

First Reading Is 11:1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
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 a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm 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.

Second Reading Rom 15:4-9

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

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 Mt 3:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
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 winnowing-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.'

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NEWSLETTER

7 December— 8 December 2019
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT— YEAR A



St. John the Baptist

The Parish has been entrusted to the Salesians of Don Bosco since 2000

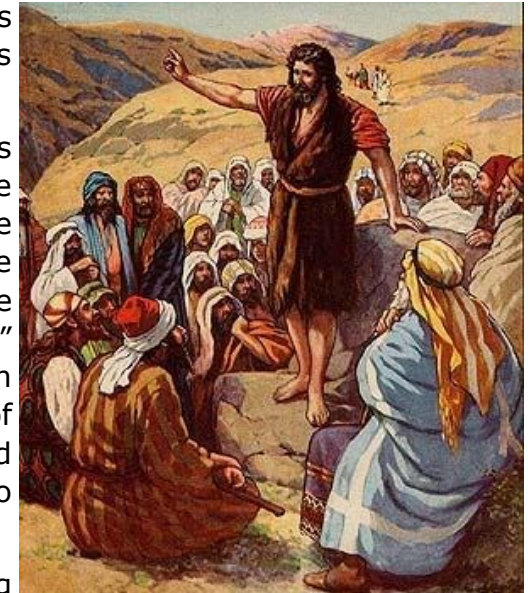


St. Monica

Dear Friends,

John the Baptist's role is to lead people to Jesus. He preaches conversion, that is, a way of life that puts Christ at the centre of our lives. He helps us to go to Jesus by the witness of his life, his teaching and his baptisms.

John the Baptist is described as, firstly, the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he wrote, "A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." And secondly, as the new Elijah who was to come at the end of time. He is a passionate and humble man who points us to Jesus.



John the Baptist's teaching is that all are called to repent, that is, change their lives, in preparation for the coming of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour. He says, "I baptise you with water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, ... he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire." After His resurrection, Jesus will command His disciples to baptise those who accept Him, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit so that those who are baptised may know Him and His heavenly Father in the Holy Spirit.

May our prayer this Advent be, "Come Lord Jesus" and may the Virgin Mary Mother of God, the Immaculate Conception, pray to Jesus for those who put their trust in Him so that they may persevere in faith to the end of their lives. (Fr. Guy)

**PARISH DIARY
December 2019**

7 Saturday, St Ambrose, bishop, doctor

- 9.00am Mass at St John's
- 9.30am & 5.15pm Reconciliation at St. John's
- 6.00pm Mass at St. John's

8 Sunday, SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 8.30am Mass at St Monica's
- 10.00am Mass at St. John's

9 Monday, The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

- 9.00am Mass at St John's

10 Tuesday, Second Week of Advent

- 9.00am Mass at St John's

11 Wednesday, St Damasus I, pope

- 8.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- 9.00am Mass at St. John's

12 Thursday, Our Lady of Guadalupe

- 12.00pm Mass at St John's

13 Friday, St Lucy, virgin, martyr

- 9.00am Mass at St John's

14 Saturday, St John of the Cross, priest, doctor

- 9.00am Mass at St John's
- 9.30am & 5.15pm Reconciliation at St. John's
- 6.00pm Mass at St. John's

15 Sunday, THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 8.30am Mass at St Monica's
- 10.00am Mass at St. John's

FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL

Journey with St. Paul as you relive the Acts of the Apostles and the famous letters of the New Testament. Explore Greece and Greek islands in this 10N pilgrimage led by Catholic Priests that features Athens, Corinth, Mykonos, Kusadasi, Crete, Santorini, Hosios Loukas, Delphi, Thessaloniki, Philippi and Kavala for an all-inclusive Land Package price of \$4490 + Tips. The fare includes Entrances & Sites as per itinerary + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + 3N Cruise with Lunch + All Breakfast & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. 2020 Departures Available: 12th May 2020 and 20th Oct 2020. For inquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or email us info@magiholidays.com.au.

**EVENING NOVENA MASSES
IN HONOUR OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS**

Where? St Paul's Catholic Church, Bridgewater.
When? At 7.00 PM from 15-23 December.

Parish Volunteers.

To meet legal requirements as a result of the Royal Commission on sexual abuse, all parishes must ensure all staff and applicable volunteers have required compliance checks in place, namely a **current Police Check** as well as **Working with Vulnerable People Registration**. We are compiling a list of the status of all these checks and you may find that we contact you to arrange to have these checks in place if you do not already have them. Please contact Sr. Pamela Davis at the parish office as soon as possible. *Fr. Guy Riolo*

A Wonderful Concert

A great number of people enjoyed a truly enjoyable afternoon of musical treats including pieces by the Meli Melo choir, Sisongke Community Choir, Alpine and French horn ensemble, a harpist and soloists. We thank them and we thank the people who attended and supported this fund raiser. \$ 776.45 was raised for the students at the Don Bosco Technical School, Biratnagar, Nepal. Outreach Committee.

St John's Christmas Luncheon

Venue: Carlyle Hotel, 232 Main Rd, Derwent Park TAS 7009 | Date: 13th December (Friday) 2019 | Time: 12.00 noon. Please put your name down on the sheet of paper available in the foyer to save your seat. For further information, please contact Kay Grainger on 0438081651. Thank you!



Christmas Masses -

Ministers of the Word and Communion

We are looking for Ministers of the Word and Communion to serve at the Family Mass and on Christmas Day. If you would be available please put your name on the lists in the foyer. Note - an extra Minister of Communion is required for the chapel at these Masses.

Where's the Advent wreath?

In their discussions regarding a focus on the sanctuary for our Christmas celebrations, the Liturgy Committee considered whether to have the Nativity scene or the Advent wreath. To have both would be distracting and cause clutter. So while there may be some regret at missing the Advent wreath, we are able to concentrate our attention better on the wonder of the Nativity.

CHRISTMAS EVE 2019 - FAMILY MASS 6.00PM

Children are invited to participate in the telling of the story of the Nativity during the Family Mass on Christmas Eve. We will have a short rehearsal after 10am Mass on Sunday 15th and 22nd December. Children wishing to take part are asked to be at the Church on Christmas Eve at 5pm. All children are welcome to participate as



angels, shepherds and general townfolk. We do have costumes but if your child wishes to be a particular character, please feel free to create your own outfit. We look forward to seeing your child, grandchild or special friend. For further information, please contact Mary Parsissons on 0448 259 747 or mparsiss@bigpond.net.au.

OUR SICK - Please remember in your prayers:

Maila Beekmeijer, Lani Baron, Alida Beric, Nell Smith, Peter Drake, Eileen Sherrin, Don Ambler, Doreen Street, Fr Bob Curmi, Frances Direen, Anne Hansch, Tom Carty, Rodolfo Gonzales, Ken Young, Judy Pigden, Ian Irvine, Robert Campbell and Mary Dowd.

Prayers for the Deceased

Please remember in your prayers our deceased parishioners, family and friends especially Augusto Di Tommaso, Marie Knight, Esther Underwood, Gwen Foster, Graziano Ceron, Peter Crane, Stephen Cooper, Steven Stivicic, Stan Brach, John O'Brien, Kevin Walsh, Anna Zito, Lena Trzeciak, Peter Imlach and Lynn Priest. Eternal rest grant unto their souls O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace.

WEEKEND MASSES

St John's, Glenorchy

- 6.00pm Saturday
- 10.00am Sunday

St. Monica's, Chigwell

- 8.30am Sunday

WEEKDAY MASSES

St. John's, Glenorchy

- 9.00am Monday Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday
- 12.00pm Thursday

ROSARY

At St. John's, Glenorchy

- 8.40am every Saturday

RECONCILIATION

At St. John's, Glenorchy

- 9.30am & 5.15pm Sat.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND ROSARY

At St. John's, Glenorchy

- 8.00am Wednesday

LEGION OF MARY

at St. John's, Glenorchy

- 6.45 pm Every Tuesday

ST. JOSEPH'S PRAYER GROUP

at St. John's, Glenorchy

- 1st Wednesday of the month at 9.30am

COUNTERS' ROSTERS

This Week: 9 Dec

Linda Mondigo's Team

Next Week : 16 Dec

Roberta Puckett's Team

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Envelopes: \$ 1,044.90

Loose Plate: \$ 998.95

Direct Deposit: \$ 380.00

TOTAL: \$ 2,423.85

Week's Budget: \$ 2,500.00

Deficit \$ 76.15