



15/16 December 2018-Year C Third Sunday of Advent



Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

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

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia

Communion Antiphon: Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and He will save us.

**Dear Parishioners,
We celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent: Year C**

1. The Good News

The readings for this Sunday are about rejoicing. The First Reading tells God's people to shout for joy, and the Second Reading exhorts Christians to rejoice always. The Gospel Reading says that John the Baptist preached good news to the people.

So what did John the Baptist say? What is there to rejoice about? It helps in thinking about this question to have some sense of what the bad news is.

You will be so lovely that God himself will make songs about you and for you, and he himself will sing them to you.

The Second Reading follows the call to rejoice with an exhortation to have no anxieties. The bad news is everything that raises those anxieties. The First Reading spells out some of it. There are enemies; there are misfortunes—sickness, poverty, unemployment, natural disaster, and all the rest.

It is possible to find some peace about all these things by bringing them to God in prayer and putting your trust in him. At any rate, that is the antidote to these anxieties recommended by the Second Reading.

But a person can have anxieties that are harder to bring to God. There are the relationships you have broken, the wreckage you have made of things at home, the failures you are culpable for at work. Sin can paralyze any effort at joy in loving relationship with God and others. You can put your trust in God; but what happens when you know that God can put no trust in you? What happens to joy in the face of this thought?

That is the bad news.

But this is also where the good news comes in. The First Reading promises that *God will rejoice over you*. And why? The answer is also in the First Reading: God will renew you; and when he does, you will be so lovely that God himself will make songs about you and for you, and he himself will sing them to you.

That is amazing good news, isn't it? But how can it be?

This is where the good news of John the Baptist comes in. Christ will baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit will then dwell in you. Christ is Emmanuel, God with us, and he brings God the Holy Spirit into us. When God is with you and in you, how can you keep from singing for joy?

ST ANTHONY'S PARISH CHURCH 320 Edmondson Ave AUSTRAL 2179

Pastor:
Fr. Robert Hayes PP RFD VF
Dean of the Western Deanery

Secretary: Cheryl McKell
House Manager: Cathy Sanders

Presbytery: Parish Office is open on: Tuesday - Thursday
Closed for lunch 12.30-1.30 pm.

Phone: 9606 0206; **Fax:** 9606 0153

Email Address:
stanthonysaustral@bigpond.com
Web Address:
www.stanthonysaustral.org

Archdiocesan website:
www.sydney.catholic.org.au
Presbytery is closed on Mondays.

St Anthony of Padua Catholic College

School Principal:
Mrs Lea De Angelis
Phone: 9606 8600
Email: info@stapaustral.catholic.edu.au

Sacramental Life

Celebration of the Eucharist:

Mass Schedule:

Saturday - 5.30pm Vigil (Includes Children's Liturgy during School Term)

Sunday - 7.30am

Sunday - 9am (Includes Children's Liturgy during School Term)

Monday - No Mass

Tuesday - 9am

Wednesday - 9am

Thursday - 9am

Friday - 9.00am

Reconciliation: Saturday

4.30 - 5.15pm

Baptisms & Marriages:

By appointment at Presbytery

Anointing: Every 2 months - check bulletin for dates

Sick Calls: Any time - day/night.

Funeral Masses: In co-operation with Funeral Directors.

2. Anniversary Mass: Charlie Vella

The one year Mass for Charlie Vella will be celebrated at St Anthony's this coming Tuesday evening. Connie and the family invite family, friends and parishioners who knew and loved Charlie to attend.

Date: Tuesday 18 December

Time: 7pm



3. Parish/School Carol Evening

Our Parish/School Christmas Carol evening is on this Monday night 17 December.

Time: 6-7pm

Come along and enjoy an hour of Christmas carols and songs. Some new, some old performed by our parish choir and St Anthony's school students. Eat early or eat late, but come along to the Church 6-7pm.

4. St Vincent de Paul: Christmas Appeal

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal is looking for "tin foods" as many of our Catholic Schools are supporting Vinnies with toys.

The Manager Krystina Whittaker is asking parishes if they could donate "tin Foods" as food etc will be in demand after Christmas. Please bring your donation and place it in the boxes provided at the back of the Church.

5. St Vincent de Paul Society

As mentioned at last Sunday's Family Mass by the new President of the St Vincent de Paul for this Region, Mr Davide Foti, they are looking for members.

As you can imagine, the Society has been serviced by many faithful and willing Catholic women and men, but age is wearing them. Others have to pick up the baton and run with it.

Are you interested in social welfare and justice for all? See Fr Bob.

6. Raffle for Christmas

The Parish Council decided to hold a Christmas raffle for funds to fix-up the choir area.

There are a few prizes in time for Christmas.

They are: Microsoft Voucher, Ham Hamper, Fruit Hamper. IGA Hamper in the form of a voucher, Melina Cake Shop Voucher, Perfume box assortment
Tickets are: \$3 each or 4 for \$10.

7. Rosters

There are also sign up sheets for all Christmas Services including Childrens Pageant, so please put your names down.

8. Mens Reflection Night

The Mens' Reflection Night will be held this Wednesday evening from 7.30-8.30pm. This night gives new and young men an opportunity to pause and be still reflecting on our journey of life.

The Programme is:

MC welcomes all present and presents evening programme (5-10 minutes)

Fr Bob exposes the Blessed Sacrament (5 minutes)

Fr Bob introduces a Reflection from the Word of God 5-10 minutes)

Fr Bob presents a Reflection for our meditation (5-10 minutes)

Time of quiet reflection (10-15 minutes)

Sacrament of Healing offered to all, with explanation (10 minutes)

Benediction concludes the evening (5 minutes)
Supper.

During the evening you will be invited to be anointed with the Sacrament of Anointing. This Sacrament is a sacrament that brings peace and healing, as well as, the forgiveness of sins. If we have been away from this Sacrament for a week, a month, a year or I can't remember this is your opportunity to begin afresh in your relationship with Christ for Christmas.

I look forward to you men joining us on Wednesday Night.

9. Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

A reminder that the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be available for parishioners running up to Christmas. We are reminded that we are obliged to confess our sins at least once a year as a minimum.

If we haven't been to the Sacrament for awhile make this Christmas 2018, a new start in your spiritual journey. All it demands of each one of us is 5 minutes. Hop in the car and come to the Church and spend 5 minutes preparing and celebrating the Sacrament.

Sacrament Times are:

Thursday 20 December: 9.30-10am (after mass)

Friday 21 December: 10-10.30am

Saturday 22 December: 4.30-5.15pm

Come back to the Lord for Christmas!

May God Bless you.

Fr Bob



CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER

17-22 December

M Casino, D Ayoub, L Vitale,
M Garzanaiti, R Khattar



24-29 December

Volunteers

READERS ROSTER

15/16 December

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Commentator: David Casha

Readers:

David Casha: 1st Reading

Sarah Casha: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 7.30am

Commentator: Margaret Pisani

Readers:

Margaret Pisani: 1st Reading

Chris Pisani: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 9am

Commentator: Tessie Christophers

Readers:

Tessie Christophers: 1st Reading

Margaret Cvetko: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

22/23 December (Fourth Sunday of Advent)

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Commentator: Veronica Casha

Readers:

Veronica Casha: 1st Reading

Vanessa Casha: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 7.30am

Commentator: Margaret Cvetko

Readers:

Margaret Cvetko: 1st Reading

Pasqualina Catanzariti: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 9am

Commentator: Margaret De Vries

Readers:

Margaret De Vries: 1st Reading

John William Fisher: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful



Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist Roster

15/16 December

Saturday Vigil

Victoria Bugeja & Bonnie Szafranski



Sunday 7.30am

Pasqualina Catanzariti & Margaret Pisani

Sunday 9am

Margaret De Vries & Pam Ajkay

22/23 December

Saturday Vigil

David & Sarah Casha

Sunday 7.30am

Pasqualina Catanzariti & Virginia Romeo

Sunday 9am

Jayann Montemayor & Frances Musso

ACOLYTES ROSTER

15/16 December

Saturday Vigil

Gerry Crescini

Sunday 7.30am

George Ajkay

Sunday 9am

Anthony Zanetic

22/23 December

Saturday Vigil

Gerry Crescini

Sunday 7.30am

George Ajkay

Sunday 9am

Peter Grizelj

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

15 December

Saturday Vigil

Daniel Garzanit

Mark Vassallo

16 December

Domenico Mirarchi

22 December

Saturday Vigil

Sabrina & Leo

Steimbesser

23 December

Domenico Mirarchi

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

15 December

Sr Jenieth & R Micallef

22 December

School Holidays

9am Sunday

Nicole Hext



NURSING HOME ROSTER

23 December

Sister Rosa & Jayann

28 December

Mass

POPE FRANCIS COLUMN



Holy Father's Homily at Mass for Liturgical Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Guadalupe

Mary's Method was Simple: She Walked and Sang: December 12, 2018

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for He has regarded the lowliness of his handmaid" (Luke 1:46-48). So begins the song of the Magnificat and, through it, Mary becomes the first "teacher of the Gospel" (CELAM, Puebla, 290). It recalls to us the promises made to our fathers and invites us to sing the mercy of the Lord.

Mary teaches us that, in the art of the mission and of hope, many words and programs aren't necessary. Her method is very simple: she walked and sang.

She walked. The Gospel presents Her to us thus, after the Angel's announcement, but not anxious. She walked to Elizabeth's home, to accompany her in the last stage of her pregnancy. She walked hurriedly to Jesus, when the wine ran out at the wedding and then, with greying hair, because of the passing of the years, she walked to Golgotha, to be at the foot of the cross: in that threshold of darkness and pain, she didn't efface herself or go away, she walked to be there.

She walked to Tepeyac to accompany Juan Diego and she continues to walk the Continent when through an image or holy card, a candle or a medal, a Rosary or a Hail Mary, she enters a house, a cell in a prison, a room of a hospital, an asylum for the elderly, a school, a rehabilitation clinic . . . to say: "Am I not here, I who am your Mother?" She, more than anyone, knows the surroundings. She is a woman who walks with the delicacy and tenderness of a mother, is hosted in family life, unties one or another knot of the many wrongs we succeed in generating, and she teaches us to stand in the midst of storms. In Mary's school, we learn to be on the way to arrive where we should be: at the foot and standing in face of so many lives that have lost or have been robbed of hope. In Mary's school we learn to walk in the neighbourhood and the city, not with the sneakers of magical solutions, instantaneous answers and immediate effects; not by dint of fantastic promises of a pseudo-progress that, little by little, is only able to usurp cultural and family identities, and empty that vital fabric that has sustained our peoples, and this with the pretension to establish a single and uniform thought. In Mary's school, we learn to walk in the city and we nourish our heart with the multi-cultural richness that inhabits the Continent, when we are able to listen to that recondite heart that beats in our peoples and that guards — as a little fire under apparent ashes — the sense of God and of His transcendence, the sacredness of life, the respect for Creation, the bonds of solidarity, the art of the joy of good living and the capacity to be happy and to celebrate without conditions (Cf. Meeting with CELAM's Executive Committee, Colombia, September 7, 2017).

And She sang. Mary walks bearing the joy of one who sings the wonders God has done with the lowliness of His handmaid. Like a good Mother, as She passes She inspires singing, giving voice to so many that, in one way or another, felt they couldn't sing. She is the one of the word to John — who leaped in his mother's womb —, the one to give the word to Elizabeth — who begins to bless —, to the elderly Simeon — and make him prophesy —, She teaches the Word His first faltering words. In Mary's school, we learn a form of leadership that doesn't need to humiliate, to mistreat, to run down or mock others to feel valuable and important, that doesn't take recourse to physical or psychological violence to feel safe and protected. It is leadership that doesn't fear tenderness and caresses, and that knows its best face is service. We learn genuine leadership in her school, to dignify all who have fallen and to do so with the omnipotent strength of Divine Love, which is the irresistible force of His promise of mercy.

Mary, "teacher of the Gospel," walked and sang through our Continent and so the Virgin of Guadalupe is not only recognized as Indian, Spanish, Hispanic or Afro-American. She is simply Latin American: Mother of a fertile and generous land in which all, in one way or another, can encounter one another carrying out a leadership role in the building of the Holy Temple of the family of God.





- WYD Pilgrims prepare to leave
- Down but not out: Horsley Park Parish stays strong
- Armenian art for cathedral
- Faith in the desert
- Movie Review: New Life
- Vatican, China agreement worry

Please put \$2 in the poor box



AQUINAS ACADEMY
Freedom of the spirit in the Spirit

READING GRACIOUSLY:

Mercy and the Heart in St Paul and Pope Francis

Presenter: Robert Tilley, PhD
3 Wednesday mornings,
10am – 12noon, February 6, 13, 20.
Level 5, 141 Harrington Street, Sydney

Cost: \$120/person (Including class notes)

Legion of Mary

From time to time the Legion of Mary makes an appeal to try to encourage more members to join us in helping Mary to reach out and bring more of her children around her Son.

The Legion of Mary started in Ireland by Frank Duff in 1921 and came to Sydney 75 years ago. Frank Duff was a member of the St Vincent de Paul but then he realised that there was more spiritual poverty than material poverty and so he started the Legion and went around to encourage people to practise their faith and God must have been pleased with what Frank did because if it wasn't for God's blessing, the Legion would not have survived all this time.

Most of our work is visiting people within the parish, mainly sick or elderly. One day Jesus will be asking us if we visited him when he was sick or in hospital on that day we would wish that we have visited him a 1000 times, we still got the time, this is another opportunity to keep the boss happy!

There are many more things we can do, depending on ones talents, many times we stay back because nobody encourages us, we need to be encouraged and that's why we need to join a group like the Legion of Mary to support one another and have some fun as we go.

Normally we meet every Thursday after the mass, and the meeting would be finished within the hour. We spend some time in prayer, we read, we discuss a few things and we finish with a prayer, it is always a happy time, once you start coming you will be looking forward for another meeting. If the day does not suit you we can negotiate that too. But, don't say you have no time, we all have the same time just a matter of how we spend out time and our time is a gift from God. One day we have to give an account on how we spent our time.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED



In your love and concern, please pray for:-

Recently Deceased: Concetta Gismondo

Anniversaries: Charlie Vella, Anton Beuk, Walter Joseph Vella

Also for: The Holy Souls

We remember those who are sick in the community that the Lord will be their comforter and healer as we pray for:

Paul Farnsworth, Erminia Demasi, Domenic Zucco, David Angeles, Peter Kelleher, Fred Pjanic, Marie Gough, Chris Smith, James Dimech. Paul Galea

Parish Safeguarding Support Officer Volunteer Required

We want you, we want you, we want you as a New Recruit! No, not for the Navy, but for the Parish!!

The Safeguarding Office of the Archdiocese of Sydney has recently launched an initiative to recruit Parish Safeguarding Support Officers (PSSO) to support the Parish Priest to implement proactive Safeguarding measures to ensure safe environments for children, young people and the vulnerable in Parish communities. The PSSO may already be an employee or volunteer in the Parish but the role is on a volunteer basis only.

The ways in which the PSSO could support and assist the Parish Priest:

- Providing Safeguarding induction to all workers and training to volunteers of the Parish who work with children, including reading and signing of the *Code of Conduct for Working With Children and Young People*
- Raising awareness of Safeguarding in your Parish
- Creating Risk Assessments for Parish events/activities
- Responding to Safeguarding audit and compliance requirements
- Reporting any issues or concerns that come to your attention according to Archdiocesan protocols
- Monitoring the Visiting Clergy Register in line with current protocols
- Any other Safeguarding issues as requested by the Parish Priest

For more information about this important support role, please speak with your Parish Priest to express your interest in becoming the Parish Safeguarding Support Officer.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT MORNINGS

This service is for family and friends who grieve the loss of a loved one and the changes that loss makes in one's life.

Morning tea is provided in a relaxed and caring setting.

For further information contact:
Bereavement support Ph: 02 9646 6908 or email:
bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au

If you or a friend are in need of such support please ring and attend the session

Sessions held: Every Third Wednesday of the Month from 10am-1pm.

Volunteering with CatholicCare

Interested in volunteering to help seniors?
Based at our Liverpool office, we need callers to phone people waiting for government funded home care to check on their wellbeing.

Interested in volunteering to help children?
Based at our Lewisham office, we need people to help at playgroups for young, vulnerable mothers and their babies.

Call CCareline on 13 18 19 to find out more.

The Chain of Mary Association Inc

One Decade Rosary Booklet.

Please feel free to take the Chain of Mary one decade Rosary booklet & pray it each day with faith and devotion.

Ask for any grace you need and Mother Mary will listen to you.

Write your name and intentions in this book & once a week Mass will be offered for you.

For any enquiries please call
Sr-in-Christ Rosa
Ph: 96067571



KID'S CORNER

Q. What do you get if you cross a Christmas Tree with an Apple?

A. A Pineapple!



AQUINAS ACADEMY
Freedom of the spirit in the Spirit

DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL JUSTICE and GLOBALISATION:
An Experiential and Reflective Approach

Presenter: Joffre Balce, MSc Industrial Economics
4 Friday evenings, 6pm – 8pm, Feb 8, 15, 22, Mar 1
Level 5, 141 Harrington Street, Sydney
Cost: \$150/person (including class notes)

DEALING with ADDICTIONS: Introduction to the Twelve Steps Programme

Presenter: James and John
3 Friday mornings, 10am – 12noon, Feb 8, 15, 22
Level 5, 141 Harrington Street, Sydney
Cost: \$120/person (including class notes)

RIDING OUT THE STORM

Presenter: Catherine Hammond BS in Ed, MA, MPh
4 Tuesday mornings, 10am – 12noon, March 5, 12, 19, 26
Level 5, 141 Harrington Street, Sydney
Cost: \$150/person (Including summary notes)

Using the Parish Toilets

Anyone using the Church toilets are asked to **PLEASE DO NOT** place nappies, hand towels, wet ones or anything other than toilet paper in the toilets.

We have had some problems with nappies in the toilets previously, so parents please dispose of your nappies appropriately. As you would in your own homes.

PARISH CENSUS FORM (PCF)

Have you filled in a PCF which can be found on the table behind the pews.
Why? It's important that we have your details if we need to contact you.
Please fill in the Census Form found on the table behind the pews and leave in the Census Box.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT
ST ANTHONY'S AUSTRAL 2018

CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

We are invited to gather and prepare for the celebration of the Birth of Jesus by a sincere conversion of mind and heart through the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession).

Come back and be reconciled to God!

Thursday 20 December 9.30-10am (after mass)
Friday 21 December 10-10.30am
Saturday 22 December 4.30-5.15pm
Saturday's leading up to Christmas 4.45 – 5.15pm

CHRISTMAS CAROLING PARISH/SCHOOL EVENING

Monday 17 December
6pm-7pm
Come prepare as a Parish Family for the birth of the Lord

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve– Monday December 24

5.30pm: Family Mass

11.30pm: Carolling before Mass

Midnight: Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Tuesday December 25

7.30am—Mass in the Morning

9.00am—Mass in the Morning

