



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



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C,

4 & 5 DECEMBER 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: precastalban@tpg.com.au

www.precacommunity.org

BAPTISM– DECEMBER

Congratulations to:

Aaliyah Danielle La

Macchia, Aiden Ho,

Joseph Onyeka

(Junior) Osimobi,

Margaux Laura Iles, Aidan

Pham, Anthony Ayden Vo, An-

thony Ryder Roy Dang, Celina

Nguyen, Chloe Vy Bui, Joseph

Dominic Nguyen, Kelly Khlie

Tran, Maria Cynthia Nguyen,

Maria Faith Nguyen, Maria Vic-

toria Hang Nga Dinh, Nicholas

Mai, Peter Kingston Tran who

were baptized in the name of the

Father and of the Son and of the

Holy Spirit. You are welcome to

be a part of our community faith.



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

* **Vietnamese Thur. 9 & 16**

Dec. 2021 at 7.00pm

♦ **Christmas Eve – Friday 24 December 2021**

* **English at 7pm & 12am**

(midnight)

* **Vietnamese at 9.00pm**

♦ **Christmas Day – Saturday 25 2021**

* **English at 10am**

* **Vietnamese at 12.00pm**

Dawn Masses 16th – 24th

♦ **December 5.00am**

Please note All Weekend Masses

at normal times during the

Christmas week. Thank you

THE LIVING WORD

First reading Baruch 5:1-9

God means to show your splendour to every nation

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.' Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

Responsorial Psalm Ps. 125(126)

The rejoicing of a redeemed people

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,

it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,

on our lips there were songs.

The Lord has done great things

for us; we are filled with joy.

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us!

Indeed we were glad.

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing; they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves.

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Second reading Philippians 1:4-6,8-11

May you become pure and blameless in preparation for the day of Christ

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes; and God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

Gospel Acclamation Luke 3:4,6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 3:1-6

The call of John the Baptist

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid

low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

ADVENT PREPARES US FOR THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

The events that come to mind when we say "Christmas," "Easter," and "Pentecost" are so tremendous that their commemoration cannot be celebrated in a single day each. Weeks are needed: first, weeks of preparation, of becoming attuned in body and soul, and then weeks of celebration. This process goes back to an age when people still had time — time to live, time to enjoy.

In our day, we face the puzzling fact that the more time-saving gadgets we invent, the more new buttons to push in order to "save hours of work" — the less time we actually have. We have no more time to read books; we can afford only digests. We have no time to walk a quarter of a mile; we have to hop into a car. We have no time to make things by hand; we buy them ready-made. This "hurry up, let's go" atmosphere does not provide the necessary leisure in which to anticipate and celebrate a feast. But as soon as people stop celebrating, they really do not live anymore—they are being lived, as it were.

The alarming question arises: What is being done with all the time that is constantly being saved? We invent more machines and more gadgets, which will relieve us more and more of the work formerly done by our hands, our feet, our brain, and which will carry us at feverishly increasing speed—where? Perhaps to the moon and other planets, but more probably to our final destruction.

Only the Church throws light onto the gloomy prospects of modern man—Holy Mother Church—for she belongs, herself, to a realm that has its past and present in time, but its future in the World without End.

First Advent

It was fall when we arrived in the United States. The first weeks passed rapidly, filled with new discoveries every day, and soon we came across a beautiful feast that we had never celebrated: Thanksgiving Day, an exclusively American feast. With great enthusiasm we included it in the calendar of our family feasts.

This article is adapted from a chapter in *Around the Year with the Von Trapp Family*. Click image to preview or order.

Who can describe our astonishment, however, when a few days after our first Thanksgiving Day, we heard from a loudspeaker in a large department store the unmistakable melody of "Silent Night"! Upon our excited inquiry, someone said, rather surprised: "What is the matter? Nothing is the matter. Time for Christmas shopping!"

It took several Christmas seasons before we understood the connection between Christmas shopping and "Silent Night" and the other carols blaring from loudspeakers in these pre-Christmas weeks. And even now that we do

understand, it still disturbs us greatly. These weeks before Christmas, known as the weeks of Advent, are meant to be spent in expectation and waiting. This is the season for Advent songs — those age-old hymns of longing and waiting; “Silent Night” should be sung for the first time on Christmas Eve.

We found, however, that hardly anybody knows any Advent songs. And we were startled by something else soon after Christmas: Christmas trees and decorations vanish from the show windows to be replaced by New Year’s advertisements. On our concert trips across the country, we also saw that the lighted Christmas trees disappear from homes and front yards, and no one thinks to sing a carol as late as January 2. This was all very strange to us, for we were used to the old-world Christmas, which was altogether different but which we were determined to celebrate now in our new country.

The Advent Wreath

In the week before the first Sunday in Advent, we began to inquire where we could obtain the various things necessary to make an Advent wreath.

“A what?” was the invariable answer, accompanied by a blank look.

And we learned that nobody seemed to know what an Advent wreath is. For us, it was not a question of whether we would have an Advent wreath. The wreath was a must. Advent would be unthinkable without it. The question was only how to get it in a country where nobody seemed to know about it.

Back in Austria, we used to go to a toy shop and buy a large hoop, about three feet in diameter. Then we would tie hay around it, three inches thick, as a foundation; and around this we would make a beautiful wreath of balsam twigs. The whole was about three feet in diameter and ten inches thick. As we tried the different toy shops in Philadelphia, the salespeople only smiled indulgently and made us feel like Rip Van Winkle. “Around the turn of the century” they had sold the last hoop.

“Necessity is the mother of invention.” Martina, who had made the Advent wreath during our last Advents back home, decided to buy strong wire at a hardware store and braid it into a hoop. Then she tied old newspaper around it, instead of hay, and went out to look for balsam twigs. We lived in Germantown, a suburb of Philadelphia. Martina looked at all the evergreens in our friends’ gardens, but there was no balsam fir. So she chose the next best and came home with a laundry basket full of twigs from a yew tree.

In the hardware store where she had bought the wire, she also got four tall spikes, which she worked into her newspaper reel as candle-holders, and, in the five-and-ten next door, she bought a few yards of strong red ribbon and four candles. The yew twigs made a somewhat feathery Advent wreath, but, said Martina, “It’s round and it’s made of evergreen, and that is all that is neces-

sary.” And she was right. An Advent wreath is round as a symbol of God’s mercy, of which every season of Advent is a new reminder, and it has to be made of evergreens to symbolize God’s everlastingness.

Candles and Calendars

To get ready for the celebration of the beginning of Advent, one more thing has to be added: a tall, thick candle, the Advent candle, as a symbol of Him Whom we call “the Light of the World.” During these weeks of Advent, it will be the only light for the family evening prayer. Its feeble light is the symbol and reminder of mankind’s state of spiritual darkness during Advent.

On the first of January, a new calendar year begins; on the first Sunday of Advent, the new year of the Church begins. Therefore, the Saturday preceding the first Advent Sunday has something of the character of a New Year’s Eve. One of the old customs is to choose a patron saint for the new year of the Church. The family meets on Saturday evening, and with the help of the missal and a book called *The Martyrology*, which lists thousands of saints as they are celebrated throughout the year, they choose as many new saints as there are members of the household. We always choose them according to a special theme. One year, for instance, we had all the different Church Fathers; another year, we chose only martyrs; then, again, only saints of the new world. During the war, we chose one saint of every country at war.

The newly chosen names are handed over to the calligrapher of the family (first it was Jo-hanna; after she married, Rosemary took over). She writes the names of the saints in gothic lettering on little cards. Then she writes the name of every member of the household on an individual card and hands the two sets over to the mother. Now everything is ready.

In the afternoon of the first Sunday of Advent, around Vespers time, the whole family — and this always means “family” in the larger sense of the word, including all the members of the household—meets in the living room. The Advent wreath hangs from the ceiling on four red ribbons; the Advent candle stands in the middle of the table or on a little stand on the side. Solemnly, the father lights one candle on the Advent wreath and, for the first time, the big Advent candle. Then he reads the Gospel of the first Sunday of Advent. After this, the special song of Advent is intoned for the first time, the ancient “Ye heavens, dew drop from above, and rain ye clouds the Just One.”

By *MARIA AUGUSTA VON TRAPP*

The Filipino Catholic Chaplaincy of Melbourne.

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)

Contact Fr. Asis 0404 261 228 or Eldred & Celine Rivera

0433 132 132 or 0433 132 039

OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES

⇒ **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

⇒ 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.'

⇒ **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.**

THANK YOU

St Vincent De Paul wishes to thank Holy Eucharist Parish Community for your Generous Contributions. **Our Christmas Appeal Total for the Weekend Is = \$4,730.10.** What a Tremendous Effort by Everyone. Thanks to All for your Help. A Special thanks to all the Priests for their Help. Many Kind Regards, St Albans South Conference President - Bruno Barreca & SVDP.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need new Church cleaners. We have 13 groups and there are 5 or 6 people on each group, normally cleaning takes 2 hours, so that means you only be rostered on once every 13 weeks. Cleaning detergent is provided. Please ring the office you can help. Regards Lily

PLEASE NOTE

**LAST DAY FOR FOODBANK
FRIDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2021
REOPENING ON
FRIDAY 4TH FEBRUARY 2022
TAKING THIS TIME TO
WISH YOU ALL A SAFE AND
MERRY CHRISTMAS**

READERS/COMMENTATOR/ COORDINATOR/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Tues 9:00 AM, 7-12-21

Reader Xuan Duong
Eucharistic Min. Monica Lomen

Wed 9:00 AM, 8-12-21

Reader Carmen Camilleri
Eucharistic Min. Elizabeth Delacruz

Thur 9:00 AM, 9-12-21

Reader Shirley Krizmanic
Eucharistic Min. Shirley Krizmani

Fri 9:00 AM, 10-12-21

Reader Helen Maddela
Eucharistic Min. Catherine Bartolo

Sat 6.00 PM, 11-12-21

Lit. Coordinator: Charlie Pace
Reno Attard
Commentator: Anthony Naidu
Reader: Miriam Vella
Wendy Forbes-Perera
Eucharistic Min. Anthony Naidu
Violetta Montoro
Reno Attard

Sun 9.00 AM, 12-12-21

Lit. Coordinator: Monica Lomen
Commentator Shirley Krizmanic
Readers: Kelechi Kelechi
Wilma Marmur
Eucharistic Min. Shirley Krizmanic
Wilma Marmur
Monica Lomen

Sun 10:30AM, 12-12-21

Lit. Coordinator: Ed Cablao
Commentator Cristina Pedroso
Reader Rita Martin
Christina Afano
Eucharistic Min. Rtia Martin
Cristina Pedroso
Ed Cablao

Sun 6.00PM, 12-12-21

Lit. Coordinator Lani Laririt
Commentator Lani Laririt
Reader Larnie Mendoza
Xuan Duong
Eucharistic Min. Lani Laririt
Larnie Mendoza
Xuan Duong

CHOIR GROUPS

Saturday 11 December 2021

* **6pm** – D'Souza Family Choir

Sunday 12 December 2021

* **9am** - Charlie Schembri

* **10.30am** - St Francis Choir

* **6.00pm** - Volunteer Choir

CLEANING ROSTER

Week Beginning 8 December 2021: Kelechi Ekwebelem, Lily Disco, Margaret Bajada, Cathy Bartolo & Wendy Forbes-Perera.

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.

Macario S. Pagdanganan Sr., Joseph Ferosa.

Anniversaries

Jan & Jovan Vala, Jan & Elizabeth Danicek, Maria Lojdova, Stefan Kolek, Tony & Belinda Cauchi, Guzzep, Angelo, Joe & Leli Zahra, Zaren Spiteri, Albert Caruana, Ganni, Teresa & Austin Magro, Guzzep & Maria Cauchi, 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

Who, today, is willing to make ready the way of the Lord, to clear Him a straight path? Good, I prayed you would.

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