

Kyabram Catholic Parish

St Augustine's-Kyabram ~ St Patrick's-Tongala ~ St Sebastian's-Merrigum

St Augustine's – Kyabram, 69 Church Street, PO Box 341, Kyabram Vic, 3620
Tel: 03 – 5852 1026 Email: Kyabram@cdos.org.au

Parish Administrator – Fr John Paul Pasala

We come to worship we remember the Yorta Yorta & Bangerang People the original custodians of this land

Third Sunday of Advent - Year B

Sunday 13th December 2020



Readings for this week: **Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11**
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28



Readings for next Sunday: 2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16
Romans 16:25-17
Luke 1:26-38



Liturgical Jottings Historical Time

Dictionaries define “Prehistoric” as the time before extant historical records. We have a few examples in sacred scripture. But more significantly, we have historical events to signify, record, hand on and remember experiences and events in our relationship with God and one another. Historical time includes the call of Abraham, father of faith, Moses and the Exodus, the Prophets to Christ’s Resurrection and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the church. Historical time connects us and the world with Salvation History.



Looking at the Readings

This week we hear more beginnings: The beginning of the ministry of John the Baptist according to John the Evangelist and the words from the Prophet Isaiah that Jesus read at the beginning of his ministry (Is 61:1-2. and Luke 4:18-19).

The dual comings of the Lord are apparent in the Prophet Isaiah. John the Baptist gives a testimony that clearly points away from himself to the one who follows him: the Messiah and Lord. The Lord is very near to us then and here and now. May we greet people this Advent and Christmas with expressions that convey the message of the coming of the Lord.

In a secular or pluralistic time we hear the greeting: “Happy Holidays” or see on cards “Season’s Greetings”. Happy or Merry Christmas maintains its Christian origin and present belief. Perhaps we may venture deeper into our Christian tradition with words from the fruits of the Spirit contained in the Second reading today and found more fully in Galatians 5:22: love, joy, peace, patience kindness goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self control. We may “Joyful Christmas!” or “Peace and Goodness be with you this Christmas!”

Responsorial Cantic

The Response between the readings is Mary’s Cantic of Praise. It captures the joy of the day. Having a gospel passage as the responsory is unique in the Sunday cycles of readings.

Pope Francis’ Encyclical Fratelli Tutti

Only a gaze transformed by charity can enable the dignity of others to be recognised and, as a consequence, the poor to be acknowledged and valued in their dignity, respected in their identity and culture, and thus truly integrated into society. That gaze is at the heart of the authentic spirit of politics. (187)

Advent Prayer

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near. *Entrance Antiphon 3rd Sunday of Advent*

Quote for Advent

I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year.
Charles Dickens

On the Lighter Side

Q: Why is it getting harder to buy Advent calendars?

A: Their days are numbered!

Q: What do you get if you cross a Christmas tree with an iPad

A: A pineapple!



LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

Celebrant: On this Third Sunday of Advent we light the rose coloured candle, the Shepherd's Candle or the Candle of Joy.



..... will Light the third candle.

Lord Jesus, your coming was foretold by the prophet Isaiah who cried with joy for God clothes us in the garments of salvation. As a joyful, hope-filled Servant Community may our hearts be filled with gratitude for the many gifts God has given us.

R. Come, Lord Jesus.

Lord Jesus, you come among us now as the light of the world. St Paul urges us to be happy at all times and to pray constantly. May the joy of the Lord be in our hearts as we journey together, listening to what the Spirit is saying to the Church of Australia.

R. Come, Lord Jesus.

Lord Jesus, you sent John the Baptist to be a witness for the light. Like John the Baptist may we be witnesses to the power of Jesus open to Conversion and Renewal in the Church of Australia.

R. Come, Lord Jesus.

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your son, Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen

(Light two purple candles and one rose candle)

COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION

Communal Reconciliation will be held at St Augustine's Church, Kyabram on **Thursday, 17th December** at 7.00pm.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

The Christmas Masses at St Augustine's Church, Kyabram will be as follows:



Christmas Eve - Thursday, 24th December – 7.30pm (Carols 7.00pm)

Christmas Day - Friday, 25th December – 8.00am

More details will be provided, when it is known what COVID restrictions will apply.

MASS OFFERINGS

Fr John is very happy to say weekday Masses for yourself or a loved one (such as an anniversary or special remembrance).

Please place the person's name and details on an envelope and include minimum \$10 for Fr John.

ROSTERS – NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday 19th December at 7.00pm:

- Commentator – J Harris
- Lector – L Ratcliffe
- Special Minister – L Busch

Sunday 20th December at 8.00am:

- Commentator – I Paynter
- Lector – M Carver
- Special Minister – M Elliott

CONFITEOR

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do; through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

2021 COLUMBAN CALENDARS

2021 Columban Calendars are now available (\$9.00 each).

Please contact Doreen Wood on 5853 2600 or drop a note to Mrs D Wood, 21 Lancaster Street, Kyabram 3620 or email a request to: dennis.wood1@bigpond.com.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/staugparishky>

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Sick: Kadyn Mitchell, Joan Childs

Recently Deceased: Tony Curtis

Anniversaries: Frank & Normah Reid, Thomas Jude Bourke

(Please email the Parish Office to add names to our prayer list.)



Parish Administrator

Fr John Paul Pasala

Kyabram Presbytery: 5852 1026

Tatura Presbytery: 5824 1049

Pastoral Associate

Alma Limbrick (available in Parish Office on Thursdays, 8.30 to 5.00pm)

Administration

Leanne, Colleen and Ruth

Parish Office hours –

Mon/Tues/Thurs – 8.30am to 12 noon

Wednesdays – 8.30am to 3.00pm

The Parish Office email address is:

kyabram@cdos.org.au

Principals

St Augustine's College

Brayden Stone – Phone 5851 3000

St Patrick's Primary

Katrina Johnson – Phone 5859 0371

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr John Paul, Alma Limbrick (Pastoral Associate), Alana Brennan (Chairperson), Joe Chant, Maurie Finn, John Forde, Katrina Johnson, Brendon Lane, Finola Price, Brayden Stone, Mary Zobec

We are a Child Safe Parish, we have a zero tolerance for child abuse and aim to provide a safe, supportive and welcoming environment to all visiting children, young persons and vulnerable adults.

Mass Times

Kyabram

Week Day Masses:

- Tuesday: 6.00pm
- Thursday: 9.15am

Weekend Masses:

- Saturday: 7.00pm
- Sunday: 8.00am

YOUTH PATHWAYS 2021 RELEASED

The booklet produced in partnership by Sandhurst Youth Ministry and Adult Faith Education Sandhurst outlines opportunities to assist young people on their faith journey. Topics include: Connecting with young adults, connecting with your Catholic community, social justice outreach, finding help and support, coping with addiction, reflection retreats and festivals, pilgrimage and mission experiences.



The booklet has been distributed to schools and parishes across the Diocese.

CHRISTMAS TREE

This year we are invited to donate toys, toiletries and non-perishable groceries for distribution locally by St Vincent de Paul. Please do not wrap any item.

Please leave your donation under the Christmas tree in the church. St Vincent de Paul will collect all items after the Sunday Mass on **20th December**.

Peace and blessings.

QUOTE

When you close the door of your mind to negative thoughts, the door of opportunity opens to you. – Napoleon Hill

www.dailyinspirationalquotes.in

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

“Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” – 1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. “Rejoice always” means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. “Pray constantly” means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. “Give thanks in all circumstances” means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

GOspel

Jan 1:6-8, 19-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

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

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness,

as a witness to speak for the light,

so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light,

only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness.

When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as

Isaiah prophesied:
a voice that cries in the wilderness:
Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word

JESUS, GOD'S GREATEST GIFT

The build-up to Christmas and the festive season has a way of leaving many people tired and stressed as many tasks call for our attention. It is probably impossible to avoid much of this as the feast of Christmas marks the end of the year and the beginning of the summer break. The readings for today can help each of us to determine more clearly what are our major priorities as Christians in preparing for Christmas.

Within the readings today two dimensions of our preparation are stressed. The first is the call to witness to our faith by sharing in God's life-giving, freeing, and healing love. The second dimension is that of finding time to give thanks and praise to God for the gifts we have received through the presence of Jesus among us.

Isaiah's mission of proclaiming liberty and God's love to those in exile comes out of his own experience of this love. Because of this experience, he is able to be a witness to what God is doing in his own day. John the Baptist provides us with a powerful example of a person of faith who is prepared to stand up and bear witness.

As Paul concludes the letter to the Thessalonians he reminds them that the best way to prepare for the Lord's return is by living at peace with one another and being constant in their prayer. One relationship nourishes the other. Making time for the Lord in prayer enables us to make time for each other.

Christopher Monaghan CP



THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / B

13 DECEMBER 2020

FIRST READING

Isa 61:1-2, 10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I exult for joy in the Lord.

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken;

to proclaim liberty to captives,

freedom to those in prison;

to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,

he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels.

'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of nations.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

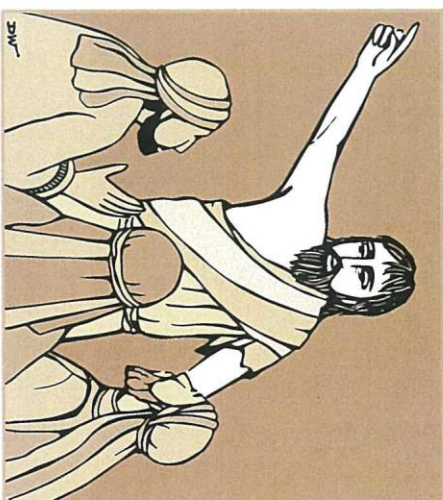
Lk 1:46-50, 53-54

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

1. My soul glorifies the Lord./ my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour./ He looks on his servant in her nothingness./ henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **R.**

2. The Almighty works marvels for me./ Holy his name!/ His mercy is from age./ on those who fear him. **R.**

3. He fills the starving with good things./ sends the rich away empty./ He protects Israel, his servant./ remembering his mercy. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Thess 5:16-24

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

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

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOspel ACCLAMATION

Isa 61:1; Lk 4:18

Allclutia, allclutia!

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