

St Patrick's

MURRUMBEENA

234 Murrumbeena Road, Murrumbeena
Email: murrumbeena@cam.org.au
Webpage: www.pol.org.au/murrumbeena



St Kevin's

ORMOND

72 Glen Orme Ave, Ormond
Email: ormond@cam.org.au
Webpage: www.pol.org.au/ormond

COMBINED PARISH OFFICE: 6 Dalny Rd, Murrumbeena, VIC 3163 Ph: 9568 7365 - Office Hours Tues to Fri 10am-4pm

Parish Priest Rev Fr. Siby John SAC (siby.john@cam.org.au)

Most Rev Peter Elliott (Bishop in Residence),

Rev Pselio (Leo) Lemalu (Deacon)

Parish Secretary Jennifer Bastian (Wed, Thu, Fri), Finance and Admin Assist, Nihal Lawrence (Tue, Wed, Fri)

Parish Leadership Contact Email: plstspatstkev@gmail.com

St Patrick's and St Kevin's Parishes are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults

Welcome to the Combined Parishes of St Patrick's and St Kevin's

CHRISTMAS - YEAR A - 24TH AND 25TH DECEMBER 2022

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Dear Parishioners,

"Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a saviour, who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2: 10-11).

I wish you and your families a happy and holy Christmas season. Although the commercial celebration of Christmas started even before December, the Christmas season for the Church extends until January 9th with the Baptism of the Lord. Don't be in a hurry to take down the Christmas decorations too soon!

Please, let me encourage you this Christmas to spend some time alone with God, and read the Christmas story from His Holy Bible, and concentrate your thoughts to the time when our Saviour was born. Re-capture the joy that was in the hearts of all who had the faith to believe that this baby was the Messiah of Israel, the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, the Saviour of all sinners who would believe in Him and seek His forgiveness.

Without knowing Him, without knowing the Christ of Christmas, you will never know what real joy and happiness this time of the year can bring. Christmas is a day for us to remember God's merciful love. Through Jesus, we come to know who God really is – He is Love.

I extend a special welcome to those joining us for the first time, or if you are visiting from another place or faith tradition, or if you do not worship with us on a regular basis. It would be wonderful to meet you. Please feel free to join us for a cuppa after the Holy Mass.

To our committed parishioners, you have contributed greatly in the life of our parishes in your gentle ways this past year. The giving of your time, talent and treasure to the Lord continues to reflect God's presence in our community.

My Christmas message this year is to challenge all of us to become more involved in the life of the parish. It is not so much a question of giving more; it is a question of giving more of ourselves. Christianity is never a "spectator sport" in which we simply sit back, watch and cheer. Rather, it involves active participation and a life-commitment: daily

prayer, attendance at Mass during the week and on weekends, a sacramental life including regular confession of sins, Christian service, love (even of enemies), forgiveness, Christian charity, conversion, repentance, etc. I pray and hope for more of your support, cooperation, commitment and service in the new year. As we adore the Christ Child in the manger at Christmas, may we be moved by the great love and humility that God showed to us in the birth of His Son! God emptied Himself and became one of us. Our faith also professes that He will come again.

O come let us adore Him! O come let us adore Him Christ the Lord!

In the new year let us try to live by a philosophy (and I truly believe) that God is ultimately in charge of our spouse, parents, children, health, sickness, wealth, happiness, sadness, and in fact every situation. I do not know what will be in store for us in 2023, but I trust that God knows what is truly best for us all. In the imitation of the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary, let us pray "May it be done to me according to your word." (Luke 1:38).

Can I express my sincere gratitude to all who work so hard in the parishes and who continue to strengthen and make them vibrant and welcoming communities. I would also like to extend my gratitude to Bishop Peter Elliott, Deacon Leo, the Parish Leadership Team, Parish office Staff, the devoted members of the various ministries, volunteers and St. Patrick's school Children who have worked so hard (especially to those few who work quietly, behind the scenes) to make both our parishes life and the Christmas celebrations truly wonderful. I am indebted to you for your support, cooperation, thoughtful prayers, inspiring Christmas greetings and priceless gifts.

As I conclude, my only prayer for you is, that you, your family and dear ones be filled with the Blessings of Peace, Joy and Love. May all my dear parishioners be overshadowed with the mighty and powerful blessings of the Baby Jesus, the Emmanuel.

Be assured of my daily prayers and my remembrance in my Masses for all of you. May I ask a small remembrance in your prayers and Masses for me as well? On behalf of myself and our parish staff, have a blessed and peace-filled Christmas and a holy New Year!

Fr Siby John

SATURDAY, 24TH DECEMBER 2022

Christmas Vigil and Midnight Mass

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: The Lord said to me: You are my Son. It is I who have begotten you this day.

Glory to God in the highest is said or sung.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone.

You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt and consumed by fire.



For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace.

Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus.

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God!

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!

Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-14

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first –

took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing:

'Glory to God in the highest heaven and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

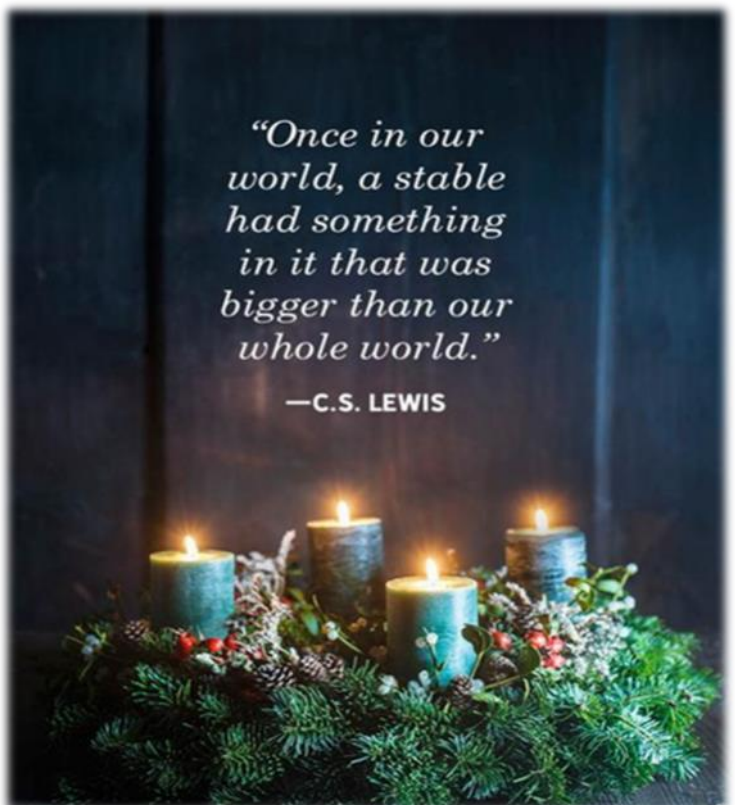
R. Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.



"Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world."

—C.S. LEWIS



SUNDAY—25TH DECEMBER 2022
Christmas Day Mass

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said or sung.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!'

Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion. Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem. The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God!

PSALM: All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name. God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father, or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God!

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 1:1-18

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All

that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower. 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. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. John appears as his witness, He proclaims:

'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.'

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.



PARISH OFFICE ON HOLIDAYS

Our Parish Office will remain closed from 2nd January 2023 to 31st January 2023 and will reopen on Wednesday, 1st February 2023.

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES FOR JANUARY 2023

Your "Thanksgiving" envelopes for January are available for collection from the church foyer.



LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK



Julie White (Wife of Martin White); Timothy White (Father of Melissa Parkinson); Baby Grace Patawaran Grinter, Fred Cutting (Cousin of Tom Frost), Hugh McGill (Husband of Margaret McGill), John Harper (Friend of Marian and Stephen Poore), Lizzy Stanley (daughter of Karly & Patrick Stanley), Earl Edwards (Husband of Dorothy), Rodney Gardner, Joan Egan, Yvonne Maher, Terry Nicholls (Arcare), Han Kwee, Jack Mack.



LET US PRAY FOR THE

RECENTLY DECEASED:

FR LEO LONG, A MUCH LOVED FORMER PARISH PRIEST OF ORMOND, WHO DIED IN IRELAND RECENTLY, AND FOR FR JOSEPH PATRICK HYNAN WHO PASSED AWAY LAST WEEK.

DEATH ANNIVERSARY:

LET US PRAY FOR ROSALIND NICHOLLS ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF HER DEATH.



STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE CARD

RETURN TO:

St Patrick's Murrumbeena
St Kevin's Ormond
6 Dalny Road
Murrumbeena VIC 3163

Dear Parishioners,

Thanksgiving Contributions can be Direct Credited to the Parish Bank Accounts as stated below. Please indicate your Thanksgiving Envelope number as your reference.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Direct Credit to Bank Account

St Patrick's Church BSB: 083 347 A/c: 66364 4763
St Patrick's Presbytery BSB: 083 347 A/c: 16891 5271

St Kevin's Church BSB: 083 347 A/c: 64473 7358
St Kevin's Presbytery BSB: 083 347 A/c: 18207 5969

We have "Tap and Go" devices at each Church where you can scan your Credit or Debit Card and contribute \$10 per TAP to the Presbytery Account.

Or... Credit Card

Please debit my Credit Card with the sum of: \$ _____

Allocation : (Parish \$...../ Presbytery \$.....)

Every: month quarterly half-year year

Name on Card: _____
Mastercard Expiry:/.....

Credit Car Number: _____
[][][][] [][][][] [][][][] [][][][]

I understand that this authority may be cancelled in writing at my option.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parish Offerings 17th/18th Dec	St Kevin's	Patrick's
Church	\$641.60	\$960.00
Presbytery	\$422.80	\$478.95