

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF MENTONE - PARKDALE

SAINT PATRICK - SAINT JOHN VIANNEY



Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year C: 23rd December 2018

FATHER MICHAEL'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends

Our Advent preparation is almost complete. The group of candidates for Christian Initiation will take part in the Rite of Welcome during the Choral Mass this Sunday morning. Please keep Sarah and Scott with their children Luke, Samantha and Charli, along with Sousan and Peta in your kind prayers as they continue to prepare for their baptism at Easter.

For our reflection on the eve of Christmas, I offer extracts from several Christmas messages, the first from our archbishop, the second from Sister Joan Chittister OSB, the third from Fr Ron Rolheiser OMI.

MESSAGE OF ARCHBISHOP PETER COMENSOLI

Every baby born comes with a promise: that life is always stronger than death.

This promise is a powerful gift – the gift of hope.

At Christmas we remember one baby, who was born for all: one life, stronger than any death.

The birth of Jesus is the world's greatest gift of hope, for it is not a new thing or idea or plan that Jesus brings, but a new life, his own.

The birth of the Saviour brings the light of hope into each of our lives. And we are the ones for whom Christ has come to be with.

This is a hope worth welcoming, defending and protecting.

Amazingly, Jesus has now entrusted the gift of himself to us, that we might share his life with others.

At a time when our institutions – political, social and religious – are damaged, it is a person who can bring to us renewed reasons to find hope for ourselves, and offer hope to others.

Hope in the person of Jesus Christ opens up to us new horizons of goodness and rightness; the birth of Jesus challenges the mirages of dominance and self-centredness.

In Jesus our hope is born:

- *He is good for us now;*
- *We can find our future in Him;*
- *Our trust is assured through Him;*
And we are invited to work with Him.

Continue to believe in Jesus Christ, born from God and born of Mary; for he offers us his life so that we might find our lives in him.

Friends, never lose hope in the birth of Jesus Christ.

Happy Christmas.

REFLECTION BY SR JOAN CHITTISTER

There is a child in each of us waiting to be born again. It is to those looking for life that the figure of the Christ child beckons.

Christmas is for those

Who refuse to grow old

Who refuse to give up

To whom life comes newly and with purpose

Who can let yesterday go so that life can be full of new possibility

Who are agitated with newness.

Christmas is a feast without finish

A call to begin once more the journey towards peace and justice

REFLECTION BY FR RON ROLHEISER

Incarnation – God is with Us

For many of us, I suspect, it gets harder each year to capture the mood of Christmas. About the only thing that still warms our hearts are memories, memories of younger, more naïve, days when the lights and carols, Christmas trees and gifts, still excited us. But we're adult now and so too, it seems, is our world. The Christmas story mirrors the struggle that's being experienced within our own world and within our own tired hearts.

Incarnation is not yet the resurrection. Flesh in Jesus, as in us, is human, vulnerable, weak, incomplete, needy, painfully full of limit, suffering. Christmas celebrates Christ's birth into these things, not his removal of them. Christ redeems limit, evil, sin and pain. But they are not abolished. Given that truth, we can celebrate at Christ's birth without in any way denying or trivializing the real evil in our world and the real pain in our lives. Christmas is a challenge to celebrate while still in pain.

Reality can be harsh and Christmas does not ask us to make make-believe. The incarnation does not promise heaven on earth. It promises heaven in heaven. Here, on earth, it promises us something else – *God's presence in our lives*. When God is with us then pain and happiness are not mutually exclusive and the agonies and riddles of life do not exclude deep meaning and deep joy.

The Word was made flesh. That's an incredible thing, something that should be celebrated with tinsel, lights, and songs of joy. If we understand Christmas, the carols will still flow naturally from our lips.

Notices for Parish Bulletin to the Parish Office by 12 noon Thursday

Recently Deceased

Bernadette Robertson, Seth Beyrooti

Anniversaries

Bernie Grimes, Harry Hoare, Aldea Villari,
Richard Bloink, Giuseppe Sampieri

Prayer for the Sick



Jayden Beyrooti, Darren Lacey,
Greg McLeod, Leo Soulsby,
John Hannan, Maureen
Oswald, Madeline Wesson, Jim
Lacey, Patricia Walker, Rita
Buckner, Greta Sprague, Joan
Nolan, Carmen Lotzniker,

Molly Shannon, Hector Burra, Patricia M,
Patricia Power, Nanette Woodbridge,
Patrick Kelly, Sebastian Wolfenden, Ellen
Farrugia-Merlo, Monica Alderton,
Anthony Mannion, Paul Smiles and those
on the continuing prayer list.

(PLEASE LET US KNOW IF A NAME SHOULD BE REMOVED)

Prayer / Meditation

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Each day the Church is open from 8.00 am to 6.00pm. Adoration and Benediction each Friday will recommence in February 2019



Rosary:

1. In St Patrick's Church the Rosary is prayed each day before morning Mass at 8:45am. All welcome.
2. The Rosary is also prayed on Thursday after 10:30am OLSC Mass and on Wednesday evenings, 5pm at Bridie's (9585 5142).

Divine Mercy Devotions:

Are held in St Patrick's Church each Friday at 3:00pm.

Special Prayer Groups:

Mother's Prayer Group:

Our meetings are held in the old convent on the 1st Tuesday of each month 10:00 - 11:45am.

NOTE: No meetings in January & February 2019.

1st Collection:

Presbytery: \$1,591.95

2nd Collection:

Thanksgiving: \$2,692.20
Loose Money \$365.05

Pope's Intentions: December 2018 In the Service of the Transmission of Faith

That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

Vocation View

Mary trusted that the Lord's words to her would be fulfilled. Step out in faith and God will be there to guide you.

Please pray for Vocations



Parish Events

Christmas Offering Envelopes

are available in both our churches. The Christmas Offering supplements the First Collection for the support and upkeep of priests. Fr Michael is very grateful for your support of him and his fellow priests. The envelopes can be placed on either plate.

To: Catholic Parents whose children are not attending catholic schools:

Sunday Catechism Classes for Students who are not attending Catholic schools will start from **17 February 2019 at 10am** (for 45 min.) and are held **every Sunday in the Victoria School Terms** in the Prep. Block of St Patrick Primary School, Mentone.

Registration at 10am, Sunday 10th Feb., 2019, in the All-Purpose Room of St Patrick's Catholic Primary School. We welcome children aged 6 or above, and in particular, those who wish to be prepared for First Reconciliation and Holy Communion as well as for Confirmation.

"Let children come to me" said Jesus, "and do not hinder them. For the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these." (Luke 18:16)

29/30 DECEMBER 2018

Parish of Mentone-Parkdale

Rosters

Readers:

6:00 pm - J Dillon (SP)
9:00 am - C Beck, J O'Donoghue (SJV)
11:00 am - A Earle (SP)
5:00 pm - J Hughes (SP)

Extraordinary Ministers:

6:00 pm - T Dillon, R Razga (SP)
9:00 am - N Perazzo (SJV)
11:00 am - S Tobin, J Grealish (SP)
5:00 pm - N Maratas (SP)

Procession of Gifts:

6:00 pm - B Campbell, J Renden (SP)
9:00 am - Hoppe Family (SJV)
11:00 am - D Zuccala, J Vernon (SP)

Extraordinary Minister to the Sick:

N Perazzo (SJV)

Counters: Team 1:

R & F Morrell, R Brady,
M Haycroft

Sacristans:

St Patrick's - Group 5:

L Marshall, A Ioviero
SJV - J Green

Flowers:

B Noonan (SJV)

Pilgrim Statues:

This Week:

Vincent Family, 30 Murray St (SP)

Next Week:

DSouza Family, 5 Balcombe Place (SP)

This Week:

Jensen Family, 13 Temora St (SJV)

Next Week:

Alford Family, 2/3-4 Steven Court (SJV)

Adoration Roster:

Week 3 - Pope Pius X

Parish and Diocesan News

Parish Events THANK YOU!

As our hearts swell with gratitude to God for the gift of his Son, it is the most appropriate time to offer thanks to everyone who participates in our parish, in the first place by your constancy in worshipping our triune God at the Sunday Eucharist.

Sr Damian and Sr Marie Therese, with Judith and Florence, minister weekly to our housebound parishioners and residents in five Aged Care Facilities.

Sacristans, Director of Music and choir, servers, lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, ensuring a worthy celebration. Bell Ringers and those who participate in devotions each week add to the life of the Parish. Special thanks to Fr Ramsay who has celebrated Mass, enabling me to recover from my illness. He is giving me a 'week off' after Christmas as well.

Our parish secretaries, presbytery gardeners, Danny Benoiton, and faithful committee members, including the Parish Advisory Group, Finance Committee, School Board, RCIA team, assure reliability and life for our community.

Our parish outreach is assured by St Vincent de Paul, Legion of Mary and Knights of the Southern Cross. The Mothers Group and the Playgroup for younger mothers participate in our mission of care and witness. Sr Damian and Jenny Bloink offer education in faith to children. MenAlive group supports men in spiritual and social ways. Teams for Sunday Coffee Room and the Piety Stall are a welcoming presence during Sunday morning.

Thank you all and God Bless You,
Fr Michael

Saturday evening Cuppa & Chat

As we approach Christmas Day, don't rush away after the Saturday evening 6pm Mass at St Patrick's instead join us for a cuppa and chat and a time to mingle.



Lift to Christmas Vigil Mass

Local parishioner who lives very close to the church but now needs the use of a walker would like to attend the **6pm Christmas Vigil**. Are you able to offer them a lift?

Catholic Deaf Appeal

Thank you for your contributions to this appeal, totalling \$1,700.00



*Blessed art thou among women
And blessed is the fruit of thy
womb Jesus (Lk 1:41).*

World Mission Sunday Appeal

Thank you for your contributions to this appeal, totalling \$3,094.80

Piety Stalls

The **2019 Columban Calendars** are now available for purchase at the St Patrick's and St John Vianney's. Our Piety Stalls are open following 9:00am Mass (Parkdale) and from 10:30am (Mentone). You are very welcome to come and browse through the many items we have on sale, all at very reasonable prices

Other Events

French Young Organists Recital

Friday, January 4, 2019 – 6:30 pm

**St Patrick's Cathedral,
1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne
Cnr of Cathedral Place and Gisborne
Street (Opposite Park Hyatt Hotel)
\$20 no concessions. Children under 15
- free**

**Tickets: <https://www.trybooking.com/>
Enquiries: music@cam.org.au or
9926 5753 (Wed-Sun)**

This concert has been organised by the great French Organist Johann Vexo, who at just 25 years of age was appointed as the Choir Organist of Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris. The concert will feature Alexandre Bonnemort, Jean Nouvel-Alaux, Jean Poitevin and Arthur Scandola on the St Patrick's Cathedral Organ.

In 2001, the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments introduced legislation that deals with the manner in which public and private sector organisations may record, use, store and disclose information, including health information, collected from individuals. This parish is committed to upholding and implementing the Privacy Principles set out in legislation. A copy of the Parish Policy is available by contacting the Parish Office.

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CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE - MONDAY, 24 DECEMBER

6.00pm: Vigil Mass of Christmas: (SP)

8.00pm: Vigil Mass of Christmas: (SJV)
(preceded by carols from 7.30pm)

Midnight: Solemn Mass of Christmas: (SP)
(preceded by Carols from 11.30pm)

CHRISTMAS DAY - TUESDAY, 25 DECEMBER

10.00am: Mass of Christmas Day (SP)

**(please note there are no other Masses
on Christmas Day at
St Patrick's and St John Vianney)**

Villa Maria Homes

Opportunity to purchase a unit

Two-bedroom unit for sale at Corpus Christi Retirement Village, Clayton. Owned and operated by Villa Maria Catholic Homes. A perfect choice for any retiree, this light-filled and open plan unit benefits from a generous courtyard, low maintenance living and a great community. Located on the corner of Bayview Avenue and Clayton Road in Clayton. **Only one unit remaining!** Call 8581 0600 to book a tour today.

Catholic Theological College

2019 Study Options Now Available!

Undergraduate and Postgraduate Options

Choice of Philosophy, Systematic Theology, Moral Theology, Religious Education or Christian Spirituality units

Audit options available

Enquiries: Mr John Bartholomeusz,
Assistant Dean T: 9412 3309

Email: ctc@ctc.edu.au

The Liturgy for the 4th Sunday in Advent: 23rd December 2018

Mass Response

Psalm Response: Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, Alleluia!**
I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done. **Alleluia!**

Memorial Acclamation: We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection, until you come again.

Legend: "CWBII" Catholic Worship Book II

6:00 pm Vigil Mass (Saturday) - St Patrick's

Mass Setting: Mass of Our Lady Help of Christians - Connolly
Entrance: CWBII 416
Offertory: CWBII 410
Communion: CWBII 242
Recessional: CWBII 213

9:00am (Sunday) - St John Vianney's

Mass Setting: Mass of Our Lady Help of Christians - Connolly
Entrance: CWBII 416
Offertory: CWBII 242
Communion: CWBII 407
Recessional: CWBII 213

11:00am Choral Mass (Sunday) - St Patrick's

Mass Setting: Mass in Honour of St Ralph Sherwin - Ostrowski
Russian Kyrie (arr. Bell)
Introit: Rorate caeli-gregorian chant
Offertory: *O Sanctissima - Sicilian Carol*
Communion: *O salutaris hostia - Gounod*
CWBII 407
Recessional: CWBII 213

5:00 pm (Sunday) - St Patrick's

Mass Setting: Mass of Our Lady Help of Christians - Connolly
Entrance: CWBII 416
Offertory: CWBII 232
Communion: CWBII 242
Recessional: CWBII 213

Readings Next Week:

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

I Samuel: 1:20-22. 24-28
I John: 3:1-2. 21-24
Luke: 2:41-52

MASSES THIS WEEK

(SP) St Patrick's Church; (SJV) St John Vianney's Church

WEEK DAY MORNING MASSES

Monday, 24th December **Christmas Eve**
(refer inside bulletin)
10:00 am (SJV) **Funeral:** Bernadette Robertson

Tuesday, 25th December **Christmas Day**
Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (refer inside bulletin)

Wednesday, 26th December
9:15 am (SP) Feast: St Stephen, the first martyr
10:30 am (SJV) Mass

Thursday, 27th December
9:15 am (SP) Feast: St John, apostle, evangelist
10:30 am (SP) **Ordinarie Mass**

Friday, 28th December
9:15 am (SP) Feast: The Holy Innocents, martyrs
5:15 pm (SJV) Mass

Saturday, 29th December
9:15 am (SP) 5th day in the Octave of the Nativity

WEEKEND MASSES

(Vigil) Saturday: 6:00 pm (SP)
Sunday: 9:00 am (SJV)
Sunday: 9:30 am (SP) (**Ordinarie Mass**)
Sunday: 11:00 am (SP) (Choral Mass)
Sunday: 5:00 pm (SP)

RECONCILIATION

After the 9:15 am Mass on Wednesday & Saturday mornings (SP) and 5:15 pm Saturday (SP)

**EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION
WILL RESUME IN FEBRUARY 2019**