



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@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Parish Priest – Fr John Paul Pasala

Second Sunday of Advent

4 December 2022



Readings for
this week:

Isaiah 11:1-10
Romans 15:4-9
Matthew 3:1-12



Readings for
next Sunday:

Isaiah 35:1-6,10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11



Liturgy Jottings

Advent Lectionary

The decree for the 1970 Lectionary (the second and current edition 1981) states: "The treasures of the bible are to be opened up more lavishly, so that richer fare may be provided for the faithful at the table of God's word. In this way a more representative portion of the holy scriptures will be read to the people in the course of a prescribed number of years" SC 51 (Vatican II Council).

This is most evident in the readings selected for Advent. The new lectionary has 36 readings for the four Sundays over three cycles and 34 for weekdays in one cycle. The earlier lectionary (1570) had eight Sunday readings and no weekend readings except 11 for the three ember days in week three of Advent. The selection for each day requires a **liturgical reading** of the texts noting the theme each week taken from previous Sunday and from the entire liturgy of the day (prayers and acclamations).

Looking at the Readings

The second Sunday of Advent is marked by the person of John the Baptist and his message to "Prepare the way of the Lord" (Matt 3:3, Isaiah 40:3). The first and second weeks of Advent express one of the two characters or expectations of the season: the second coming of the Lord. The other character is the time of waiting for the incarnation of the Word especially celebrated in the fourth week of Advent.

We have a thorough introduction of John the Baptist in today's Gospel: his locale, his clothing, his diet, his reputation and particularly his message of repentance and conversion through baptism and his mission to announce the coming of the Lord. John the Prophet echoes the Prophet of Isaiah "A voice cries in the wilderness: 'Prepare a way for the Lord.'" This message must be echoed again and again until the end of time because repentance and a change of heart will always be needed. The prophet will never be out of work. Our Advent readings will never be obsolete no matter how disturbing.

The first reading from Isaiah is not the prophecy of preparation for the coming, but two passages: one on the seven Gifts of the Spirit and the other on Peace and Justice. They are united by the opening line of passage: the shoot from the tree of Jesse that a future day will bring both the spirit of the Lord and integrity and faithfulness.

Prayer of the Week

Almighty God, purify our consciences by your daily visitation, that when your Son, our Lord, comes he may find in us a dwelling prepared for him.
Gelasian Sacramentary of Angoulême, France 800

Quote for the Week

Each year, as the Church recalls this mystery [incarnation of the Word], she urges us to renew the memory of the great love God has shown us. This holy season teaches us that Christ's coming was not only for the benefit of his contemporaries; his power has still to be communicated to us all. We shall share his power, if, through holy faith and the sacraments, we willingly accept the grace Christ earned for us, and live by that grace and in obedience to Christ. The Church asks us to ... remove all obstacles to his presence. *Pastoral Letter, St Charles Borromeo*

On The Lighter Side

Why did John the Baptist take his sandals off before going in the river? To save soles!



SEASON OF CHRISTMASS

THE ADVENT SEASON IS ALL ABOUT REFLECTING ON HOW WE CAN PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND HOMES FOR CHRIST'S BIRTH IN THE WORLD AS IT IS TODAY. IT IS A TIME FOR FAITH COMMUNITIES AND FAMILIES TO REMEMBER, THROUGH PRAYER, REFLECTIONS, SPECIAL MUSIC, AND GOOD DEEDS WHAT THE TRUE MEANING OF JESUS' BIRTH IS.

CHRISTMAS TREE

This year we are invited to donate toys, toiletries, and non-perishable groceries for distribution locally by St Vincent de Paul. Please leave your donation under the Christmas tree in the church. Also, envelopes are also available on the Christmas tree for cash donations or gift cards. There will be a box available to put these in.

St Vincent de Paul will collect all items after Sunday Mass on 18th December. Thank You for your generosity.

ST VINNIES LEAVING COLLECTION-CHRISTMAS EVE

There will be a leaving collection for St Vinnies at Christmas Eve mass.

Second Sunday of Advent (Year A)

Presider: We invite.....to light the second candle, which can be named the John the Baptist Candle. John the Baptist was the one who prepared the way for the Lord.

V. Lord Jesus, your coming was proclaimed by the prophet Isaiah who calls us to be a signal to the nations and to recognise the Messiah in our midst. (First Reading)

R. Come, Lord Jesus.

V. Lord Jesus, you come among us now. St Paul reminds us to treat each other as Christ treats us and so give glory to the God and Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ. (Second Reading)

R. Come, Lord Jesus.

V. Lord Jesus, you will come again in glory. John the Baptist calls us to 'repent for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' (Gospel)

R. Come, Lord Jesus.

Collect: Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen

SANDHURST ADVENT LEAFLETS 2022

The theme for Advent this year is from the Sandhurst Mission and Pastoral Council Preparation and Consultation Plan 2022 – 2023.

Leaflets are available at the back of the church.

SANDHURST MISSION AND PASTORAL COUNCIL

Preparation & Consultation Meeting for the Sandhurst Mission and Pastoral Council to be held in Kyabram.

On 27 April 2022 Bishop Shane Mackinlay announced a year of Preparation and Consultation for the Sandhurst Mission and Pastoral Council (SMPC). **Dr Chris Cotter** (Sandhurst Director of Mission and Pastoral Life) and Ruth Lawlor (Sandhurst Youth Ministry Coordinator) will be conducting a Preparation & Consultation Meeting at St. Augustine, on Saturday 10th December, after the Mass the meeting will run **for about 30-45 minutes**.

At the meeting you will:

- find out about the SMPC
- participate in a 'Listening and Dialogue' process (as used in the first phase of the Plenary Council)
- provide feedback and ask questions which will contribute to the establishment of a structure that will support synodality in our diocese.

All are welcome!

MASS TIMES & ROSTERS – NEXT WEEKENDS

Saturday 10th December at 6pm

Commentator – L Ratcliffe

Lector – J Harris

Special Minister- A O'Meara

Sunday 11th December at 8.30am:

Commentator –S Carroll

Lector – T Hehir

Special Minister – A Ryan

Sunday 18th December at 8.30am:

Commentator – V fox

Lector –M Carver

Special Minister – M Di Petta

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE

Advent Reconciliation

Thursday 15th December at 6pm –followed by social gathering

Christmas Eve (BRIGIDINE CENTRE)

Saturday 24th December

Carols commencing at 6:00pm, Mass at 6:30pm

Christmas Morning, Sunday 25th December

Mass at 8:30am

New Year Morning

Mass at 8.30am

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Planned giving envelopes are now available to be picked up from the back of the church. Please note that electronic payments have not been updated on statements for the month of October. Thank you and God Bless You.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick: Amy Nicholson, Philip Bowman, Trevor Price, Anne Dodd, Kadyn Mitchell-Treacy, Concetta Barbagallo,

Recently Deceased: Julie Shaw, Margaret Evans.

Anniversaries:

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



POSITIONS VACANT

A number of positions are currently Vacant on **Parish Pastoral Council** and **Parish Finance Council**, please consider helping out in these areas of need and be part of a team in forming the future of our Parish.
Please contact Fr. John Paul

FORTNIGHT TIME TABLE

Mon 05 Dec -
Tues 06 Dec - Rosary 4:45pm, Liturgy of the word 5:00pm.
Liturgy meeting 5.45pm
Wed 07 Dec -
Thurs 08 Dec - Mass 9:15am
Fri 09 Dec -
Weekend Masses
Sat 10 Dec - Reconciliation 5.30pm, Mass at 6pm.
Sun 11 Dec - Mass 8:30am Mon

Mon 12 Dec
Tues 13 Dec - Rosary 4:45pm, Mass 5pm.
Wed 14 Dec -
Thurs 15 Dec - Mass 9.15am; Communal Reconciliation 6.00pm.
Fri 16 Dec -
Weekend Masses
Sat 17 Dec - No Mass
Sun 18 Dec - Mass 8:30am (Xavier Alford, Baptism during the Mass)

COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION

Communal Reconciliation will be held at St Augustine's Church, Kyabram on Thursday, 15th December at 6.00pm.

PARISH CHRISTMAS GATHERING

A parish Christmas gathering will be held after the Communal Reconciliation at back of the Church. Please bring a plate to share.

CHILD SAFE PARISH

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. If you are concerned for any form of abuse that is immediate you should call 000; a significant risk or harm, whether or not you have formed this belief on reasonable grounds, you should immediately raise your concerns with the Parish Child safety officer Finola Price on 03 58521310.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

As we come to worship, we remember the Yorta Yorta & Bangerang People the original custodians of this land. We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with deep respect. May the Elders, past and present, be blessed and honoured. May we join together and build a future based on compassion, justice, faith and reconciliation.

Parish Priest

Fr John Paul Pasala
Kyabram Presbytery: 5852 1026
Tatura Presbytery: 5824 1049

Parish Office email address:
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Parish Office website:
www.kyabramcatholicparish.org.au

Principals

St Augustine's College

Jay Sutton – Phone 5851 3000

St Patrick's Primary

Jackie Stockdale – Phone 5859 0371

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr John Paul Pasala,,

Alana Brennan (Chairperson)

Maurie Finn, Veronica Fox,

Brendon Lane, Finola Price,

Jackie Stockdale, Jay Sutton

Parish Finance Committee

Fr John Paul Pasala,

Wayne Mulcahy (Chairperson),

James Harris (Deputy Chair) .Naomi

Hehir, 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

First Sunday of month 11.30am

Merrigum

Third Sunday of month 12.00 noon

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

THANK YOU

A big thanks to all the Volunteers who are helping and supporting our parish at this time.

All of your volunteer work is greatly appreciated. God Bless.

Fr. John Paul Pasala

Breaking Open the Word

Mt 3:1-12

GOSPEL
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:

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

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winning-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

He judges the poor with justice.

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.

His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless; his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea.

That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PS

Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17. R. cf. v. 7

R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king, / to a king's son your justice, / that he may judge your people in justice / and your poor in right judgement. R.

2. In his days justice shall flourish / and peace till the moon fails. / He shall rule from sea to sea, / from the Great River to earth's bounds. R.

3. For he shall save the poor when they cry / and the needy who are helpless. / He will have

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THE SAVING WORD



pony on the weak / and save the lives of the poor. R.

4. May his name be blessed for ever / and endure like the sun. / Every tribe shall be blessed in him, / all nations bless his name. R.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Christ, the hope of all people.

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

■ The word of the Lord.

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!

Christopher Monaghan CP