



St Peter Julian Eymard Catholic Church Mooroolbark Parish

*We are a Welcoming Eucharistic
and Spirit Filled Parish Community.*



SPJE PARISH IS A CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENT

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri People, the traditional custodians of this land

Parish Priest
Fr. Joseph Xin Lu

Parish Secretary
Mrs. Adriana De Leo

Parish Assistant
Mr. Brian Twining

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

**Parish Mobile: 0493 071 811 - For emergency and
church registrations**

<http://pol.org.au/mooroolbark/Home.aspx>
Email: mooroolbark@cam.org.au

Parish Hall - Contact Parish Office

SPJE Parish School
Reay Road, Mooroolbark 3138
Telephone 9725 0595 Fax 9723 9255
School Principal – Mr. Greg Thomas
<http://www.spjemooroolbark.catholic.edu.au>

SPJE - Outside School Hours Care
Telephone: 8215 9206

St. Richard's Parish School
672 Mt. Dandenong Rd. Kilsyth, 3137
Telephone 9728 4378 Fax 9728 6272
School Principal - Mr. Marcus Gill
<http://www.srkilsyth.catholic.edu.au>

Normal Mass Times at SPJE

Weekday Masses
Tues & Thurs: 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

Parish QR Code



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT **19th December 2021 Issue No. 47**

Reflection

The Young Ladies of Cyprus

There is a Greek myth about Pygmalion, King of Cyprus. There were many beautiful young ladies in his kingdom - but all of them were proud and snobs.

Pygmalion was also an artist and a sculptor and he decided to make the figure of a beautiful woman from marble.

The statue of the woman was so beautiful that Pygmalion embraced the statue, kissed the statue, and fell in love with the statue. The statue made no movement and gave Pygmalion no answer.

King Pygmalion then asked Aphrodite, the Goddess of Love, to give life to the marble statue. She did - and the two of them lived happily ever after.

Why were all the young ladies in the kingdom of Pygmalion snobs and so proud? They all thought that their beauty came, somehow, from themselves. In today's gospel (Luke 1:39-45) we hear the salutation Elizabeth gave to her cousin Mary, who was pregnant with Jesus. Elizabeth said, "Blessed are you among women."

Today's gospel story stops just before the reply of Mary to Elizabeth, when Mary says, "My soul does magnify the Lord. He has looked upon the lowliness of his handmaid. He is the reason why anything in me is good."

Mary's humility, and her desire to give credit where credit is due, is a far cry from the thoughts and words and actions of the young ladies of Cyprus, the kingdom of Pygmalion.



PARISH CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2021

18/19th Dec **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Sat. BAPTISM - 6pm
Sun. BAPTISM - 12.30pm - *Private*

21st Tue **ANOINTING MASS - 9.30 am**

Christmas Mass Times

Fri. 24th **6.00 pm Mass - School Oval**
(Carols commence at 5.30pm)
9.00 pm Mass - Church
Carols at 8.30pm
11 pm Mass - Church
Carols at 10.30pm

Sat. 25th **Christmas Day Mass**
9am & 10.30am
NO 6.00 pm Mass

Sun. 26th **Boxing Day - Mass 9am & 11am**



ROSTERS

Counters - Month of December 2021

Mon. Des Delahunt, Christine Sellar & Pam Dryden

Flowers for December

24th Dec Lilette de la Harpe (Christmas)

Church Cleaners Month of December

Francis Braganza

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

Readers and Commentators - 24/25th December

6.00 pm Special Roster

9.00 am Special Roster

11.00am Special Roster

Musicians 24th December - Christmas Eve

5.30 pm Oval Mass - Filipino Group

8.30 pm Carols - Shelly & Co

10.30 pm Carols - Paul & Co

Musicians 25th December - Christmas Day

9 am CDs

10.30am CDs

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesdays 9.30 am

Tue. 21st Dec - Anointing Mass

Readings for Next Week - 25th Dec

1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28 or Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; I Jn 3:1-2, 21-24 or Col 3:12-21; Lk 2:41-52

Prayers for the Sick

We pray for parishioners and friends who are ill;
James Devlin, Eleanor Thompson, Patricia Fenton, Patricia Koblar, Sue Hoogenboom, Brenda Corrigan, Jerome Ngaite.

† Remembrance Diary †

We remember those who have died,
Gerard Hoogenboom & Paolo Mazzarella
and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

18/12 to 24/12

Veronica Mc Lindon, James Malone, Jim Johnston, George Stanley, 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, Lawrence Stats, Margaret Ayton, John Kierce, Finn Jensen, Adolphus D'Rozario, Albrikus Mohewalu.

ADVENT Week 4

The **fourth candle** represents **PEACE** and is called the Angel's Candle. The angels announced that Jesus came to bring peace — He came to bring people close to God and to each other again. It represents the peace and justice that the angels and Christ bring to the world.

In view of God's great gift to us, this week you are encouraged to share the gift of friendship or connection with others ... connect with someone who might otherwise be alone this Christmas and spend some time with them over this festive season, or say hello to someone in our congregation that you haven't met before and learn something about them.



Fellow Parishioners,

As we learn of the further easing of restrictions for Victorians, please note the following with regards to attendance at our Masses as we welcome back to our Church those parishioners who are unvaccinated. The advice below is from the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Places of Worship, Weddings and Funerals

- Masks are no longer required indoors where ventilation is sufficient, this is a personal choice.
- There is no limits on attendance at Masses.
- There will not be any vaccination requirements nor any requirement for organizers to check vaccination status, however staff and volunteers must still be fully vaccinated.
- No cleaning is required between use, but good hygiene standards should be maintained according to our Parish Covidsafe plan. This includes the continued use of hand sanitisers throughout the Church.
- We are asked to be aware and sensitive to the most vulnerable people in our parish community as we continue to enjoy more freedom and connect with family and friends during Christmas festivities.
- Please bring your mobile phones as QR check-ins are still required.
- However if you are feeling unwell please stay home

God Bless,

Fr Joseph and the Parish Leadership Team Please bring your mobile phones as QR check in is still required.

CHRISTMAS VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Can you assist with Reading, Commentating, Eucharistic Ministers and Check in Helpers. For Christmas Eve Masses in the church and Christmas Day Masses

If you are able to help Father Joseph especially on Christmas Day it would be most appreciated. Please see Fr Joseph or contact Adriana in the office 9723 4275. **THANK YOU**

Richard Knight	richardknight8@gmail.com	0466 977 640
Jan Phippard	janice_phippard@hotmail.com	0417 335 763
Bernie Bohan	vicben7@optusnet.com.au	0408 508 153

2022 COLUMBAN CALENDARS

2022 Columban Art



BAPTISM

We welcome to our Parish through Baptism.

Robbie MacDonald, Lucy & Henry Crowe, Daniel & Keui Makuei.

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



LADIES LUNCH GROUP

Our next Ladies Lunch will be on Tuesday 1st February 2022

The Dorset Hotel,
Dorset Rd Croydon

We will meet at 12 pm for 12.30 lunch

REMINDER all ladies attending please be sure to mark your diaries as there are no Parish Newsletters during January

RSVP by Monday 31st Jan 2022, Philomena Turner
0417 208 077 Text or phone

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 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



A Reflection _ 4th Sunday of Advent _
Year C _18-19 December 2021

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*Elizabeth & Mary –
Women of Faith,*



“Blessed is she who believed the promise made by the Lord would be fulfilled”

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Luke paints an extraordinary but simple picture of an ordinary human story, the meeting of two women, cousins, each of them pregnant with their first child; the older Elizabeth in her 6th month, the younger Mary in very early days. Yet this human story is thoroughly suffused with the divine. The infant in Elizabeth’s womb *“leapt for joy”* as his mother asked, *“Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?”*. Each was a woman of faith & had each responded out of a lifetime experience in faith to a personal promise, a promise at the heart of the Christian understanding of history. The older child would enter into the history of Israel as John the Proclaimer, later to announce the advent of *“the Saviour, the Healer”*, while his younger cousin would *“be called Jesus”* – *“Emmanuel”* – “the God who dwells among us”. Mary’s *“Yes...let what you said be done to me according to your word”* will be balanced in time on a cruel cross with Jesus responding in obedience, fidelity, to his calling, *“May your will be done... Father, into your hands I commit my spirit”*. What we celebrate in this week before *ChristMass* as the *Visitation* is rooted in two simple gifts of two ordinary women: faith & kindness, gifts that we experience & exercise every day in our living & loving, giving & receiving. In this we make Jesus present in our lives, our families, our world: as with Mary we can change our world & experience day by day if we come close to her, knowing her as one of us. In so many ways we have done a disservice to Mary & ourselves through history by pedestalizing & crowning her. She deserves all honour, as Elizabeth exclaims, but also to be recognized & approached as “one of us”, model & companion to our living in faith & kind service, given to us as Mother from that cross. She welcomed & brought Jesus into the world so that we might do the same. That is her & our *ChristMass* gift that can truly bring *“Joy to the World”*.

Let us daily pray, *“Slow us down, dear Lord, so that we can lift our minds & hearts in watchful hope to hear the voice announcing Jesus’ glory; & open us to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming in our days”*.

Michael McLindon, in glad & graced memory of Veronica, whose anniversary is at this time, and of all those who walked & talked with her, as they all grew in joyful faith & kindly service.