



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



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C,

11 & 12 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: precastalbans@tpg.com.au

www.precacommunity.org

UPCOMING CELEBRATIONS

- ♦ **Thanksgiving Mass at 6pm
and Christmas Carols at
7pm - Fri. 17 Dec. 2021**

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

- ♦ **Reconciliation – Rite 2**
 - * **Wed. 15 Dec. 2021 at
7.00pm in English**
 - * **Vietnamese Thur. 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*

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**

THE LIVING WORD

First reading Zephaniah 3:14-18

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

Responsorial Psalm Ps. Isaiah 12

The rejoicing of a redeemed people

Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Truly, God is my salvation,

I trust, I shall not fear.

For the Lord is my strength, my song,

he became my saviour.

With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.

Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Give thanks to the Lord,

give praise to his name!

Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!

Declare the greatness of his name.

Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Sing a psalm to the Lord

for he has done glorious deeds;

make them known to all the earth!

People of Zion, sing and shout for joy,

for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Second reading **Philippians 1**Philippians 4:4-7

The Lord is very near

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation **Isaiah 61:1 (Luke 4:18)**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

Gospel **Luke 3:10-18**

'Someone is coming who will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire'

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

The third Sunday of Advent used to be called Gaudete (be joyful) Sunday. It provided a mid-term break within a period of austerity or penance in preparation for Christmas. Advent is no longer celebrated as a penitential period, but rather as a reflective time of expectation and hope. The invitation to rejoice nonetheless remains part of the Advent liturgy. It is certainly present in the first two readings: God is in our midst, renewing us in love (Zephaniah) and there is no need for worry (Philippians). It is also implicit in the gospel reading from Luke with its sense of expectancy and John the Baptist's an-

nouncement of the "Good News" of the one who is to come.

There are ethical demands in the time of waiting. Three times John is asked, "What must we do?" In line with Luke's emphasis on the universality of God's saving power, the responses are directed to "all the people". Those with even minimal food (something to eat) and clothing (two tunics) are told to share. Tax agents, caught up in a system notoriously open to abuse, are to be honest. Soldiers are given three directives that provide some insight into the way the military was perceived: no extortion, no blackmail, and no complaints about wages. The third directive probably derives from the fact that soldiers were better off financially than most others. It is in no sense a prohibition on demands for just wages.

John situates himself in relation to Jesus, the anointed agent of God's liberation. John's portrait presents someone more fiery than the Lukan Jesus turns out to be. It is more like a self-portrait, especially in light of the context that has John addressing the crowds who flock to him as a "brood of vipers" or "children of snakes" (Luke 3:7). In contrast with John's water-baptism "for the forgiveness of sins", Jesus will "baptise" with the Holy Spirit and fire. Fire, as we well know in this dry land of ours, is a challenging symbol, both friend and foe. In the first-century Manual of Discipline from the Qumran community by the Dead Sea, water, refining by fire, and "a holy Spirit" are listed together as the instruments of God's saving and purifying action. John, who may have been a member of the Qumran community, presents his own role as preparatory to that of Jesus, the Spirit-filled, powerful and enduring agent of God's refining and purifying work in the world. We know our own ongoing need for a "baptism" with the Holy Spirit and fire. We prepare the way by doing what we must: sharing our goods and treating others with dignity, justice and forgiveness.

By Veronica Lawson RSM

THE PANDEMIC CALLS FOR A CULTURE OF CARE

In an interview with OSA, an Italian Social and Work Cooperative that provides social and health welfare services, the Pope offers his encouragement for the help it offers to many people living in darkness "to not to feel alone."

The Rome-based OSA Cooperative that it is active in sustaining home and institutional assistance for those in need, rehabilitation, hospital services and socio-welfare services, also produces a magazine informing readers, telling the stories of the people it assists. It is on these pages that Pope Francis offers a reflection and an invitation to promote a culture of care.

Tenderness

Highlighting the capacity and the need for "tenderness", the Pope says tenderness not only indicates closeness, but through competence it calls for participation in the concrete lives of people. "It is a closeness understood as sharing, proximity, care and love. I hope that the great trial we experienced in the pandemic has made us long for a new closeness among us. A new tenderness."

A focus on children and the elderly

The Pope then turns his attention to children and the elderly, "the main citizens of existential peripheries," of a society focused on productivity. "Their lives," he says, "are perceived as useless. Instead, he says, "I believe that the generational encounter between children and the elderly must be filled with a culture that knows how to bring together and integrate these fragilities." This, Pope Francis explains, "is a question of humanity".

Only when we will go back to caring, above all, for those on the margins, will we give a sign of true change, he adds. "When we work so that there will no longer be a generational conflict, so that we may find the courage to be together, the young and the old, only then will we experience a new quality of living in society."

Looking, listening and caring

The OSA Cooperative assists people at home, in the intimacy of their homes. For the Pope, the home "is not simply a place, it is above all a relationship" that provides strength with which to face trials. "This does not mean," Francis explains, "that health care facilities are useless, but they must become the last resort in the experience of illness and suffering." He praises the work carried out by OSA operators "because it makes



the experience of pain and illness possible in an environment that is more welcoming, more human and more capable of humanizing a difficult time in life" that makes people feel "more alone, more misunderstood and more vulnerable." In light of his recent experience in the hospital, Francis suggests a few simple

rules for health care workers in their endeavor to carry out their service and work in a humane way. "Look people in the eyes, consider them in their suffering without ever trivializing them," and listening to them so that "these people can entrust the suffering they live, the difficulties they have to someone." Finally, care "which should be translated into a way of offering help,

support and professional services that is never violent, never predictable and never mechanical".

We all need a Cyrenian to help carry our Cross

The last question addressed to the Pope concerns pain and death. Francis emphasizes that even without naming Christ, it is impossible to ignore His experience. He recalls that often "speeches, rather than being of help or consolation, procure even more suffering," it is necessary "not to run away, to remain close" in moments of trial, "before the scandal of innocent pain, the scandal of the pain of a child." We must avoid the temptation to isolate ourselves, he says because "the more we suffer, the more we feel we also need a Cyrenian to help us carry our Cross".

"God always finds a way to make himself present within our lives, even when we feel he is far away or we feel abandoned. This is our strength. And even if we don't know it, Easter is already at work in that darkness. Only with time do we realize that there is a light hidden even in the deepest darkness. As we wait to realize this, the only way we can go forward is helping each other."

"Thank you for what you do," the Pope concluded, "because you help many people going through darkness to not feel alone, to not be discouraged, to be able to live face what they could never live and face alone."

By Vatican News

ADVENT ATTITUDE

In the beginner's mind there is no thought 'I have attained something.' All self-centered thoughts limit our vast mind. When we have no thought of achievement, no thought of self, we are true beginners. Then we can really learn something. The beginner's mind is the mind of compassion. When our mind is compassionate, it is boundless."



I like these words. Also very important for Advent. Open, free, flexible, receptive. That is the attitude that makes us ready. I realize that in Zen you are not expecting anything or anyone. Still, it seems that all the things Shunryu Suzuki tells his students are important for Christians to hear and realize. Isn't a beginner's mind, a mind without the thought "I have attained something," a mind opened for grace? Isn't that the mind of children who marvel at all they see? Isn't that the mind not filled with worries for tomorrow but alert and awake in the present moment?

By Henri J. M. Nouwen

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.**

NOVENA



- ◆ **8.30am - Pray the Rosary in different languages**
 - ◆ **9.00am – Novena Mass to Our Lady of Perpetual Help**
- Please join us in devotions to our Lady!**

READERS/COMMENTATOR/ COORDINATOR/EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Tues 9:00 AM, 14-12-21

Reader Xuan Duong
Eucharistic Min. Monica Lomen

Wed 9:00 AM, 15-12-21

Reader Carmen Camilleri
Eucharistic Min. Elizabeth Delacruz

Thur 9:00 AM, 16-12-21

Reader Shirley Krizmanic
Eucharistic Min. Shirley Krizmani

Fri 9:00 AM, 17-12-21

Reader Helen Maddela
Eucharistic Min. Catherine Bartolo

Sat 6.00 PM, 18-12-21

Lit. Coordinator: Charlie Pace
Reno Attard
Commentator: Miriam Vella
Reader: Violeta Montoro
Anthony Naidu
Eucharistic Min. Carmen Camilleri
Miriam Vella
Reno Attard

Sun 9.00 AM, 19-12-21

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

Sun 10:30AM, 19-12-21

Lit. Coordinator: Taoete Afano
Commentator Rita Martin
Reader Cristina Pedroso
Ed Cablao
Eucharistic Min. Taoete Afano
Rita Martin
Joh Cablao

Sun 6.00PM, 19-12-21

Lit. Coordinator Xuan Duong
Commentator Larnie Mendoza
Reader Lorraine Ward
Lani Laririt
Eucharistic Min. Rod Lalunio
Larnie Mendoza
Xuan Duong

CHOIR GROUPS

Saturday 18 December 2021

* 6pm – Tavalo Family Choir

Sunday 19 December 2021

* 9am - Charlie Schembri

* 10.30am - Holy Eucharist Family Choir

* 6pm - Youth Choir

CLEANING ROSTER

Week Beginning 15 December 2021: Otilia & Tufuga Family.

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 Grima, Phenomena Lazzaro, Teresa Phuong Khong, Macario S. Pagdanganan Sr.

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

Have you ever asked: "What ought I do?" Simply, tell the good news to people. Nothing else matters.

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