

St Therese of Lisieux Catholic Parish



Moonah-Lutana

St Therese of Lisieux Church

In the care of Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (MSC)

Sunday, 22nd December, 2019

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A

*ST THERESE OF LISIEUX CATHOLIC PARISH MOONAH LUTANA
IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING A SAFE AND NURTURING CULTURE
FOR ALL PEOPLE IN OUR PARISH.*

DEEP INCARNATION – ANOTHER MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Some years ago at a religious conference a man approached the microphone and after apologising for what he felt would be an inappropriate question, asked this: “I love my dog. When he dies will he go to heaven? Do animals have eternal life?”

The answer to that might come as a surprise to many of us, but, looked at through the eyes of Christian faith, yes, his dog can go to heaven. It’s one of the meanings of Christmas. God came into the world to save the world, not just the people living in it. The incarnation has meaning for humanity, but also for the cosmos itself. We don’t know exactly what that means, and our imaginations aren’t up to the task of picturing it, but, because of the incarnation, dogs too can go to heaven. Is this fanciful? No, it’s scriptural teaching.

At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus and see in his birth the beginning of the mystery of the incarnation unfolding in history, the mystery of God becoming human in physical flesh in order to save the world. What we tend to struggle with though is how we understand what’s meant by Christ saving the world. Most of us take that to mean that Christ came into the world to save the people, those of us with self-awareness and eternal souls.

That’s true, but our faith also asks us to believe that God’s saving activity in the Christ extends to more than only human beings and more than even animals and other living things. God’s saving activity in Christ reaches so deep that it saves creation itself – the oceans, the mountains, the soil that grows our food, the desert sands, and the earth itself. Christ came to save all of those things too, not just us, the people.

Where, you might ask, does scripture teach this? It teaches it most everywhere in implicit ways though it teaches it quite explicitly in a number of different places. For example, in the Epistle to the Romans (8, 19-22) St. Paul writes: I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

This may come as a surprise to us since, until quite recently, our preaching and catechesis has not often made this explicit. However what St. Paul is saying here is that physical creation itself, the cosmic world, will, at the end of time, be transformed in some glorious way and enter into heaven, just as human beings do. He's also saying that, like us, it too somehow senses its mortality and groans to be set free from its present limits.

We need to ask ourselves this question? What do we believe will happen to physical creation at the end of time? Will it be destroyed, burnt-up, annihilated? Or, will it simply be abandoned and left empty and deserted like a stage after a play has ended, while we go on to life elsewhere? Scripture informs us otherwise, that is, it tells us that physical creation itself, our planet earth, will also be transformed ("liberated from its bondage to decay") and enter into heaven with us. How will this happen? We can't imagine it, just as we can't imagine our own transformed state. But scripture assures us that it will happen because, like ourselves, our world, physical creation, is also destined to die, and, like us, it intuitively senses its mortality and groans under that sentence, aching to be set free from its limitations and become immortal.

Science agrees. It tells us that physical creation is mortal, that the sun is burning out, that energy is ever-so-slowly decreasing and that the earth as we know it will some day die. The earth is as mortal as we are and so if it's to have a future it needs to be saved by Something or Someone from outside itself. That Something and Someone are revealed in the mystery of the incarnation within which God takes on physical flesh in Christ in order to save the world – and what he came to save was not just us, the people living on this earth, but rather, "the world", the planet itself, and everything on it.

Jesus assured us that nothing is ever ultimately lost. No hair falls from someone's head and no sparrow falls from the sky and simply disappears forever, as if it had never been. God created, loves, cares for, and ultimately resurrects every bit of creation for all eternity – including a beloved dog.

Fr Ron Rolheiser OMI ©

In the Heart of Jesus

Fr Mark Hanns MSC



NOTICES

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

The Mass times for Christmas and New Year are available in the Church Foyer.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL ASSIST-A-STUDENT

St Vincent de Paul Assist-a-Student is an education program aimed at breaking the cycle of poverty. If you are able to assist please see the brochures available in the church foyer.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held each Friday after the 12 noon Mass until 4:00pm in Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Chapel in the Parish Centre. **Please Note the blessed Sacrament will not be exposed on Friday 27th December.**

PARISH MEMORIAL BOOK

Our Parish Memorial Book is being updated. If you wish for your loved ones or family members to be included please give these to Deacon Michael, before the 20th January.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL POOR BOX

In the foyer of the Church is located the Saint Vincent de Paul poor box. All monies added to the poor box go directly to those who need assistance within the St Therese's Conference area.

VOLUNTEER ROSTERS CHRISTMAS MASSES AND JANUARY

Volunteers for all Masses are needed for the Christmas Masses and throughout January. Sheets are available in Church foyer, if you could add your name to assist it would be appreciated.

2020 JOSEPHITE CALENDARS

The last few of the 2020 Josephite calendars are available for sale for just \$9.00. See Deacon Michael or Eva.

PARISH SUBSCRIPTION TO 'FORMED'

We're pleased to announce the availability of 'FORMED', an online service for accessing thousands of Catholic videos, audios and ebooks On Demand anytime, anywhere! As a parishioner, you will have access to entertaining movies, inspiring audio talks, informative bible studies, and much more. We are providing this resource free of charge to help our parishioners learn and grow in their faith. You will be able to easily access any featured content that we are promoting within our parish community from time to time. So please join us. Also once you have signed up, don't forget to download the free iOS or Android app to put 'FORMED' at your fingertips. We hope you will enjoy this incredible gift and please spread the word to others. To sign up for FREE, just visit us here: <https://sttheresemoonahlutana.formed.org> then click "Register now" and follow the prompts for your own access to all 'FORMED' content on demand. If any parishioner has a personal 'FORMED' account, you might consider cancelling it, using the parish one and donating what you save towards the parish account. If you have any issue please see Deacon Michael on 0438 243 533.

PIETY SHOP

To the left of the statue of Saint Therese in the Church foyer, is located the Parish Piety Shop. The Piety Shop sells a range of cards, birthday, baptism, confirmation etc. and other religious items. All proceeds go to Saint Vincent de Paul. We have received a supply of Christmas Cards for sale.

2020 MSC MISSION CALENDARS

The 2020 MSC Mission calendars are available in the Church foyer. The calendars are free, but if you would like to make a donation to MSC Missions please place into the collection bucket beside the calendars.

FAREWELL CLERGY LUNCH FOR FR MARK

A farewell clergy luncheon will be held in the Parish on Saturday, 11th January 2020. If anyone would like to help in preparing and serving the lunch, please see Deacon Michael.

PLENARY COUNCIL DELEGATES

The Archdiocese of Hobart has been asked to send two delegates to the Plenary Council General Assembly in October 2020 and June 2021. Delegates can be both from Clergy and Laity. If you wish to be considered as a delegate, please contact the Archbishop's office by email: archbishop.assistant@aohtas.org.au by no later 25 January 2020.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE CRAFT SHOP

Looking for some beautifully handmade Christmas gifts? Catholic Women's League Craft Shop, 108 Bathurst Street, Mather's Lane. Open 10:00am – 3:00pm.

ROOM TO RENT MOONAH

Maria Luu has a room to rent at 96 Albert Road, Moonah. If you know someone who might be interested call Maria on 0409 496 278.

COMMUNITY ROOM LIBRARY

The Community Room library is available for borrowing (and returning) of books. All books have been stamped and a coloured dot. If you would like to borrow a book please record into the borrowing book with your name and phone number and when returning place a line through your entry. We unfortunately don't require any more books for the library at this point in time, Thank You.

IMMACULATA MISSION SCHOOL 2020

The Immaculate Mission School 2020 is a ten day live-in formation school for young people. From 1st -10th January, 2020, at The Glennie School, Toowoomba. It is open to 15 -35 year olds. The cost is \$450 (cost includes all accommodation, food, speakers and activities). **For more info or to register:** www.sistersoftheimmaculata.org.au/ims.

MADE FOR EACH OTHER SUMMER SCHOOL: JANUARY 20-24 IN HOBART

The Made for Each Other Summer School will be held from January 20-24, 2020 at St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart. It will be a unique event for young Catholics aged 18-35. The Summer School will offer a series of lectures from a well-qualified faculty, group discussions, field trips, prayer time and social occasions to create a unique experience of the beauty, goodness and truth of the Church's teaching on relationships, sexuality, marriage and the family. For more information please contact Ben Smith on 6208 6036 or ben.smith@aohtas.org.au. A web page with detailed information on the event can be viewed at: www.bit.ly/2oCtnOU.

GOD WITH US

Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24

Research has revealed that babies dream through their time in their mother's womb and then they continue to dream in the long hours that they sleep as young children. As we get older, dreams become shorter. But they are no less significant. People tend to think that dreams are just a waste of time. Why record one's dreams? Why worry about one's dreams?

In the Scriptures, dreams are a common way of God's revelation. Israel dreamed about the future of the nation. Joseph was a great interpreter of dreams. Because of this, he was able to receive his whole family into Egypt and have them welcomed in a foreign country.

This Sunday's gospel presents the first of four dreams that Joseph, the husband of Mary, has. In this dream it is revealed to him the role he has to play in the life of the Messiah. The other three dreams are: (a). that he is to take Mary and the child into Egypt (2:13); (b). that he is to bring them back from Egypt because it is now safe (2:19-20); and (c). that he is to settle in Galilee rather than Judea. (2:22).

This first dream reveals that Joseph is not 'to be afraid to take Mary into his home as his wife. Hence we are at the moment of Jesus' conception. There is a definite relationship between the Holy Spirit and the conception of Jesus. 'It is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her.' Joseph is faced with a dilemma. His betrothed wife is pregnant and the Jewish law states that she is to be stoned to death. Joseph's response is one of compassion. He decides 'to divorce her quietly.' Joseph is the compassionately righteous man.

Righteousness in the Old Testament means to conduct oneself in accordance with the law. Since God is the giver of the Law, to seek righteousness is to seek God (Is 51:1). In acting this way, Joseph found the Son of God present in Mary's womb. This is Emmanuel – God with us. When we conduct ourselves rightly, we find God.

Noel Mansfield, msc ©

READINGS

24th December, 2019

The Mass during the Night

FIRST READING: (Isaiah 9:1-7)

A son is given to us.

PSALM: (Psalm 95:1-3, 11-13)

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

SECOND READING: (Titus 2:11-14)

God's grace has been revealed to all people.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (Luke 2:10-11)

Alleluia!, Alleluia!

Good News and great joy to all the world; today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: (Luke 2:1-14)

Today a saviour has been born for you.

25th December, 2019

The Mass during the Day

FIRST READING: (Isaiah 52:7-10)

All the ends of the earth shall see the saving power of our God.

PSALM: (Psalm 97:1-6)

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

SECOND READING: (Hebrews 1:1-6)

In our own time, God speaks to us through his Son.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia!, Alleluia!

A holy day has dawned upon us.

Come, you nations and adore the Lord.

Today a great light has come upon the earth.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: (John 1:1-18)

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory.

THE WAY TO ST JAMES PILGRIMAGE 2020

The Way to St James Pilgrimage is on again in 2020, and [registrations are now open](#).

Inspired by the famous Spanish El Camino of St James this two day pilgrim walk will take you through the scenic and peaceful Huon Valley to a celebration at the Spanish mission styled Church of St James, nestled in the heart of Cygnet.

Through fellowship, reflection, rejoicing and ritual you will find an opportunity to reconnect with the spiritual dimensions of your life.

The pilgrimage commences on Saturday 11th January 2020 at 10.30am from the Mountain River Community Hall, and finishes on Sunday 12th January 2020 at approx. 5pm at St James Church, Cygnet in the midst of the wonderful Cygnet Folk Festival.

For further details, and to register go to: www.waytostjames.com.au

Or visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/waytostjamescygnet/>

STEWARDSHIP

“When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.” (Matthew 1:24)

Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may lead us. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Envelopes: \$ 1,407.00

Loose: \$ 1,149.20

TOTAL: \$ **2,556.20**

Week's Pledged Collections:

\$ 2,538.00

Difference \$ 18.20

Thank You!

LET US PRAY FOR

The Sick

Thanh Huynh, Shirley Lehner, Olga Woods, Susan Wilson, Lise Levaque, Mary Hughes, Drina Paradzik, Jay Jennings, Tony Dalton, Elsa Bazan, Bev Murray, Kayden Edwards, Lorna Brazendale, Leo Manning, Jan Grubb, Alicia Stroud, Aileen Jones, Paddi McDonald, Peter van Loggerenberg, Joe Higgins, Gracie Manson.

Anniversaries

Mark Davey, Fr Kevin Graydon, Von Jenkins, Zofia Jablonski, Augustyn Celny, Arthur Manning, Paul Duggan, Josephine (Betty) Taylor, Iris Daley, Bruce Malm, Tom Aiken, Stan Ryan, Barbara McMaster, John B. Driessen, Fredrick Harry Butler, Gilles Jacobus Stokman, Ernie McGuinness, Iris Burnett, Annie Winifred Williams, Stefan Chrost, Wladyslaw Dorzdz, Geoffrey Brazendale, Oliver John (Jack) Baker, Herminio Gabriel, Nellie Cashion, Anna Catharina Stokman, Charles John Devereux, Eileen Hardinge, Anna Balazs, Reginald Herbert Watson, Wasyl Haluszak, Harold Vivian Halton, Jan (John) Rakowski, Susane Hansch, Jean Mary Round, Michael Duggan, Nancy Mackey, Aleksander Cisak, Pauline Sikora, Violet Monaghan, Mary Hinds, Jadwiga Wyrwa, Fr John Northey, Gladys Haney, Alicja Krawczyk, James Francis Coad, Janet Jones, Janina Sadkowski, Claude James Coad.

Recently Deceased

PARISH OFFICE AND PRESBYTERY

24 Hopkins Street, Moonah

PO Box 819, Moonah 7009

Phone: 03 9412 8471

Email: moonahlutana@aohtas.org.au

Web: <http://cdtas.org.au/moonah>

Facebook: [StTherese OfLisieux](#)

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday & Friday

9:30am - 4:30pm,

Parish Priest: Fr Mark Hanns MSC

Phone: 03 9412 8472

Email: pastormoonahlutana@aohtas.org.au

Deacon: Deacon MSC Michael Hangan

Phone: 03 9412 8471

Mobile: 0438 243 533

Email: michael.hangan@aohtas.org.au

Polish Chaplain: Fr Jozef Migacz SChr

Phone: 03 9412 8429

Mobile: 0407 785 721

Email: polishchaplainmoonah@aohtas.org.au

ST THERESE'S SCHOOL

24 Hopkins Street, Moonah

Phone: 03 6272 1403

Principal: Mrs Fran Bearman

Email: sttherese@catholic.tas.edu.au

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 11:00am-11:30am

BAPTISMS AND MARRIAGES:

By appointment

ARCHDIOCESAN WEBSITE:

www.hobart.catholic.org.au

SAFE COMMUNITIES:

<https://hobart.catholic.org.au/content/safe-communities>

TOWARDS HEALING HELPLINE:

Phone: 1800 356 613

SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICE:

Phone: 03 6231 1811 (Day) (Hobart) or
1800 697 877 (24/7)

03 6334 2740 (Day) (Launceston)

PLENARY COUNCIL:

<http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au>

READINGS

21st/22nd December, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Advent

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: (Isaiah 45:8)

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a
Saviour.

FIRST READING: (Isaiah 7:10-14)

The virgin will conceive.

PSALM: (Psalm 23:1-6)

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

SECOND READING: (Romans 1:1-7)

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the
Son of God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (Matthew 1:23)

Alleluia!, Alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;
his name will be Emmanuel: God-is-with-us.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: (Matthew 1:18-24)

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of
Joseph, a son of David.

MASS TIMES

Monday 23rd to Sunday 29th December
2019

	English	Polish
Monday	9:15am	
Tuesday	6:30pm 9:00pm	9:00am 11:00pm
Wednesday	9:00am	10:45am
Thursday	9:15am	10:45am
Friday	12:00 noon	9:00am
Saturday	6:30pm	
Sunday	9:00am 4:30pm	10:45am

READINGS/ROSTERS

28th/29th December, 2019

*The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and
Joseph*

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: (Luke 2:16)

The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant
lying in a manger.

FIRST READING: (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14)

Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.

PSALM: (Psalm 127:1-5)

Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk
in his ways.

SECOND READING: (Colossians 3:12-21)

Concerning the Christian life in the world.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (Colossians 3:15, 16)

Alleluia!, Alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
and the fullness of his message live within
you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: (Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23)

Take the child and his mother, and flee to
Egypt.

Saturday 6:30pm

Readers Steve Randell,
Margaret Henderson

Ministers Donna Bone, Phil Blake

Projector Anne Thuringer

Sunday 9:00am

Readers Eva Hangan, Seena Sejan

Ministers Phyllis Nicoll, Silpa Cherpanath

Sick Fr Mark Hanns

Projector Izak Hangan

Sunday 4:30pm

Readers Carlene Larkin, Melissa Brown

Ministers Rexine & Gerard Synnott

Projector Daniel Duharte

Altar Nirmalee, Threesa K

Cleaning Fracalossi Family

Counters David Devereux, Joe Higgins