

A reading from the Book of Isaiah (61:1-2,10-11)

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord. 'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels. 'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Response: My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden. For behold henceforth all generations will call me blessed. **R/**

For he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation. **R/**

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy. **R/**

A reading from the First Letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians (5:16-24)

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil. May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you. **The Word of the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John 1:6-8,19-2

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.' Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising. **The Gospel of the Lord.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us. (Is 35:4)

Entrance: JOYFUL JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE

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Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love; Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You, Op'ning to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt ay; Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day! Always giving and forgiving Ever blessing, ever blest Well-spring of the joy of living Ocean depth of happy rest! Loving Father, Christ our Brother, Let your light upon us shine Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Offertory: LORD ACCEPT THE GIFTS WE OFFER

Lord accept the gifts we offer at this Eucharistic feast, Bread and wine to be transformed now, through the action of thy priest, Take us too Lord and transform us, may Thy grace in us increase. May our souls be pure and spotless, as the host of wheat so fine, May all stain of sin be crushed out like the grape that forms the wine, As we too become partakers in this sacrifice divine Take our gifts Almighty Father, living God eternal true, Which we give through Christ our Saviour pleading here for us anew Grant salvation to us present and our faith and love renew.

Contributor: Mary Teresine Haban: Text: © 1959, 1977, Liturgical Press.

Communion O COME, O COME EMMANUEL

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Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear. **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel!** Oh, come, our Wisdom from on high, Who ordered all things mightily; To us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. **Ref.** Oh, come, oh, come, our Lord of might, Who to your tribes on Sinai's height In ancient times gave holy law, In cloud and majesty and awe. **Ref.** Oh, come O Rod of Jesse's stem, From ev'ry foe deliver them That trust your mighty pow'r to save; Bring them in vict'ry through the grave. **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel!**

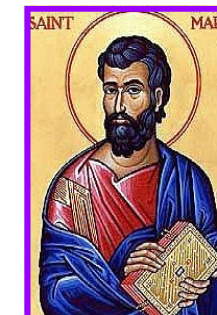


Final: TELL OUT, MY SOUL, THE GREATNESS OF THE LORD

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of his word; in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name! Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done; his mercy sure, from age to age to same; his holy Name--the Lord, the Mighty One. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might! Powers and dominions lay wills are put to flight, the hungry fed, the humble lifted high. Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word! Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord to children's children and for evermore! Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith © 1962. Renewal 1990 Hope Publishing Company



Weekly Parish Newsletter
Bollettino Parrocchiale Settimanale
Volume XVIII - Issue - 51st – THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT “Year B” 17th 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.

A Christmas message from the Parish Priest

Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people!

Dear friends,

As we are celebrating Christmas, the birth of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour, our King and Brother, our Master and Friend, I invite you to open your hearts and listen to the angelic words spoken to us today in the Gospel of Luke, “listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people!” (Lk 2:10). Take some time in silence today and let those God's living words sink in our minds and hearts that they may grow and bear much fruits in our lives. God has spoken and speaks to us always heart to heart. Those words spoken to our hearts, which may be filled with so many different mixed feelings depending on our lives' circumstances.

God brings us today news of great joy, the birth of his only Son, Jesus Christ in our lives. Jesus is born in the midst of what we are going through in life. He does not promise us “a bed of roses” kind of life. But he promises to be God-with-us (Immanuel) through thick and thin. And this brings us so much peace, joy, and consolation. Many of us miss celebrating this Christmas with our loved ones. We have come from different countries and have left behind our loved ones, relatives, and friends. But we are a family, the parish community of St Brigid's and St Mark's. May the birth of Jesus increase our joy and unite us in love and service to our brothers and sisters in need. This is the meaning of Christmas. It is a time to share happily and generously with others the Joy, the baby Jesus, born in our hearts. Furthermore, may the joy of this Christmas deepen our commitment to living out our Parish Vision, that is, “to bear witness to a missionary discipleship by remembering our history, honouring diversity, creating a safe and hospitable place, and celebrating communion.”

I wish you and your loved ones, a Joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

With every blessing,
Fr Fransiskus Xaverius Yangmint, CS (Fr Frank)
Parish Priest
25 December 2023

The Parish Community of St Brigid's and St Mark's is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding is **EVERYBODY's** responsibility. To gain a deeper understanding of defining, responding, and reporting abuse please contact: **Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne (CAM) Professional Standards Units**
Telephone :9926 5621 E:psu@cam.org.au W:melbournecatholic.org safeguarding



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



Cari amici,
Dio ci porta oggi una notizia di grande gioia, la nascita del suo unico Figlio, Gesù Cristo nella nostra vita. Gesù nasce in mezzo a quello che stiamo attraversando nella vita. Ci promette di essere Dio-con noi (Emmanuele) nel bene e nel male. E questo ci porta tanta pace, gioia e consolazione. La nascita di Gesù accresca la nostra gioia e ci unisca nell'amore e nel servizio ai fratelli bisognosi. Questo è il senso

del Natale. È tempo di condividere con gioia e generosità con gli altri la Gioia, il Bambino Gesù, nato nei nostri cuori. La gioia di questo Natale approfondisca il nostro impegno a vivere la nostra Visione Parrocchiale, cioè "testimoniare un discepolato missionario ricordando la nostra storia, onorando la diversità, creando un luogo sicuro e ospitale e celebrando la comunione."

Vi auguro di buon Natale!

P Fransiskus Xaverius Yangmint, CS
(P Frank)
Parroco

2 Liturgical Calendar and activities

Day of the Week	Liturgical Celebration	Intention St. Mark	Intention St. Brigid	Parish Activity
SATURDAY/SABATO 16th December, 2023 Year "B" Third Sunday of Advent "VIGIL"	<i>"I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord'".</i>	Baptism Celebrations for: Ana Julia REYES TABEROA Congratulations!	6.00pm Christmas Novena (Intercultural Mass) Carmen GALEA Rodney GALEA <i>(After Mass dinner follows in the Parish Hall)</i>	Wedding Celebration for Sandra CASTRO TORRES & Franklin GONZALEZ Congratulations!
SUNDAY/DOMENICA 17th December 2023 Year "B" Third Sunday of Advent	<i>"Io sono voce di uno che grida nel deserto: Rendete diritta la via del Signore".</i>	8:30am Pro Populo 10:00am (Portuguese) 5.00pm Mass <i>Brasilian Community</i>	9.45am Antonietta ALESSI (1mth) 11.00am Gaetano BONGIOVANNI † 2.30pm SANTA LUCIA 7.30pm Christmas Novena	Baptism Celebrations for: Martin RIVERA Millie ROMARDIE Alexanreano & Adeliarinha DA COSTA Luca Joseph CATOGGIO Congratulations!
Monday/Lunedì 18th December 2023 3rd week of Advent "Year B" Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1: 18-24	<i>Responsorial Psalm Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.</i>		9.15am Mass in the chapel 7.30pm Christmas Novena	
Tuesday/Martedì 19th December 2023 3rd week of Advent Year "B" Judges 13:2-7, 24-25; Lk 1:5-25	<i>Responsorial Psalm Fill me with your praise and I will sing your glory!</i>		9:15am Mass in the chapel 6.00pm Memorial Mass for Alfonso LICASTRO (1mth) 7.30pm Christmas Novena	
Wednesday/Mercoledì 20th December 2023 3rd week of Advent "Year B" Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38	<i>Responsorial Psalm Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.</i>		9.15am Mass in the chapel 7.30pm Christmas Novena	
Thursday/Giovedì 21st December 2023 3rd week of Advent Year "B" Song 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45	<i>Responsorial Psalm Cry out with joy in the Lord, you holy ones; sing a new song to him.</i>		9.15am Mass in the chapel 7.30pm Christmas Novena	
Friday/Venerdì 22nd December 2023 3rd week of Advent "Year B" 1 Sam 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56	<i>Responsorial Psalm My heart rejoices in the Lord my saviour.</i>		9.15am Mass in the chapel 7.30pm Christmas Novena	

FUNDRAISING RAFFLE 2024 To be drawn on the ST. BRIGID'S FEAST DAY, Sunday, 18 February 2024 at St Brigid's Parish Hall, 378 Nicholson Street, FITZROY NORTH VIC 3068, Price: \$2.00 per ticket

1st Prize	\$1,000 Travel Voucher
2nd Prize	\$ 500 Gift Voucher
3rd Prize	\$ 250 Gift Voucher
10 Consolation Prizes	\$ 100 Gift Voucher/winner

For info, contact: Fr. Frank 0406 086 432 - Office: 03 9489 6777 - Gigi Kalong 0411 711 639


We will have raffle tickets available soon to raise money for the new church carpet. The raffle will be drawn on our St. Brigid Parish Feast Day, 18th February 2024. Thank you for your loving support.

Parish Community Parish Priest: Fr. Fransiskus (Frank) Yangmint,cs Fr. Vito Pegolo, CS & Migrant Chaplain to the Italian Community: Tel: 0419 736 890	Parish Office Monday to Friday 9.00am - 3.30pm Parish Secretary Giovanna Bellissimo & Maggy Mihardja Tel: (03) 9489 6777	Comunidad Pastoral De Habla Hispana Chaplain Fr. Gesner Felix, CS Tel: (03) 9482 5362 Mob: 0432 214 910	Comunidade Pastoral De Expressão Portuguesa Chaplain P. Fabio Esteban Duque Sepulveda, CS Mob: 0410 001 462	Filipino Pastoral Community Chaplain Mons. Joselito Asis Tel: (03) 9482 5349 Mob: 0404 261 228
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3 Parish News... Notizie di casa nostra...

23rd&24th 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	F. Malana	P. La Marca
II Reading	M. De Souza	G. Piantella	S. Atherton	T. Toscano
Prayers of the Faithful	M. De Souza	G. Piantella	K. Chang	G. Catena
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)


ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

will continue for this weekend, \$280 raised so far. **This Christmas, wishes can come true with your donation.** Envelopes are available in the church.

L'APPELLO NATALIZIO per la Società di San Vincenzo de Paoli continuerà anche questo weekend. **Questo Natale, i desideri possono diventare realtà con la vostra donazione.** Le buste sono ottenibile in chiesa. **Totale raccolto \$280**

NO FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

IN OUR PARISH for this month and January 2024. The program will resume in **February 2024**



CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASSES

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



COMMUNIONE: DIO S'È FATTO COME NOI

Dio s'è fatto come noi, per farci come lui.

Vieni, Gesù, resta con noi! Resta con noi!

Vieni dal grembo d'una donna, la Vergine Maria. **Rit.**

Tutta la storia lo aspettava: il nostro Salvatore. **Rit.**

Egli era un uomo come noi ci ha chiamato amici. **Rit.**

Egi ci ha dato la sua vita, insieme a questo pane. **Rit.**

Noi, che mangiamo questo pane, saremo tutti amici. **Rit.**

Noi, che crediamo nel suo amore, vedremo la sua gloria. **Rit.**

Vieni, Signore, in mezzo a noi, resta con noi per sempre. **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.

Catholic Mission thanks the parish of St Brigid's

for your support of this year's World Mission Day Appeal. Your generosity has empowered Church workers across 1047 mission dioceses, allowing them to spread the message of hope and love within their local communities. Your contribution of \$570.00 has been most gratefully received. Through your partnership with Catholic Mission, Sr. Carolina in Timor-Leste can continue providing life-saving treatment and essential resources for health, education and well-being. Your gift not only transforms individual lives but also fuels mission programs globally, reaching out to those in dire need. Many thanks!



St. Brigid & St. Mark Collection

1st Collection \$550 - 00
2 Collection \$400 - 00
Envelopes \$ 74 - 00

FINE: SANTA MARIA DEL CAMMINO

Mentre trascorre la vita, solo tu non sei mai Santa Maria del cammino, sempre sarà con te.

Vieni o Madre in mezzo a noi vieni Maria quaggiù cammineremo insieme a te verso la libertà.

Quando qualcuno ti dice: "Nulla mai cambierà" lotta per un mondo nuovo, lotta per la verità. **Rit.**

Lungo la strada la gente, chiusa in se stessa va: offri per primo la mano a chi è vicino a te. **Rit.**