



# 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

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

17th December 2023 Issue No 46

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

- ♦ What are some reasons we have to 'rejoice in God' and give thanks to God today?
- ♦ Can you think of someone or some situation which has been your bridge to Christ?
- ♦ What are some of the obstacles keeping us and our world from Christ?



### REFLECTION

***"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; My spirit rejoices in God my saviour. For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; Behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed. The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is from age to age to those who fear him. He has shown might with his arm, dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart. He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones, but lifted up the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things; the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped Israel his servant, remembering his mercy, according to his promise to our fathers, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." Amen. Amen. Amen.***



Can I spend a little time each day this week, standing or sitting in place with Mary & Elizabeth, younger & older cousins: both pregnant, the one previously rejected as "barren", the other perhaps to be rejected as an "unbetrothed" mother; the one whose child in utero "leapt for joy that the Mother of my Saviour should come to me", the other to be told within months that "your child is destined for the fall & the rising of many, to be a sign that is rejected - & a sword will pierce your own soul." And perhaps taking time to remember also the dumbfounded Zachary as he is able to rejoice in full restored voice at the birth of his son, John; and of Joseph who was told, "Do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit...she will give birth to a son & you must name him Jesus - for he is the one to save his people...". Contrary to the style of the time (& even now for many) neither man is to the fore but is the faithful & faith-filled companion husband & honourable loving father to be. Sitting with this foursome may help us reflect on our hurly burly, hurried world and the space for our own response; & perhaps even encourage our prayer for the their ancient land, again in seemingly unending torment. Let us pray.

*Michael McLindon, fellow parishioner & companion on the Way.*

### PARISH CALENDAR DECEMBER

16/17th	3rd Sunday of Advent
	Monthly Church Collection
17th	Baptism - 9am
17th Sun	Hall hire - Afternoon
20th Wed	Musicians Practice - Church - 7pm
23/24th	4th Sunday of Advent

### 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

## 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

## **WEEKDAY MASS**

**NO WEEKDAY MASSES**

### **This Week's Readings - 16/17th December**

**Is 61:1-2, 10-11: Lk 1:46-50, 53-54:R**  
**1 Thess 5:16-24: Jn 1:6-8, 19-28**

### **Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for parishioners and friends who are ill,  
especially

**Ignatius Suan Lian Thang, Reji, Annette,**  
**Sr Moira Sheedy, Benito Cordedda.**

### **✠ Remembrance Diary ✠**

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

### **16th to 22nd December**

Joy Blake, Pasqua Napolitano, Christopher  
Dennany, Paul Windsor, Patrick Walsh, James  
Malone, Jim Johnston, George Stanely, Alice  
Robe, Chris Slennett, Fay Dwyer, Lorraine  
Cameron, Elvia Caraffi, Fr Tom Lennon, John  
Turner, Alfred Ayres, Jean O'Connell, Christine  
Jorgensen RSC, Sylvia McVeigh, Carla Van  
Gorp, Ligorio Naval, Mary Ives, Veronica  
McLindon, Lawrence Stats, Margaret Ayton.



We welcome to our Parish through  
Baptism

***Abbey, Stella & Sadie Garrington***

As they receive the Holy Spirit through the  
Sacrament celebrated this weekend, may their  
faith guide them throughout their lives.

## 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.

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

Further delays to repairs.  
The plumbing repairs are expected to be  
completed next week.

**Helpers needed to set up and pack up for the Christmas eve mass on the oval.**  
**A couple of strong men required..**  
**Please see Fr Joseph and Bernadette.**

## 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.



## CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS THANKYOU

A huge thanks to the following parishioners.

Merrell Harris - The Banners

Ann O'Connor - Advent Over heads

Mac Hoogenboom - making of new Advent

Wreath Stand

Xavier D'Almeidia - polishing all the brass in the church.

Allan Brown - removal of all cob webs.



Lilette de la Harpe - New  
Christmas Wall Banners

And anyone else who has  
helped in any way!

**THANK YOU.**



## 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 - 16/17th December

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

### Readers & Commentators - 23/24th December

6.00pm Dymphna Beard & Angela Stainwall  
9.00am Lisa Read & Tim Newcomb  
11.00am Elizabeth & Reilly Acabado

### Musicians - 16/17th December

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

### Musicians - 23/24th December

6.00pm No Music  
9.00am Filipino Group  
11.00am No Music

## 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**

mclinoffice@gmail.com

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



## Ladies January Luncheon 2023

### **Ora D'oro**

23 Hewish Rd Croydon

Tuesday January 9th

Please note this is the second

Tuesday in January

Meet at 12 midday for lunch at 12.30

Contact Philomena Turner 0417 208 077 or Nancy

Gough 0411 137 251

## 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

