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or business answering service: 9763 9043 25 years experience

Marcel Koper (MSW, (MHSW) Postgrad Dip Gestalt therapy, Dip Alcohol & OD, Grad Dip theology) has been counselling for 20+ years Experienced, local, confidential- Half price initial session

for parishioners and friends. 60% discount for people who have a mental health-care plan from their GP (Medicare rebate - ask your GP) Counselling/ therapy for:

Anxiety & depression, Mental Health, Alcohol and drug matters, Self-esteem and confidence, Relationships, Trauma/abuse, Spirituality Related concern, Cyber-bullying & buylling, Stress & Stress Managemnt Communication & personal development.

Please ask about accredited Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training for your group or

Marcel provides professional/ministry supervision also for people in ministry as well as health professionals Awareness Centre also supports small businesses and church ministries as

their dedicated Workplace Support Service (like an EAP)

Contact: 0422 955 084 or marcel@awarenesscentre.com.au





TO ALL PARISH GROUPS – Bookings 2018

Thank you to those groups who have let me know their requirements for next year. If you have not contacted me your groups dates are not in the diary which is now open to all.

Please email me at yahc@bigpond.com.au, details of any bookings required for the community centre in 2018 immediately.

This means every occasion you, or your group wish to use the community centre, including weekly meetings, or specific dates. If no advice is received, it will be assumed that your group does not require space next year.

Bookings will not automatically carry over from this year. To date the 2018 Fair and Easter dates are recorded. Thank you Leigh Fleming

Please Note: Friday and Saturday Evenings Functions finish time 11pm - Cleaning finish time 11.45pm Space is now available for your advertisement.

If you would like to reach approximately 1,000 people per week and let them know about your business, please contact the Parish Office on 9763 7302.

Be like those who do benefit from these advertisements and submit your ad for a 6 monthly or yearly term.

The information provided has been accepted in good faith, and a listing in this Directory does not mean that we guarantee the quality of performance of those listed.



ST JUDE'S PARISH, SCORESBY

49 George Street, Scoresby 3179

Phone 9763 7302 Email: scoresby@cam.org.au



Member of Knox Deanery 17th December, 2017 **Third Sunday of Advent**



SUNDAY MASS TIMES: Saturday 6.30pm,

Sunday 8.30am & 10.30am and Youth Mass Sunday evening 6.30pm Weekday Mass Times: Communion Service: Monday - Mass: Tuesday 6.30pm, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday 9.00am

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Father Longinus Onyechesi 976		
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:	Sr Mary Brady: Wed, Thurs, Fri,	9763 7302
Parish Office	Monday Wednesday Thursday 9am - 5nm	9763 7302

Monday. Wednesday. Thursday. 9am - 5pm **Finance Committee:** Brian Mc Keogh 9801 1787 **Parish Office Fax:** 9753 3534

Email: scoresby@cam.org.au Website: pol.org.au/scoresby

A Defibrillator for use in a cardiac emergency is located in the foyer of the Church

Today's Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11 Second Reading: Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28 Gospel:

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16 Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38 Gospel:

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

My soul rejoices in my God

ROSTERS

ALTAR SOCIETY: 23rd December, 2017

BINGO: "Eyes Down" 8.00pm Bingo will return in February, 2018

CLEANING ROSTER: 23rd December, 2017

Noel Rajiv

COUNTERS TODAY:

Doris The & Margaret Addicoat

COUNTERS NEXT WEEK: 24th December, 2017. Rosary Pereira, Joe Fonseka & Catherine Money

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Dec 17 Verona Bulloch

READERS NEXT WEEK

6.30pm Ellle & Lachlan Casey 8.30am Maureen James & Kim Baxter 10.30am Adrian Dellisola & Irene Wallis 6.30pm Christmas Eve Special Roster

MUSICIANS & COMPUTER SUPPORT Next Week:

6.30pm Margaret, Jadyen & Ethan 8.30am Therese & Bill Ta 10.30pm Sr Mary, Sydney & Arceo Imperial

6.30pm Youth Group ST.VINCENT DE PAUL BREAD RUN:

Dec 18 Monday Anita & Royston Ray Dec 21 Thursday Robert Koevoets Thursday Carmen& Monika Ian 01 Monday Filomena Uberti Thursday Josie Camilleri Ian 04 Monday Rita Amato Ian 08 Thursday Anna Teofilo

> Thank you to all those who continually "Serve the Lord with joy" by participating on these rosters.

SOME IMPORTANT -DATES 2017

Dec 20	3 rd Wednesday 'Cuppa & Chat'
Dec 21	Villa Maria Mass 11.00am
Dec 21	Penitential Service 7.30pm
Dec 22	Christmas Rehearsal 7.00pm
Dec 25	Christmas Day

2018

Jan 1 Feb 14	Mass 9.00am Ash Wednesday
Mar 17	Parish Fair
Mar 30	Good Friday
Mar 31	Easter Saturday
Apr 01	Easter Sunday

Reflections

Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything that is beautiful, for beauty is God's handwritina – a wavside sacrament, Welcome it in every fair face, in every fair sky, in every flower, and thank God for it as a cup of Ralph Waldo Emerson blessing.

Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas. Calvin Coolidge

PARISH SCHOOLS: PRIMARY

Mr Tim Mc Mullen 8761 9600 St. Jude's School Principal Holy Trinity School Principal Mr David Mutimer 9801 8296 St Mary's College for Hearing Impaired Students

SECONDARY PARISH SCHOOLS: Mater Christi College Principal

Ms Mary Fitz Gerald 9754 6611 St. Joseph's College Principal Ms Cathy Livingston 9758 2000 Rector Fr Martin Tanti 9758 2000

Low Gluten Hosts are available in this Parish; a supply of consecrated hosts is available at each Mass. The Ciborium will be on the Altar. Anyone who is a Coeliac, or wheat and gluten intolerant, these hosts are suitable for you. (They have been passed by the Coeliac Society as safe.)

SERVICES & CONTACTS:

BAPTISM:

By Appointment 4th Sunday of the month at

12 noon. Welcoming: Sunday prior at 10.30am Parish Mass.

BIBLE STUDIES:

Xavier David (AH) 9763 0712

BLESSED SACRAMENT EXPOSITION: 1st Friday of the month after 9am Mass.

CENACLE OF PRAYER:

First Saturday of the month 9.30am

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

Ruth Fidow

COMMUNITY CENTRE BOOKINGS: Leigh Fleming Thurs/Friday/Saturday 1-6 pm. or Email:

Leigh Fleming yahc@bigpond.com.au

9752 9829

FAIR: Chris Shelly 0418 355 339

FITNESS CLASS:

0419 555 694

KNOX DEANERY:

Leigh Fleming 9763 7323

LITURGY:

Sr Mary Brady 9753 2170

MARRIAGE:

9763 7302 By appointment

MOTHERS PRAYER GROUP:

Thursday at1pm Carmen Leitao

9778 7764

0403 187 848

0400 485 874

0447 044 920

RAFFLE Brendon Considine

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 6.00pm

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

CONFERENCE

Carmel Quiney

TENNIS CLUB:

Vito Trifilo

YOUTH GROUP:

0459 759 687 Email: kiaragoldsmith1995@gmail.com

For all information on our Parish.

please check our website pol.org.au/scoresby

Serve the Lord with Joy

First Reading - A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken;

to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels.

'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

Second Reading - A reading from St Paul to the Thessalonians

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

Gospel - A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

A man came, sent by God.
His name was John.
He came as a witness,
as a witness to speak for the light,
so that everyone might believe through him.
He was not the light,
only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked, 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not,' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

Withdraw a little from the celebrations of Christmas cheer and concentrate instead on waiting and preparing

Thoughts on the Gospel

'John the Baptist is again our Advent guide. Because he has revived the ways of Israel's prophets he has caused quite a stir, and the authorities of Jerusalem send interrogators who ask him to give an account of himself. His selfless response is disarmingly frank: he is not the messiah; he is not one of the old prophets come back to life; he is not the New Moses of Israel's expectations.

His role is that of a herald, 'a voice crying in the wilderness', that announces one who stands among the crowd, still 'unknown' to them.

"Today's liturgy can serve to remind us of today's call to a 'New Evangelisation' – bringing the true joy of the light of Christ to a world in which there is so much darkness and pain.

When the task seems beyond us, let us remember with the old prophet, that we are working for God's future; let us understand with Paul that it is first and foremost the quality of our lives together that will bring people to share our faith; and let us learn from the Baptist that the effectiveness of our outreach will depend upon the unselfish commitment we have made to the Saviour and what he stands for.'

- excerpt from a homily by Fr John Thornhill SM

Exploring the Word

In contrast to last week's text on John the Baptist, this one comes from the latest of the written Gospels. John was penned at the very end of the first century. One common characteristic, however, is clear: the Baptist is again presented as the forerunner. John the Baptist rejects all messianic or quasi-messianic titles. He throws human expectation into chaos. He claims for himself only the role of the 'voice' of Isaiah, but the evangelist presents him as the most reliable of witnesses, "Sent by God… to speak for the light." The only other person in John's Gospel to come from God is Jesus himself. Before an audience of the leaders of the religion of Israel, John witnesses with an authority and a truthfulness that has its source in God.

Did vou know

In the early years, there was rivalry between the disciples of John the Baptist and of Jesus. This Gospel makes it clear that John does not see himself as a rival to Jesus but as a witness to him. It is Jesus who is the one sent from God.

The quote from Isaiah comes from a section of his Book that is addressed to the people in Exile in Babylon in the sixth century BC. It is designed to bring comfort and promises that, when the paths are made straight, the Lord will be revealed.

Bethany, as mentioned in this Gospel text, is not he same town that was home to Mary, Martha and Lazarus. They lived close to Jerusalem but the Bethany mentioned here lies on the east bank of the Jordan River.

Symbols and Images

Light has become a synonym for Christ who refers to himself as the light of the world (Jn 8:12). Thus the presence of Jesus is often symbolised by a lighted candle. How does this light shine in you?

Stewardship Corner

"Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for his is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances: means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little helps build empathy for others in similar situations.

Serve the Lord with Joy

Reconciliation for Christmas:

Saturdays at 9.30am & 6.00pm.

Penitential Service: Thursday 21st December at 7.30pm

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE: 6.30pm

(Children's Mass –please be seated by 6.15pm)

10.00 pm MASS

(Carols begin at 9.30 pm)

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS TIMES: 8.30am & 10.3uam

THERE IS NO EVENING MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

We invite you to celebrate the New Year with Mass at 9.00am on January 1st

Christmas Eve Nativity play

St Jude's Parish would like to invite primary school children from the Parish to participate in the Christmas Eve Nativity play at the 6:30pm family mass.

They will be required for one rehearsal at 11am in the Church on Christmas Eve (the 24th of December) and to be at the church by 6pm on Christmas Eve ready for the 6:30 mass There are many rolls (both speaking and non-speaking) that your child can play.

Please fill in the google form attached here and I will email out scripts to parent's in the lead up to Christmas Eve so children can practice their lines.

You will be required to provide your own basic costume.

Please respond ASAP so that scripts can be emailed out. The more involved the merrier. Contact Kiara on 0459759687 or kiaragoldsmith1995@gmail.com for any queries. See you there

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdKXMUo05O4aiF8dbWbZcHH9SlmUNbspj7Yjy_xVfBiv-h-jQ/viewform?c=0&w=1

Singing Practice for 10.00pm Christmas Eve

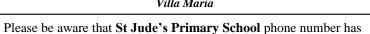


All singers and musicians are invited to join Bronwyn to form a choir for the 10.00pm Christmas Mass.

Rehearsals will be in the Church Thursday **14**th December 7.00pm, Friday **22**nd December 7.00pm

COMMUNITY INFORMATION PAMPHLET RACK

Have you seen our pamphlet on..
"Extended Aged Care at Home (Dementia)"
Villa Maria



changed to 8761 9600

NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

Attention all groups: Fair, Raffle, Parish Groups, Schools etc., next week the January Sunday newsletters will be printed.

If you or your group would like to include notices for these weeks please submit them to the parish office a.s.a.p.

Thankyou

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED: Deserving single man in early 40's is seeking accommodation in this area at \$200 per week or less. Granny flat would be ideal. References available. Further information from Fr. Kevin Dillon – St. Simon's, Rowville – 0421 777 360 or frkd@stsimonsparish.com.au

Our week begins with "Gaudete Sunday." *Gaudete* means: "rejoice" in Latin. The spirit of joy that begins this week comes from the words of Paul,

"The Lord is near."

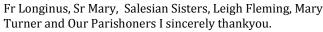
This joyful spirit is marked by the third candle of our Advent wreath, which is rose coloured. Our first three candles represent expectation, longing, and joy. They symbolise our inner preparation and perspective. In this world of conflict, division and greed we begin each day this third week of Advent with a sense of liberating joy. We can pause, breathe deeply, reflect and say,

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my saviour."

THANK YOU & CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

I would like to thank Margaret & Frank McCulloch and the Piety Store Volunteers, Terri Mackay and all the Bread Run Volunteers for their continued dedication to helping people in need.

To the Scoresby Conference Committee, you have been a wonderful support to me this year and I look forward to working with everyone in 2018.



A sincere thankyou to our very generous parishioners who have donated \$2,740 to our Appeal.

Thanks also to St Jude's Mini Vinnies and Holy Trinity for donations made.

May you all have a wonderful Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year - Carmel

ST.VINCENT DE PAUL GIFT TAGS

Please return all gifts as soon as possible to allow St Vincent de Paul members to distribute before Christmas. Thank you for your generosity



<u>CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES</u> are available from the foyer table. Easter and Christmas offerings form the bulk of the priests' income

Christmas is coming.



The Piety Stall has Columban Calendars for sale at \$9.00 each, proceeds from which go to the missions. Majellan Christmas Cards are available at \$6.00 for a pack of 10. Please support the SVdP Piety Stall.

St Vincent de Paul Society got anti welcome

ASSIST A STUDENT

A St Vincent de Paul education sponsorship program aimed at breaking the cycle of poverty.

Just \$70 can assist an overseas student

for one year, offering hope, an education and a better future. Forms available on the Foyer tables.

2018 BIG RAFFLE - DISTRIBUTORS

The 2018 "BIG RAFFLE" is fast approaching. Several of our faithful distributors are no longer able to assist us due to moving, illness etc. We are therefore in need of new distributors for the 2018 Raffle. This is not a difficult task, just requires more volunteers.

If you are able to help, please contact the Parish Office on 9763 7302, or Brendan Considine on 0403 187 848. *Thank you*

