



# St Peter Julian Eymard Catholic Church Mooroolbark Parish

*We are a Welcoming, Eucharistic and Spirit Filled Community*

SPJE IS A CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENT

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE WURUNDJERI PEOPLE, THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THIS LAND

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10th December 2023 Issue No 45

### LISTEN AND REFLECT ON THE STORIES - Where am I in my Faith Journey ?

- What are some ways to prepare the way for the Lord this Advent?
- What did you hear today that was new to you? Excited you? Challenged you?
- How might this assist you to prepare, anticipate, engage in Jesus' coming?



### REFLECTION

Being a messenger can be a difficult task. It's easy to share good news and tell people what they want to hear. But being the bearer of bad tidings is far less pleasant. It can even be dangerous. In some ancient societies, messengers who brought bad news were killed! Still, we are called to follow the example of John the Baptist, preparing the way of the Lord by calling people to conversion through a personal encounter with Jesus.

Even more, we need to show the way by forgiving others, repenting of our sins and living a simple life.

**Pray:** Lord, come quickly. Do not delay!

**Act:** Offer comfort and assistance to someone facing difficulties.



### PARISH CALENDAR DECEMBER

<b>9/10th</b>	<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b>
12th Tue	SPJE Graduation Mass - 5.30pm church
13th Wed	St Richards End of School Mass - 9 am School
15th Fri	SPJE End of School Mass - 12noon School Undercroft
<b>16/17th</b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b>
	Monthly Church Collection
	Baptism - 9am
	Hall hire - Afternoon

## St Peter Julian Eymard Parish Mooroolbark Parish

**Parish Priest**  
**Fr. Joseph**

**Parish Secretary**      **Parish Assistant**  
Mrs. Adriana De Leo      Mr. Brian Twining

**Parish Office**  
234 Hull Road (PO Box 2) Mooroolbark 3138  
**Telephone: 9723 4275**

**Office Hours:**  
**Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri - 9.00am - 3.00pm**  
*(Office unattended on Wednesday)*

<http://pol.org.au/mooroolbark/Home.aspx>  
Email: [mooroolbark@cam.org.au](mailto:mooroolbark@cam.org.au)

**Parish Hall - Contact Parish Office**

**SPJE Parish School**  
Reay Road, Mooroolbark 3138  
Telephone 9725 0595  
**School Principal – Mr. Greg Thomas**  
Email: [office@spjemooroolbark.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@spjemooroolbark.catholic.edu.au)  
<http://www.spjemooroolbark.catholic.edu.au>

**St. Richard's Parish School**  
672 Mt. Dandenong Rd Kilsyth, 3137  
Telephone 9728 4378  
Email: [office@srkilsyth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@srkilsyth.catholic.edu.au)  
**School Principal - Mr. Marcus Gill**  
<http://www.srkilsyth.catholic.edu.au>

### **Normal Mass Times at SPJE**

Weekday Masses  
Tues & Wed : 9.30 am  
Saturday: No morning Mass  
**Saturday: 6.00 pm (Vigil)**  
**Sunday: 9.00 am**  
**Sunday: 11.00 am**

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 5.15 pm  
or by arrangement with Priest.  
**Sacraments (Baptism, Weddings)**  
Ring Parish Office 9723 4275

### **NO WEEKDAY MASS**

**due to repairs to the church.**

### **This Week's Readings - 9/10th December**

**Is 40:1-5, 9-11: Ps 84:9-14:R**  
**2 Pet 3:8-14: Mk 1:1-8:**

### **Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for parishioners and friends who are ill,  
especially  
**Max Pisotek, Ignatius Suan Lian Thang,**  
**Reji, Annette, Sr Moira Sheedy.**

### **✠ Remembrance Diary ✠**

We remember those who have died, and all those  
whose anniversaries occur about this time.

#### **9th to 15th December**

Connie Lynch (first death anniversary), Joseph Golja, Avelino Ventura, Tony Bucciarelli, Shelia Ann Eddy, Edilberto Pangilinan, Beverley Canete, Gerald Seymour, Connie Lynch, Susan Chadwick, Lorraine Lunghusen, Margaret Galea, Frank D'Orival, Thelma Dight, Rudi Franz, Vladimir Klepac, Alfred Anderson, George Bell, George Hewerdine, Francis Cheah Wan Kong, Valerie Hope, James Corrigan, Caterina Zinghini, Connie Lynch, Tanya Suhr, David Tatnel, Anne Harding, Colin Reily, Mary Wallace, Innaculata Anthoniz, Ronald Boyack, Yvonne Anthoniz.

### **CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

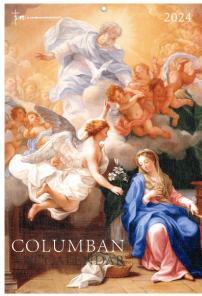
#### **Christmas Eve Mass**

Oval Mass 6.00 pm  
Carols commence at 5.30pm  
9.00pm Church  
Carols commence at 8.30pm

**NO Mass at 11.00 pm Christmas Eve**  
**in the Church**  
**Christmas Day Mass**  
9.00 am & 10.30 am

## 2024 Columban Calendars

2024 Columban Art Calendars  
for sale \$9 each.



Christmas Cards 5 for \$5.00



Proceeds will assist SVDP  
Mooroolbark Conference

## Vinnies Christmas Tree

Parishioners are encouraged to take either a gift (for children) tag or a cash tag off our tree and respond with either a gift or cash.

Gifts can be left in the foyer and cash donations to be given to SVDP member or placed into the poor box please.  
approx. due date 10th December to allow time to prepare and deliver to those in need.

This will help us supplement the food hampers that we distribute every Christmas to the needy whom we have met during the past year.

Thank you for your kindness.  
SVDP Mooroolbark



## ST VINCENT DE PAUL

If assistance is  
required, please contact  
**1800 305 330**  
Mon to Fri 10am to 3pm

## CHURCH DISRUPTION UPDATE

Works to make good the water leak in the church continues.  
We sincerely apologise for this.

The repairs are expected to be completed next week.

## Christmas Eve Mass on the Oval

If you are planning to come to the Mass on the Oval on Christmas Eve, and have children or grandchildren with you, please encourage them to come dressed up as Wise Men, Angels, Shepherds or Sheep, and to bring their favourite toys.



## 2023 CCPR RAFFLE - LIST OF WINNERS DRAWN SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER AT 7:30PM

AT RESURRECTION PARISH 402 CORRIGAN  
ROAD, KEYSBOROUGH  
Permit No – 10175/23 PRIZE

Prize	Tick- et No	Winner	Organisation
Kia Picanto Auto	25450	Marian Flynn	St Thomas Parish Drysdale
\$5000 Coles Myer	26548	Ann McGeary	Lifeboat Geelong
\$3000 Coles Myer	16925	Liam Gill	Holy Trinity E Bentleigh
\$1000 Col-ey Myer	09756	David Swlleksz	Holy Family Mt Waverley
\$1000 Coles Myer	07033	Mirco Kovac	Resurrection Keysborough
\$500 Coles Myer	09505	Peter Agardy	Holy Family Mt Waverley
\$500 Coles Myer	55483	Losefo	Holy Child Parish Dallas

Not our turn this year for a prize – maybe next year.  
Congratulations to the winners.  
Thanks again to everyone who purchased tickets to support the ongoing upkeep of  
St Peter Julian Parish facilities.

Marg Vallence Coordinator CCPR – SPJE Parish

## ROSTERS

### Counters - Month of December

Paul & Marianne Redfern

### Flowers - Month of December

No Flowers during Advent

### Church Cleaners - Month of December

Margaret Kim & Esther Ngaihte

*(Please collect church key from parish office  
Monday - Friday, 9am - 4pm)*

### Readers & Commentators - 9/10th December

6.00pm Paul Redfern & Paul Martin  
9.00am Muzeena D'Almeida & Karen  
Broughton  
11.00am Jun Romero & Volunteer

### Readers & Commentators - 16/17th December

6.00pm Pat Harman & Iris Gale  
9.00am Lilette de la Harpe & Lili Stride  
11.00am Auna Wernert & Volunteer

### Musicians - 9/10th December

6.00pm Shelly & Co  
9.00am Filipino Group  
11.00am No Music

### Musicians - 16/17th December

6.00pm Paul & Co  
9.00am Shelly & Co  
11.00am Zomi Group

## Parish Child Safeguarding Team

If you have any child safety concerns please  
contact the following team members

**Brian Twining**

brian.twining@cam.org.au

**Meg Wright**

mwright@spjemoroolbark.catholic.edu.au

**Michael Mc Lindon**

mclinooffice@gmail.com

Or request a call back on the Parish Office  
phone 9723 4275

## HOLY SPIRIT PILGRIMAGE

2024

### Europe Pilgrimage and Tour To:

Medjugorje, Croatia, Slovenia, Hungary,  
Slovakia, and Poland

from 12/09/2024-27/09/2024;

### Egypt and Jordan Pilgrimage

from 26/08/2024-03/09/2024.

**Spiritual Director:** Fr Emmanuel-tv.

Contact us ASAP for details:

Mob: 0417999553, Tel: (08) 93413079,

[holyspiritp@gmail.com](mailto:holyspiritp@gmail.com);

[fremmanueltv@gmail.com](mailto:fremmanueltv@gmail.com);

## CALLING FOR CHRISTMAS VOLUNTEERS

We are asking if you can assist with Reading,  
Commentating & Eucharistic Ministries.

For Christmas Eve Masses in the church and Christmas Day Masses  
*Please place your name on the roster on the parish notice board.*

If you are able to help Father Joseph  
especially on Christmas Day it would be most appreciated.

Please see Bernadette or contact on 0447 743 138, or contact  
Adriana on 9723 4275 or email mooroolbark@cam.org.au

THANK YOU





**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT B**  
**Sunday, 10 December 2023**  
**Embracing the Call to Prepare: Reflections on Mark 1:1-8**

As we journey through the season of Advent, our hearts are filled with anticipation and hope as we prepare for the coming of the Lord. This Sunday, our Gospel reading from Mark 1:1-8 takes us to the very beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

In these verses, we encounter the proclamation of the Gospel and the ministry of John the Baptist, who plays a crucial role in preparing the way for the Lord.

Mark, known for his direct and concise style, wastes no time in introducing us to the essence of the Gospel – the arrival of God's Kingdom. The historical context reveals a sense of expectancy among some in Israel, echoing the community of Qumran by the Dead Sea. John's message aligns with this anticipation: God's reign is imminent, and preparation involves seeking forgiveness through the symbolic act of baptism.

Baptism, a familiar Jewish practice, transforms into a call for repentance in John's ministry. The waters of immersion symbolise a cleansing of the heart, a purification in anticipation of the coming Kingdom. Even Jesus, the Son of God, seeks baptism from John, highlighting the significance of this ritual in spiritual preparation.

Mark navigates the challenge of acknowledging John's greatness while emphasising Jesus' superiority. By drawing on the prophetic voices of Malachi and Isaiah, Mark positions John as a preparer for a figure even greater – Jesus himself. The Gospel thus unfolds as a story of preparation, echoing the words of Isaiah to "prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord."

In the larger narrative, the wilderness transforms from a physical location to the human heart. John's call to repentance becomes a call for a profound inner transformation. The 'way' that needs preparation is not a literal path but a spiritual one within our hearts, a conversion from sin to make room for the Lord.

John, resembling Elijah, not only calls for repentance but also confesses the identity of the One who follows him – Jesus, the Messiah. This coming One will baptise with the Holy Spirit, liberating humanity from various captivities and leading them into life-giving intimacy with God.

As we reflect on these Gospel passages, let us ponder how we can apply the message in our lives.

How can we prepare the way for the Lord in our hearts? How can we embrace the call to repentance and inner transformation? In the midst of the busyness of the season, let us take a moment to revisit the longing for 'homecoming' within our souls.

May this Advent season be a time of profound spiritual preparation, as we eagerly anticipate the arrival of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**As I take up a new role as Principal of Our Lady Help of Christians in Eltham in 2024 I would like to thank Fr Joseph and the Parish Community of St. Peter Julian Eymard for all the kindness, support and friendship you have given to me over the last 15 years. I have loved every moment of working in such a vibrant and welcoming parish and I hope to be back visiting from time to time.**

*Rudy Vail*  
*Deputy Principal/Religious Education Leader - St. Richards Primary School*