

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: To you I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

A reading from the Book of Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, 'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down! – at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand. *The Word of the Lord.*

Responsorial Psalm

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

O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne. O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help. **R/.**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. **R/.**

May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. **R/.**

A reading from the First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 1:3-9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. Thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful. *The Word of the Lord.*

Gospel Acclamation:

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

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake! *The Gospel of the Lord.*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase. 84:13



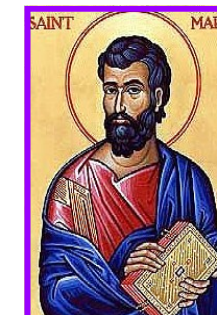
Weekly Parish Newsletter

Bollettino Parrocchiale Settimanale

Volume XVIII - Issue - 49th – FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT "Year B" 3rd December 2023

The Parish Community of St. Brigid and St. Mark
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We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently on this land.

Homily notes:

Advent is the time when the Church longs for the coming of the Lord. In this longing the Church looks in two directions. Backward to the Lord's first coming as a child born to Mary in Bethlehem; forward to his second coming at the end of time.

LONGING FOR THE SAVIOUR

So, despite our belief that the Messiah has come and our awareness of all the gifts we enjoy as a result, we can identify with the people of the Old Testament who longed for the coming of a saviour. We long for the (second) coming of the Saviour as they longed for the first. In the words of the prophets and the psalms, we can find an expression of our own longing that the work of salvation is made complete. What the statements about the Lord's coming, in all their richness of imagery and symbol, communicate is the truth that our lives and indeed the whole of history stand under the eventual judgment of God and that the Crucified One, now risen Lord, remains the criterion of what true human existence should be. His grace and his power continually knock at the door of our lives, seeking to move us along his way. It is this sense of the Lord's coming that the Advent season proclaims and celebrates.

The readings for the First Sunday of Advent this year begin with a passage from the final part of the Book of Isaiah (63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8). The passage expresses strongly a longing for salvation yet to be achieved. The return of Israel from Exile in Babylon had been far from the expectations aroused by prophecies found earlier in the Book (chapters 40-55).

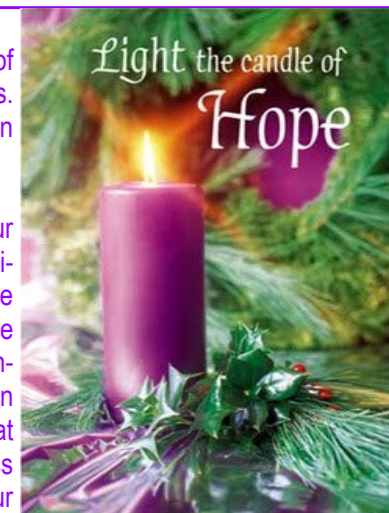
SALVATION HAS 'COME DOWN'

Halfway through the passage (64:1), we hear a strong Advent plea: 'O, that you would tear open the heavens and come down'. The Synoptic accounts of Jesus' baptism offer a clear response to this plea. As he emerges from the water, 'the heavens' are 'torn apart' (Mark 1:10) and the Spirit descends in the form of a dove, and he hears the Father's voice, 'You are my Son, the Beloved' (v. 11). The longed-for salvation has begun to 'come down'. The Gospel, Mark 13:33-37, features a brief parable – really simply an extended image – from the end of the long discourse on the future that Jesus gives to his disciples just before his Passion. The householder who goes on his travels gives instructions to all his servants, but the focus of the parable lies on the one charged to watch the door.

ALWAYS ON THE LOOKOUT

The master expects to be welcomed when he returns. Everyone else may sleep, but this servant must stay awake at night, always on the lookout for the master's coming. Believers are like that servant: 'gatekeepers' for the coming of the Lord. The rest of the world may 'sleep', but we are 'children of light and of the day' (1 Thess 5:5), our lives bathed in the dawning light of the risen Lord and enriched by the hope of his final coming.

Excerpts from Fr Brendan Byrne SJ, 23 November 2023
<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au>



Riflessione

L'anno B del ciclo triennale delle letture è l'anno di Marco. Si parte dal punto in cui terminerà la penultima settimana dell'anno, con l'annuncio del ritorno di Cristo: "Allora vedranno il Figlio dell'uomo venire sulle nubi con grande potenza e gloria". A prima vista, ciò può sembrare strano ed illogico. Invece, nella liturgia, c'è un'estrema sottigliezza nell'effettuare il cambiamento di tono: la nostra attenzione, che nelle ultime settimane era centrata sul giudizio e sulla fine del mondo, si sposta ora sul modo di accogliere Cristo: non con paura, ma con impazienza, proprio come un servo che attende il ritorno del padrone. In quanto preparazione al Natale, l'Avvento deve essere un tempo di attesa nella gioia. San Paolo interpreta il nostro periodo d'attesa come un tempo in cui dobbiamo testimoniare Cristo: "Nessun dono di grazia più vi manca, mentre aspettate la manifestazione del Signore nostro Gesù Cristo".

Estratti da <https://www.lachiesa.it>, 29/11/2023

Fr Ignacio Gutierrez, CS, the provincial superior of the Scalabrinians, is with us in the parish this weekend for his Canonical Visitation. We welcome him in our Parish

ADVENT PREPARATION
2nd Rite of Reconciliation (communal celebration) on Friday, 8th December 2023 at 6.30pm to 8.00pm

Entrance:

O COME DIVINE MESSIAH

O come, divine Messiah!
The world in silence waits the day
When hope shall sing its triumph,
And sadness flee away.

Ref:

*Dear Saviour haste;
Come, come to earth,
Dispel the night and show
your face,
And bid us hail the dawn of grace.
O come, divine Messiah!
The world in silence waits the day
When hope shall sing its triumph,
And sadness flee away.*

O Christ, whom nations sigh for,
Whom priest and prophet long foretold,
Come break the captive's fetters;
Redeem the long-lost fold. **(ref)**

You come in peace and meekness,
And lowly will your cradle be;
All clothed in human weakness
Shall we your Godhead see. **(ref)**

Offertory

**LORD
PREPARE ME**

Lord prepare me
to be a sanctuary
pure and holy
tried and true...

With thanksgiving
I'll be a living
sanctuary
for you...

Tune: Text and music:
John Thompson &
Randy Scuggs.
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Communion WAITING IN SILENCE

Waiting in silence, waiting in hope,
we are your people, we long for you, Lord.
Lord God, ever with us, Emmanuel.
Come Lord Jesus. Maranatha!

Waiting in silence, waiting in hope,
we are your people, we trust in your love.
O Sun of Justice, true Prince of Peace,
Come with your justice, Lord. Maranatha!

Waiting in silence, waiting in hope,
we are your people, Lord, we seek your truth.
Wisdom Incarnate, teach us your way;
Show us the path of life. Maranatha!

Waiting in silence, waiting in hope,
we are your people, we long for new life.
O Key of David, open our hearts.
Give us new vision, Lord. Maranatha!

Waiting in silence, waiting in hope,
we are your people, our hearts thirst for you.
Flower of Jesse, bloom in our midst.
Make us your garden, Lord. Maranatha!
Make us your garden, Lord. Maranatha!

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Final :

**COME THOU LONG
EXPECTED JESUS**

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set Thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth Thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.


Born Thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now Thy gracious kingdom bring.

By Thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by Thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to Thy glorious throne.



The Missionaries of St. Charles Borromeo - Scalabrinians - www.Scalabrini.org
Ministering to the Parish and Migrants in St. Brigid since 1959

2 Liturgical Calendar and activities

| Day of the Week | Liturgical Celebration | Intention St. Mark | Intention St. Brigid | Parish Activity |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| SATURDAY/SABATO 2nd December, 2023 Year "B" First Sunday of Advent "VIGIL" | <i>"Be on your guard, stay awake; because you do not know when the time will come".</i> | Wedding Celebration for Maria CASTRO Doug COX Congratulations! | 6.00pm Gaetano and Carmelina CAFARELLA 7.00pm Mass (Spanish) | Baptism Celebrations for: Frida DOMAC Eden Frankie FEWTRELL Congratulations! |
| SUNDAY/DOMENICA 3rd December 2023 Year "B" First Sunday of Advent | <i>"Fate attenzione, vegliate, perché non sapete quando è il momento".</i> | 8:30am 10:00 am (Portuguese) | 9.45am 11.00am Jenny GANNON LA MARCA Vincenza & Vincenzo TRIGILA Vito PANETTA Maria Francesca GARONE Anna Rita PANETTA Amelia D'AMELIO | Baptism Celebrations for: Munet ZEKARIAS Lucas NASR Congratulations! |
| Monday/Lunedì "Year B" 1st week of Advent 4th December 2023 Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11 | <i>Responsorial Psalm Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.</i> | | 9.15am Mass in the chapel | |
| Tuesday/Martedì Year "B" 1st week of Advent 5th December 2023 Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24 | <i>Responsorial Psalm Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.</i> | | 9:15am Mass in the chapel | |
| Wednesday/Mercoledì 1st week of Advent "Year B" 6th December 2023 Is 25:6-10; Mt 15:29-37 | <i>Responsorial Psalm I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.</i> | | 9.15am Mass in the chapel 7.30pm Mass in honour to Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Filipino Chaplaincy) |  |
| Thursday/Giovedì Year "B" 7th December 2023 Saint Ambrose Is 26: 1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27 | <i>Responsorial Psalm Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.</i> | | 9.15am Mass in the chapel Saint Ambrose | |
| Friday/Venerdì Year "B" 8th December 2023 Gen 3:9-15,20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38 Immaculate Conception | <i>Responsorial Psalm Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous deeds.</i> | | 9.15am Mass in the chapel The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary | |


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| <p>NEW SET OF WEEKLY ENVELOPES Please pick up your new set of weekly thanksgiving envelopes. New contributors most welcome! See Fr. Frank or ring the parish office.</p> <p>NUOVE SERIE DI BUSTINE OFFERTE SETTIMANALE Per favore prendete le nuove serie di bustine per la vostra offerta settimanale. Se qualcuno vorrebbe contribuire, per favore date il vostro nome a P. Frank oppure telefonate in ufficio.</p> | <p>Intercultural Mass & Dinner is on Saturday, 16th December 2023 at 6:00pm. Please contact the parish office for RSVP by 15th December 2023</p> | <p>We will have raffle tickets to raise money for the new carpet. The raffles will be drawn on our Parish Feast Day, 18th February 2024. Thank you for your loving support.</p> |
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| <p>Parish Community Parish Priest: Fr. Fransiskus (Frank) Yangmint,cs Fr. Vito Pegolo, CS & Migrant Chaplain to the Italian Community: Tel: 0419 736 890</p> | <p>Parish Office Monday to Friday 9.00am - 3.30pm Parish Secretary Giovanna Bellissimo & Maggy Mihardja Tel: (03) 9489 6777</p> | <p>Comunidad Pastoral De Habla Hispana Chaplain Fr. Gesner Felix, CS Tel: (03) 9482 5362 Mob: 0432 214 910</p> | <p>Comunidade Pastoral De Expressão Portuguesa Chaplain P. Fabio Esteban Duque Sepulveda, CS Mob: 0410 001 462</p> | <p>Filipino Pastoral Community Chaplain Mons. Joselito Asis Tel: (03) 9482 5349 Mob: 0404 261 228</p> |
|--|--|---|---|--|

3 Parish News... Notizie di casa nostra...

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|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 9th & 10th December 2023 | 6pm (V)St.Brigid | 8.30am St.Mark | 9.45am S. Brigid | 11am (It) St. Brigid |
| I Reading & Resp. Psalm | M. De Souza | G. Piantella | J. Santos | G. Catena |
| II Reading | M. De Souza | G. Piantella | A. Senduk | P. La Marca |
| Prayers of the Faithful | M. De Souza | G. Piantella | C. Goodson | T. Toscano |
| Altar Servers | | | J. D'Souza | |

Online Giving: If anyone wishes to make a donation online to the parish this is the link to [St. Brigid's Parish North Fitzroy](https://melbourne.cdfpay.org.au/details/?id=622453) or you can scan the bar code and it will take you straight to the link.

 <https://melbourne.cdfpay.org.au/details/?id=622453>

CHRISTMAS MASS TIME TABLE 2023 ORARIO DELLE MESSE DEL S. NATALE 2023

ST. BRIGID'S AND ST MARK'S CHRISTMAS VIGIL - Sunday 24th Dec.

8.30am St. Mark's (Italian/English)
10.00am St. Mark's (Portuguese)
9.45am St. Brigid's (English)
11.00am St. Brigid's (Italian)
7.00pm St. Brigid's (English)
10.00pm St. Brigid's Carols/Canti di Natale
10.30pm St. Brigid's (Italian/English)

CHRISTMAS DAY - Monday 25th December

8.30am St. Mark's (Italian/English)
10.00am St. Mark's (Portuguese)
9.45am St. Brigid's (English)
11.00am St. Brigid's (Italian)
7.00pm St. Brigid's (Spanish)

NEW YEAR'S DAY Monday/Lunedì 1st January 2024

8.30am St. Mark's (Bi-lingual)
10.00am St. Mark's (Portuguese)
9.45am St. Brigid's (English)
11.00am St. Brigid's (Italian)
7.00pm St. Brigid's (Spanish)

ENTRATA:

CANTO PER CRISTO
Canto per Cristo che mi libererà
Quando verrà nella gloria;
quando la vita con lui rinascerà,
allelu, alleluia.
ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELU, ALLELUIA!
Canto per Cristo: in Lui rifierirà
Ogni speranza perduta.
Ogni creatura
con Lui risorgerà,
allelu, alleluia. **Rit.**
Canto per Cristo: un giorno tornerà!
Festa per tutti sarà.
Festa sul mondo che più non morirà.
Allelu, alleluia. **Rit.**

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

will be held in our parish over two weekends 2nd/3rd and 9th/10th December.
This Christmas, wishes can come true with your donation. Envelopes are available at the entrance to the church.

L'APPELLO NATALIZIO per la Società di San Vincenzo de Paoli si svolgerà nella nostra parrocchia le prossime due weekends 2/3 e 9/10 Dicembre. Questo Natale, i desideri possono diventare realtà con la vostra donazione. Le buste sono ottenibile all'entrata della chiesa.

FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM IN OUR PARISH

Every First Monday of the month (after 9:15am Mass) at the ex-convent
Every 3rd Friday of the month (after 6:30PM Holy Hour of Divine Mercy) at the Welcome Room

CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASSES

Organized by the Filipino chaplaincy
From 15th -23rd December 2023 at 7.30pm (6.00pm on Saturday)

OFFERTORIO:

A TE SIGNOR LEVIAMO I CUORI
*A te Signore leviamo i cuori
A te Signor noi li doniam.*
Quel pane bianco che t'offre la Chiesa e' frutto santo del nostro lavoro accettalo, Signore, e benedici. **Rit.**
Quel vino puro che t'offre la Chiesa forma la gioia dei nostri bei colli; accettalo, Signore, e benedici. **Rit.**
Gioie, dolori, fatiche e speranze nel sacro calice noi deponiamo: accettali, Signore, e benedici. **Rit.**

HOLY HOUR OF DIVINE MERCY

Everyone is welcome to HOLY HOUR OF DIVINE MERCY every 2nd,3rd & 4th Friday at 6.30pm in St Brigid's Church, North Fitzroy.

Christmas Carols at the Cathedral

1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne
Sunday 17 December 2023
3.00 - 4.15pm

Come along for a family concert of traditional and modern Christmas carols in the beautiful and inspiring space of St Patrick's Cathedral. Featuring Cathedral Brass, Cathedral Schola and the Grand Organ, this performance will include plenty of audience participation, a children's segment and 'special guest' appearance.
Tickets: Adult- \$30 Concession— \$25 Children 15 and under are admitted free. Tickets are available at the door. (via cash or card)

COMMUNIONE: VIENI, GESÙ, VIENI

Vieni, Gesù, vieni, vieni in mezzo a noi
E spezza ancora il pane come facesti un dì.
Vieni tu che preghi, vieni tu che soffri: il pane è sulla mensa, manchi solo tu.
Vieni tu che piangi, vieni tu che servi: il pane è sulla mensa, manchi solo tu.
Vieni tu che canti, vieni tu che speri: il pane è sulla mensa, manchi solo tu.
Vieni tu ch ami, vieni tu che cerchi; il pane è sulla mensa, manchi solo tu.

St. Brigid & St. Mark Collection

1st Collection \$440 - 00
2 Collection \$360 - 00
Envelopes \$114 - 00

FINE: QUANDO NELL'OMBRA

Quando nell'ombra cade la sera,
È questa, O Madre, la mia preghiera:
Fa pura e santa l'anima mia.
Ave Maria, Ave
E quando l'alba annunzia il giorno,
All'ara tua faccio ritorno,
dicendo sempre con voce pia.
Ave Maria, Ave.
Nei giorni lieti di gioia pura,
e in quelli ancora della sventura:
Ti dirò sempre, O Madre mia.
Ave Maria, Ave.