



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 B

9 & 10 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

UPCOMING

CELEBRATIONS

Friday 15th December

- ♦ 6.30pm Thanksgiving Mass
- ♦ 7.30pm Christmas Carols & Drawing of the Raffle with refreshments provide.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

♦ Reconciliation – 2nd Rite

* English - Wednesdays,

13th & 20th December
2023 @ 7.00pm

* Vietnamese - Thursdays,
14th & 21st December
2023 @ 7.00pm

♦ Christmas Eve – Sunday, 24th December 2023

* 6:00pm in English

* 8:00pm in Vietnamese

* 12:00am in English
(midnight)

♦ Christmas Day – Monday, 25th December 2023

* 10:00am in English

* 12.00pm in Vietnamese

♦ 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: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

*The glory of the Lord shall be revealed
and all mankind shall see it*

‘Console my people, console them’ says your God. ‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.’ A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low. Let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’ Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, ‘Here is your God.’ Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 84(85):9-14

**Lord, let us see your kindness,
and grant us your salvation.**

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,

a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.

His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land.

**Lord, let us see your kindness,
and grant us your salvation.**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;

justice and peace have embraced.

Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.

Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps.

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

We are waiting for the new heavens and the new earth

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, ‘a day’ can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up. Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

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 Mark 1:1-8

A voice cries in the wilderness: prepare a way for the Lord

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, ‘Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.’

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The first verse of Mark’s gospel evokes the opening words of Genesis and thus situates the saving

presence of Jesus the Christ in relation to the creation of earth and of all earth beings. The whole of Mark’s story of Jesus is presented as a beginning. It is the beginning of a faith journey into which the listener/reader is invited. In some manuscripts of the Greek text, there are only five words in this verse, seven in other manuscripts, and twelve in our English translation. The term gospel (euangelion) means good news. It referred originally to the news of victory delivered by a messenger, usually in time of war. The good news in this context is about Jesus, a name meaning ‘Yahweh saves’. The reader learns that this Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, Israel’s longed for Messiah. The actors within the story have to discover this truth as the drama unfolds. The two additional words present Jesus as ‘son of God’, as one having the characteristics of God.

John the Baptizer is identified as the messenger who proclaims the need to prepare the way for the arrival of a new Presence in our world. Mark creates the impression that something big is happening here. John draws massive crowds from city and country alike. They come to him in the wilderness, the home of the other-than-human, home to diverse forms of life. At a metaphorical level, wilderness recalls Israel’s experience in the Sinai desert. It is the place of testing and of new beginnings for God’s people, the place of God’s coming or God’s ‘advent’ to Israel. Jesus will be impelled by the Spirit into the wilderness where he will pass the tests that the people Israel failed.

This reading invites us to prepare for God’s advent or coming by ritualising metanoia (usually translated as ‘repentance’), and thus being ready for the one who comes. The translation ‘repentance’ does not convey the nuances of the Greek term metanoia which literally means a ‘change of mind’ and suggests an ‘expansion of horizons’. God’s advent demands a new mindset that will predispose us to receive the gift of God’s forgiveness and to be open to feel the pain of earth as well as the pain of those rendered poor.

Mark’s depiction of John evokes the image of the prophet Elijah in 2 Kings 8 and the ‘hairy mantle’ of the prophet in Zechariah 13:4. John is a prophet who, like the prophets of old, calls God’s people to reconsider where they stand in relation to God. He is also the one who heralds the advent of the ‘stronger’ one who will baptize ‘with the Holy Spirit’. And yet there is nothing in the subsequent narrative about Jesus baptizing. As we reflect attentively on Mark’s gospel during this liturgical year, we might ask ourselves what it means to ‘baptize’ with the Holy Spirit and what it means to follow one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.

By Veronica Lawson RSM



COP 28

United Arab Emirates
30 NOV - 12 DEC 2023



King Charles' address:

“I pray with all my heart that Cop 28 will be another critical turning point towards genuine transformational action at a time when, already, as scientists have been warning for so long, we are seeing alarming tipping points being reached.

“Despite all the attention, there is 30% more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere now than there was back then, and almost 40% more methane.

“Some important progress has been made, but it worries me greatly that we remain so dreadfully far off track as the global stocktake report demonstrates so graphically.”

Pope calls world leaders to end divisions to fight climate change

Pope Francis was unable to be at the **U.N. Climate Change Conference** in person, however, he still launched an urgent appeal to world leaders to work for a culture of life and to choose the future, not repeat the past!

Pope Francis was to have been the first pope to attend the U.N. climate conference Dec. 1-3, but canceled his trip Nov. 28 after coming down with a serious bronchial infection.

Cardinal **Pietro Parolin**, Vatican secretary of state, read **Pope Francis' speech to COP28**, the U.N. Climate Change Conference,

Don't blame the poor!

“Almost half of our world that is more needy is responsible for scarcely 10% of toxic emissions, while the gap between the opulent few and the masses of the poor has never been so abysmal. The poor are the real victims of what is happening.”

"We have a grave responsibility," Pope Francis wrote, "which is to ensure the earth, the poor and the young not be denied a future. The solution requires coming together as brothers and sisters living in a common home, rebuilding trust..."

"How much energy is humanity wasting on the numerous wars" being waged, he wrote, and "how many resources are being squandered on weaponry that destroys lives and devastates our common home!"

The pope again urged governments to divert money away from arms and other military expenditures toward a global

fund to end hunger, to promote sustainable development of poorer countries and to combat climate change. "Climate change signals the need for political change" away from narrow self-interest and nationalism, "There must be a breakthrough that not a partial change of course, but rather a new way of making progress together, He promised the "commitment and support of the Catholic Church, which is deeply engaged in the work of education and of encouraging participation by all, as well as in promoting sound lifestyles." "Let us leave behind our divisions and unite our forces," Pope Francis wrote. "And with God's help, let us emerge from the dark night of wars and environmental devastation in order to turn our common future into the dawn of a new and radiant day."

Pope asks theologians to help 'de-masculinize' the church when he met with members of the International Theological Commission,



Pope Francis greets Congolese Sister Josée Ngalula. Sr Josée is one of five women theologians on the International Theological Commission. Asking pardon for speaking plainly, Pope Francis told members of the International Theological Commission that "one of the great sins we have had is 'masculinizing' the church," which also can be seen by the fact that only five of the twenty-eight commission members are women.

Pope Francis told members of the commission that at the next meeting of his international Council of Cardinals, "we will have a reflection on the feminine dimension of the church."

Put together By Fr. Patrick Corbett, CSsR



PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD!

Prepare! But how? By prayer.

**Fasting and Almsgiving, But mainly By love
Which shows itself, By caring for others,
By a smile, A word, Or a nod of the head.**

**By doing these things,
I am saying, "Jesus loves you
And so do I."**

**That is how to prepare
The way of the Lord.**

ADVENT Prayer

By Brother E.B. Wakeham CFC

© Edmund Rice Christian Brothers Art Foundation, LTD



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 13 December
2023 Group 8 - Samoan Com-
munity Yoko & Akenese

READERS/COMMENTATOR/ COORDINATOR/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Tues 9:00 AM, 12-12-23

Reader Xuan Duong
Eucharistic Min. Monica Lomen

Wed 9:00 AM, 13-12-23

Reader Carmen Camilleri
Eucharistic Min. Carmen Camilleri

Thurs 9:00 AM, 14-12-23

Reader: Tammy Pham
Eucharistic Shirley Krizmanic

Fri 9:00 AM, 15-12-23

Reader Helen Maddela
Eucharistic Min. Catherine Bartolo

Sat 6.00 PM, 16-12-23

Lit. Coordinator: Charlie Pace
Commentator: Alastair Surrao
Readers: Miriam Vella
Wendy Forbes-Perera
Eucharistic Min. Violeta Montoro
Carmen Camilleri
Reno Attard

Sun 8.45 AM, 17-12-23

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

Sun 10:00AM, 17-12-23

Lit. Coordinator: Br. Noel Debono
Commentator: Christine Pedroso
Reader: Rita Martin
Joh Cablao
Eucharistic Min. Susan Hallorina
Br. Tony Gatt
Br. Noel Debono

Sun 6.00PM, 17-12-23

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

CHOIR GROUPS

Saturday 16th December 2023

♦ 6.00pm – Tavalo Family

Sunday 17th December 2023

♦ 8.45am - Charlie Schembri

♦ 10.00am - DeSouza Family

♦ 6.00pm - Angeline Veigas

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

Family Valentic, Family Rakonic, Maria
Nguyen Thi Dao, 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,
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, Maria Tran Thi HuongMary
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

The cry of the people: "Lord, let us
see your kindness". Who will
prepare the way of the Lord coming
to us today?

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