

St Therese of Lisieux Catholic Parish



Moonah-Lutana

St Therese of Lisieux Church

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

Sunday, 23rd December, 2018

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C

FROM THE PASTOR

THE DOUBLE MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas 2018

I've never been happy with some of my activist friends who send out Christmas cards with messages like: *May the Peace of Christ Disturb You!* Can't we have one day a year to be happy and celebrate without having our already unhappy selves shaken with more guilt? Isn't Christmas a time when we can enjoy being children again? Moreover, as Karl Rahner once said, isn't Christmas a time when God gives us permission to be happy? So why not?

Well, it's complex. Christmas is a time when God gives us permission to be happy, when the message from God speaks through the voice of Isaiah and says: "Comfort my people. Speak words of comfort!" But Christmas is also a time that points out that when God was born two thousand years ago there wasn't any room for him to be born in all the normal homes and places of the day. *There was no room for him at the inn.* Peoples' busy lives and expectations kept them from offering him a place to be born. That hasn't changed.

But first, the comfort of his birth: A number of years ago, I participated in a large diocesan synod. At one point the animator in charge had us divide into small groups and each group was asked to answer the question: What's the single most-important thing that the church should challenge the world with right now?

The groups reported back and each group named some important spiritual or moral challenge: "*We need to challenge our society towards more justice!*" "*We need to challenge the world to have real faith and not confuse God's word with its own wishes.*" "*We need to challenge our world towards a more responsible sexual ethos. We've lost our way!*" Wonderful, needed challenges, all of them. But no group came back and said: "*We need to challenge the world to receive God's consolation!*" Granted, there's a lot of injustice, violence, racism, sexism, greed, selfishness, sexual irresponsibility, and self-serving faith around; but most of the adults in our world are also living in a lot of pain, anxiety, disappointment, loss, depression, and unresolved guilt. Everywhere you look, you see heavy hearts. Moreover, so many people living with hurt and disappointment do not see God and the church as an answer to their pain but rather as somehow part of its cause.

So our churches, in preaching God's word, need first of all to assure the world of God's love, God's concern, and God's forgiveness. Before doing anything else, God's word is meant to comfort us; indeed, to be the ultimate source of all comfort. Only when the world knows God's consolation will it accept the concomitant challenge.

FROM THE PASTOR

And that challenge, among others, is to then make room for Christ at the inn, that is, to open our hearts, our homes, and our world as places where Christ can come and live. From the safe distance of two thousand years we too easily make a scathing judgment on the people at the time of Jesus' birth for not knowing what Mary and Joseph were carrying, for not making a proper place for Jesus to be born, and for not recognising him as Messiah afterwards. How could they be so blind? But that same judgment is still being made of us. We aren't exactly making room in our own inns.

When a new person is born into this world, he or she takes a space where before there was no one. Sometimes that new person is warmly welcomed and a cosy, loving space is instantly created and everyone around is happy for this new invasion. But that isn't always the case; sometimes, as was the case with Jesus, there is no space created for the new person to enter the world and his or her presence is unwelcome.

We see this today (and this will constitute a judgment on our generation) in the reluctance, almost all over the world, to welcome new immigrants, to make room for them at the inn. The United Nations estimates that there are 19.5 million refugees in the world today, persons whom no one will welcome. Why not? We are not bad people and we are capable most times of being wonderfully generous. But letting this flood of immigrants enter our lives would disturb us. Our lives would have to change. We would lose some of our present comforts, many of our old familiarities, and some of our securities.

We are not bad people, neither were those innkeepers two thousand years ago who, not knowing what was unfolding, in inculpable ignorance, turned Mary and Joseph away. I've always nursed a secret sympathy for them. Maybe because I am still, unknowingly, doing exactly what they did. A friend of mine is fond of saying: "I'm against more immigrants being allowed in ... now that we're in!"

The peace of Christ, the message inside of Christ's birth, and the skewed circumstances of his birth, if understood, cannot but disturb. May they also bring deep consolation.

Fr Ron Rolheiser OMI ©

In the heart of Christ

Fr Mark Hanns MSC



EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held each Friday after Mass until 5:00pm in the Parish Centre Chapel.

THINKING ABOUT BECOMING CATHOLIC?

You are invited to join a group of like-minded people, who are thinking about becoming Catholic. If you are interested please see Fr Mark.

COMMUNITY ROOM LIBRARY

The Community Room library is now available for borrowing (and returning) of books. All books have been stamped and a coloured dot will be added shortly. 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.

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.

PIETY SHOP

The Piety Shop sells a range of cards, birthday, baptism, confirmation etc. and other religious items. All proceeds go to assist the MSC Missions.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Children's Christmas Vigil Mass

6:00pm Carols

6:30pm Mass

Midnight Christmas Mass

10:00pm Mass (Polish)

Midnight Christmas Mass

11:30pm Carols

12:00 midnight Mass

Christmas Day Mass

9:00am Mass

Christmas Day Mass

10:45am Mass (Polish)

PARISH MEMORIAL BOOK

Our Parish Memorial Book is about to be updated. Please forward the names of family members whom you would like included, to Deacon Michael, before 20th January.

VOLUNTEER MINISTERIES

With the holiday period close, rosters for Communion Ministers and Lectors will not be operating. Volunteers are sought during this time. If you would like to assist the Parish during this time please add your names to the sheets located in the foyer.

MATRIMONIUM SUMMER SCHOOL

A deep dive into God's plan for sexuality and marriage for young adults. Monday, 21st January to Friday, 25th January 2019, at Jane Franklin Hall, South Hobart. Speakers include Professor Tracey Rowland, Dr Kevin Donnelly and Anna Krohn. For more information call Ben Smith on 03 6208 6036.

NEW TESTAMENT GREEK COURSE

Dr David Daintree of the Christopher Dawson Centre, in association with the Verbum Domini Institute, will offer an intensive course in the *koine* Greek of the New Testament. **Where:** Diocesan Centre, 35 Tower Rd, New Town. **When:** 21-25 January, 9am-3pm daily. **Cost:** \$100 plus textbook (pensioner concession available). **Registrations and information:** Dr David Daintree on 0408 879 494, or dccdain@gmail.com



We're inviting all young people to an Aussie World Youth Day celebration which will be on during the Australia Day weekend in January! The Aussie Fest will be held at St Mary's Cathedral hall (and outdoor area) on Sunday 27 January and will be a chance to celebrate all that is Australian in the context of World Youth Day. The point of this celebration is to give young people in Tasmania the chance to be a part of the World Youth Day which will be on at the same time in Panama! We will get to celebrate along with all the Aussies over there through live music, video, free BBQ, prayer, talks and plenty more! We will also have live streaming of the WYD event with the Pope in Panama where we will see exactly what the Tassie pilgrims have been up to and join in the festivities with them. Along with this, we will also welcome our own local pilgrim, Sam Clear, who will speak to us about his adventures in walking around the world for Christian unity. More info on the event can be found at our Facebook page below: <https://www.facebook.com/events/328284518009815/>

ST THERESE'S CATHOLIC TENNIS CLUB

St Therese's Catholic Tennis Club continues to enjoy tennis at the Domain Tennis Centre each Tuesday and Friday morning, Tuesday and Thursday afternoon and on the fourth Sunday of the month (afternoon). Contact Ros Williams on 0407 838 367.

STEWARDSHIP

"For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy." LUKE 1:44

When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading each Sunday, do you "leap for joy?" If not, don't blame the lecturer or priest, rather look inside yourself. Do you prepare for Mass each week or do you just show up and expect to be entertained? We are called to be active participants, not passive by-standers.

PLENARY COUNCIL PRAYER

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.
 Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.
 O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.
 Give us the grace to see your face in one another and recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.
 Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth.
 Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.
 Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel.
 Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age.
 Amen.
 Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.
 St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.





Make an Encounter in 2019

Palms Encounters are rich immersions that challenge perceptions of our neighbours, guided by Palms mission volunteers with cultural experience of Timor Leste, Myanmar and Samoa.

Timor Leste- April & Sept
Samoa - June
Myanmar- November

www.palms.org.au/encounters

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Envelopes: \$ 1,693.30

Loose: \$ 851.00

TOTAL: \$ 2,544.30

Week's Budget Collections:

\$ 2,538.00

Difference \$ 6.30

Thank You!

"GOD, HERE I AM!"

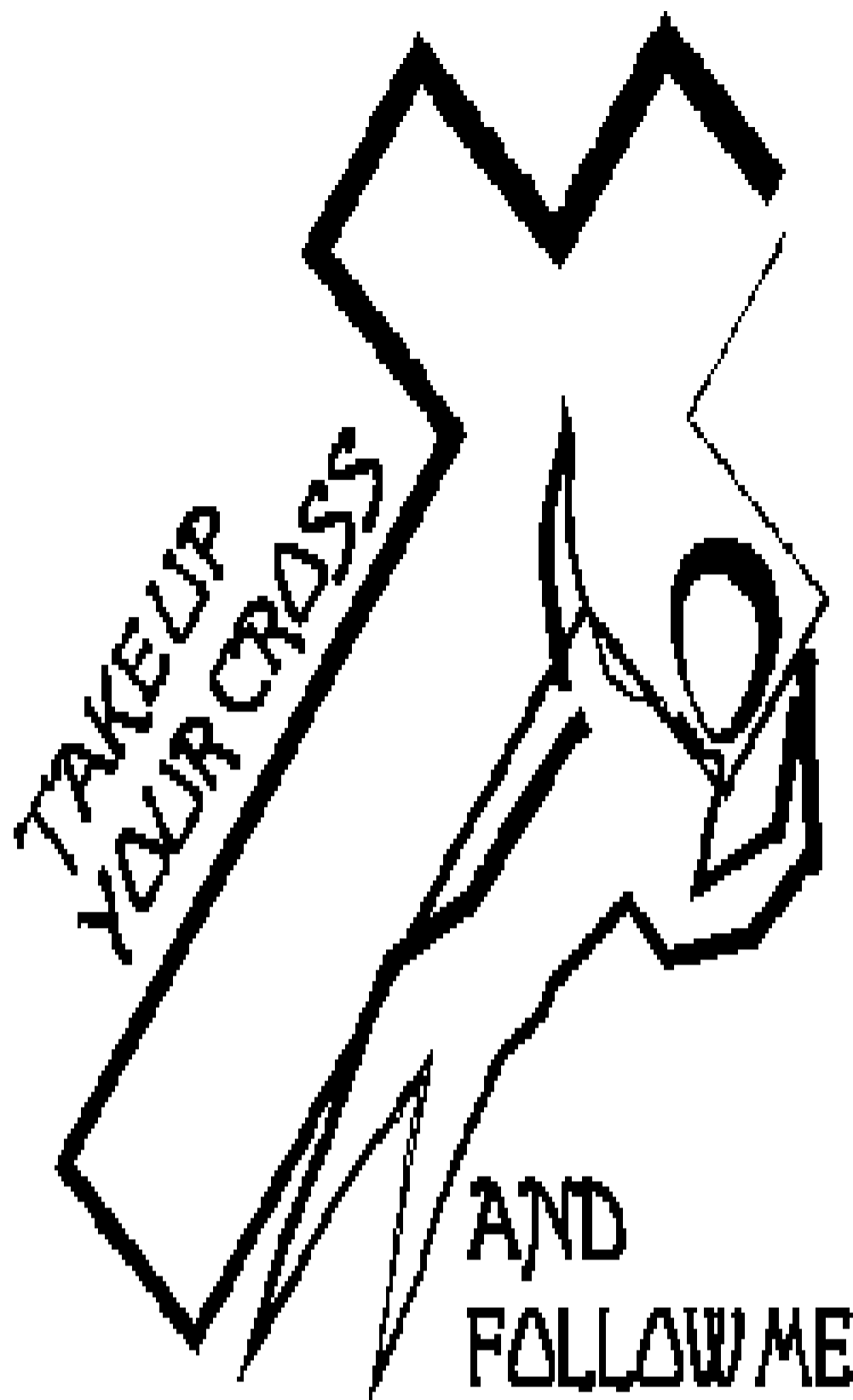
Luke 1:39-45

As Christmas comes around each year, people say: "There are so many things to be done. I don't know how I will fit them all in. There are presents to be bought, cards to be written, meals to be cooked. How can I get all these things done?" Yet there is only one thing to do and that is the will of God. So why are we so stressed?

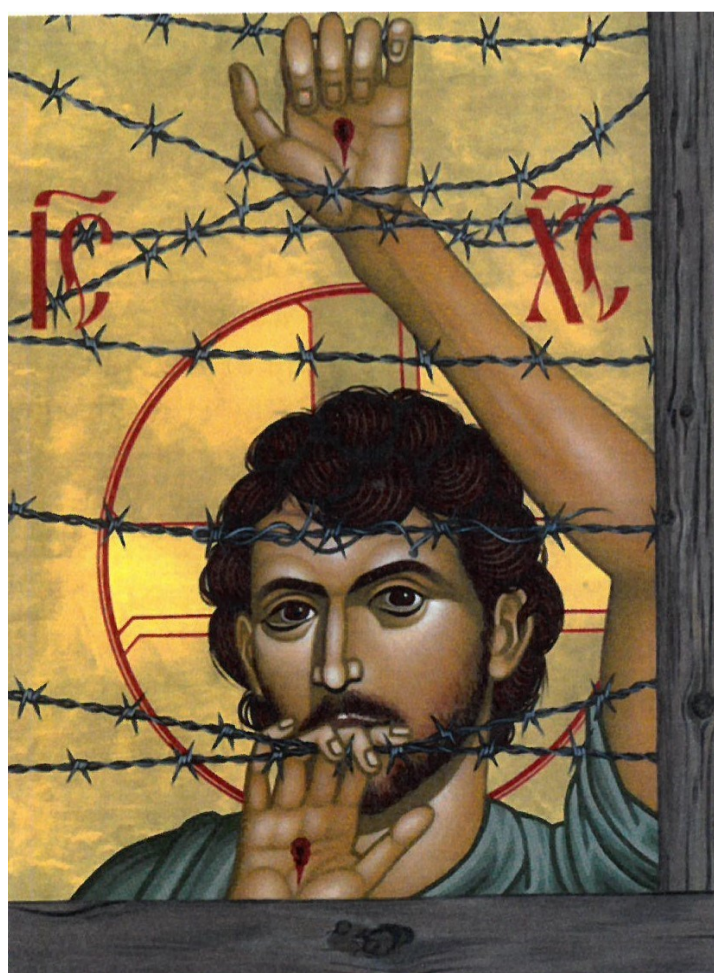
Jesus took on our human nature and became like us in all things. He knew what it was like to be under pressure, to have people constantly calling on him, to have his friends lose heart, to have religious leaders opposed to him, to be falsely accused. When he was pressured, he went off to pray. This does not mean that he said a lot of prayers. It means he went off to lonely places to spend time with his Father. There he was able to focus his attention on what his Father wanted him to do.

Mary had the same attitude. She had just received astounding news that she was to have a child. Then the angel told her that Elizabeth was pregnant. Instead of waiting, she was proactive. She went as quickly as she could to be with Elizabeth. Everything else in her life was set aside so she could do this one thing. Elizabeth appreciated her visit: Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?

Our God is a God of justice. He sends us the help we need in our difficult times, even though we may not recognise that this help comes from God. The Eternal Word of God took flesh in our world, pitched his tent in our community, when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of God's plan. This is a time for inclusion and restoring right relationships. We are challenged to be aware of the range of gifts, experiences and resources that we have ourselves and also those that our fellow parishioners have. We need to seek opportunities that enable us to learn how to share what we have in abundance: talents, time and resources.



'You must forget yourself, carry your cross, and follow me.' Mark 8:34



Christ on the Margins

The icon does not make clear which side of the fence Christ is on.

Is he imprisoned or are we?

Through our cultural institutions and personal lives we all place barriers between ourselves and true happiness.

We and our institutions also try to imprison Christ in various ways, to tame him

and the dangerous memories he would bring us of our goals and ideals. Christ on the Margins cannot be tamed.

Robert Lentz ofm

LET US PRAY FOR

The Sick

Thanh Huynh, Shirley Lehner, Susan Wilson, Josh Stokes, Lise Levaque, Mary Hughes, Drina Paradzik, Olga Woods, Jay Jennings, Tony Dalton, Elsa Bazan, Bev Murray, Kayden Edwards, Marie Morrisby, Lorna Brazendale, Leo Manning, Felicity Matthews, Marie Knight, Alicia Stroud, Will van Luxemborg, Peter van Loggerenberg, Jan Grubb, Fr Kazimierz Bojda.

Anniversaries

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 Haley, Alicja Krawczyk, James Francis Coad, Janet Jones, Janina Sadkowski, Claude James Coad, Kathleen Mary Wood, Carol Trojan, Joshua Flack, Otto Fritz, Jadwiga Dmuchowski, Marianna Gladysz, Paul Taylor, Elizabeth Ann Rakowski, Teresita Gabriel Despacio, Fr Vincent Dwyer, Fr Patrick Moloney, Hedley Hodgetts, Richard Daniel Coad, Camden Cashion, Wilhelm Waiser, Charles Burnett, David Curtin.

Recently Deceased

Geoff Goss, Christopher Reeves.

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>

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday & Friday

9:00am - 5:00pm,

Parish Priest: Fr Mark Hanns MSC

Phone: 03 9412 8472

Email:

pastormoonahlutana@aohtas.org.au

Deacon: Rev Michael Hangan

Phone: 0438 243 533

Email: michael.hangan@aohtas.org.au

Polish Chaplain: Fr Kazimierz Bojda SChr

Phone: 03 9412 8429

Email:

polishchaplainmoonah@aohtas.org.au

ST THERESE'S SCHOOL

24 Hopkins Street, Moonah

Phone: 03 6272 1403

Principal: Mr Cameron Brown

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

PLENARY COUNCIL:

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

READINGS

23rd December, 2018

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year C

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

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: (Micah 5:1-4)

Out of you will be born the one who is to
rule over Israel.

PSALM: (Psalm 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19)

Lord, make us turn to you;
let us see your face and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING: (Hebrews 10: 5-10)

I am coming to do you will.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (Luke 1: 38)

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: (Luke 1:39-44)

Why should it happen that I am honoured
with a visit from the mother of my Lord?

MASS TIMES

Monday 24th to Sunday 30th December
2018

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

READINGS/ROSTERS

30th December, 2018

*The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and
Joseph - Year C*

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

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

FIRST READING: (1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28)

For the whole of his life, Samuel shall be lent
to the Lord.

PSALM: (Psalm 83:2-3, 5-6, 9-10)

How happy they who dwell in your house,
O Lord.

SECOND READING: (1 John 3: 1-2, 21-24)

He calls you his own children, and that is what
you are.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (Acts 16:14)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: (Luke 2:41-52)

His parents found him in the temple, sitting
among the learned men.

Saturday 6:30pm

*Readers Daniel Watson,
Margaret Henderson*

Ministers Gerry McGushin, Steve Randell

Projector Alec Avellana

Sunday 9:00am

*Readers Marie Anders,
Peter van Loggerenberg*

Ministers Rexine & Gerard Synnott

Sick Gerard Synnott

Projector Melissa Philp

Sunday 4:30pm

Readers Kerrie Morrisby, Bill Jacob

Ministers Marj Smith, Carol Kitt

Projector Melissa Brown

Altar Polish Community

Cleaning Fracalossi Family

Counters David Devereux & Joe Higgins