

Third Sunday of Advent Year C

Entrance Antiphon Phil 4:4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah Zep 3:14-18

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Is 12:2-6 R. v.6

(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Truly, God is my salvation,

I trust, I shall not fear.

For the Lord is my strength, my song,

he became my saviour.

With joy you will draw water

from the wells of salvation. *(R.)*

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!

Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!

Declare the greatness of his name. *(R.)*

Sing a psalm to the Lord

for he has done glorious deeds,

make them known to all the earth!

People of Zion, sing and shout for joy

for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. *(R.)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians Phil 4:4-7

The Lord is near.

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and

thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke Lk 3:10-18

What, then, must we do?

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon Cf. Is 35:4

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.



Next week's readings:

First Reading: Mi 5:1-4

Responsorial Psalm Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19. R. v.4

Second Reading: Heb 10:5-10

Gospel Lk 1:39-45



Parish of Belgrave

The Catholic Church

P.O. Box 100, Belgrave, Victoria 3160
Phone: 97542141
Office Hours: 10am – 2pm Tuesday to Friday
Internet: pol.org.au/belgrave

The Parish of St Thomas More and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. May our message be that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention

Our Parish Vision Statement:
We are called to be a welcoming, compassionate community, empowered for our faith journey for active service.....

CHURCH CENTRES		St. Joseph's Church Emerald Cnr. Emerald-Monbulk & Cornish Roads	Sacred Heart Church Gembrook Main Road	St. Thomas More Church Belgrave Reynolds Lane	St. Paul's Church Monbulk 59 Moores Road
MASS TIMES	WEEKEND	Vigil Mass 6.00pm	9.00am	9.am and 5.30pm	11.00am
	WEEKDAY			9.00am	

Homily for the Third Sunday of Advent Year C - 12th December, 2021

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday.

This Sunday's Gospel continues last week's focus on John the Baptist and his role in preparing the way for Christ. Recall that last week's reading described John's appearance in the desert and established his connection with the prophetic tradition of Israel. If we were to read Luke's Gospel continuously, we would learn about John the Baptist challenging the crowds who came to him and calling upon them to show evidence of their repentance. John tells his listeners that they cannot rely on their lineage as Israelites because children of Abraham can be raised up from stones. Repentance, rather, must be observable in one's actions. Here, Luke is continuing to set up two important themes of his Gospel message: the Christian faith is expressed in one's actions, and the call to salvation is extended to everyone, Jews and Gentiles.



In today's Gospel reading, the crowds ask John the Baptist for specifics. What evidence of repentance is required? John replies by naming concrete actions: crowds should share their food and cloaks; tax collectors should be just; soldiers should act fairly. The concern for justice is a hallmark of Luke's Gospel.

When the crowd begins to wonder if John the Baptist might be the Messiah, John interprets his baptism and makes it clear that his ministry is in preparation for the Messiah. John the Baptist knows his place and role in God's plan of salvation. By encouraging the crowd to act similarly in accordance with their stations in life, John's teaching suggests that each person has a role to play in God's salvation. It is the great mystery of our salvation that God permits and even asks for human cooperation in his divine plans.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word that means "rejoice." This name is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass, which is also echoed in today's second reading from the Paul's letter to the Philippians. Some people mark this Sunday by lighting a pink candle instead of a purple one on their Advent wreath. It is a reminder that the Advent season is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

Source: <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/third-sunday-of-advent-cycle-c-sunday-connection/>

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Monbulk: Mia Jansen
Belgrave: Rita McPherson , Louise Jans and Samantha Willis
Gembrook: John Conway & Dennis
Emerald: Matha Billington and Stephen Billington
Mt. Dandenong:

WE ARE A CHILD SAFETY PARISH AND WE BELIEVE IN CHILD SAFETY.

ST. THOMAS MORE'S PRIMARY, BELGRAVE
 Principal: Caroline Quinton
 Phone: 9754-4444
 Email: cquinton@smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au
www.smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au
ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK
 Principal: Michael Watt
 Phone: 9756 7201
 Email: principal@spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au

REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Recent deaths:

Leo Walsh (93), the husband of Josie, sons of Stephen, Kevin and Jim, daughters of Sue and Janita.

Many people across the world who have died due to corona virus and natural calamities.

- Funeral mass for late Leo Walsh will be held on 15th December at 10.30am at St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave. Make sure you display your fully vaccinated digital certificate. There will be a funeral officer to assist you.

Link for the late Mr. Leo Walsh

<https://www.westwardfilms.com.au/211215-leo-walsh>

- Holy Rosary to be prayed for late Leo Walsh on 14th December at 7pm at St. Thomas more church Belgrave.

Anniversaries: Paul Granieri, Terry McDermott, Dorothy ward.

Prayer for the deceased:

Lord open wide the doors of your Mercy to all those who have passed away in the parish of St. Thomas More, Belgrave. In your compassion grant eternal bliss to all of them.

Prayers for the Sick: We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Ewa Wallis, Jane Schellenbach, Deanne Atkinson, Damien Van der Linden, Fiona, Margaret Gilhooly, Daniel, Mason, Hero, Helen Smith, Irene and Kevin Ryan, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster. Pat McCarrick, Joan Newman, Justin, Tom Fergus, Josie Walsh, Father Noel MacKay, B. O'Connor, Linda Bullivant, Maureen Lyons, Laurie Fitton, Ingyin Collins, David Bourke, Eileen Banyard, Brendan, Martin Fergus, Margaret & Fiona Gilhooly, Maureen, Patricia Gilchrist, Stephen Mc., Cheryl McInnes, Kate Arnott, Julian Neesham, Robert Drake, Joan Munday, Fa Perisipi, John Reid, Dieter Farmer, Margaret Sheanon, Dianne Zidek, Mark Pickthall, Terry Schubert, Neil Weatherill, Margaret Herbert, Rob Zwagerman, Joshua McQuade, Lanie Brereton, Sandra Dowling, Francesca, Neil Holland, Maureen Hughes, Marilyn Ward, Isabelle Henry, Phillis Willoughby.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Congratulations to Aidan McCrohan, Maximus Willis, Maaike Slim and Marcus who have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the 4th of December at the Gembrook church.



FUNDRAISING NEWS:

We are in the process of collecting old stamps and old coins

Can you please keep all used postage stamps (Australian and overseas) and overseas money, also old stamp albums.

These are for sale at the next parish fete. Send to the parish office or call Tony Whyte (St Paul's Monbulk) for collection.

ST LUKE'S BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL HOURS CARE (SLOSH) COORDINATOR POSITION

St Luke's Outside School Hours Care Program (SLOSH) is looking to employ a qualified Program Coordinator for the before and after school care, and the school holiday program. This is a full-time position. Your honesty, commitment and dedication are the most important qualifications. Any previous experience will also be an added qualification. The successful applicant will be required to start asap, December 2021 or January 2022

Position Objective:

To work cooperatively and professionally as a Coordinator of a team, which will provide a high quality program for the children. To promote excellent relationships with staff, parents and the Parish Priest, to ensure that the business continues to grow in a caring environment, upholding the quality and good name of the SLOSH program. The job description can be found on our website www.stlukeswantirna.net. Applications and resume are to be sent to Joseph.Amal@cam.org.au or wantirna@cam.org.au.

CDFPay for Parishes

Catholic Development Fund and Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne have partnered to build an online parish payment portal, CDFPay for Parishes.

The site enables you to make quick and easy online thanksgiving payments - you can set-up a recurring payment,

if you haven't done so already, or you can choose a one-off offering. The code attached below.



The site can be found via this link - CDFpay for Belgrave Parish. Reference: Your Name - mention the planned giving number.

We thank you in advance for supporting our parish community.

Human Rights Dinner

You're Invited to acknowledge International Human Rights Day with Casey Grandmothers for Refugees

SATURDAY, 11th DECEMBER @ 6.00pm

Tecoma Uniting Church

1566 Burwood Highway

Tecoma

Please bring: Yourself and friends

RSVP TO: Prue 0447546327

\$20 for a scrumptious dinner and good conversation

Proceeds to Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project and Kindred

Fully Vaccinated Digital Certificate for Church Volunteers

The Archdioceses of Melbourne, strongly advised us that all the volunteers provide a copy of your COVID19 fully vaccination digital certificate to the parish priest or parish office as soon as possible during parish office hours from Tuesday to Friday 10am to 2pm.

Mass Managers, Liturgy Group Members, Parish Council Members, Finance Committee members, Bookkeeper, Parish Property Manager, Social justice group, Readers, Money Collectors, Sacrament workshop Facilitators, Musicians, Choir Members, Visitation Group, Special Communion ministers, Social Committee Members, Vincent de Paul Committee members, Fundraising group, Child safety committee members, Alter decorators, Cleaners and the other volunteers

Fr. Anthony Cruz

We have a special collection this week for "**Melbourne Over-seas Mission.**" Let us be generous in our donations so that our good Lord too will be generous to us.

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve Mass (Friday 24th December)



St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave

5.30pm Carols

6.00pm Children Mass (**Salesian Priest**)

9.00pm Mass for the unvaccinated (**Fr. Cruz**)

11.00pm Carols

11.30pm Midnight Mass (**Fr. Cruz**)

St. Joseph's Church Emerald

6.30pm (**Salesian Priest**)

St. Paul's Church, Monbulk

6.30pm Carols

7.00pm (**Fr. Cruz**)

Christmas Mass (Saturday 25th December)

St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave

9.00am (**Fr. Cruz**)

5.30pm (mass for the unvaccinated)
(**Fr. Cruz**)

Sacred Church, Gembrook

9.00am

St. Paul's Church, Monbulk

11.00am (**Fr. Cruz**)

26th December Sunday

Sacred Heart Church, Gembrook

9.00am (**Fr. Cruz**)

St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave

9.00am (**Salesian Priest**)

5.30pm for unvaccinated people (**Fr. Cruz**)

St. Paul's Church, Monbulk

11.00am (**Fr. Cruz**)