



Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

(This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws)



First Sunday of Advent - Year C - 28th November 2021

Finding joy in waiting for Jesus....

This weekend is the First Sunday in Advent and the beginning of a new Church year. It is also the beginning of a new cycle of prayers and scripture readings, cycle C. Why are these four weeks before Christmas called "Advent"? The term comes from a Latin word 'adventus' meaning 'coming, arrival'. We immediately think it refers to the coming of Jesus at Christmas time and that is correct. But that's not the whole story. In fact, we can speak of three comings of the Lord and all are referred to in the Scripture readings this weekend.

On this day, the Church invites us to be ready and prepared to receive the Lord. When the coming of someone is delayed, we usually become anxious and worried. However, today's readings invite us to find joy in our waiting. During this season, we first participate in the waiting of the Israelites who were expecting their Messiah. Secondly, we wait for the coming of Jesus in the breaking of the Word and of the Bread in the Eucharistic celebration.

Finally, we look forward to our future with a hope and wait for the coming of Jesus at the end of time to judge the world. Thus, the Church invites us to make use of Advent and prepare ourselves in such a way that by means of promoting justice, hope, love and peace in our lives and those of others, we get to witness the promises about the coming of Jesus being fulfilled in our time, here and now.

Blessings,
Fr. Dantus Thottathil.

This Week's Readings:

First Reading: Jer 33:14-16 – *I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.*

Psalm Response: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul, to you I lift my soul.

(Alternative Psalm Response if spoken): To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Second Reading: 1 Thess 3:12 – 4:2 – *When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.*

Gospel Acclamation

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

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36 – *Your redemption is near at hand.*



QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

Hope is more than a wish. It's a power capable of steering a destiny.

Next week's Readings

First: Baruch 5:1-9

Second: Phil 1:4-6, 8-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve Friday 24th December - 7:00pm (with Children's Pageant) and 11:30pm

Christmas Day Saturday 25th December - 8:00am (NO SATURDAY EVENING MASS)

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Sunday 26th December - 8:00am



Roster	Readers 6:15pm (1st) Therese E (2nd) Suzanne G (Welcome & POF) John E	8:00am (1st) Elaine H (2nd) Amal R (Welcome & POF) Felix R	Counting Group 1
4 th & 5 th December	Communion Ministers 6:15pm Mary D	8:00am Lena B	Music 6:15pm Gp 1 8:00am Gp 3 PowerPoint 6:15pm Alan B 8:00am Chris M

Mass Times: Saturday 6:15pm & Sunday 8:00am

Reconciliation: Thursday 5:30pm

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Parish Council Members: Chris Mahoney, Therese Evans, Cathy McGrath, Lorraine Kumar, John Spillane

Pastor: Fr Dantus Thottathil thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au

Associate Pastor: Fr Prem Rethnamony

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Emergency Contact: 3207 4566

Safeguarding Officer: Lisa Knight ☎ 3822 2139

STOPLINE Contact: AOB@stoline.com.au

A VOCATION VIEW:

Make your decision to follow Jesus during THIS Advent Season.

Delaying until "one" of these days is "none" of these days.

Follow now.

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Parish Primary School

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Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them: Lynne Gage, John Jorna, Agatha Ravaneschi, Liana Lo Presti, Andrew Hodgson, Amanda Ward, Ed Moloney, Colleen Van den Bosch, Janice McAnien, Rebecca Harvey, Clara Elms, Beth Riegler, Henk Hoonhout, Tony Dickinson, Elizabeth Smit, Pat Cochrane, Patricia Briscoe, Paul McKean, Geoffrey Whall, Kevin Harrop, Judy Mullan, Charles Lilley, Ann Brown, Sally Legarda, Gemma Paxman, James Thomas, Cindy Cummins, John Bacon, Jodie Bromiley, Casey Whitby, Trish Swan, Ian Splatt, Steven West, Ava Loda, Joan Thorpe, Patricia Haines, Belinda Wheeler, Cely Salisbury, The Bade Family, Brian Crimmins, Brian Johnston, Medi Camelli, Hazel Foster, Dan Mullan, Stana Matic, Page Brosnan, Dot Abrahams, Amelia Ramsay, Jeanette Moore, Nola Murphy, Christiana Becker, Cathy Leane, Pauline McNamee, Pat Crimmins, Gina Mather.

May God embrace all who have recently died: Michael McMahon, Gina Basso, Carmel Hickey.

Anniversaries & Remembrances November: Joan Brown, Michele Battel, Fiore Santarossa, Kathleen Wellington, Richard Wellington, Mona Irving, Anita Shellard, Paul Hayes, Catherine Moore, Michael Peterson, Brian Mullan, Damian Graves, Freda Graves, Ralph White, Anthony Lock, Greg Lawler, David Lopez, Clarence Wilcox, Doreen Heift, Frank Webb, Bill Maclean, Danuta Plantos, Georgina Fleming, Gordon Fleming, Geraldene Barry, Danuta Kupidura, Bill Conway, Emilia Battel, Marian Dodunski, Linda Pasqualini, Arthur Irving, Denise Irving, Raymond Vagg, Anthony Chivers, Steven Brigg, Phillip Phillips, Joseph Camilleri, Josephine Romero, Alex Parlato, Alice Harney, Vincenza Sciacca, Felix Aguiar, Irene Rynne, Veronica Brown, Franseco Santarossa, Peter McGleeson, Amanda Bell, Jane Swann, William Groeger, Edward Briggs, Margaret Duncan, Tom Gall, Bruce Molloy, Mary Boyd, Hugh Kearney, Kevin Gilhooley, Nono Antonio, Rosmer Cartagena, Celena McGovern, Tarcisio Ragagnin, Dave Smith, Rita Fantov, John Richardson, Ian Raumer, Marie Steele, Bill & Martha Kluck, Anastacia Weiland, departed family and friends of Tess Zwolak, Sr. Joe Maria C.M.C (sister of Father Dantus). **Please record any further names in the Anniversaries & Remembrance Diary at the Welcome Desk**

Book of Remembrance is located at the entrance to the Church. Each Parishioner is welcome to inscribe the names of loved ones who are deceased. These loved ones/special intentions are remembered in prayer each day during the Month of November.

Support Your Parish: Thank you so much to all the Parishioners who continue to support our Parish financially. Our planned giving bank account details for Electronic Funds Transfer deposits are as follows: **BSB: 064 786 Account No: 1000 17027 Account Name: Birkdale Parish**

Planned Giving (this account number is NOT for over the counter deposits at the Bank). Kindly reference your deposit with your surname and your planned giving number/envelope number if you have one.

Christmas Pageant It is a tradition in the Parish for children to present the story of the birth of Jesus at Mass on Christmas Eve. We are looking for children who might like to be involved this year. There are a range of speaking and non-speaking roles. Costumes are available. Children must be able to attend Mass at 7 pm on Christmas Eve as well as a number of rehearsals. These will be held at the Church from **3:30 – 4:30 pm on Tuesday 14th December, Thursday 16th December, Tuesday 21st December and Thursday 23rd December**. For more information, please contact Lisa Knight in the Parish Office or Tania Logan on 0407436643 or britania@optusnet.com.au.

EAST TIMOR RAFFLE Tickets will be on sale at Masses \$5 each or 3 for \$10. Lots of great prizes!!!! Many thanks for your support.

Christmas Appeal - The St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal will be held on the **4th & 5th December**. Funds raised provides the community with a chance to help change lives by adding a little comfort, dignity, hope and warmth to the lives of those who are struggling. All money donated stays within the Birkdale Conference. Envelopes will be available in the Church or deposits can be made by EFT to: BSB: 064 786 Account No: 1000 26127 Account Name: SVDP St Mary MacKillop (not for over the counter deposits).

Christmas Tree Donations of food items for St Vincent de Paul to prepare hampers will be gratefully received. If donating presents, please take a gift tag from the Christmas Tree in the Church and purchase an item for the age and gender of the recipient. Donation baskets will be in the Church from next weekend. *Thank you for your generosity.*

St Vincent de Paul - have Christmas cards (\$2.95 for a pack of 8), Christmas gifts and Columbian Calendars for sale at weekend Masses.

Advent 2021 with Bruce Downes, The Catholic Guy You are invited to 'Expect the Unexpected' this Advent. Join me each day for a short, free Advent Daily Devotional Video that will guide you on a life-changing journey. Starting November 28th you'll receive short inspirational videos each day from Bruce Downes, full of real life stories and practical ways to become all that God has created you to be! Register now or for more information: <https://brucedownes.org/registerforadvent/>

First Sunday of Advent – Year C

First Reading: A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: 'In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'

Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.'

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

Parish Diary:

Monday 29th November

1:00pm Rosary Group and Private Prayer

2:00pm Activities Group

Tuesday 30th November

St Andrew

Wednesday 1st December

7:30am HEARTfit

11:00am Rosary Group and Private Prayer

6:00pm Year 6 students Thanksgiving Mass

Thursday 2nd December

9:45am Mass at Dutch Village

5:30pm Reconciliation

6:00pm Mass

Friday 3rd December

St Francis Xavier

9:00am Rosary

9:30am Mass

Saturday 4th December

3:00pm Baptism Celebration

6:15pm Mass

Sunday 5th December

Second Sunday of Advent

8:00am Mass

