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*St. Theresa’s Parish Community Newsletter*

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 Principal: Rob Macklin



Mother of God Primary School - 93631734

 Blanche St., Ardeer 3022

 Principal: Assunta Iacovino

*“Do Small Things Well”*

 FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING YEAR C 19 & 20 November 2022

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| MASSES THIS WEEK ST THERESA’SDrummartin St, Albion 9.00am Friday10.30am SundayMOTHER OF GODBlanche St, Ardeer10.00am Wednesday (Pol)NO 9.00am Thursday 6.00pm Friday (Polish)  5.30pm Saturday 10.15am Sunday (Polish)QUEEN OF HEAVENHolt St, Ardeer NO 8.00am Wednesday 9.00am Sunday RECONCILIATION (individual Confession) Saturday 26th November, 10.00am at Mother of God.  |  | 2023 COLUMBAN CALENDAR Available this week at each church. Cost $10. New design and free online art guide [www.columban.org.au/artguide](http://www.columban.org.au/artguide) CHRIST’S CATHOLIC COMMUNITYPrayer Group meets every Thursday, 7.00 - 8.30pm, at Queen of Heaven Church. All welcome.THE CATHOLIC DEAF COLLECTION raised $438. Thank you.COLLECTIONS RECEIVEDThanksgiving $765 Loose Money $276 Presbytery $675COUNTERS 27 November  Team 4: J Camilleri, M Buhagiar, J ZammitFEAST DAYS THIS WEEKThe Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 21 NovemberSt Cecilia, 22 NovemberSt Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions, 24 NovemberREADINGS *Today Next Week**2 Samuel 5.1-3 Isaiah 2.1-5**Ps 122.1-2,3-4a,4b-5,6-7,8-9 R.1 Ps 122.1-2,4-5,6-7,8-9(R.1)**Colossians 1.12-20 Romans 13.11-14**Luke 23.35-43 Matthew24.37-44* |

FR BARRY'S CELEBRATION PHOTOBOOKS will be at all masses this weekend for parishioners to look through & write a message if not already done.

'PARISH DINNER' FOR THE YEAR *CHRISTMAS EVENT*

Thursday night 24th November, 6PM @ Westend Bistro, McIntyre Road.

3 Course Set Menu plus 1 drink $25 per person. Wear something 'Christmas' to reflect the theme.

RSVP Ann-Maree by 21st November PH: 0401 192 079. Contact Ann-Maree if a 'lift' is required.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS.

The Summer edition is full of stories about inspiring people. Pick up your free copy from the newsletter table today.

ARCHBISHOP’S LETTER.

Copies of a letter from Archbishop Comensoli reflection on our return to community celebration of the Eucharist after various Covid related restrictions are available on the newsletter table today.

*St Theresa’s Parish is committed to the safety of children, young people and vulnerable adults*

CHRIST THE KING - Gospel Reflection

NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY by Mary Coloe PBVM

Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:35-43

Today’s liturgy brings to an end the yearly liturgical cycle and concludes with the great festival honouring Christ as King. This is quite a recent Feast day, inaugurated in 1925 by Pope Pius XI. This was a time in our world’s history when the first Great War was over, but there were signs in Europe that peace was illusory. The feast was to be a reminder that though world powers may fail, there is a power for peace within the world that will not fail. The reign of Christ has been established, and the values of peace and justice are possible for those who seek this reign of God.

While the world seeks power through pomp and display, Jesus displays the power of God’s reign on a Cross. The values of this world, which lead to the horrors of Gallipoli, Hiroshima, Cambodia, Croatia, need to be turned upside down for true peace to break out. Wars begin with greed and selfishness, whether on a world scale or the wars within the family home. Peace begins where there is generosity, forgiveness and concern about others. This is the ‘kingdom’ that Jesus came to offer and the power that we celebrate in today’s feast.

The cycle of Luke’s Gospel comes to a fitting end with the image of the crucified Saviour offering life in God’s gracious love to a dying criminal. The heavens are opened for those who desire to live in God.

The beautiful hymn from Colossians offers on opportunity to reflect on the understanding of the Cosmos, the universe, in the light of Christian faith. The twentieth century saw an extraordinary development in our knowledge of the universe – or to use the word we find in the Gospels, the cosmos. Scientists now believe that our universe began around 13.7 billion years ago with a sudden massive explosion of energy. The remains of the explosion can still be detected as faint background radiation noise. Our understanding of the long and complex processes of evolution means that we perceive our world as dynamic, rather than the static world view of the Middle Ages. Theologians today are working within this dynamic, evolutionary world view to retell the Jesus story in ways that can make sense to contemporary society. The Colossians hymn is one New Testament passage, along with others such as John 1:1-18, that sees the Christ event not only in terms of human life, but as something impacting on the whole of creation. In ways echoing older passages from Proverbs 8:22-31, Sirach 24:8-22 (Ecclesiasticus) and Wisdom 8:1-4, this hymn affirms Christ’s central place within the cosmos.

In a recent essay, the Australian theologian Tony Kelly wrote:

‘The whole meaning of the process of the world’s continuing development is to incorporate all into the incarnate mystery of Christ. Every moment of time is impregnated with his presence. The whole cosmic process is Christ-bearing. … the whole of creation, physical and spiritual, is like a Eucharistic host, offering itself to be consecrated and thereby transformed into the risen Lord…. Whatever there is yet to occur in the world of our experience, whatever dimension of dynamics there are in the cosmos of our present and further exploration, Christian faith must find its focus in him who is the consistency and coherence, the firstborn and the end of all creation.’

*(Anthony J. Kelly, ‘Christ and Creation: Logos and Cosmos’ in ‘Creation is Groaning: Biblical and Theological Perspective’, edited by Mary L Coloe. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2013.)*

Many Christians developed their understanding of Jesus based on the type of theological reflection that developed in the Middle Ages, within a static view of the universe and a literal reading of the two Genesis creation accounts. The theological work of Karl Rahner, Denis Edwards, Tony Kelly and John Haught, among others, attempts to speak the Christian story in relation to current cosmology and biblical interpretation.

As the liturgical year of Luke comes to an end, and Christ is proclaimed the Universal King, may the Good News of Luke touch our hearts bringing life, joy and peace.