

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish

Yarra Junction & Warburton



Second Sunday of Advent

5 December 2021

readings

Zeph 3: 14-18
Phil 4: 4-7
Lk 3: 10-18

in a nutshell

Prepare a way for the Lord. The season of Advent is a time in which we prepare for the Lord's coming. We prepare for the feast of Christmas which commemorates his first coming as a child in Bethlehem. And we prepare also for his coming in glory. We do this by heeding John the Baptist's call to repentance, and by striving for 'peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.'

we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend especially, Charlie & Mary Booth, John Pas, Des Hillas, Bernie Reed.
For those who have died recently, especially Bill Ryan and those whose anniversary, occurs at this time.

of special note

Priest's Retirement Fund
Leaving collection this weekend

More information inside

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice
heard in the joy of your heart.

Psalm Response

(R.) The Lord has done great things for us; we
are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. (R.)

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. (R.)

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. (R.)

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his
paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and
behold the joy which comes to you from God.

The Parish of Sacred Heart

Parish Priest
REV. MICHEL G CORRIVEAU

Parish Secretary
Janine Meades

Parish Office Hours
Thursday
9:00am-4:00pm

Weekly Schedule

Sunday Mass

Warburton: Saturday—7:00pm
Yarra Junction: Sunday—8:30am

Weekday Mass

Wednesday—9:00am

Reconciliation

Thursday 6:00pm-6:45pm
Thursdays at Yarra Junction
First Thursday at Warburton

Exposition

Thursday at 6:00pm
Thursdays at Yarra Junction
First Thursday at Warburton

Weddings

Please contact the office

Baptisms

Please see Father after Mass

Parish Primary School

Principal: Nick Boyhan

Website:

www.siyarrajunction.catholic.edu.au

Parish Office: 58 Clegg Rd, Mount Evelyn VIC 3796
Tel: (03) 9736 2850

Web: <http://pol.org.au/upperyarra/valley/Home.aspx>

Email: moutevelyn@cam.org.au

Parish Notices

Child Safety is everyone's responsibility. Our Parish is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, and vulnerable people in our community.

Bulletin notices by 12:00 noon Thursday please

mountevelyn@cam.org.au

For positions vacant within the Diocese visit:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

Christmas Mass Times – Upper Yarra Valley

Christmas Eve – Vigil Mass 7:00pm Yarra Junction

Christmas Day – 8:30am Warburton

No Saturday Evening Masses

Christmas Mass Times – Mount Evelyn

Christmas Eve – Vigil Mass 5:00pm

Midnight Mass – 12:00am

Christmas Day- 10:30am

No Saturday Evening Masses

PRF Leaving Collection this weekend

As the restrictions imposed by the Government due to COVID-19, Sunday Masses were not able to be celebrated on the first Sunday of September. Traditionally the “Father’s Day” collection would have been taken up on that Sunday to support the retired Priests of the Archdiocese. Parishes have been asked to hold a collection in support of the Priest’s Retirement Fund. This will be done as a leaving collection next weekend.

Stewardship Corner

“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value...” (Philippians 1:9-10)

During the Christmas shopping season it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that “gift” truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your “obligation” to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them, learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less “stuff” and spend more time with those you love.

Adoration of the Eucharist

Adoration, spend time in the presence of the Eucharist Yarra Junction, Thursday nights at 6:00pm except first Thursday (Warburton). Confessions available during Adoration. Mount Evelyn: Friday mornings 8:00am.

What you should look to is the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven. Now, is this meant in an ultimate sense? Yes, the second coming signals the end of the world as we know it. But the Son of Man is coming on the clouds of heaven even now in the life of the Church. Think of the clouds of incense that accompany the manifestations of Christ in the high liturgy. Even now the true king, the successor of David, is in our midst. (Bishop Robert Barron)

Re-Imagining our Local Church as Mission Communities

The Way of the Gospel—the path of missionary discipleship—has always been adapted by every generation to fit the local circumstances. How this is arranged has varied according to time and place. How might our local communities of faith continue to address the missionary call of the Gospel into the future? How might we invite people into the fullness of the Gospel of life, and do so with a sense of vibrancy and vitality? For more information on Take The Way of the Gospel, visit <https://melbournecatholic.org/about/take-the-way-of-the-gospel>

Covid Safe Environment

It is expected that Covid regulations are followed by each person therefore make sure you are signed in (preferably using QR code), sanitize, maintain socially distancing, and follow Covid guidelines as directed by the CHO. Obligation to attend Mass continues to be waived by the Archbishop so if you are concerned about your health continue to watch the Mass live on Channel 31(digital 44) at 11:00am on Sundays.

New Website Address

In the coming weeks we will have a new website address.

<http://pol.org.au/upperyarra/valley/Home.aspx>

Harvest Journeys Catholic Road Trips 2022

Faith, Fun, Fellowship on Pilgrimage

Introducing an inspirational series of local Catholic Pilgrimage Journeys in Australia and New Zealand as we take to the road and celebrate the beauty of the places, faces and graces that make up our wonderful backyard. Choose from a selection of iconic touring experiences as we combine faith, fun and fellowship together, while celebrating memorable daily masses with our fellow Catholic communities encountered along the way. <https://www.harvestjourneys.com/catholic-roadtrips/>

Something to make you Smile!

Christmas was but a month away and young Tom asked his mum if he could have a new bike. She told him that the best idea would be to write to Santa Claus. But Tom, having just played Joseph in the school nativity play, said he would prefer to write to the baby Jesus. His mum told him that would be fine.

Tom went to his room and wrote, "Dear Jesus, I have been a very good boy and would like to have a bike for Christmas." But he wasn't very happy when he read over his letter so he decided to try again.

This time he wrote, "Dear Jesus, I'm a good boy most of the time and would dearly like a bike for Christmas." He read it back and wasn't happy with that letter either. He attempted a third version.

"Dear Jesus, I could be a good boy if I tried hard and especially if I had a new bike." However, after another read he still wasn't satisfied. So, he decided to go for a walk while he pondered a better approach. He soon passed a house with a small statue of the Virgin Mary in the front garden. He had an idea. He crept in, stuffed the statue under his coat, hurried home and hid it under his bed.

Then he wrote, "Dear Jesus, if you want to see your mother again, you'd better send me a new bike."

Readings Reflection

[The Road Home](#)

Today's Psalm paints a dreamlike scene—a road filled with liberated captives heading home to Zion (Jerusalem), mouths filled with laughter, tongues rejoicing.

It's a glorious picture from Israel's past, a "new exodus," the deliverance from exile in Babylon. It's being recalled in a moment of obvious uncertainty and anxiety. But the psalmist isn't waxing nostalgic.

Remembering "the Lord has done great things" in the past, he is making an act of faith and hope—that God will come to Israel in its present need, that He'll do even greater things in the future.

This is what the Advent readings are all about: We recall God's saving deeds—in the history of Israel and in the coming of Jesus. Our remembrance is meant to stir our faith, to fill us with confidence that, as today's Epistle puts it, "the one who began a good work in [us] will continue to complete it" until He comes again in glory.

Each of us, the Liturgy teaches, is like Israel in her exile—led into captivity by our sinfulness, in need of restoration and conversion by the Word of the Holy One (see Baruch 5:5). The lessons of salvation history should teach us that, as God again and again delivered Israel, in His mercy He will free us from our attachments to sin if we turn to Him in repentance.

That's the message of John, introduced in today's Gospel as the last of the great prophets (compare Jeremiah 1:1–4, 11). But John is greater than the prophets (see Luke 7:27). He's preparing the way not only for a new redemption of Israel but for the salvation of "all flesh" (see also Acts 28:28).

John quotes Isaiah (40:3) to tell us he's come to build a road home for us, a way out of the wilderness of sin and alienation from God. It's a road we'll follow Jesus down, a journey we'll make, as today's First Reading puts it, "rejoicing that [we're] remembered by God."

[Dr. Scott Hahn](#)
stpaulcenter.com

Prepare a Way for the Lord

The Season of Advent

Beloved, now is the acceptable time spoken of by the Spirit, the day of salvation, peace and reconciliation: the great season of Advent. This is the time eagerly awaited by the patriarchs and prophets, the time that holy Simeon rejoiced at last to see. This is the season that the Church has always celebrated with special solemnity. We too should always observe it with faith and love, offering praise and thanksgiving to the Father for the mercy and love he has shown us in this mystery. In his infinite love for us, though we were sinners, he sent his only Son to free us from the tyranny of Satan, to summon us to heaven, to welcome us into its innermost recesses, to show us truth itself, to train us in right conduct, to plant within us the seeds of virtue, to enrich us with the treasures of his grace, and to make us children of God and heirs of eternal life.

Each year, as the Church recalls this mystery, she urges us to renew the memory of the great love God has shown us. This holy season teaches us that Christ's coming was not only for the benefit of his contemporaries; his power has still to be communicated to us all. We shall share his power, if, through holy faith and the sacraments, we willingly accept the grace Christ earned for us, and live by that grace and in obedience to Christ.

The Church asks us to understand that Christ, who came once in the flesh, is prepared to come again. When we remove all obstacles to his presence he will come, at any hour and moment, to dwell spiritually in our hearts, bringing with him the riches of his grace.

In her concern for our salvation, our loving mother the Church uses this holy season to teach us through hymns, canticles and other forms of expression, of voice or ritual, used by the Holy Spirit. She shows us how grateful we should be for so great a blessing, and how to gain its benefit: our hearts should be as much prepared for the coming of Christ as if he were still to come into this world. The same lesson is given us for our imitation by the words and example of the holy men of the Old Testament.

From a pastoral letter by St Charles Borromeo, Bishop

The preparations for the coming of Christ

522 The coming of God's Son to earth is an event of such immensity that God willed to prepare for it over centuries. He makes everything converge on Christ: all the rituals and sacrifices, figures and symbols of the "First Covenant." He announces him through the mouths of the prophets who succeeded one another in Israel. Moreover, he awakens in the hearts of the pagans a dim expectation of this coming.

523 St. John the Baptist is the Lord's immediate precursor or forerunner, sent to prepare his way. "Prophet of the Most High," John surpasses all the prophets, of whom he is the last. He inaugurates the Gospel, already from his mother's womb welcomes the coming of Christ, and rejoices in being "the friend of the bridegroom," whom he points out as "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." Going before Jesus "in the spirit and power of Elijah," John bears witness to Christ in his preaching, by his Baptism of conversion, and through his martyrdom.

524 When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming. By celebrating the precursor's birth and martyrdom, the Church unites herself to his desire: "He must increase, but I must decrease."

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church