

**Sunday 20th December 2020**

Mass Times: Monday - Friday 9.30am, Saturday: 9:30am, 5:30pm Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am

Baptisms & other sacraments: please call the office to organise.



# St Finbar's Catholic Parish

**Parish Priest:**

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**Office hours:**

Tues & Thurs

9.00am – 3.30pm

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Year B

## Fourth Sunday of Advent Year B



The world in which we live and the events of which we are a part are the stage upon which the drama of salvation is enacted. God works through real flesh and blood people, those like David, who occupy the seats of power and influence as well as those like Mary and us, who are unseen and unknown. All can be agents of salvation. God's future is in our hands. Human history is really the history of salvation. Each turn of God's revealing causes us to wonder at what might come next. In this tension, mystery is revealed.

What was hidden is now made known. Jesus establishes a people of covenant promise. Still, the mystery is unknown, for it continues to come to us from the future, revealing more and more of itself in the junctures of history.

The waiting of Advent is over. In the face of the impossible, God works the possible. During Advent, we have been waiting for the realisation of the promise made to David. We have been waiting for Mary's yes. With this yes, hope is enlivened, and history is changed. There is an unimaginable future for all people, a future that comes from God. Salvation is created among us, and the

fate of history is altered by a godly presence. This salvation resides in the hearts of those who believe in the gift, and who stay awake eagerly to know its coming. With David we await it, with the nations we long for it, with Mary we behold it.

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**PLEASE  
REMEMBER IN  
PRAYER**



**Pray for the Sick**

Bernadette Carson,  
Christina Miglino

**Recent Death**

Mary Curshell

**Anniversaries**

Aidan Bloink, Fr Frederick Chamberlin, Catarina and Maria Tesoriero, Maureen Mason, Elizabeth Beynon, Robyn Conroy, Ted Tracey, Bill Brasier, Sean Hammer.

## Scriptural Context

*Throughout the gospel of Luke, great importance is placed on the people in society who were regarded as the 'lesser ones'. The mission of Jesus, as described in Luke's gospel, is directed towards those who were unimportant in the eyes of society. In first century society, women were regarded as much less in status than men. So it is significant that the first revelation of Jesus is made to a woman, Mary. The angel Gabriel announces that Mary has won God's favour. For a woman to win God's favour would have been unimaginable to many Jews at the time, yet, through this woman God was revealed in human form.*



## Have you thought?

### What about Joseph?

*Luke's account of the Annunciation (and indeed much of the infancy narrative) focuses its attention on Mary. But what of Joseph? How does he react to the news that his betrothed wife is pregnant? By Jewish Law and tradition, Mary could well have been stoned to death if Joseph had denounced her. Even if Joseph allowed people to think that he was the father of her child, this would have caused an enormous scandal – a breach of the sanctity of the betrothal vow. However, foreshadowing the compassion of Jesus himself, Joseph acts purely out of compassion and continues with his marriage to Mary.*

## DECEMBER :

### MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

20th St Dominic of Silos, Abbot

21st St Peter Canisius, Jesuit & Doctor of the Church

22nd St Frances Xavier Cabrini, Foundress

23rd St John of Kanti, Priest

24th St Adam & St Eve, Progenitors

25th The Birth of the Lord

26th St Stephen, Protomartyr



To celebrate the Season of Advent and Christmas, the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne is hosting a **TV carols** special entitled **“Jesus is Christmas”** on **Sunday 20 December at 7pm, on channel 44** and streamed online via the Archdiocesan YouTube channel ([www.youtube.com/archmelb](http://www.youtube.com/archmelb)).

Presented in partnership with ACU, Mercy Health and VMCH, the one-hour program features a stellar line up of local and internationally acclaimed artists including singer and performer Silvie Paladino, ARIA Award winning artist and X-Factor Australia Vocal Director Gary Pinto, international opera singer Michael Petruccelli, Melbourne's own The SAGA, and a host of other local artists and parish choirs.



### NEW MASS TIMES

Monday—Friday 9.30 am

Saturday 9.30am & 5.30 pm

Sunday 9.00 am, 11.00 am

*Reading roster will recommence in the Jan 2021.*

*If you are interested please email/call Carmel in the office. You must have supplied a WWC (working with children's check) & signed St Finbar's Code of Conduct Form to perform volunteer parish duties.*



### CHRISTMAS 2020 MASS TIMES

**RECONCILIATION, 22nd December: 6.30 pm**

**THURSDAY VIGIL, 24th December: 9.30am, 5.30 pm & 8.30 pm**

*“To assist and support our faith communities and visitors to Melbourne to have every opportunity to celebrate the joyful birth of our Savior, and where the Parish Priest judges it necessary, the Archbishop gives approval that any Mass on Thursday 24 December and Friday 25 December (morning, afternoon or evening) may be celebrated as the Nativity of the Lord, using the approved liturgical texts.”*

**FRIDAY, 25th December: 9.00 am & 11.00 am**

### COVID GUIDELINES

- PLEASE SIGN IN AT THE FRONT TABLE IN THE LOG BOOK.
- PLEASE SOCIAL DISTANCE 1.5M INSIDE THE CHURCH.
- SANITISE HANDS ON ARRIVAL AND PRIOR TO RECEIVING EUCHARIST.
- DO NOT LEAVE USED MASS BULLETIN INSIDE THE CHURCH OR OTHER ITEMS.
- OBSERVE ENTRY AND EXIT LOCATIONS.
- PLEASE REFRAIN FROM ATTENDING MASS IF YOU ARE FEELING UNWELL AND PARTICULARLY IF YOU HAVE ANY COLD LIKE SYMPTOMS.

### SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE

*St Finbar's Parish hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community.*