

## First Sunday of Advent Year B

SUNDAY November 30 2014

### ADVENT – A TIME OF WAITING.

Advent begins the liturgical year and so forms the introduction to the gradual unfolding of the mystery of Christ that is presented throughout the year. There is a twofold character and dynamic nature of the Season of Advent:

- It is a time of preparation for the solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered.
- It is also the time when minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time.

So Advent is a time of devout waiting and expectant delight.

Are you like me and hate waiting in queues? If I join the shortest queue at the supermarket you can be sure either the scanner won't read some items and someone has to find the price on the shelf, or the customer will use a credit card and promptly forget the pin number. Meanwhile those who were still pushing their trolley around the aisles when I joined the queue have been to another cashier and are now loading the car in the carpark. And don't even mention waiting on the phone for service from any government agency! Waiting in a queue, I believe, is one of the most frustrating experiences in life.

Yet that is what is asked of us in the wonderful time of Advent. There are some excellent models for us in the scriptures with Luke reminding us of Zechariah, Mary, Elizabeth, Simeon and Anna. Waiting often involves some fear in us, and all these waiting people at the start of Luke's gospel hear the words, **'Do not be afraid'** in some form or other. **'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard and your wife, Elizabeth, shall bear a son, and you shall call his name, John.'** The angel Gabriel says to Mary in Nazareth, **'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found grace with God. Behold, you shall conceive in your womb, and you shall bear a son, and you shall call him, Jesus.'**

Mary's quality of waiting shows us the way. She is so full of trust, **'I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let what you have said be done to me.'** Mary demonstrates that waiting with trust is giving up control of our future and letting God define our life. Scary, isn't it?

Mary and Elizabeth also show us that waiting does not have to be a solitary event. They come together to affirm and strengthen each other in their waiting. In Mary's visitation to her cousin, Elizabeth, we see two fragile people, two pregnant Jewish peasant women, a minority within a minority, under brutal Roman occupation, coming together in this chaos and choosing to sing: **'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.'** **There is great hope and expectation in the waiting of Mary and Elizabeth.**

Waiting is a period of learning; the longer we wait, the more we learn. As I write these thoughts about Advent, I am conscious of my own challenges in this area. I need to work on being patient, reminding myself that **'patience with others is love, patience with self is hope, patience with God is faith.'** (Adel Bestavros, quoted in Tomas Halik's *Patience with God*) *Sister Elisabeth*

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### St Joseph the Worker Church

44 Imperial Parade, Labrador

#### Sunday Mass

7.00 am

8:30 am

#### Weekday Mass

Monday -7.00am

Wednesday-7.00am

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**Each Friday-10.30am  
Mass at Gold Coast  
University Hospital**

### Guardian Angels' Church

99 Scarborough St

Southport

#### Saturday

6.00pm

#### Sunday Mass

7.00 am

10.00 am

#### Weekday Mass

Friday 12.30pm

#### Reconciliation

Saturday - 4.30pm

### Mary Immaculate Church

31 Edmund Rice Drive Ashmore

#### Sunday Mass

8:30 am & 6.00pm

#### Korean Mass

Sunday 3.00pm Last Saturday  
of the Month 6.00pm

#### Weekday Mass

**Monday, December 8, Extra  
Mass,9.00am, Feast of  
Immaculate Conception**

Tuesday - 9.00am

Thursday - 5.30pm

Holy Hour. First Thursday  
of the Month 4.15pm

## **THE ADVENT WREATH AND CANDLES**



Advent wreaths are a tradition used to mark the four weeks of Advent. Its usual form is a horizontal evergreen wreath holding four candles. Each week a candle is lit. The underlying symbolism is that the accumulation of light is an expression of the growing anticipation of the birth of Jesus Christ who is the light of the world. Three of

the candles are violet-coloured to symbolize faithful expectation and the one rose candle symbolizes joy and hope. Finally, the circular wreath represents God's eternal love which has no beginning or end.

**The First Sunday of Advent:** The season of Advent is an annual invitation to reflect on what gives us hope as we hear again the ancient prophetic stories of light in the darkness, dreams, stars, and angelic visitation. The mystery and wonder of these echoing images bring us to new awareness of the gift and power of story to heal and transform.

**"Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come."** *Mark 13:33*

## **Catholic Women's League**

The "Trading Table" was our last fundraiser for the year. We would like to thank all those who donated items and sweets to our Trading Table. Special thanks to all the parishioners for their support throughout the year. We are pleased to report that we donated \$4000 to various charities.

From Carmel Donaghy.  
President C.W.L.

## **Christmas Masses**

If you would like to volunteer to be a Reader or Extraordinary Minister of Communion for any of the Christmas Masses, please contact Sr Lis 55102222 or email lis@scp.org.au, as soon as possible, first in first on the list. Don't forget about midnight Mass at Guardian Angels Church.

## **Fr Mac's Puddings.**

The St Vincent de Paul conference has puddings available again this weekend, stocks are running low.

## **Advent Reconciliation**

<b>1. December 4, Thursday, Ashmore</b>	4pm - 5.30pm
during adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Frs Rafal & Albert
<b>2. December 6, Saturday, Southport</b>	4.30pm-5.30pm
Usual Saturday Reconciliation	Fr Rafal
<b>3. December 8, Monday, Labrador</b>	7am - 8am
	Fr Rafal
<b>4. December 13, Saturday, Southport</b>	4.30pm - 5.30pm
Usual Saturday Reconciliation	
<b>5. December 16, Tuesday, Ashmore</b>	9am-10am
	Frs Rafal & Albert
<b>6. December 17, Wednesday, Labrador</b>	7am-8am
	Fr Rafal
<b>7. December 18, Thursday, Ashmore</b>	5pm - 6pm
	Frs Rafal & Albert
<b>8. December 20, Saturday, Southport</b>	4.30pm - 5.30pm
Usual Saturday Reconciliation	

## **The Advent placement**

On the first Sunday of Advent we welcome to our Parish Michael Tanuvasa Kelemete. Michael is a New Zealand-born Samoan Seminarian who has recently completed his first year at Banyo Seminary. Michael will stay in our Parish till 25<sup>th</sup> of December. I am sure that all Parishioners will welcome Michael into our midst and offer him our support to make his initial exposure to Parish life a positive and memorable experience.

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## **An Invitation to all in our Parish to Honour the Immaculate Conception**

**Father Jan invites all parishioners and visitors to come to our great fiesta.**

### **CHAMPAGNE BREAKFAST**

**after the 8.30am Mass at Mary Immaculate on Sunday December 7—Next Sunday!**

**Honour Our Lady at Mass with Prayer and participation in the Advent Liturgy then meet beside the Church to eat, drink, socialize and have fun.**

**Bring the whole family.**

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## **YOUNG ADULT GROUP**

*Jesus offers us something bigger than the World Cup! He offers us the possibility of a fulfilled and fruitful life; ... But He asks us to train, 'to get in shape', so that we can face every situation in life undaunted, bearing witness to our faith. How do we get in shape? By talking with Him: by prayer... By the sacraments... By loving one another, learning to listen, to understand, to forgive... Dear young people, be true 'athletes of Christ!' - Pope Francis, 2013.*

If you want to learn more about your faith and relationship with God **come along to our group that meets every second Wednesday at 7pm in the Parish Meeting Room at Mary Immaculate for dinner, discussion and prayer.**

The group is for people aged 18-30ish. The next few meetings will be on December 3, December 17, January 14, and January 28. Contact Alice (text or call) on 0411449895.

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## **Fr Teri Transfer**

On last Monday the official letter from the Archbishop's Office announced this year's transfers. From this letter we learnt that Fr Teri has been appointed Parish Priest of Acacia Ridge and Chaplain to the Filipino Community. I am sure that all of us receive this news with sadness. After 12 months we (Fr Teri, Dom and myself) just started to become familiar with the Parish and its Parishioners. In this context the transfer of Fr Teri surprises all of us but at the same time we are aware of the Archdiocesan needs to supply pastors for different parishes.

We have been enjoying the ministry of Fr Teri filled with a lot of humour and laughter. In our Presbytery, Fr Dom and myself, we have enjoyed Fr Teri's cooking and his morning juices. We wish Fr Teri all the best in his new adventure as Parish Priest of Acacia Ridge and Chaplain to the Filipino community. Father Teri will be leaving the Parish prior to taking up his appointment to spend time with his sick mother and family. Please keep Father Teri and his mother, Sofia, in our prayers.

The same letter that announces Fr Teri's departure has a part that can be called arrivals, like any airport hall, and this section of the letter says that **Fr Huong Nguyen from the Burleigh Heads Parish** has been appointed Associate Pastor of Southport, **effective 4 January 2015.**

I am sure that all Parishioners will welcome Fr Huong with the same warmth as we were welcomed in January this year.



## **Today we welcome into God's Family**

Jaxson Dean Bucknall son of Dean & Chantal Bucknall  
Olivia Anne Lassou daughter of Benjamin & Tamara Lassou  
Ethan John Morgan son of Peter & Aileen Morgan  
August Angelo Natoli son of Shayne Natoli & Denise Kingi

## **YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THOSE WHO HAVE JOURNEYED TO THE FATHER.**

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Poppy Lauder, Michael Ruygrok, Fr Gerard Mulholland SVD, Catherine Miranda  
**ALL PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS WHO ARE SICK AND IN NEED:** Suzi Lim, Janine Wharton, Freddie Morgan, David Carter, Angela Taylor, Michael Skinner, David Reynolds, Noelene Owen, Margaret McGinness, Tony Bauer, Ben Howard, Laurin Bliss Beverley Wilson, Valerie Atkins, Paula Greco, Mary Weerasinghe, Anne Volp, Bong, Dannie, and Gie Ubaldo, Yvonne See, Babes Valenzuela, Vicky Smith, Loreto Macato Cabading, Patricia Saclamitao, Serioza, Fran Spiric, Doss O'Neil, Candy, Patrick, and Francis Guillon, Evelyn and Ron Martinac, Elizabeth Anderson, Gary O'Connell, Jack and Ross McAlpine, John Stowers, Ernest James, Leah Joy Layosa (baby) Jack Keniry, Noel Mahoney, Albert Bussac, Alex McKinnon, Joe Vohar.  
**Immaculate Heart of Mary we trust to your gentle care and intercession those who we love and those who are sick or lonely or hurting. Help all of us Holy Mother to bear our burdens in this life until we share eternal life with God**

**Next Thursday, December 4 at  
4.15pm**

**Mary Immaculate Church**



**During this coming Thursday Holy Hour Adoration the Sacrament of**

**reconciliation will be offered to those parishioners who wish to be reconciled prior to Christmas.**

**Celebration of Fatima** day at Marian Valley on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> of December, For bookings please call Viviane on 0755359623.

### **Christmas Festival**

“St Gerard Majella Christmas Festival is now on every night from 7.00pm to 10.00pm and will continue till Tuesday 23 December. Massive lights display, free entertainment at 7.30pm. Barbecue, Café, Ice Creams and drinks, fabulous Gift Shop and Christmas Market Stalls. Free admission. Enquires phone Kate on 33590239. St Gerard Majella Parish Chermside west.

### **St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal 2014!**

**Appeal Envelopes will be given to you As you come into Mass:** Cash donations give us the flexibility to give the right hand up needed by someone doing it tough. You may hand the envelopes to our Vincentians or take them home and hand them in at the Parish Office, put them on the plate at another Mass, or post them to us. Tax receipts are issued on request.

**Christmas Giving Trees:** The trees will have gift tags on them. Please take a tag home, purchase the gift, and place the gift with the tag under the Christmas tree.

The last day for leaving gifts under the Tree at Mass is

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December.**

### **Christmas Hampers for SVP Ashmore Conference**

Christmas Hampers will be packed on Saturday, December 20, at Guardian Angels Primary School Hall. Contact Nerida if you would like to help pack, hand out or deliver hampers. [nerida.smith@bigpond.com](mailto:nerida.smith@bigpond.com) 0417 606 639

### **Advent Adventures For Children**

All primary school aged children in our parish are invited to join Advent Adventures on Tuesday 16th December. Children will gather in the parish Resource Centre at Ashmore from 9.30am-3.30pm. Families planning to come to Mary Immaculate church on Christmas Eve are encouraged to bring their children to Advent Adventures on 16th December.

To register please contact Sister Helen before the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December: [helenw@scp.org.au](mailto:helenw@scp.org.au)

### **Advent Message**

If anyone wants a printed version of the advent message from our Archbishop, the leaflets are available at the back of our churches.

### **PARISH DATE CLAIMERS FOR 2014/ 2015**

**First Sunday of each month,** Morning Tea at the “Annex” after 8.30am Mass at St Joseph the Worker, Labrador.

**Each First and Third Sunday of the Month,** 11.30am Charismatic prayer Meeting, Guardian Angels Church.

**Bridge,** every Wednesday 9.30am to 12 noon in the Meeting Room at Mary Immaculate. Beginners welcome.

**Rosary and Novena** at 6.00pm every Wednesday, followed by Mass at 7.00pm on the First Wednesday of the month at St Joseph the Worker. **The Mass on Wednesday,**

**December 3 will be a Healing and Anointing Mass.**

**Catholic Women's League,** Meeting Second Friday of each Month, 11.00am Guardian Angels Church, Meeting Room, followed by Mass

**Care and Concern,** Meet Fourth Monday of each month, Mary Immaculate Meeting Room, 10.30am

**Young Adults Group,** Meet in the Parish Resource Centre every second Wednesday at 7.00pm

**SPY.** Southport Parish Youth. Meet in the meeting room at Mary Immaculate on the last Friday of each month. 6.30pm.

**Sunday, December 7, Feast of Immaculate Conception.** 8.30am Mass, followed by Champagne Breakfast at Mary Immaculate Church.

**Sunday, December 14, Parish Christmas Party** 4.00pm at Guardian Angels Church.

**Saturday, December 20,** Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols 2.00pm at De Paul Manor.

**Thursday, June 4 2015,** Confirmation.

**Sunday, June 7 2015,** First Eucharist

**Parishioners are reminded that the 7.00pm, Mass on Wednesday December 3, at St Joseph the Worker, will be a Healing and Anointing Mass. Rosary and Novena will commence at 6.00pm, Mass at 7.00pm.**

### **Columban Mission**

The Columban Mission would like to thank all parishioners for their warm welcome and support.” It is another example of the good Australian virtue of giving everyone a ‘fair go’. The response was a total of \$3815.10 which included 22 new subscriptions to The Far East.

### **First Reconciliation**

Last **Thursday 27th November**, 68 children celebrated their First Reconciliation in Mary Immaculate church. A very big thanks to all members of the Parish Sacramental Team who helped the families prepare these children for Reconciliation.

# HYMNS



## YOUR LIGHT WILL COME JERUSALEM

**Refrain:** *Your light will come,  
Jerusalem;  
for on you will dawn the glory of the  
Lord,  
and all nations will walk in your light,  
alleluia, alleluia.*

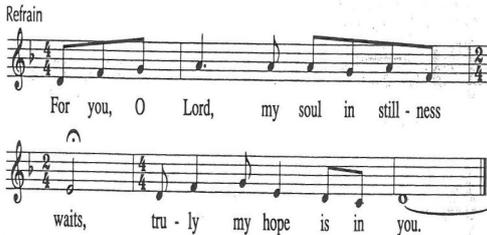
Christ is the light of the world,  
A light dispelling the darkness.  
May we, his body reflect that holy light. **R**

His light is mercy and peace,  
A peace surpassing all telling.  
May we, his body, be instruments of  
peace. **R**

## LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

For you O Lord, my soul in stillness waits,  
truly my hope is in you.

My Soul in Stillness Waits 280



## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.  
You are the joy of ev'ry human heart,  
King of all the nations.  
Lord Jesus, come!  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia

## GIFTS PROCESSION OPEN THE HEAVENS

**Refrain**  
*Open the heavens, Lord,  
Come to your people,  
Hide not your face, O God.  
Open the heavens, Lord.  
Come to your people,  
Open the heavens and come.*

Look on the sheep of your pasture, Lord.  
Water your vineyard again.  
Scattered and broken, return to our aid,  
open the heavens and come. **R**

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts,  
Heaven and earth are full of  
your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name  
of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection until  
you come again.

## AMEN

Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen.

## LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION PROCESSION BREAD OF LIFE & CUP OF

**HOPE Bobby Fisher**  
 Bread of life and cup of hope  
we come as gift to you  
Change our hearts fill us with peace,  
Transform our lives anew  
Open our eyes so that we might see  
Your presence in one another  
Your life, poured out in love today  
Unites us all in you

Loving Lord, Creator God  
open our eyes to see  
The good that lives in each of us  
that called to world to be  
And when we fail to see the good  
When friendships falter and crumble  
give us the courage to forgive  
That we may live in peace

Living Word, O Son of God,  
Your love shows us the way  
That we may live in harmony  
and from you never stray  
Wipe all oppression from our midst,  
give us a love for all people  
Your song of justice sing in us, to live  
for peace today

**THE WORD OF THE LORD FOR  
NEXT SUNDAY**  
**Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11**  
**2 Peter 3:8-14**  
**Mark 1:1-8**

## WE REMEMBER

### **Refrain**

*We remember how you loved us  
to your death, and still we celebrate,  
for you are with us here;  
and we believe that we will see you  
when you come in your glory, Lord.  
We remember, we celebrate, we believe.*

Here, a million wounded souls are yearning  
Just to touch you and be healed.  
Gather all your people,  
and hold them to your heart. **R**

Now we recreate your love,  
We bring the bread and wine  
to share a meal.

Sign of grace and mercy,  
The presence of the Lord **R**

Christ, the Father's great "Amen"  
to all the hopes and dreams of every heart,  
Peace beyond all telling, and freedom from  
all fear. **R**

## RECESSIONAL GOD OF ABRAHAM

God of Abraham, lead us,  
lead us to your kingdom.  
Into fruitfulness, lead us,  
lead us together, lead us to freedom.

God of Sarah be with us,  
lead us to your kingdom.  
Through our laughter and labour,  
lead us together,  
Lead us to freedom.

God of Moses and Aaron,  
lead us to your kingdom.  
Out of slavery, lead us,  
lead us together, lead us to freedom.

God of Miriam, lead us,  
lead us to your kingdom.  
Into songs of hope, lead us,  
lead us together,  
Lead us to freedom.  
Lead us to freedom now

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