



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

Second Sunday of Advent ~ Cycle C

Sunday 5th December 2021



Readings for this week:

Baruch 5:1-9
Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11
Luke 3:1-6



Readings for next Sunday

Zephaniah 3:14-18
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:10-18



Liturgical Jottings Advent Prophets

The Lectionary for Sundays Cycle C presents us with a great variety of Hebrew Prophets: Jeremiah (week one) Baruch (two) Zephaniah and Isaiah (three) and Micah (four). For the weekends Isaiah predominates with one reading from Malachi.

Their messages vary considerably from the verge of doom (Jeremiah) to expectation, comfort, joy and hope. The Prophets were guides to the peoples and mediators of God's messages to express God's love, his covenant, exhort kings and people to fidelity. The Advent prophets looked forward to the deliverance of Israel by the Messiah's coming



Focus on the Readings

There is another sense of urgency in the readings today, comparable to last week's urgency in the second coming of Christ to the urgency and immediacy on the Coming of Christ for each generation and for all peoples: god fearing and the pagans.

The responsorial psalm acknowledge that both the Israelites and the heathens will marvel at the great works of God in bringing peace and freedom. Baruch, one time secretary to Jeremiah and a prophet in his own right urges the people to celebrate this freedom and peace in the coming of the Lord.

We are to take this marvellous work of God personally. While this is for all nations, it is also for each individual. The Call of John the Baptist in the Gospel is one of repentance and conversion. Each heart and soul is to hear the voice and personally turn to God.

St Paul's letter to the Philippians (second reading) iterates the message for everyone generation, then, now and for the future. The message is one of joy, v.)love (v.) and goodness (v.)

Names of Jerusalem

In the first reading today the Prophet Baruch present a new name for Jerusalem: '**Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness**'. Renaming a person or a city signifies God's taking possession and giving a new calling or vocation. Jerusalem has been given these names: ●The city of our God (Ps 48:1) ● The city of the great King (Ps 48:2) ● The city of the Lord of Hosts (Ps 48:8) ● Zion (Ps 76:2) ● Mother Zion (Ps 87:5) ● The city of righteousness (Isa1:26) ● The faithful city (Isa 1:26) ● The holy city (Isa 52:1) ● City of the Lord (Isa 60:14) ● The Throne of the Lord (Jer 3:17) ● The Lord is our righteousness (Jer 33:16) ● The perfection of beauty (Lam 2:15) ● The joy of the whole earth (Lam 2:15) ● The Centre of Nations, the Lord is there (Ezek 48:35) ● City of truth and the Holy Mountain (Zech 8:3)

Quotable Quote

Christmas: It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving. *Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

On the Lighter Side

What is the difference between Santa's reindeer and a knight? One slays the dragon and the other is draggin' the sleigh. What do you call a dancing, singing elf? A wrapper!



LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

Commentator: On this Second Sunday of Advent we remember the shepherds, workers for the common good, steadfast watchmen isolated and alone, far from the warmth of home, doing the job no one wants. And yet God saw them, God valued them, and God declared the greatest news of all to them alone.

Today we give thanks for the shepherds among us, our farmers, labourers and shift workers on whom our economy stands. Those we overlook or rarely see, yet rely on for our very survival, the ones who have much to teach us about watching for God in the darkness.

We light the second candle as a symbol of the shepherds, agents of the gospel and redeemers of the world.

All: Come Lord Jesus teach us your ways.

(Light two purple candles.)



VOLUNTEER THANKSGIVING MASS & SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Our Parish Pastoral Council invites parishioners to an evening celebration with **Mass and a sausage sizzle** on the lawn outside the Church on **Tuesday 14th December at 6.00pm for Mass**. All those attending aged 12 years and over must be fully vaccinated or have a certified medical exemption.

This an opportunity for us to give thanks and celebrate the end of a difficult and tiring and your continued support throughout the year.

Please bring your own chair and drinks.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

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



Christmas Eve - Friday, 24th December – 6.30pm (Carols 6.00pm)

Christmas Day - Saturday, 25th December – 8.00am

Recording of contact details (by QR code or written) will be required and **all attending aged 12 years and older must provide evidence of being fully vaccinated** or have a certified medical exemption.

THANK YOU

After what has been a difficult year, we rejoice in having been able to celebrate the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist last weekend.



I would like to extend my deepest gratitude for the superb effort everyone put in to making the Masses so memorable for our children. Special thanks to Fr John, our seminarian Dom, Kylie Morrissey, Kerrie Bowman and all 3/4 staff at St Augustine's, Jackie Stockdale and staff at St Patrick's Tongala, the Music Group, our sacristans Annette Ryan & Marg Cocks, the collectors, Colleen & Leanne in the Parish Office.

A lot of time and hard work goes into preparing for the Sacraments and the liturgies and your commitment and dedication is truly appreciated.

To the beautiful children, their parents and sponsors, it has been a difficult year and the burden of preparing for the Sacraments was left to you parents. I appreciate your time, patience and continued support throughout the journey. Last weekend was a great testimony to your dedication and hard work, and the children were truly magnificent.

Finally to the parishioners thank you for your continued prayers for our Sacramental Children and their families.

Peace & blessings to you all.

*Alma Limbrick,
Sacramental Program Coordinator*

RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation will be available next **Saturday, 11th December** at 5.30pm before the 6.00pm Mass.

MASS TIMES & ROSTERS – NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday 11th December at 6.00pm:

Commentator – M Radanov; Lector – W Mulcahy; Special Minister – A O'Meara

Sunday 12th December at 8.30am:

Commentator – M Carver; Lector – T Hehir; Special Minister – M DiPetta

Sunday 12th December at Tongala at 11.30am

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Sick: Megan De Pasquale, Julie Shaw, Joan Childs
Recently Deceased: Allan Baker, Herbert Ford, Lyn Dobbin, Kathleen Jessop, George Limbrick
Anniversaries: Alvin Stanley Brunt

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



DIARY DATES

Mon	6 Dec	-
Tues	7 Dec	No Mass
Wed	8 Dec	-
Thurs	9 Dec	Mass 9.15am (vax unknown) - Intention of Alvin Stanley Brunt and Felisa Baric
Fri	10 Dec	-
Sat	11 Dec	Reconciliation 5.30pm (fully vax) Mass 6.00pm (fully vax)
Sun	12 Dec	Mass 8.30am (fully vax) Mass 11.30am Tongala (fully vax)
Mon	13 Dec	-
Tues	14 Dec	Volunteer Thanksgiving Mass & Sausage Sizzle 6.00pm (fully vax)
Wed	15 Dec	-
Thurs	16 Dec	St Aug's College End of Year Staff Mass 8.45am (fully vax) St Pat's School End of Year Mass 11.00am (fully vax) Communal Reconciliation 7.00pm (fully vax)
Fri	17 Dec	-
Sat	18 Dec	No Mass
Sun	19 Dec	Mass 8.30am (fully vax)

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 –

Tues/Wed/Fri – 8.30am to 12 noon

Thursday – 8.30am to 5.00pm

Parish Office email address

kyabram@cdos.org.au

Parish Office website:

www.kyabramcatholicparish.org.au

Principals

St Augustine's College

Acting Principal – Phone 5851 3000

St Patrick's Primary

Jackie Stockdale – Phone 5859 0371

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr John Paul, Alma Limbrick (Pastoral Associate), Alana Brennan (Chairperson), Maurie Finn, Jackie Stockdale, Brendon Lane, Finola Price, Mary Zobec

Mass Times

Kyabram

Week Day Masses (Tuesday and Thursday): see Diary Dates

Saturday (2nd and 4th Saturday of the month): 6.00pm

Sunday: 8.30am

Tongala

Second Sunday of month 11.30am

Merrigum

Fourth Sunday of month 11.30am

Reconciliation – Second Saturday of the month at 5.30pm (before 6pm Mass) in St Aug's Church Kyabram.

Mass of Anointing is held the first Thursday of the month at 10.00am in St Augustine's Church.

CHRISTMAS LETTER FROM FR JOHN AND THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

To assist us with reaching out to all our parishioners this Christmas season, we invite parishioners to take pastoral letters from the back of the Church and deliver to family members or other parishioners in your area.

Thank you for assisting us with this PPC Outreach initiative.

Sandhurst Diocese has signed up to the International Laudato Si Action Platform. Catholic Earthcare Parishes are Beginning The Journey.

All interested in **Care for Creation** are invited to a meeting via zoom on **Monday 6th Dec 11.00am – 12.15pm OR Tuesday 7th Dec 7.00pm – 8.15pm** to discover how easy it is to become a Catholic Earthcare parish and work towards the Laudato Si Action Platform Goals. Meeting will include time for Q & A. To receive the zoom meeting link contact:

adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 3:4, 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 3:1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

All people shall see the salvation of God.

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Iturea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.

Every valley will be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
winding ways will be straightened
and rough roads made smooth.

And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word

TRUST IN GOD'S HELP

As we prepare for the Lord's return, today's readings encourage us to continue the journey we have started but challenge us as well. Baruch gave heart to the generation of the exile by speaking about the highway that God was building for their return. At the dawn of the time of the Messiah, John the Baptist makes use of the same image but reminds us that the highway that is being built in the desert is not only God's work but ours. Our co-operation is needed as the rough places of our hearts are smoothed, the mountains we force God to cross are made level, and the valleys filled in.

Paul calls the Christians of Philippi to take heart as they wait for the Lord's return. Paul was devoted to all Christian communities he had founded and ministered to, but the Philippians had a special place in his heart, and he called them his jewel and crown (cf. Philippians 4:1). They were a Macedonian community that had suffered much (cf. 2 Corinthians 8:1-3) and yet supported him greatly in his ministry emotionally, financially, and spiritually (Philippians 4: 14-16).

We see the encouragement that Paul gives them as they prepare for the Lord's return. He knows that it is not always easy to discern what is good and necessary but he reassures the Philippians by reminding them that the Lord who started the good work in them will bring it to completion.



Christopher Monaghan CP

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT / C

THE SAVING WORD

05 DECEMBER 2021

FIRST READING

Bar 5:1-9

A reading from the prophet Baruch.

Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,
put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever,
wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you,
put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head:
since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven,
since the name God gives you for ever will be,
'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.'

Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights
and turn your eyes to the east:
see your sons reassembled from west and east
at the command of the Holy One, jubilant
that God has remembered them.

Though they left you on foot,
with enemies for an escort,
now God brings them back to you
like royal princes carried back in glory.

For God has decreed the flattening
of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills,
the filling of the valleys to make the ground
level

so that Israel can walk in safety under the
glory of God.

And the forests and every fragrant tree will
provide shade

for Israel at the command of God;
for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of
his glory

with his mercy and integrity for escort.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 125. R. v. 3

R. The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from
bondage / it seemed like a dream. / Then was
our mouth filled with laughter. / on our lips
there were songs. **R.**

2. The heathens themselves said: 'What
marvels / the Lord worked for them!' / What
marvels the Lord worked for us! / Indeed we
were glad. **R.**

3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage / as
streams in dry land. / Those who are sowing in
tears / will sing when they reap. **R.**

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears /
carrying seed for the sowing: / they come back,
they come back, full of song, / carrying their
sheaves. **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 1:3-6, 8-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians.

*Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the
day of Christ.*

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy,
remembering how you have helped to spread
the Good News from the day you first heard
it right up to the present. I am quite certain
that the One who began this good work in
you will see that it is finished when the Day
of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much
I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves
you. My prayer is that your love for each other
may increase more and more and never stop
improving your knowledge and deepening your
perception so that you can always recognise
what is best. This will help you to become
pure and blameless, and prepare you for the
Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect
goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for
the glory and praise of God.

■ **The word of the Lord.**