



HOLY EUCHARIST PARISH
 1A Oleander Drive, St Albans South 3021
 Office Hours: Tues - Fri: 9:00am - 3.30pm
 Phone: 9366 1310, Fax: 9366 9359
 Email: stalbanssouth@cam.org.au
 Website: www.holyeuchariststalban.org



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B **12 & 13 DECEMBER 2020**

REDEMPTORIST COMMUNITY

Mission Leader
 Fr Peter Danh CSsR
Parish Priest
 Fr Vincent Long Pham CSsR
Assistant Parish Priest
 Fr Vinsensius (Lovin) Lolo CSsR
 Fr Oche Matutina CSsR
 Fr Patrick Corbett CSsR

Parish Secretary
 Mary-Lucy Atonio PH: 9366 1310
Parish School Acting Principal
 Michael Bonnici PH: 8312 0900

Filipino Chaplain
 Fr Joselito Asis
South Sudanese Chaplain
 Deacon George B.P. Meat

Novena
 5pm on 2nd & 4th Saturday of every month

Mass Times
 ♦ **Tues-Fri:** 9:00am
 ♦ **Saturday:** 6:00pm
 ♦ **Sunday:** 9:00am, 10:30am, 6:00pm
 12:00pm Vietnamese

Other Masses
 • 1st & 2nd Sun Sudanese Mass - 3.00pm
 • 3rd Sun Samoan Mass - 2.00pm
 • 4th Sun Filipino Mass - 3.00pm

SOCIAL OFFICE
 Contact: Son Nguyen & Tammy Le
 Phone 9366 1310
 Tuesday & Friday 10:00am-3:00pm.

FOODBANK open Fridays
 10.30am until 2.00pm. More details call Charlie 03 9366 1310.

St Vincent de Paul: Call Centre is now open. Please contact 1800 305 330. Thank you.

PIETY STALL
 6:00 pm - Janie Gatt, 9:00 am Mini Eddy, 10.30am - Helen Maddela, 6.00pm—Lily Disc

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 2020

Reconciliation:
 * **Rite 1:** (Individual)
Saturday - 5:00-5:45pm
Tuesday to Friday - 9:30-10am

Masses:
 * **Filipino Dawn Mass (16 - 24 Dec.):**
@ 5:00am
 * **Christmas Eve, Thursday 24th Dec.:**
@ 7:00pm - Family Mass (English)
@ 9:00pm (Vietnamese)
@ 12:00am (English)
Carols from 11:30pm

* **Christmas Day, Friday 25th Dec.:**
@ 10:00am - (English)
@ 12:00pm (Vietnamese)
@ 2:30pm (Sudanese)
 * **New Years Day, Friday 1st Jan.:**
@ 9:00am & 6:00pm - (English)
@ 7:30pm (Vietnamese)

Below is the link to the online registration site for the Filipino Chaplaincy Dawn masses from December 16 to 24, 5:00am.



CHRISTMAS CAROLS 2020

Christmas Carols by Candle Light at the School Oval on 19th December 2020 from 7.00pm – 9.00pm. All are welcome to join choirs from our Parish community participating in this exciting event .

Thank you

GOOD NEWS,!

Dear Parishioners,
 With gratitude to our God, we can have more people in our Church until further notice.

English Masses:

* **Weekday Masses: 9am**
 * **Weekend Masses**
Saturday: 6pm
Sunday: 9am, 10.30am, 6pm

Please arrive at least 15 minutes early to have your name noted or you can use a QR code displayed on Church doors.

How to use QR code for check-in?
 1. You need to scan the QR code using the camera of your smartphones
 2. Then you will be directed to a website where you will enter your details - (only first name and number is mandatory)

OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES

- For the safety of everyone**
- ♦ Please use the hand sanitizer provided and keep social distancing at all time.
 - ♦ Everyone over 12 years of age, please wear face coverings/masks at all times.
 - ♦ When a cantor is singing or a reader/commentator is reading, the face covering/masks may be lowered, but must be worn at all other times.
 - ♦ Please find a mark on the pew to sit when you enter inside the church.
 - ♦ Rite of Peace, please avoid shaking hands but instead say "Peace be with you" and offer a smile, wave, nod or bow.
 - ♦ Please observe social distancing at Holy Communion, which will only be given in the hand.
 - ♦ If you feel unwell, please stay home.

Thanks for your collaboration.
 God bless and protect us always.

THE LIVING WORD

First Reading Is 61:1-2. 10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I exult for joy in the Lord.

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.'

Did You Know?

The people of Israel will be restored to their land after the exile in Babylon and an unknown prophet, strengthened and empowered by the "Spirit of the Lord", and set apart by anointing is to bring the Good News to them.

Those distressed, those whose spirit has been crushed by the exile, will be given strength and encouragement.

The "year of favour" will be a time when all that God asks is fulfilled, a time of release from the bondage of sin and strife.

In verses 10-11 the prophet speaks for the people of Israel when he praises God who has given believers salvation and looks to a time when righteousness will grow and integrity for all will "spring up".

REFLECTION

How can I comfort those who mourn so that they will rejoice in the Good News of Christ?

Responsorial Psalm Lk 1:46-50. 53-54. R. Is 61:10

(R.) My soul rejoices in my God.

1. My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed. (R.)
2. The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him. (R.)
3. He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy. (R.)

Did You Know?

The canticle is taken from Luke. The verses are from Mary's song of joy when she visited her cousin Elizabeth and our response comes from Isaiah. **"My soul rejoices in my God."**

REFLECTION

Like Mary I must give thanks to the Lord for the marvels that He has done for me.

Second Reading 1 Thes 5:16-24

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

Did You Know?

About the year 51 AD, Saint Paul wrote his first letter to the converts in Thessalonica, a port city in Macedonia. He had stopped over during his second missionary journey at Jason's house where he was able to convert quite a few Jews, but jealousy arose in the community and he had to leave in a hurry.

The letter directed to the new converts is brief but full of good advice. Verses 16 - 24 enumerate how we should be continually striving to be what Christ asked of us. A truly religious life should be one of continual praise of God. We should look to those things we are thankful for each and every day. If we believe that everything is created by God and comes from God, then he is truly worthy of our praise.

REFLECTION

For what good things can I thank God today?

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!

Gospel Jn 1:6-8. 19-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' 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. 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.

Did You Know?

The Gospel of John is different from the other Gospels in so much as John the Baptist is not identified as the "Baptiser". Only in verses 30-34 is there a mention of John (the Baptist) baptising Jesus and why this is happening... "to make him known to the people of Israel".

It becomes clear at the beginning of this reading, that the writer, by using the word witness 4 times in the first few chapters, is saying that John has been chosen to be a primary witness to Jesus. John the Baptist is the first person in this gospel to use the concept that Jesus is the Son of God.

REFLECTION

How can I be faithful messenger of Christ in society that is not open to His Word?



GIVING BIRTH TO CHRIST

Looking at how Mary gave birth to Christ, we see that it's not something that's done in an instant. Faith, like biology, also relies on a process that has a number of distinct, organic moments. What are these moments? What is the process by which we give birth to faith in the world?

First, like Mary, we need to get pregnant by the Holy Spirit. We need to let the word take such root in us that it begins to become part of our actual flesh.

Then, like any woman who's pregnant, we have to lovingly gestate, nurture, and protect what is growing inside us until it's sufficiently strong so that it can live on its own, outside us. . . .

Eventually, of course, we must give birth. . . .

Birth, however, is only the beginnings of motherhood. Mary gave birth to a baby, but she had to spend years nurturing, coaxing, and cajoling that infant into adulthood. The infant in the crib at Bethlehem is not yet the Christ who preaches, heals, and dies for us. . . .

Finally, motherhood has still one more phase. As her child grows, matures, and takes on a personality and destiny of its own, the mother, at a point, must ponder (as Mary did). She must let herself be painfully stretched in understanding, in not knowing, in carrying tension, in letting go. She must set free to be itself something that was once so fiercely hers. The pains of childbirth are often gentle compared to this second wrenching.

All of this is what Mary went through to give Christ to the world: Pregnancy by the Holy Spirit; gestation of that into a child inside of her; excruciating pain in birthing that to the outside; nurturing that new life into adulthood; and pondering, painfully letting go so that this new life can be its own, not hers. . . .

Our task too is to give birth to Christ. Mary is the paradigm for doing that. From her we get the pattern: Let the word of God take root and make you pregnant; gestate that by giving it the nourishing sustenance of your own life; submit to the pain that is demanded for it to be born to the outside; then spend years coaxing it from infancy to adulthood; and finally, during and after all of this, do some pondering, accept the pain of not understanding and of letting go.

Christmas isn't automatic, it can't be taken for granted. It began with Mary, but each of us is asked to make our own contribution to giving flesh to faith in the world.

By Richard Rohr

NEVER FEEL ASHAMED TO PRAY IN DIFFICULT TIMES

In his catechesis at the weekly General Audience, Pope Francis urges everyone to listen to the cry that wells up within us especially in moments of difficulty, which he says is the prayer of supplication.

By Devin Watkins

Pope Francis continued his catechesis on various aspects of Christian prayer, at the Wednesday General Audience, focusing on the prayer of supplication.

He began by noting how Jesus taught His disciples the Our Father to pray for both great and humble things.

In the Lord's Prayer, we implore God for the highest gifts: "the sanctification of His name among men, the advent of His lordship, the realisation of His will for good in relation to the world." Yet with the same prayer we also ask for simple items, "our daily bread", which the Pope said indicate "health, home, work; and also the Eucharist, necessary for life in Christ."

Prayer a ray of light in darkness

Pope Francis said the prayer of supplication is "very human".

He said at some point in everyone's life the illusion of self-



sufficiency

crumbles. "The human being is an invocation, that at times becomes a cry, often withheld."

We all experience loneliness or sadness, he

said. The Bible does not shy away from showing humanity at its weakest, when sickness, injustice, or betrayal seem to win out.

"At times it seems that everything collapses, that the life lived so far has been in vain. In these seemingly hopeless situations, there is only one way out: the cry, the prayer 'Lord, help me!'. Prayer can open up a sliver of light in the densest darkness."

All Creation cries out

The Pope went on to say that all of Creation shares in the prayer of supplication.

"Every fragment of creation," he said, "bears the desire for God" and yearns for fulfilment.

From the depths

Pope Francis urged Christians not to feel ashamed when we feel the need to pray in our moments of darkness, though we should also learn to pray in times of happiness as well.

"We must not suffocate the supplication that rises up in us spontaneously," he said. "Prayer of petition goes in step with acceptance of our limit and our nature as creatures."

Prayer, added the Pope, presents itself to everyone as a cry from the depths, even if we seek to suppress it.

Awaiting God's response

Finally, Pope Francis assured everyone that God will respond, as the Bible makes abundantly clear.

"Even our stammering questions, even those that remain in the depths of our heart. The Father hears them and wishes to give us the Holy Spirit, which inspires every prayer and transforms everything."

HOLY EUCHARIST SCHOOL IN 2020 AND 2021

The last day for Term 4, 2020 will be on Tuesday 15th December 2020, at 2pm. School will resume for Term 1 in 2021, on Thursday

28th January 2021. As of next year, our starting times and finishing times will return to normal, however, students will still be required

to enter via the designated gates. Please see below:

- ◆ 8:30am Gates open
- ◆ 8:45am Students enter the classroom
- ◆ 8:55am Classes begin
- ◆ 3:15pm School finishes

Students from each grade level will still need to enter via the designated gates around the school when entering/leaving the premises. The gates for each level are as follows:

- ◆ Gate 1 (Next to the hall) – Grade Prep and Grade 3
- ◆ Gate 2 (Next to the church) – Grade 1 and Grade 4
- ◆ Gate 3 (Admin gate) – Grades 6
- ◆ Gate 4 (O'Brien Drive) - Grade 2 and Grade 5

Dear friends of Holy Eucharist Parish, 20 years have passed since we began as Preca Community ministering at Holy Eucharist Parish. We thank God for these past years and we look forward to continuing spreading God's Word especially to the most needy of our Community.

We would like to invite you all to celebrate with us the 20 years anniversary of Preca Centre in St. Albans. This will be celebrated with Mass on Friday 18th December 2020 at 7pm. Mass will be celebrated outside in the front pitch at 29 Rosslare Pde St. Albans. Following Mass there will be some refreshments with light supper. To help us organize this event we would like to know the numbers of people attending. Your whole family is invited also with your children.

RSVP by 11th December 2020 by to Br Noel Debono or one of the brothers. You can send on noeldeb.debono@gmail.com or on 0410923291.

READERS/COMMENTATOR/ COORDINATOR/EUCHARIST

3rd Week of Advent Year B

Tues 9:00 AM, 15-12-20

Reader Volunteer

Wed 9:00 AM, 16-12-20

Reader Carmen Camilleri

Thur 9:00 AM, 17-12-20

Reader Shirley Krizmanic

Fri 9:00 AM, 18-12-20

Reader Helen Maddela

Sat 6.00 PM, 19-12-20

Lit. Coordinator:

Reno Attard & Charlie Pace

Commentator Alaistair Surrao

Reader Carmen Camilleri

Wendy Forbes

Extraordinary Min:

Violeta Montoro

Anthony Naidu

Sun 9.00 AM, 20-12-20

Lit. Coordinator Monica Lomen

Commentator Shirley Krizmanic

Reader Mini Eddie

Helen Maddela

Extraordinary Min

Wilma Marmur

Monica Lomen

Sun 10:30AM, 20-12-20

Lit. Coordinator: Ed Cablao

Commentator Cristina Pedroso

Reader Jinky Monteros

Joh Cablao

Extraordinary Min

Ed Cablao

Susan Hallorina

Sun 6.00PM, 21-12-20

Lit. Coordinator Lani Lariri

Commentator Matthew Laureano

Reader Lani Laririt

Michael Laureano

Extraordinary Min Volunteers

Readers/Special Ministers contact the Office please for your availability during the Months of December & January 2021.

Coordinators please during this time we really need your help to make sure parishioners are following the provided guidelines.

Thank for your cooperation.

CHURCH CLEANING

Week beginning: 16th Dec. 2020

Group 4 – Otilia & Tufuga Family

CHOIR GROUPS

Sat. 19th Dec: 6pm – Volunteers

Sun. 20th Dec: 9am - Charlie

Schembri

10.30am – Carreon Family Choir

6.00pm – Laririt Family

LET US PRAY FOR

Prayers For The Sick

Toni Antonowicz, Linda Rattbone, Anna, Maria Kim, Yulette Tanner, Peter Disco, Jessie Spiteri, Stella Sandle, Frank, Doris Carabott.

Recently Deceased

Lily Luu, Vinh Quang Dinh, Anthony Bartolo, Anna Jarnevic

Anniversaries

Lucky Ellawala, Emile Ranasinghe, Richard Curmi, Iro & Jessie Vella, Charlie Vella, Nazareni Spiteri, Antonio Mifsud, Philip Gauci, George & Angela Bugeja, Wayne Camilleri, Bartolo family, Brincat & Galea family, Vincent Duong Kham Su, Mary Camilleri & Family, Joseph, Frank & John Xerri, Charlie Xerri, Lewis Spiteri, Raymond Abela and All Souls.

SAFETY FOR ALL

Holy Eucharist Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Holy Eucharist parish respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjer people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we reside and worship.

VOCATION VIEW: “There was a man sent by God, who came as a witness to testify to the Light, so that through this person all people might believe. Is your name in the Gospel today?”

All information used in accordance with the terms of our privacy policy.