



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



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B

2 & 3 DECEMBER 2023

REDEMPTORIST COMMUNITY

Parish Priest & Mission Leader

Fr Vincent Long Pham CSsR

Priests in Residence

Fr Joseph Xuan Hieu Nguyen 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
7.30pm Vietnamese
- ♦ **Sunday:** 8:45am, 10:00am,
6:00pm
12:00pm Vietnamese

Other Masses

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

SOCIAL OFFICE / (JP SERVICE)

Contact: Son Nguyen

Phone 9366 1310

Friday 10:00am-3:00pm.

FOODBANK open Fridays

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

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 7pm-8pm

Email: stalban@preca.org.au

THE LIVING WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8

O that you would tear the heavens open and come down

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, 'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down! – at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 79(80):2-3,15-16,18-19

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne.

O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help.

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted.

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.

And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name.

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:9

We are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation Psalms 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 13:33-37

If he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

GOSPEL REFLECTION

As I write, I am watching the magpies in the yard, ever alert, rarely asleep, ready to protect their territory and their young. "Eyes wide open" is the proper stance, not just for the magpies, but for gospel people too. The little parable that is the gospel reading for this first Sunday of the new liturgical year forms the conclusion to Mark's so-called apocalyptic discourse. Apocalyptic literature emerged within Judaism in the context of crisis or persecution. It was intended to provide hope in the midst of disaster. Its message was that God's coming can reverse the sufferings of the present, a hopeful message for our contemporary world if we envisage multiple "comings" and not simply an endtime return. The Markan discourse is delivered as a farewell teaching to the inner circle of Jesus' disciples. The concluding verse indicates that it is intended for a wider audience, however: "what I say to you, I say to all..." Like Peter, James, and John, Christian disciples through the ages are invited to stay awake, to be on the lookout, to be alert.

This cycle of the liturgical year begins and ends with Mark 13 and a focus on the end of the present order of things. It may seem strange to begin the year with such a reflection. Is Advent not a time of preparation for Christmas, for the coming of the Christ child into the world? Mark has no account of the birth of Jesus. His gospel begins with the immediate preparation for the adult ministry of Jesus. From the very outset, his interest is in the coming of God's reign of justice and compassion. That is, in fact, what Advent is about: living in hopeful expectation that God's dream for a transformed world might be realised.

The parable of the watchful gatekeeper forms the conclusion to a farewell discourse that the Markan Jesus addresses to his disciples. The disciples are told to be alert and watchful through the four watches of the Roman night: in the evening, at midnight, at cockcrow, and at dawn. The parable thus foreshadows aspects of Jesus' suffering that was to be compounded by the abandonment of his closest friends. Peter, James, and John will fall asleep in Gethsemane. The disciples will all disperse and Peter will deny him. We find our own experience mirrored in that of the disciples. It is easy to lose hope in the face of overwhelming violence and even to lose focus.

Advent is about recognising our own tendency to be less than vigilant and even to turn away when our presence is most needed. It is about allowing the grace of God to take hold in our hearts, keeping us watchful for the sake of those on the edge and for the sake of a regenerated Earth. Most of us would agree that our Earth communities are in crisis. We need to be alert to causes as well as to consequences so that the cycles of violence might eventually be broken. Our gospel asks no less of us.

By Veronica Lawson RSM



Advent is the start of the Christian year. The word 'Advent' comes from the Latin 'Adventus', which means 'coming'. In this sense, Advent is a time to prepare for, and reflect upon, three meanings of the term 'coming':

The original coming of Jesus Christ, 2000 years ago, on Christmas Day (25th December).
A future time when Jesus will return at the end of time.

A present time when those who decide to believe in Jesus invite him to come into their lives.

First candle / Sunday: HOPE (The Prophet's Candle)
Second candle / Sunday: PEACE (The Bethlehem Candle)

Third candle / Sunday: JOY (The Shepherd's Candle)

Fourth candle / Sunday: LOVE (The Angel's Candle)
Fifth candle represent the coming of Christ.

Making your own family wreath. Arrange a place for the wreath. All you need are four candles. And some natural greenery. If the family has a set meal time. This would be a time to light the first candle and so on with the other candles.

A Prayer to say.

Heavenly Father, heal my heart during this season of Advent. Help me to love more fully. To forgive more generously. To wait more patiently for Christmas, embracing each day and hour knowing the joy that awaits.

Lord, send down Your Spirit to guide me during Advent. May the Holy Spirit help me journey closer to You and lift me up when I feel down and led me when I feel lost. I may stumble at times, but I know my ultimate journey is to draw closer to You and build Your kingdom here on earth—a kingdom that Jesus's birth, life and death helped secure. Amen.

POPE FRANCIS CANCELS TRIP TO DUBAI FOR UN CLIMATE CONFERENCE



Pope Francis gives his blessing to the bishops of Spain after a two-hour meeting with them in the Vatican synod hall Nov. 28. Later the same day, the Vatican announced Francis would cancel his Dec. 1-3 trip to Dubai for COP28. The Pope was able also to meet with the president of Paraguay

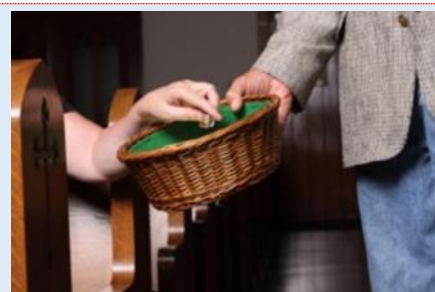
Prayer for the COP28 climate summit

God of blessings, the universe sings of your glory.
Deepen our gratitude for all you have made and awaken in us a renewed commitment to care for the earth and each other.

Inspire world leaders at COP28, with openness to listen to those most affected by climate change and with courage to act urgently and wisely, so that our common home may be healed and restored and all people, and generations to come, may delight in it.

COLLECTIONS AT MASS

There are generally two collections taken up at Mass. The first collection is for the support of clergy in the parish.



The second collection is for the maintenance and growth of our parish's mission. For example: Liturgical needs, Maintenance of the Church, Parish sacramental formation and pastoral programs.

Your donations are ideally offered through the parish **Planned Giving Program**, and can be done electronically (the ideal way) or via cash or an envelope system.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Sometimes a special collection for a local or international Catholic charity will be announced. These allow the Church and its agencies to offer assistance to the needy in the parish, provide resources to humanitarian missions internationally

If you would like to find out more about donation methods please contact your local parish office or parish priest.

THE RAFFLE



This is a special fund raising event to help finance necessary repairs to our church. As you are aware, there are plans for the development of our Parish office complex but these are on hold until repairs to the Church roof are completed.

Supporting this raffle can be a way for our parish moving forward. Thank you for your support.

By Fr. Patrick Corbett, CSsR

FUNDRAISING TO SUPPORT OUR PARISH PROJECT



Tickets for only **\$25.00** to win
one of the 5 amazing prizes to
be drawn at the

**Christmas Carols Night on
the 15th December 2023, 7pm**
here at **Holy Eucharist
Church.**

Dust off your Santa hats, and
bring your family and friends to
join in on these Christmas carols
night of unforgettable live per-
formances. Be part of our 2023
Carols and our first Fundraising
to support our Parish Project.
Don't forget to buy a ticket and
come enjoy the night with free
food provided. See you there!

Contacts for Tickets enquiry:

Marylucy 0466 055 077 or

Tammy 0415 599 413



Preca Brothers kindly ask
parents that like to have their
children to be part of the
Christmas Eve Mass Role Play,
Sunday 24th December to
register after weekend masses with
the Preca Youth at the foyer. They
can contact Br Tony 0419115692
or for (Vietnamese) Phung on
0434728620.

Parents are asked to bring their
children for the rehearsal on the
16th December 10am at HE
Church. They will be asked to get
their children dressed in their
character on Christmas Eve Mass.

CLEANING ROSTER

Week starting 6 December 2023
Group 9 - St Francis Choir: Lisi
McFarland

READERS/COMMENTATOR/ COORDINATOR/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Tues 9:00 AM, 05-12-23

Reader Xuan Duong
Eucharistic Min. Monica Lomen

Wed 9:00 AM, 06-12-23

Reader Carmen Camilleri
Eucharistic Min. Carmen Camilleri

Thurs 9:00 AM, 07-12-23

Reader: HE School
Eucharistic HE School

Fri 9:00 AM, 08-12-23

Reader Helen Maddela
Eucharistic Min. Catherine Bartolo

Sat 6.00 PM, 09-12-23

Lit. Coordinator: Reno Attacd
Commentator: Agatha Saliba
Readers: Anthony Naidu
Carmen Camilleri
Eucharistic Min. Nanette Micallef-Grimaud
Wendy Forbes-Perera
Reno Attard

Sun 8.45 AM, 10-12-23

Lit. Coordinator: Monica Lomen
Commentator Wilma Marmur
Readers: Mini Eddy
Shirley Krizmanic
Eucharistic Min: Helen Maddela
Salve Nidea
Monica Lomen

Sun 10:00AM, 10-12-23

Lit. Coordinator: Saua Tufuga
Commentator: Ed Cabla
Reader: St Francis Choir
St Francis Choir
Eucharistic Min. Christine Pedroso
Br. Noel Debono
Saua Tufuga

Sun 6.00PM, 10-12-23

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

CHOIR GROUPS

Saturday 9th December 2023

♦ 6pm – Volunteer Choir

Sunday 10th December 2023

♦ 8.45am - Charlie Schembri

♦ 10.00am - St Francis Choir

♦ 6pm - Youth For Christ Choir

LET US PRAY FOR

The Sick

Marlene Ferdinand, Pam Norris, Alfred
& Pauline Storace, Arnord Fernandez,
Toni Antonowicz, Anna, Maria Kim,
Yulette Tanner, Stella Sandle, Frank,
Doris Carabott.

Recently Deceased

Bernie Boeling, Peter Duong Van Nham

Death Anniversaries

Elizabet Danicek, Maria Lojdova, Ana
Danicek, Dominic Kinh & Anne Marie
Bui, Vincent Chuc, Maria Tuan, Maria
Moc, Maria Kien, Dominc Phuc,
Dominic Khat, Maria Hang, Joseph
Formosa, Hoang Family(Fanxico, Maria,
Maria & Teresa) & Nguyen Family
(Joseph, Anna & Maria), Nazareno &
Josephine Spiteri, Antonio Mifsud, Philip
Gauci, Joseph, Frank & John Xerri, Tran
Thi Huong, Cornelio Maddela, Grazio
(Horace) Camilleri, Joseph & Franc
Xiberras, Reno Cauchi, Mac-co Ngo Van
Thinh, Lucia Huynh Thi Kim Hue,
Phero Ngo Minh Truong, Maria Huynh
Thi Thanh Kieu, Phero Le Nghia, Matta
Le Thi Linh, Phero Le Quang Tuan,
Theresa Nguyen Ngoc Giang Thu,
Dominico Le Ngoc Son, Mary Camilleri,
Richard & Connie Curmi, Iro & Jessie
Vella, Angela Chircop, Peter Disco,
Wayne Camilleri, Bartolo family, Brincat
& Galea family, Maria Vu Thi Yeu
Thuong, Duong Family, Do Family,
Vincent Duong Kham Su, Michael
Alphonsus Schiller, Mollie Rice (Marie),
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 Wurundjeri people
as the traditional custodians of the
land on which we reside and worship.*

VOCATION VIEW

It's Advent; almost Christmas! A
Season of dreams comes true. Be on
guard. The Lord may call you to fol-
low Him

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