently on 7036 9395. We also need volunteers for all roles for the 5pm Sunday Mass.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Ruth: ruth.frangeskakis@cam.org.au or Jenny: jenny.philp@cam.org.au Phone: 70369395

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

Daily Mass Books 2022 are available for \$25. Please contact Jenny: 70369395 jenny.philp@cam.org.au if you would like to get a copy.

Collection Notice

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

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.



NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCES

During the month of November, the Remembrance book with names of those who have died, will be placed on the altar and all will be remembered in our prayers. If you would like to register the names of your loved ones who have passed into God's loving care to be included in the Remembrance Book for the month of November, please email or ring the Parish Office Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au or 70369395 .

PARISH DATA BASE UPDATE

Please remember to advise the parish staff of your current phone and email details so we can update our database. You can either return the data sheet sent to you or email: Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au
Thank you.

A few moments of silence

Last week Father Arsenio reminded us that we begin the Church's new year today, the First Sunday of Advent. And as a way of marking that new year, we shall be asking you to take a moment of personal reflection after each of the 2 readings before the Gospel. This silence is for each of us to reflect on what God is inviting us to in the reading, and how we might want to respond. So, after the First and Second Reading, the reader will pause for about 20 seconds before continuing.

Start the journey to Synod 2023

Interested to learn more about the local consultation process in preparation for the Synod of Bishops—*For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission?*

The local consultation phase is being held between October 2021 and August 2022.

Individuals, parishes and other communities are encouraged to provide opportunities for groups and individuals to make submissions during the consultation phase.

Learn more about the Synod and how you might engage and consult within your own community in two workshops especially for parish leaders (staff, clergy or volunteers):

What is the Synod on Synodality?

How can we contribute as a local community to the preparatory phase?

Experience the discernment process as a participant so you might learn to facilitate your own community discernment for the Synod consultation in 2022

The sessions (same content for each session) will be held on:

Tuesday 23 November, 2.00–3.30pm

Thursday 25 November, 7.30–9.00pm

Both sessions will be hosted online (via Zoom), and registration is essential:

www.trybooking.com/BVEXX

A range of [resources](#) are also available to help you understand, engage with and prepare for the Synod.



Happy Birthday Brian!

Brian Price is celebrating a "Significant Birthday" this week. We wish you every happiness and blessing on your special day!



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH ZOOM ROSARY
Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm
Meeting ID: 631 950 8706 Passcode: 2p7ssZ
Hosted by Ambrose & Philomena Cornelio

Prayer requests may be emailed to Ambrose: ambrose_cornelio@hotmail.com for inclusion weekly.

Tuesday Meditation Tuesdays @ 9:15am in the Holy Spirit Chapel. Numbers are limited, so please register with Len on 0401 519 727.

Please note: this is a "Vaccination Status Unknown" session. Maximum allowed in the Chapel is 15.

Charismatic Prayer Group Tuesdays @ 8pm in the Holy Spirit Chapel.

Numbers are limited, so please register with Jacek or Ann to join in for prayer, praise and worship and fellowship. Enquiries: Jacek 9870 7625 Ann 0437 127 326

Please note: this is a "Vaccination Status Unknown" session. Maximum allowed in the Chapel is 15.

On the Journey this week:

Fr Mark De Battista says the gospel for the first Sunday of Advent is a call to step outside the secular culture around us, to be faithful in prayer and always be watchful, standing tall, ever ready for the arrival of Jesus. Mother Hilda says don't settle for the superficial. Michelle Vass continues her series of praying in & with the elements, this week, the wind. New presenter, Deacon Josh Clayton tells us to scan a QR code to check into God's Word, love and desire and Fr Dave Callaghan and Trish McCarthy. Plus, more great music! Visit www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

On Tuesday 14th December a Luncheon is being organised for the Ladies of the Parish at Club Ringwood 523-535 Maroondah Hwy. Ringwood. If you are available on this day and would like to attend please contact Maureen Taffe by email: maureentaffe@hotmail.com or by text, mobile: 0422508637

MENS COFFEE MORNING

If there are any men out there who would like to meet up for a coffee on a Thursday morning every fortnight at 10am held at "Food For All Seasons" 254 Yarra St, Warrandyte please contact Terry Taffe by text on mobile 0418679760.

As we all have our freedom now our Zoom chats will no longer continue.



Vinnies
good works

**CHRISTMAS 2021 HAMPERS
& CHILDRENS GIFT WISH TREE**

Please select a family from the lists on the table at the back of the church, include your name and contact no. and then take the family no. pack from the trays.

If you wish to provide gifts specifically for children, age tags can be found on the Gift Wish Tree. Please bring your hamper to the church on the weekend of 4th/5th December, or leave at the Parish House on Friday 4th before 3:00 pm.

If you are unable attend Mass and still wish to provide a hamper, please contact Sue Egan on 0434224483 or Kevin O'Callaghan on 0411280775 and we will allocate a family to you.

Alternatively you may wish to donate to the Christmas Dinner Appeal to provide a special meal for a family. Envelopes will be available on the table at the back of the church. Please return your donation on the weekend of 27th/28th November.



Catholic bishops welcome Religious Discrimination Bill

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has welcomed the introduction of the Religious Discrimination Bill, which will provide basic human rights protections for Australians of all faiths and none to express their beliefs. Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, chair of the Bishops Commission for Life, Family and Public Engagement, has commended the bill, saying it offers 'a positive expression of religious freedom' that will be 'an important progression towards parity with other anti-discrimination laws in Australia'. For more details please use this link: <https://melbournecatholic.org/news/catholic-bishops-welcome-religious-discrimination-bill>



Mercy Health
Care first

Pastoral Care Vacancy

Mercy Health will soon be advertising for suitably qualified people to work as pastoral carers at their aged care homes, Mercy Place Montrose and Mercy Place Boronia. These are permanent, part-time positions.

If you enjoy sharing the lives of older people by helping to nurture their emotional and spiritual wellbeing – this role may be for you. You will work closely with the local Catholic parishes and other faith communities.

If you or someone you know would like to learn more about this role, please call Michael Taylor on 0417 208 616.



PRIESTS RETIREMENT APPEAL

As the traditional Fathers' Day Appeal could not be conducted due to lockdown, a special collection will be held this weekend to support our retired priests. Collection envelopes will be available at Mass. Alternatively, you can donate directly to the foundation via the website: www.cam.org.au/foundation.

GARDENER NEEDED.

I am looking for a gardener to provide mowing and basic garden maintenance about once a month for 2-3 hours. I live in Park Orchards. Please call Michael on 9876 3767 if you are interested.

Advent Calendar

Small steps in faith make a holy season.



First Sunday

Arrange a 'sacred space' in your home: Place an Advent wreath there and light the first candle.

Pray that a 'hard' part of your heart might be softened.

Resist commercial pressures. How will you share your material resources during Advent?

Listen a little more carefully to people today. Listen with your heart.

Buy or make some Christmas cards with a truly Christian message.

Substitute a favourite TV show with a life-giving activity.

Read something to inspire you as a Catholic.

Second Sunday

Light the first two candles on your Advent wreath. Pray for peace.

Prayerfully read the story of Mary's calling in Luke 1:26-38.

Plan ahead for the coming weekend. How will it bring you closer to your family?

Make a generous donation to a special work/charity that doesn't get much publicity.

Affirm somebody for a quality which tends to be taken for granted.

Forgive somebody who has offended you.

Play or sing your favourite hymn

Third Sunday

Light three candles on your Advent wreath. Pray for somebody who is struggling.

Prepare to receive the sacrament of reconciliation this week in your parish.

Send a special card to somebody who is in pain.

Perform a routine task more joyfully than usual.

Review your Advent season this far. What steps in faith and love have you taken?

Offer a difficult task to God. Pray as you go.

Pray a decade of the rosary. The second joyful mystery.

Fourth Sunday

Light all the Advent candles. Invite the Holy Spirit into your heart.

Give thanks for the gift of faith.

Bring Christ into your conversation at work today.

Take a deep breath... Hand over to God all your Christmas plans.

Christmas Day

Glory to God in the highest!
Reap the fruits of your Advent journey.



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

Dear Friends in Christ. Waiting expectantly for the coming of God's kingdom of justice, peace and love, we open our hearts and minds to welcome the Lord, bringing to the altar our prayers for our needs and the needs of the whole world.

We pray for leaders of all Christian churches; that they may lead their people towards Christ and towards greater love for one another. Lord hear us.

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER

We pray for our priests and bishops; that their leadership and example may give us courage and confidence to stand up for what we believe. Lord hear us.

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER

We pray for our local Christian Community; that we may be committed to the values of the Gospel, encourage one another in faith and be a shining example of integrity to the wider society. Lord hear us.

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER

We pray for all who are living with or affected by COVID throughout the world. For all who are bereaved and for those who must watch their loved ones suffer. May your arms open wide in compassion and embrace them. Lord hear us.

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER.

We pray for the mission of the Gospel, which is at the heart of our life, worship and outreach. As we begin our "Take the Way of the Gospel" journey, united as one Archdiocese, may the Holy Spirit guide us as we reimagine our parishes, humbly discerning the best way forward. Lord hear us.

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER

In this month of Remembrance, we pray for all who are listed in our Remembrance Book. Lord hear us.

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER

For those who have died recently, Anne O'Callaghan and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time:

Rosa Barnao, Enio Bordignon, Fiore D'Assisi, Rafaele Colletti, Josephine Gangi, Julian Cole, Susan Neylon, Rosa Audini, Damien Hill, Sally Conway, Gangolf Honig, Ray Kyatt, Norman Kirwan, Gail Gaine, Carmel Brennan and Leo Hortin. May they rest in the loving arms and peace of Christ. Lord hear us.

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

St. Alphonsus Liguori



REFLECTION 1st Sunday of Advent

"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." (Luke 21:28)

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation for the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await His second coming. What will you do differently this Advent season to grow in friendship and love with Jesus? How will you inspire others to do the same? Start by sharing your God story with others, especially those closet to you. Invite and accompany them on their faith journey this Advent.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33.14-16

I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the Lord,
when I will fulfil the promise
I made to the house of Israel
and the house of Judah.

¹⁵ In those days and at that time
I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David;
and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved
and Jerusalem will live in safety.
And this is the name by which it will be called:
"The Lord is our righteousness."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 25.4-5a, 8-9, 10+14 (R.1b)

R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

⁴ Make me to know your ways, O Lord,
teach me your paths.

⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation. **R.**

⁸ Good and upright is the Lord,
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

⁹ He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way. **R.**

¹⁰ All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

¹⁴ The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him,
and he makes his covenant known to them. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3.12 - 4.2
*May the Lord strengthen your hearts
when Christ comes among us.*

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

Beloved:

12 May the Lord make you increase

and abound in love for one another and for all,
just as we abound in love for you.

13 And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness
that you may be blameless before our God and Father
at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

1 Finally, brothers and sisters,
we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus that,
as you learned from us how you ought to live and to please God,
as, in fact, you are doing,
you should do so more and more.

2 For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia

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

Alleluia

G O S P E L

Luke 21.25-28, 34-36
Your redemption is drawing near.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus spoke to his disciples about his return in glory.

25 "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars
and on the earth distress among nations
confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves.

26 People will faint from fear and foreboding
of what is coming upon the world,
for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.**27** "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a
cloud'
with power and great glory.

28 Now when these things begin to take place,
stand up and raise your heads,
because your redemption is drawing near.

34 "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down
with dissipation and drunkenness
and the worries of this life,

35 and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap.
For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth.

36 Be alert at all times,
praying that you may have the strength
to escape all these things that will take place,
and to stand before the Son of Man."

The gospel of the Lord.