



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



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

19 & 20 DECEMBER

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.

Currently closed & reopened 19th January 2021

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

Closed 18/12/2020 Reopened 5/2/2021

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



Wishes and Greetings from Parish Priest and the Redemptorists community - St Albans

Merry CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY New Year



Dear Friends,
This will be a Christmas like no other. The Covid-19 crisis has disrupted the lives of many people in different ways. Many have endured

terrible losses: the loss of loved ones, jobs, homes, and most tragically for some, the loss of hope.

As we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. May our hearts be filled with peace, hope and joy. In Jesus, we find hope and joy. St John reminds us, *"In Him (Jesus) was life, and that life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it"* [John 1:4-5].

Wishing you and your family a very merry Christmas and a blessed new year.

Fr Vincent Long Pham CSsR

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)
Choir - Osana Choir
@ 9:00pm (Vietnamese)
@ 12:00am (English)
Choir - Charlie Schembri
Carols from 11:30pm

* **Christmas Day, Friday 25th Dec.:**
@ 10:00am - (English)
Choir - Samoan Choir
@ 12:00pm (Vietnamese)
@ 2:30pm (Sudanese)

* **New Years Day, Friday 1st Jan.:**
@ 9:00am (English)
@ 6:00pm (English)
Choir - Charlie Schembri
@ 7:30pm (Vietnamese)

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 2 Sm 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16

A reading from the second book of Samuel

The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent'. Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

Did You Know?

David was a brilliant and capable person who won many wars. He wanted to honour God who was always with him, by building him a temple in Jerusalem.

God told the prophet Nathan to tell David that he (God) had lived in a tent since the Israelites came out of Egypt. Living in a tent meant that God was living within the community of the Israelites. No matter where they went God would be with them. The tent was a symbol of the presence of God. David abandoned his hope of building a great temple and God promised him that he would become the father of an everlasting dynasty.

REFLECTION

How can I be a 'house of God' to people in this last week before Christmas?

Responsorial Psalm Ps 88:2-5. 27. 29. R. see v.2

(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (R.)
2. I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.' (R.)
3. He will say to me: 'You are my father,
my God, the rock who saves me.'
I will keep my love for him always;
for him my covenant shall endure. (R.)

REFLECTION

In what ways has the Lord shown that He dwells in my life?

Second Reading Rom 16:25-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

Did You Know?

We understand that the apostle Paul wrote this letter to the Romans from Corinth. The reading is the last paragraph of the letter and a summary of the whole letter to the Romans. Paul emphasized the fact again and again that everything is centered on Christ, the heart of the matter. Christ is wisdom and strength and the one to be followed. This is how life is to be lived.

REFLECTION

The plans we have are not always the same ones God has for us. Think of something that did not go to plan in your life, which the Lord turned to good for you.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 1:26-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

You will conceive and bear a son.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

Did You Know?

Mary is the tent where God will make his dwelling. She comes from the tribe of Levi, the tribe that was chosen by God to be the priests and to be responsible for looking after the Commandments given to Moses, which were kept in a tent when the people of Israel were travelling in the desert.

The Spirit of God rested on the tent and in the same way the Spirit of God came to reside with Mary, both bringing new life to people and fulfilling the covenant made by God.

REFLECTION

Mary responded with faith and trust to what God asked of her and he rewarded her by making her the temple where His Son would dwell. In what ways can I respond like Mary did, so that the Lord can dwell in me?

FIVE WAYS ST. JOSEPH SHOWS US HOW TO LIVE OUT ADVENT



Saint Joseph can help us to live a most fruitful Advent, and for many reasons. Let us quietly meditate upon five extraordinary virtues of this greatest of all saints so that we

can live a most fervent Advent season and allow Jesus to be born in the depths of our hearts this Christmas!

1. *Silence*

Not once in the Bible do we hear a word from the great Saint Joseph. This silence of Saint Joseph is very eloquent. It teaches us a fundamental attitude to enter into deep prayer: silence.

If we are constantly bombarded by noises then it is impossible to hear the Word of God, the Holy Spirit that speaks to us in the gentle breeze of silence. Also the silence of Saint Joseph teaches us the importance of example. We must prove our authenticity by words, but also by our actions. Saint Joseph taught the world by the holy way that he lived. May he be an example for us.

2. *Prayer*

Saint Joseph was a man of prayer. What an extraordinary role he played in the history of salvation. He was both the spouse of Mary the Mother of God as well as the foster-father of Jesus the Son of the living God. Saint Joseph actually taught Jesus to speak and to address God as “Abba”—meaning “Daddy”.

In a certain sense Saint Joseph taught Jesus to use the human words to talk to the Heavenly Father—this is prayer. Therefore, if Saint Joseph taught Jesus how to pray, how much could he teach me how to pray if I simply ask for his help? Start now: Saint Joseph, teach me how to pray!

3. *Courage*

In a society where too many men shirk their obligations toward their wives, children, and family, Saint Joseph shines as a model of courage and fortitude. He traveled the many miles in the cold and wind, only to meet rejection. He found refuge in an animal shelter for the birth of Jesus. He arose early to flee into Egypt saving the Child Jesus from the vicious and murderous threats of King Herod.

Faced with so many difficulties, Saint Joseph stood tall and confronted the obstacles with manly courage. May the men of the present generation lift up their gaze to the gentle but courageous man of God—good Saint Joseph.

4. *Provide and Protect*

Saint Joseph both protected and provided for the Holy Family. He was a hard worker—exercising the trade of a Carpenter. He earned the bread that he made with the sweat of his brow. He thought not of himself but of how he could best provide for and protect the family that God had entrusted to his care.

As we draw close to Christmas, let us beg good Saint Joseph to provide and protect our spiritual lives. Materialism, consumerism, hedonism are the gods of the present culture. These actually suffocate spirituality.

Saint Joseph’s prayers can help us to look beyond the buying, having, and possessing. He can help us to realize that true joy and happiness does not come from having things, but in possessing God. To hold the Child Jesus in our arms and in our hearts is worth more than all of the money and possessions of the entire world. Good Saint Joseph can teach us this simple but profound lesson!

5. *St. Joseph, Our Lady, and Jesus*

To arrive at a true and authentic devotion to Mary, good Saint Joseph can serve as a powerful bridge. Aside from Jesus Himself, nobody on earth knew, understood, cherished and loved the Blessed Virgin Mary more than good Saint Joseph. Turn to Good Saint Joseph and beg him for the grace of greater knowledge and love for Mary, his beloved spouse. Your devotion to Mary will make a huge jump!

Then turn to Saint Joseph and beg him for the grace of intimate knowledge of Jesus that you will love Jesus more ardently and follow Jesus more closely. Aside from Mary nobody knew Jesus better on earth than good Saint Joseph.

The Holy Family is complete only when the three members are recognized, honored and loved. May the prayers of good Saint Joseph open your hearts to the immense treasures that God has in store for you this Advent Season. Then may Jesus be born in the depths of your heart this Christmas day!

By Fr. Ed Broom, OMV

THOSE WHO PRAY, PRAY FOR ALL

Pope Francis reflects on “the prayer of intercession” during his weekly General Audience.

Continuing his catechesis on prayer, Pope Francis on Wednesday focused on “intercessory prayer”; that is, prayer which asks on behalf of another.”

Those who are accustomed to pray, said Pope Francis, “never turn their backs on the world.” If prayer is not engaged with every aspect of human existence – its joys and sorrows, its hopes and anxieties – it becomes a “decorative” activity.



Bread, broken and shared

The Pope noted a resemblance between those who pray for others, and Christ in the Eucharist. “In prayer,” he said, “God ‘takes us, blesses us, breaks us, and gives us,’ to satisfy everyone’s hunger.” Every Christian, he added, “is called to become bread, broken and shared, in God’s hands.”

Men and women of prayer, the Pope said, always “keep the doors of their hearts wide open,” even when they seek solitude and silence. They pray for those who do not pray, or do not know how to pray, as well as for those “who have erred and have lost the way.” In their solitude, those who pray “separate themselves from everything and everyone” precisely in order to “rediscover everything and everyone in God.”

Praying for all

The Pope said these people “pray for each and every person,” they see “the face of Christ in every poor person who knocks at their door, in every person who has lost the meaning of things.”

Prayer is “simply human,” Pope Francis said. “The human heart tends toward prayer.” But prayer necessarily involves love for our brothers and sisters. Human experience, said the Pope, “is present in every prayer, because no matter what errors people may have committed, they should never be rejected or discarded.”

Neither judgment nor condemnation

Pope Francis insisted that when those who pray offer prayers for sinners, there should be no judgment or condemnation: those who pray, pray for all, and first of all for themselves. The Holy Father suggested, for this very reason, a prayer that all can pray: “Lord, no one is just in your sight; we are all debtors, each with an outstanding balance to pay; no one is sinless in your eyes. Lord, have mercy on us!”

The Pope continued, noting that, even despite the sins of His people, God remains faithful, persevering “in His service as a Shepherd even with those who force him to get His hands dirty; He does not close His heart to those who have even made Him suffer.”

A mission of intercessory prayer

The Church, too, said Pope Francis, “has the mission of practicing the prayer of intercession” – and this duty is especially incumbent upon those who have responsibility for others. “Like Abraham and Moses,” he said, “they must at times ‘defend’ those entrusted to them before God.”

In fact, the Pope said, by praying to God, they are “guarding them with God’s eyes and heart, with His same invincible compassion and tenderness.”

Leaves on the same tree

“We are all leaves on the same tree,” the Pope said in conclusion. “Each one that falls reminds us of the great piety that must be nourished in prayer for one another.”

By Christopher Wells

READERS/COMMENTATOR/ COORDINATOR/EUCHARIST

4th Week of Advent Year B

Tues 9:00 AM, 22-12-20

Reader Volunteer

Wed 9:00 AM, 23-12-20

Reader Carmen Camilleri

Thur 9:00 AM, 24-12-20

Reader Shirley Krizmanic

Christmas Eve 7:00PM, 24-12-20

Lit. Coordinator: Volunteers

Commentator Miriam Vella

Readers: Christina Afano
Francois Jerome

Eucharist: Alastair Surao, Miriam Vella

Christmas Eve Midnight, 25-12-20

Lit. Coordinator: Reno & Charlie Pace

Commentator Christine Pedrose

Reader Wilma Marmur
Ed Cabalo

Eucharist: Joh Cablao, Ed Cablao

Christmas Day 10:00AM, 25-12-20

Lit. Coordinator: Volunteers

Commentator Yoko

Reader Helen Maddela
Lani Laririt

Eucharist: Lani Laririt, Alastair Surao

Sat 6.00 PM, 26-12-20

Lit. Coordinator: Reno Attard & Charlie Pace

Commentator Anthony Naidu

Reader: Miriam Vella
Violeta Montoro

Eucharist: Violeta Montoro
Anthony Naidu

Sun 9.00 AM, 27-12-20

Lit. Coordinator Monica Lomen

Commentator Helen Maddela

Reader: Wilma Marmur
Fred Storace

Extraordinary Min Wilma Marmur
Monica Lomen

Sun 10:30AM, 27-12-20

Lit. Coordinator: Ed Cablao

Commentator Christina Afano

Reader Faaati Jerome
Yoko Ah Kuoi

Extraordinary Min Ed Cablao & Susan
Hallorina

Sun 6.00PM, 27-12-20

Lit. Coordinator Lani Laririt

Commentator HEY

Reader HEY
HEY

Eucharist: Lani Laririt & volunteers

PLEASE NOTE the Parish Office will be closed after the 24th December 2020 and will reopen on the 7th January 2021.

CHURCH CLEANING

Week beginning: 23rd Dec. 2020

Group 5 – Xuan Dung Huynh, Ngocan Truong, Delia Ryan, Margaret Bajada, Tran Thi Kim Hao, Hong Thuy Tran.

CHOIR GROUPS

Sat. 26th Dec: 6pm – Volunteers

Sun. 27th Dec: 9am - Charlie Schembri
10.30am – Fernandez Family choir
6.00pm – Parish Youth

LET US PRAY FOR

Prayers For The Sick

Toni Antonowicz, Linda Ratbone, 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

Loreto Azzopardi, 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: “Every person who has ever born a child, and every person who has freely vowed away this honour, helps in some mysterious way to bring Jesus Christ into this world again. Can you say: "Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord"?”

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