



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.holyeuchariststalbans.org



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C,

27 & 28 NOVEMBER 2021

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 Principal

Michael Bonnici PH: 8312 0900

Filipino Chaplain

Fr Joselito Asis

South Sudanese Chaplain

Deacon George B.P.Meat

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

Phone 9366 1310

Tuesday & Friday 10:00am-3:00pm.

RCIA: Please contact
Br. Anthony Gatt
on 0419 115 692
or call the Parish Office
for more details.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Preca Centre, 29 Rosslare Parade,

St Albans – Ph: 9356 0734

between 7-8pm or Br Tony on
0419 115 692

Email: precastalbans@tpg.com.au

www.precacommunity.org

THE LIVING WORD

First reading Jeremiah 33:14-16

I will make a virtuous Branch grow for 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.’

Responsorial Psalm Ps. 24(25):4-5,8-9,10,14

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.

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

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.

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

His ways are faithfulness and love

for those who keep his covenant and law.

The Lord’s friendship is for those who revere him;

to them he reveals his covenant.

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Second reading 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

May you be blameless when our Lord Jesus Christ comes again

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.

Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

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

Gospel Luke 21:25-28,34-36

That day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap

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.’

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

Today’s gospel passage, with its vivid description of the end-time signs, may seem a strange choice of reading for Advent and the beginning of the Church year. Its depiction of global devastation has a particular resonance in a post-industrial world faced with climate crisis. Some may be tempted to interpret “apocalyptic” events of today as the judgement of an interventionist God. This is far from the truth. Our mindless exploitation of planetary resources has brought its own judgement and we must struggle together to save our planet from further destruction.

Advent and Christmas are about the coming “in power and great glory” of the One who brings the liberation of God. The earliest Christians believed that Jesus would soon return and bring everything to completion. Some decades after Jesus’ death, Luke’s community had come to realize that the “final” coming of Christ was not just as imminent as they had expected. They needed to be reminded that a delayed return was no excuse for lack of vigilance. Luke warns against activities and attitudes that de-sensitize the heart or the human spirit. For Luke, an attentive heart and constant prayer for the strength to withstand whatever comes is the proper stance for the Christian believer. An attentive heart will be attuned to the cry of the earth and the cry of those rendered poor by those who exploit the goods of the earth. The image of Jesus coming on the clouds belongs within an ancient understanding of the structure of the world in which God and God’s heavenly court are located in the heavens above. It might function in our times as a reminder that the Incarnation, “God’s becoming material” (Karl Rahner), is an ongoing cosmic event, not just a once-off event limited to one place and one time.

We might do well to read this gospel passage against the backdrop of today’s first reading from Jeremiah that looks to the fulfillment of God’s promise of the “virtuous branch for David”. The organic metaphor of the branch reminds us of the interconnectedness of God’s people and of all being across the ages. The virtue of the expected descendant of David finds expression in honesty and integrity, literally “justice and righteousness/right relationship”. Justice in the Hebrew tradition is about redress in the law courts for the most vulnerable. Righteousness is about right relationships as

well as the equitable sharing and proper use of Earth’s resources. Justice and righteousness are two sides of the one coin. Where they are absent, there is no liberation. Our prayer and practical action this Advent might embrace the plight of the earth itself and the concerns of those who yearn for liberation from various forms of oppression. We might remember those seeking asylum among us and those who have been granted refugee status yet still await the justice of resettlement in our country. Our Advent could make a difference to their Christmas.

By Veronica M. Lawson RSM

ADVENT IS A TIME FOR GREATER SILENCE AND PRAYER

Advent is a season of very special graces! It is time of waiting, hope and joy. Waiting—for the birth of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; Hope—because Jesus came to save us; finally Joy—because Jesus’ birth, life and Resurrection is a promise of eternal life for those who obey His commandments and love Him.



Silent Night

On Christmas Eve it is most appropriate to sing the hymn *Silent Night*. In the profound depths of that most special night Jesus was born in silence. How important silence is for those who truly are seeking the presence of God. The prophet Elijah sought God in his mountain experience. This mysterious God was not found in the earthquake, nor in the peals of thunder, nor in the flashes of lightning. Rather the Almighty God could be found in the gentle whispering of the wind, in the gentle breeze.

In the midst of a world so absorbed in noise—you might even call it “noise pollution”—there is an urgent need for silence. Indeed, there are many positive fruits that flow from silence. We will mention just a few so as to encourage us to seek out times in our day for silence.

1. Clarity of Thought

For us to have great clarity in our thought process we have an absolute need for silence. Bombarded by a constant onslaught of noise as we are, silence renders a clear, transparent, and honest thought life to blossom and bring forth fruit. The sublime theological writings of Saint Thomas Aquinas were written in silence. The literary expertise of the writings of Shakespeare were born of silence. The penetrating depth and insight of the theory of relativity discovered by Albert Einstein took place in the aura of silence. The greatest mystics, contemplatives and saints encountered God in silence. So may all of us relish moments of silence in our daily lives!

2. Detecting Temptation

In our lives we are constantly being bombarded by negative thoughts and the source of these are the enemy that we call the devil. Saint Ignatius calls him “the ene-

my of our salvation”; Saint Thomas Aquinas calls him the “Tempter”; Saint Peter compares him to an angry lion on the loose seeking to devour us. If we do not have moments of silence, zones of silence, then it will prove almost impossible for us to be able to discern and detect the ugly tail of the devil who is always seeking ways to tempt us, manipulate us, and coax us to fall into sin. Silent reflection gives us a more acute awareness of the strategies and manipulations of the enemy of our salvation. In the desert Jesus was in silence as He prayed and fasted. The devil attacked Jesus but He rebuffed the enemy relying on the power and efficaciousness of the Word of God. “Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.” Much of spiritual warfare must be engaged in through silence and prayer.

3. Heavenly Inspiration

Not only can we pick up the tactics of the enemy in the depths of a silent and discerning heart, but even more important we can pick up the *Heavenly vibes*—meaning, the inspirations that come from the Holy Spirit. As a matter of fact, God is always present; His whole being penetrates and permeates the whole universe. God is really never absent from us, but we can so easily become absent from Him. A dogmatic atheist who categorically denies God’s existence, cannot alter or modify to the slightest degree the reality of God’s existence. Saint Paul quoted the Greek poet with reference to God’s omnipresence: “*In Him we live and move and have our being.*”

This being said, the Holy Spirit desires to speak to our heart but He respects our liberty to the max! If we are too busy and overly engrossed in noise, frenetic activities, non-stop movement and constant clatter then there is no room for the Holy Spirit to speak to our hearts through His heavenly inspirations. Never forget: The Birthday of the Church—Pentecost was preceded by fervent prayer, fasting, the presence of Our Lady (Mystical Spouse of the Holy Spirit), and silence. Therefore, with silence and a recollected heart we can pick up those *Heavenly vibes* and be transformed by God Himself—the Holy Spirit!

4. Discerning the Will of God

Discovering the will of God in our lives and striving to implement it is indeed the key to holiness as well as peace of mind, heart, and soul. If we are running a mile a minute, if we are moving like a chicken with its head cut off, if we are in a constant state of agitation, if we have fallen into a perpetual state of activism putting our actions above God Himself, then it will be very difficult if not impossible to discern God’s will in our lives. Discernment of one’s vocation or one’s state of life is possibly the most important decision in one’s entire life. Marriage or the single life, priesthood or the religious life—the choice one makes in this vocational arena is of paramount importance. A wrong choice due to excessive noise, little or no reflection, bad advice from

worldly friends can prove to be nothing less than a disaster. For this reason, Saint Ignatius of Loyola, who has bequeathed to the world the Spiritual Exercises, offers a series of reflections, meditations, so as to help the retreatant discern what is his/her state of life. This Ignatian process of discernment done in SILENCE and reflection with a well-trained spiritual director can prove to be invaluable in choosing one’s vocation, giving honor and glory to God, and pursuing one’s own personal conversion and sanctification. This cannot be done without silence!

5. The Example of St. Joseph

Great Saint Joseph is the earthly father of Jesus who is the Eternal Son of the Father; Saint Joseph is also the husband of Mary, the Queen of angels and saints. Theology gives to Saint Joseph the cult of *protodulia*—first in veneration among the saints. A very interesting note about the great Saint Joseph is his profound silence. We have no recorded word of Saint Joseph in all of Sacred Scripture. The silence of Saint Joseph speaks eloquently. He was silent, as an example to us, so that we would learn in silence to listen to the Word of God and put it into practice. In sum, may we all appreciate and value SILENCE. If done with an attitude of prayer, God will speak most eloquently in the depths of our hearts.

By FR. Ed Broom, OMV

PLEASE NOTE DECEMBER BAPTISM WILL BE ON THE 4 DECEMBER 10AM - ENGLISH & 11AM VIETNAMESE. THERE WILL BE NO BAPTISM IN JANUARY 2022. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

UPCOMING CELEBRATIONS

- ♦ **Thanksgiving Mass at 6pm and Christmas Carols at 7pm - Fri. 17 Dec. 2021**
Advent & Christmas
- ♦ **Reconciliation – Rite 2 in English Wed. 8 Dec. 2021 at 7.30pm & Wed. 15 Dec. 2021 at 7.00pm**
- ♦ **Christmas Eve – Friday 24 December 2021 7pm & 12am (midnight)**
- ♦ **Christmas Day – Saturday 25 at 10am**
- ♦ **Dawn Masses 16th – 24th December 5.00am**



THE FILIPINO CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY OF MELBOURNE



PRAYER AND LIFE WORKSHOPS
A New Evangelization

Online Retreat With St. Joseph



Come and join our Advent Preparations

MONDAY NIGHTS
Nov 22 & 29 2021;
06 Dec 2021

@ 7:30PM-9:00PM(AEDT)
4:30PM-6:00PM (Phil Time)

Kindly Register for free at <https://tinyurl.com/5em5v66n> or Scan QR Code:



YEAR of SAINT JOSEPH
"Show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life"

DECEMBER 8, 2020 - DECEMBER 8, 2021

Contact Details: Father Asis – 0404 261 228
or father.asis@yahoo.com.au
Eldred & Celine Rivera – 0433 132 041 or 0433 132 039

OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES

As of 6:00pm Friday 29 October 2021, the following measures will be applied across Victoria.

⇒ **Face Coverings required indoors only by Victorians age 12 years or over except if at home.**

⇒ Please use the hand sanitizer provided and keep social distancing at all time.

⇒ Density quotient of 1 person per 4 square meter applies.

⇒ Rite of Peace, please avoid shaking hands but instead say "Peace be with you" and offer a smile, wave, nod or bow.

⇒ Holy Communion will only be given in the hand.

⇒ Vaccinations - A person is considered fully vaccinated against COVID-19 for the purposes of attending a Place of Worship if they: • have received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, or • have a valid medical exemption to COVID-19 vaccination issued by an authorised medical practitioner, or • are aged under 16.

If a person can show evidence of any of the above, they can enter as fully vaccinated. If they can't show evidence of any of the above, they are not considered as fully vaccinated and may only participate in groups allowing for 'unknown vaccination status.'

⇒ Record keeping remains an important and critical tool for keeping all in the community safe.

⇒ **Please use a QR code at the Church's door to check in. Proof of vaccination status to be sighted via the Victoria Services App or present hard copy.**

Under no circumstances should anyone awaiting a COVID-19 test verification, including Clergy (even without presenting symptoms) attend a church or parish setting until a diagnosis is confirmed. Additionally, under no circumstances should anyone attend who is closely connected to people who are awaiting test results or who have tested positive. Thanks for your collaboration.

God bless and protect us always

READERS/COMMENTATOR/ COORDINATOR/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Tues 9:00 AM, 30-11-21

Reader Xuan Duong

Eucharistic Min. Monica Lomen

Wed 9:00 AM, 1-12-21

Reader Carmen Camilleri

Eucharistic Min. Elizabeth Delacruz

Thur 9:00 AM, 2-12-21

Reader Shirley Krizmanic

Eucharistic Min. Shirley Krizmani

Fri 9:00 AM, 3-12-21

Reader Helen Maddela

Eucharistic Min. Catherine Bartolo

Sat 6.00 PM, 4-12-21

Lit. Coordinator: Reno Attard
Anthony Naidu

Commentator: Violeta Montoro

Reader: Joh Cablao

Susan Hallorina

Eucharistic Min. Alaistar Surao

Anthony Naidu

Reno Attard

Sun 9.00 AM, 5-12-21

Lit. Coordinator: Monica Lomen

Commentator Wilma Marmur

Readers: Shirley Krizmanic
Pam Norris

Eucharistic Min. Shirley Krizmanic

Wilma Marmur

Monica Lomen

Sun 10:30AM, 5-12-21

Lit. Coordinator: Taoete Afano

Commentator Junior Tufuga

Reader Katalina Poe
Sekolasitika Afualo

Eucharistic Min. Taoete Afano

Cristina Pedroso

Rita Martin

Sun 6.00PM, 5-12-21

Lit. Coordinator Xuan Duong

Commentator Larnie Mendoza

Reader Lorraine Ward
Rod Lalunio

Eucharistic Min. Lani Laririt

Larnie Mendoza

Xuan Duong

CHOIR GROUPS

Saturday 4 December 2021

* 6pm – Fernandez Family Choir

Sunday 5 December 2021

* 9am - Charlie Schembri

* 10.30am - Samoan Choir

* 6.00pm - Exximos Family & Friends Choir

CLEANING ROSTER

Week Beginning 1 December 2021: Louise, Jeff & Jenny Colquhoun, Cherie Surrao, Visjna Milinkovic.

LET US PRAY FOR

The Sick

Rachel Piskon, Toni Antonowicz, Linda Ratbone, Anna, Maria Kim, Yulette Tanner, Jessie Spiteri, Stella Sandle, Frank, Doris Carabott.

Recently Deceased.

Joseph Ferosa, Tulsu Randeniya, Rex De Mel, Chandrishan Perera, Giuseppe Giuffrida, Cecilia Vo Thi Ngoc Hoa.

Anniversaries

Reno De-Gariele, Michael Bordieu, Mary Ann, Carmelo & Mary Jane Grech, Louis & Mary Anne Galea, Joseph & Connie Agius, Anthony & Maria Batolo, David & Adrian Camilleri, Joseph & Carmen Bajona,, Joseph John Christine Montebello, Joseph & Rita Micallef-Grimaud, Joseph & Rose Sammut, Marlene Farrugia, Inge Micallef-Grimaud, Arthur Pitcher, Mary & Charlie Bonnici, Melita Pollicano, Maximus M. Wea, Ellawala Family, Ranasinghe Family, Norberto Laririt, Criselda Fernandez, Angela Chircop, Maria Vu Thi Yeu Thuong, Peter Disco, Frank Kreuger, Richard Curmi, Iro & Jessie Vella, Anthony Gatt, 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

Make your decision to follow Jesus during THIS Advent Season. Delaying until "one" of these days is "none" of these days. Follow now.

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