



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 ~ Cycle C

Sunday 12th December 2021



Readings for
this week:

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



Readings for
next Sunday

Micah 5:1-4
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-44



Liturgical Jottings

Advent Litanies

A Christian litany is a liturgical form of prayer consisting of a series of invocations or supplications with responses that are the same for each invocation. The Litany of the Saints with the response “pray for us” is the most well known one. We have several Advent litanies. Lucien Deiss has four in his book, *Biblical Prayers*. The Advent Hymn: O Come Emmanuel is in a form of a litany. A popular Advent litany by Bernadette Farrell is found in *Gather Australia* 279 & CWB II 253 with 16 invocations; see in second column with the first 10 lines.



Focus on the Readings

The Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, is so named from the first word (Latin) of the Liturgy: “Rejoice in the Lord always” (Entrance Antiphon) that sets the focus for today. There is a sense of joy and expectancy in the readings from Zephaniah: “Shout for Joy”; the Psalm Response “Cry out with joy and gladness”, the Second Reading: “Always be happy in the Lord.” The Gospel, containing John the Baptist teaching on charity, justice, harmony and contentment, admits a feeling of expectancy for the Messiah among the people.

Christian joy is markedly different from simple or exaggerated pleasures and even happiness in its passing moments. Pleasures can be intrusive, noisy, contrived or merely external. Joy comes with serenity, harmony, interior peace. “Joy in the Lord” notes its origin and its final goal: in God. God wants our happiness (joy) and in turn we pray for his care, freedom and peace.

Advent Prayer

Almighty God, you send your Son into a world where the wheat must be winnowed from chaff and wickedness clings even to what is good. Let the fire of your Spirit purge us of greed and deceit, so that, purified, we may find our peace in you and you may delight in us. We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Advent Litany

Word of justice, Alleluia, Come to dwell here, Maranatha!
Word of mercy, Alleluia, Live among us. Maranatha!
Word of power, Alleluia, Live within us. Maranatha!
Word of freedom, Alleluia, Save your people. Maranatha!
Word of healing, Alleluia, Heal our sorrow. Maranatha!
Word of comfort, Alleluia, Bring us hope now. Maranatha!
Word of gladness, Alleluia, Fill our hearts now. Maranatha!
Word of wisdom, Alleluia, Come renew us. Maranatha!
Word we long for, Alleluia, Word we thirst for. Maranatha!
Key of David, Alleluia, Son of Mary, Maranatha! ...

Bernadette Farrell © 1987

On the Lighter Side

The old joke: “What do you call a kid who doesn't believe in Santa Clause?” “A rebel without Claus!” It has spawned much merchandise including books, T-shirts and “Rebel without a Claus” Christmas cards and stockings.



LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

Commentator: On this Third Sunday of Advent we remember Mary, innocent and powerful, sacred and scared, worried and waiting as the Saviour of all grows in her womb. She sings boldly when she might be meek; she bears her role in history with the confidence of a warrior; she is the beginning of a mighty revolution as the proud are brought down and the lowly lifted up.

Today we give thanks for the Marys among us, who step out of the roles society has planned; unintended pioneers determined to do as God asks; fearless and fearfully stepping out in faith, and beckoning us to do the same.

We light the third candle as a symbol of Mary, mother of God, bearer of the Way

All: Come Lord Jesus grant us courage.

(Light two purple candles and one rose candle.)



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 year, and to give thanks for your continued support.

Please bring your own chair and drinks.

COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION

Communal Reconciliation will be held at St Augustine's Church, Kyabram on **Thursday, 16th December** at 7.00pm.

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

A special thank you to our outgoing Finance Committee Chairperson Kathy Gill and Deputy Chairperson Peter Ryan – we are most grateful for your dedication and commitment to these roles over the past eight years. Thank you to Wayne Mulcahy and James Harris who are taking on these respective roles.

We also welcome three new members - Naomi Hehir, Angela Shaw and Mary Zobec.

RCIA RITE OF WELCOME

This weekend we celebrate the Rite of Welcome for **Ainsley Lane** and **Ivy Davidson**, who over the past couple of months have been enquiring about our Catholic Faith.

Ivy and Ainsley have committed themselves to preparing for full initiation into our Catholic faith this coming Easter. We ask parishioners to keep them and their sponsors and families in their prayers.

TONGALA AND MERRIGUM MASSES

Parishioners are most welcome to attend the Sunday Masses at Tongala and Merrigum on the second and fourth Sunday respectively at 11.30am.

A reminder these Masses are for the fully vaxed.

HELPERS NEEDED

Helpers are needed for both the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses at St Augustine's. Forms for these Masses are available at the back of the church to put your name down if you can help in any way.

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)

(Outdoor Family Mass – BYO chairs and rugs)

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.

At both our Christmas Masses, there will be a third (leaving) collection for St Vincent de Paul.

MASS TIME & ROSTERS – NEXT WEEKEND

Sunday 19th December at 8.30am:

Commentator – M Finn; Lector – N Watt; Special Minister – A Brunt

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Sick: Megan De Pasquale, Julie Shaw, Joan Childs

Recently Deceased: Christine Mary Lutwyche (Halsall), Edmon Hoy

Anniversaries: Thomas Jude Bourke, Frank & Normah Reid, Tony Curtis

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



DIARY DATES

Mon	13 Dec	-
Tues	14 Dec	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)
Mon	20 Dec	-
Tues	21 Dec	Mass 5.00pm (vax unknown)
Wed	22 Dec	-
Thurs	23 Dec	Mass 9.15am (vax unknown)
Fri	24 Dec	Christmas Vigil (outdoors) 6.30pm (Carols 6.00pm) (fully vax)
Sat	25 Dec	Christmas Day 8.00am (fully vax) No 6.00pm Mass
Sun	26 Dec	Mass 8.30am (fully vax) No Merrigum Mass

END OF YEAR STAFF MASS

St Augustine's College End of School Year Staff Mass will be held on Thursday, 16th December at 8.45am in St Augustine's Church. Parishioners are welcome to attend, but must be fully vaxed.

Please note that there will not be a 9.15am Mass on this day.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the team of parishioners who prepared our Advent banner and wreath.

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.

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 Pasala, Alma Limbrick

(Pastoral Associate), Alana Brennan

(Chairperson), Maurie Finn,

Jackie Stockdale, Brendon Lane,

Finola Price, Mary Zobec

Parish Finance Committee

Fr John Paul Pasala,

Wayne Mulcahy (Chairperson),

Leanne Beck, Kathy Gill, James Harris,

Naomi Hehir, Peter Ryan,

Terry O'Sullivan, Angela Shaw,

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.

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

GOSPEL

Lk 3:10-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

What, then, must we do?

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word

PREPARE WELL

All of us have been involved at one time or another with preparing to meet a special guest. It is often a time of mixed emotions as excitement and joy vie with some measure of anxiety about the quality of our preparations. As Paul's Christians at Philippi waited for the return of the Lord, he knew that it could be for many a time of anxiety; would they find acceptance on his return? Would they find a place in his kingdom? It was a time of trepidation because it was feared that he would return unexpectedly, like a thief in the night (1 Thessalonians 5:2), and find them unprepared. In the face of such anxiety, Paul encourages them to put their trust in the Lord who loves them. Even now they are called to experience the Lord's peace and joy as they wait for his return. Especially, they are called to pray with confidence and trust.

John the Baptist knew that the Messiah was soon to be among us, and we see how he calls those who listen to his message to prepare by taking a hard look at themselves and how they live. In order to be ready when the Messiah comes he calls for a concern for others that expresses itself in generosity, fairness, and compassion.

As we prepare for the Lord's coming among us, today's readings call us to make ready with the confidence of Zephaniah, the peacefulness of Paul, and the justice and compassion of John the Baptist.

Christopher Monaghan CP

THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / C

12 DECEMBER 2021

FIRST READING

Zeph 3:14-18

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah.

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,
Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart,
daughter of Jerusalem!
The Lord has repeated your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away.
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;
you have no more evil to fear.
When that day comes, word will come to
Jerusalem:
Zion, have no fear,
do not let your hands fall limp.
The Lord your God is in your midst,
a victorious warrior.
He will exult with joy over you,
he will renew you by his love;
he will dance with shouts of joy for you
as on a day of festival.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Isa 12:2-6. R. v. 6

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

1. Truly, God is my salvation, / I trust,
I shall not fear. / For the Lord is my strength,
my song, / he became my saviour. / With
joy you will draw water / from the wells of
salvation. **R.**

2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to
his name! / Make his mighty deeds known
to the peoples! / Declare the greatness of his
name. **R.**



3. Sing a psalm to the Lord / for he has done
glorious deeds, / make them known to all the
earth! / People of Zion, sing and shout for
joy / for great in your midst is the Holy One of
Israel. **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 4:4-7

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

The Lord is near.

I want you to be happy, always happy in the
Lord: I repeat, what I want is your happiness.
Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the
Lord is very near. There is no need to worry;
but if there is anything you need, pray for it,
asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving,
and that peace of God, which is so much greater
than we can understand, will guard your hearts
and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

■ **The word of the Lord.**