

First Sunday of Advent Year C

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 24:1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

Jer 33:14-16

I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

In those days and at that time,
I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David,
who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.
In those days Judah shall be saved
and Israel shall dwell in confidence.
And this is the name the city will be called:
The Lord-our-integrity.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 24:4-5. 8-9. 10. 14. R. v.1

(R.) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

His ways are faithfulness and love
for those who keep his covenant and will.
The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;
to them he reveals his covenant. **(R.)**

A reading from first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians 1 Thes 3:12 – 4:2

When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. **Alleluia.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke Lk 21:25-28. 34-36

Your redemption is near at hand.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Ps 84:13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.



Next week's readings:

First Reading: Bar 5:1-9

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 125. R. v.3

Second Reading: Phil 1:3-6. 8-11

Gospel Lk 3:1-6



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 + mass on Zoom	

Homily for the First Sunday of Advent Year C— 28th November, 2021

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of the new liturgical year. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. The key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Luke will be the primary Gospel proclaimed (Lectionary Cycle C). Today's Gospel is taken from the last chapter before the passion narrative in which Jesus is teaching in the Temple. We hear Jesus speak to his disciples about the need for vigilance and prayer as they wait for the coming of the Son of Man in glory. This passage marks the conclusion of a lengthy dialogue in which Jesus predicts the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, warns about the persecution and tribulations to follow, and identifies the signs that will signal the coming of the Son of Man in glory.



The community for whom Luke wrote his Gospel may have believed that they were already experiencing some of the events Jesus described. Most scholars believe that Luke's Gospel was written after the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 A.D. At the time, many Christians interpreted this event as an indication that Jesus' second coming was near.

Though Jesus predicts a time of destruction and fear, Jesus indicates that others will be frightened; Jesus' disciples are not to fear, but are to stand tall. Yet Jesus does not promise deliverance from anxiety or tribulations. He encourages his disciples to pray for strength. The early Christian communities did not find consolation in the promise of a utopia, nor should we. Instead, we find in our Christian faith the means by which we witness to God's unfailing love for us in all circumstances.

Jesus' predictions about the end times may sound dire, but in the next paragraph Luke tells us that people woke early to listen to Jesus' teaching in the Temple area. In his person and in his message, those who heard Jesus found strength and consolation. Like the first Christians, we may encounter events and circumstances that could lead us to despair. Through prayer, however, we find strength and consolation in Jesus' words and in his continuing presence with us to endure all things and to witness to the action of God in our world.

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

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:

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Child Safety Contacts:

Chairperson — Dennis

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Tony Whyte and Sue Luxford

Monbulk:

Therese Melia Geary , Evert Jansen

Belgrave:

Mia Jansen

Gembrook:

Rita McPherson , Louise Jans and Samantha Willis

Emerald:

John Conway & Dennis

Mt. Dandenong:

Matha Billington and Stephen Billington

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

Anniversaries:

Nelly Van Raay, Edith Bramwell, Gerry Ruigrok, John van Graas (Snr.).

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 Gilhooley, Daniel, Mason, Hero, Helen Smith, Irene and Kevin Ryan, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster. Pat McCarrick, Joan Newman, Justin, Tom Fergus, Leo and Josie Walsh, Father Noel MacKay, B. O'Connor, Linda Bullivant, Maureen Lyons, Laurie Fitton, Ingyn Collins, David Bourke, Eileen Banyard, Brendan, Martin Fergus, Margaret & Fiona Gilhooley, 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.

Dear Liturgy Committee members,

I Kindly request you to come for a meeting on Tuesday the 30th November at Belgrave Presbytery at 6pm to discuss about Christmas masses. Sorry for the short notice. Thank you for your understanding.

Fr. Anthony Cruz

COLUMBAN CALENDARS 2022

The Columban Calendar is available for purchase from St. Thomas More Parish.

Calendar can be purchased for \$10.00 from the church Foyer, please put your money into the poor donation box.

Thank You.



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.

Special Thanks for those who have raised money to the Giuleri family.



We are still running the Wine Drive until the 10th of Dec - Pick up in Belgrave, Gembrook, Emerald and Monbulk churches.

CARLEI WINES Order form



Carlei Wines is excited to give back to the community! To Celebrate The Sacred Heart Church of Gembrook's 100th Birthday celebrations, Carlei Wines will be running a fundraiser; donating a percentage of all sales to the church!

Simply fill out the attached order form by 10/12/2021 Your order will be packed and ready for collection at the church.

The Parish will contact everyone once the orders are ready.

For more information on any of the wines listed, please email gettinglocalsbackontrack@gmail.com



Extra Special Winery Offer!!

Spend over \$60 in one order and go into the draw to WIN a \$100 Voucher to be used at The Pine Grove Hotel!!

The link to our Facebook page for promoting the wine drive.

<https://fb.me/e/1cRHah8RP>

St. Thomas More Church Belgrave 9am mass

(Fully Vaccinated)

Full Vaccination Certificate & Single QR Code COVID-19 Check-In System registration via try booking or calling the respective person in your church.

The check in process as follows:

- On, arrival, please display your fully vaccinated certificate a digital or a printout. There will be a parish volunteer to assist you.
- Please scan the QR code displayed in the foyer
- Those who are unable to scan the QR code, please write your details in the list in the foyer.

Thank you for your understanding and support in these challenging times.

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: Yourselves 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

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve Mass (Friday 24th December)

St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave

5.30pm Carrolls

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

9.00pm Mass for the unvaccinated
(Fr.Cruz)

11.00pm Carrolls

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

St. Joseph's Church Emerald

6.30pm (**Salesian Priest**)

St. Paul's Church, Monbulk

6.30pm Carrolls

7.00pm (**Fr.Cruz**)

Christmas Mass (Saturday 25th December)

St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave

9.00am (**Salesian Priest**)

5.30pm (mass for the unvaccinated)

(Fr. Cruz)

Sacred Church, Gembrook

9.00am (**Fr.Cruz**)

St. Paul's Church, Monbulk

11.00am (**Fr.Cruz**)

26th December Sunday

Sacred Heart Church, Gembrook

9.00am (**Selesian Priest**)

St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave

9.00am (**Fr. Cruz**)

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

St. Paul's Church, Monbulk

11.00am (**Fr. Cruz**)

Baptism

Let us welcome **Georgia Gillett** into our faith community as she baptized last weekend at St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave. May she be richly blessed throughout her life, constantly being aware of the unconditional love and Mercy of God.