



# Sacred Heart / Emmaus Parish

St Albans / Sydenham Western Plains Deanery  
Parish Priest: Fr. Maurie Cooney



## First Sunday of Advent, Year B - 3rd December 2023

### Parish Office Details:

Address: 4 Winifred Street, St Albans 3021  
Phone: 9366 2146

Finance: Lorraine Stafford: [StAlbans.Finance@cam.org.au](mailto:StAlbans.Finance@cam.org.au)

Parish Office: Lauren Maslaris: [StAlbans@cam.org.au](mailto:StAlbans@cam.org.au)

### Office Hours:

Monday & Tuesday: 9:30am—4:00pm

Wednesday-Friday: 9:30am—2:30pm

(The parish office is closed on weekends and public holidays)

### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Sacred Heart English Saturday 10.30am  
Maltese every 4th Saturday 4.00pm

Baptism: Eight weeks notice is required

Marriage: Six months noticed required

### Sacred Heart Church Mass Times:

#### Weekdays:

Tuesday - Friday 7.30am

Saturday 9.00am

#### Weekend:

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 7:30am, 10:30am

Polish 9.00am

Slovene 2nd Sunday of month at 5:00pm

### Emmaus Church Mass Times:

Saturday 6:30pm

Sunday 9:00am

Website: <http://pol.org.au/stalbanssydenham/Home.aspx>

### SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Sacred Heart/Emmaus Parish is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. The Parish takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse and upholds that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. To report issues and concerns, contact: [stalbans.csc@cam.org.au](mailto:stalbans.csc@cam.org.au) or 0413 841 936

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

*Sacred Heart-Emmaus Parish acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation, the traditional owners of the land where we gather. We pay our respect to their elders past, present and emerging.*

### READINGS

This Week: First Reading: [Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8](#)

Second Reading: [1 Corinthians 1:3-9](#)

Gospel: [Mark 13:33-37](#)

Next Week: First Reading: [Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11](#)

Second Reading: [2 Peter 3:8-14](#)

Gospel: [Mark 1:1-8](#)

### REFLECTION

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Advent – commencing today – is the season of new beginnings. A new Year for the Church calendar begins today, Year B – during which the gospel of Mark will give shape to many of the Sunday readings. Advent is the season of new beginnings. There are many ‘new years’: birthdays, school year, financial year. There are many ‘beginnings’ – school, job, further study, retirement, ... Advent is the Church’s ‘new year’, the season to consider a new beginning, re-telling the story again from its origins.

Advent always beckons us into this new beginning with images of transformation and hope. It is the season of the impossible becoming possible, leading into our celebration of the birth into our human situation of the Son of God! It will give us stories of great people of hope – John the Baptist, Mary, Joseph, the prophets. Advent is a season of joy, hope, determination and waiting. Whereas last Sunday spoke of Christ becoming ‘Lord of All – the King’ when all is fulfilled, this First Sunday of Advent takes us back before the birth of Jesus as we begin to re-tell and celebrate again his life amongst us.

Instead of waiting for 1<sup>st</sup> January to make ‘new year’s resolutions’, consider beginning with Advent. In your prayer, consider what beginning you would like to make in your life, taking the Gospel of Jesus as a guide.

We mark the beginning of Advent each year, by changing the Church colours to the purple - a time of preparation, and a time for spiritual “putting our hearts in order to be open to Christ amongst us,” surely a gift of joy – Christ has come to us!!

See the dates and times of our Advent Prayer Services later in this newsheet: opportunities for Advent reflection and for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



## WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

**Recent Deaths:** Fr Gerard Dowling, Milan Persich, Rita Galea, Janina Simic, Ana Kauric, Marlene Allen & Shirish Panda

**Anniversaries:** Ray Slater, Karen Farrugia, Michael Vella & Family, Carmen & Giacomo Matina, Michael & Theresa Farrugia, Joseph Xuereb, Salvina & John Borg, Angela Xuereb, Michael & Josephine Piacentini, Joe Xuereb, Joe Grech, Tessie Farrugia, Emmanuel & Frank Grech, Tony Calleja, Clarrie James, Joyce Borg, Joeanne Martin, Brandon Lee, George Burns, Dingley, Caruana, Farrugia and Penney Families, Margaret Brian, Tanya & Joan, Josset Vella, Evelyn, Carmena, Salvu Galea, Carmen Farrugia, Josephine, Valent Cilia, John Sant & Zaru Cassar, Marika, Emmanuel & Robert Farrugia, Paula & Carmena Brinkat, Cikku & Cekka Tabone, Charlie, Ovedio & Frank Camilleri, Tony Spiteri, Guza Martinelli, Leli Bugeja, Fr. Joshua, Peter Muscat, Albert Muscat, Daphne & Francis Guest, Olga Rose, Priscilla, Desmond & James Rosario, Benjamin & Anastasia Gomes, Paul & Maria D'Rozario, Pero Kilsanin, Antonia Demecoli, Cecilia & Frank Cordina, Joseph & Maria Orsini, Paul Aquilina, Aaron D'souza, Joe Aruliah, Zita Aruliah, Sebastian Baracho, Estafania Baracho, Pjeter, Lize, Collin Dajcay, Francis Lukose, Marykutty Francis, Mercy Fernando, Joseph Grech, Stan Kakos, John & Josephine Gomes, Lloyd & Bertha Maseyk, Joseph & John Pereira, Rosy & George Gass, Bernadina Siracusa, Frank Siracusa, Anna Pribaz, Maria & Pino Grego.

## OUR PASTORAL, SOCIAL & SCHOOL EVENTS



### Melbourne Overseas Missions

**(MOM)** is a humanitarian organisation founded in 1968 by Cardinal James Knox to provide assistance to

developing countries as an outreach of the Catholic Church community in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. MOM provides funding, material goods and volunteer personnel to partner Catholic dioceses and Parishes in Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, Peru, Israel and to some other countries for programs in education, training, literacy, health, village development, water supply, emergency relief and other activities.

#### How You Can Help You can donate directly

**Online:** <https://mom.cdfpay.org.au/details/?id=622447>

**By Mail:** Copies of the form are in the Church Foyers or downloadable at: <https://www.mom.org.au/donations/mail-donations/>

**Postage Address: CARDINAL KNOX CENTRE  
383 ALBERT STREET EAST MELBOURNE 3002  
PO BOX 146 EAST MELBOURNE 8002**

*When making a donation, please advise if you would like tax deductibility. Contributions of \$2.00 and over for relief and development projects are tax deductible. If tax deductibility is not required, then MOM will have more flexibility in responding to people in need, including the development of Christian belief. A receipt will still be issued.*

### Advent Prayer and Reconciliation Mass Times

◇ **Sacred Heart: Wednesday 13th December at 7:30pm**

◇ **Emmaus: Thursday 14th December at 7:30pm**

### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2024 ENROLLMENTS NOW OPEN!

Our Parish is joining with [Resurrection Parish Kings Park](#) who will welcome into their preparation programmes young Parishioners who are at government and other schools. Contact our Office for details.

### Piety Stalls

The stores are open in both our Churches during Mass.

**Columban Art Calendars** are also available for \$10.

**\*Reminder\* Cash payments only**

All profits from our stall go to Mercy Hospice.

Come along for a family concert of **Christmas carols in Patrick's Cathedral.** Featuring Cathedral Brass, Cathedral Schola and the Grand Organ, this performance will include plenty of audience participation, a children's segment and 'special guest' appearance.



Christmas Carols at the Cathedral

**Sunday 17 December 2023 from 3.00pm-4.15pm**

**Tickets can be purchased in advance or are available to purchase (via cash or card) at the door  
Adult—\$30, Concession—\$25, Children aged 15 years and under—free admission**

### Ministry Meetings:

**Finance Committee** Tuesday 5th December, 7pm @ Sacred Heart

**RCIA** Tuesday 19th December, 7:30pm @ Emmaus

### Rosters:

Liturgy rosters for December masses have been emailed out this past Monday. Over the month of January we *will not* have a Roster for Readers of the Word/Prayers of the Faithful or Special Ministers.

We understand many Parishioners will be away. If you are at Mass and have your WWCC please feel free to step in and help out.



### VOLUNTEERS FOR CHRISTMAS MINISTRY

As we enter the FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT it is time to start planning ahead. You will notice that we have sign up sheets for the 'Christmas Masses'. We require additional volunteers for the 9 masses Christmas Eve 24th December and 25th of December Christmas Day at both our Churches. Any volunteers who are able to assist at these extra Masses please put your name down.

**Please Consider Offering Your Help.**

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

God give me strength for what is necessary.

Mary MacKillop. 11th. June 1877