

**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with Integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless; his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the Nations and its home will be glorious.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

**R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. R.

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails: He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. R.

For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. R.

May his name be blessed for ever and endure like the sun. Every tribe shall be blessed in him, all nations bless his name. R.

**SECOND READING:** Romans 15:4-9

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**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:** Matthew 3:1-12

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**


**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**  
Isaiah 35:1-6, 10 , James 5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

Sat 24 Dec: 5.00pm Family Mass (Manly)  
7.00pm Mass (Gumdale)

Sun 25 Dec: 9.30am Mass (Manly)

This parish is Child Safety Aware and complies with Australian Privacy Laws. A copy of the Safeguarding policy is situated in the foyer of the church. **STOPLINE CONTACT:** Phone 1 300 304 400 Email AOB@stopline.com.au



# St John Vianney's Catholic Parish

embracing the worshipping communities of  
**Manly & Gumdale**

Cnr Ernest and Kooralgin Sts, Manly    PO Box 5174 Manly Qld 4179  
Ph: 3131 2610    E: manly@bne.catholic.net.au    W: www.manlycatholicparish.org.au

**Pastor**  
Fr George Joseph  
josephg@bne.catholic.net.au

**Parish Secretary**  
Kate Sellwood  
Office Hours  
Mon Wed Fri 8.30am – 2pm

**Ministry Coordinator**  
Nola Smith  
sjvsacramental@bne.catholic.net.au

**Parish Pastoral Council**  
Chair Peter Smyth-Kirk  
Secretary Pam Biggs-Chapman

**Parish Finance Committee**  
Chair Hugh Davies

**Safeguarding Officer**  
Les Sellwood: Mob: 0401 382 085

**SJV Primary School Manly**  
Ph: 3097 2900  
Email: pmanly@bne.catholic.edu.au


**SACRAMENTS**  
All enquires for Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion & Confirmation, please contact **Nola Smith**  
Ph. 0412 345 752  
sjvsacramental@bne.catholic.net.au

**FUNERALS AND WEDDINGS**  
All enquires about Funerals and Weddings, please contact **Kate Sellwood**  
manly@bne.catholic.net.au

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
Saturday 4.30pm or by appointment

**For the Children...**  
*John the Baptist*  
John the Baptist was the son of Elizabeth and Zechariah. He was chosen by God to prepare the people for the coming of Jesus. He told them that they must be sorry for all the things they had done wrong and try to live better lives. Today we hear about how and where he lived and the message he shared.

**LET US PRAY**  
Heavenly father, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the people for the coming of your son. As Christmas draws closer, help us to prepare too, so that we may be ready for Christmas Day.



**03/04 DECEMBER**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A**  
**Gospel Reflection**

Today's liturgy brings together readings from very different backgrounds, as it gives expression to the Advent message of hope.

The prophetic vision of Isaiah reflects his familiarity with the king's court in a period of dramatic international developments in the region. He links the fulfillment of God's designs for the nation with the rule of a new David (Jesse is the father of David) whose rule will contrast with that of many of David's unworthy successors. He will be filled with the gifts of the 'spirit of the Lord', ruling with wisdom and integrity, and showing himself a forthright champion of the oppressed and the poor of the land. The peace established by his rule is graphically portrayed as like a new paradise - as the whole country is 'filled with the knowledge of the Lord' and lives according to God's ways. For those who know the blessings brought by the true 'Son of David', the themes of the Christmas celebration that awaits us at the end of our Advent preparation are not difficult to recognise.

The gospel reading from Matthew reminds us that our hope in the promises of God brings with it a challenge. John the Baptist was honoured by Jesus as the embodiment of the prophetic tradition of Israel. It has been pointed out that, in the cultural traditions of the world, there is no parallel to old Israel's acknowledgment of its failures before the God of the covenant. And it was the prophets who – like a conscience of the nation – challenged the people and their leaders with their unfaithfulness. Scholars tell us that Matthew's gospel – from which our readings for the coming year will come – was produced by an early Christian community in dispute with former Jewish associates who cannot accept the claims of Christian faith. This helps us to understand the sharp edge given to the words of Jesus against 'the scribes and Pharisees' (see ch.23), and the strong words of the Baptist in today's gospel. Jesus was impatient with the complacent exclusivism of these groups. We know, from contemporary records, that they tended to believe that being 'children of Abraham' assured them a sharing in God's promises. John too challenges this complacency: 'Do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father".' In the best prophet tradition, his language has a frightening intensity. The axe is already 'laid to the roots of the trees'; without their own 'good fruits' they will be lost.

*Continued on Page 2.*

**We acknowledge and pay respect to Traditional Custodians– the Quandamooka and Jagera Peoples  
on whose land we walk, live and worship.**

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# FOR YOUR DIARY

## DECEMBER

05 Mon	No Mass
06 Tues	6:00pm Mass
07 Wed	9:00am Mass 9:30am Rosary
08 Thu	9:30am Mass
09 Fri	9:30am Mass (Lota House) 6.00pm Family Christmas Twilight
10 Sat	9:00am Baptisms (Gillespie, Hall, Cureton & Camm) 4:30pm Reconciliation
10 Sat	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A</b> 5:00pm Mass (Manly)
11 Sun	7:00am Mass (Gumdale) 9:30am Mass (Manly) (Children's Liturgy) 10.30am Nativity Play Rehearsal
12 Mon	No Mass
13 Tues	6:00pm Mass
14 Wed	9:00am Rosary 9:30am Mass
15 Thu	9:30am Mass
16 Fri	9:30am Mass (Janoah Gardens)
17 Sat	4:30pm Reconciliation
17 Sat	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A</b> 5:00pm Mass (Manly)
18 Sun	7:00am Mass (Gumdale) 9:30am Mass (Manly) (Choir Sings) (Children's Liturgy)
19 Mon	No Mass
20 Tues	6:00pm Mass
21 Wed	9:00am Rosary 9:30am Mass
22 Thu	9:30am Mass
23 Fri	9:30am Mass
24 Sat	<b>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD YEAR A</b> 5:00pm Children's Mass (Choir Sings) 7:00pm Mass (Gumdale)
25 Sun	7:00am Mass (Gumdale) 9:30am Mass (Manly)

## A BIG Thank You

To all the volunteers who generously give so much of their time and talent to SJV, our beautiful church on the hill and St Jude's in Gumdale, I thank you. You are an inspiration to us all. Blessings, Fr George.

	Welcome	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	EMHC	Screen
Saturday 3 Dec	Jan B	Colleen S	Nola S	Mikaela A	Anjoline
Sunday 4 Dec	Laura F	Helen C	Jasser N	New EMHC1	Thomas
Saturday 10 Dec	Jane O	Denise D	Denis H	New EMHC2	Anjoline
Sunday 11 Dec	K Chikaya	Anne S	Margaret P	New EMHC3	Kate P / Calla P

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Writing to the Romans, Paul has a similar message. Jewish converts must follow 'the example of Christ Jesus', in the tolerance and generosity they show, as they recognise in the Church's embracing of 'the pagans' what God foretold in the promises of 'the Scriptures'.

Our hope is boundless in its expectations; but we must play our part in the generous designs of God.

John Thornhill sm

## Available Now from the Piety Stall

A limited number of 2023 Columban Art Calendars (\$10.00) and Incarnate Advent Reflection (\$5.00) are now available for purchase from the piety stall.

## FOR SALE BY DONATION

Thank you to all those who have purchased from our selection of beautiful, established ferns and small shrubs. The response has been heart-warming and we only have a few left. We are hoping they will find new homes in time for Christmas.

All proceeds will go toward our:

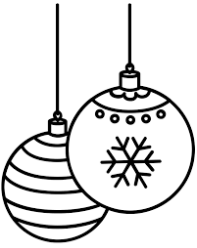
**Parish Office Restoration Fund**  
Please be generous with your donation.

## BLESSING THE CHRISTMAS TREE

### Second Week of Advent

Let us put Christ back into the Christmas Tree with this simple blessing of the tree. The second week of Advent we say:

**Dear God,**  
**We ask a blessing upon this tree as it is a reminder to us of the birth of your Son, Jesus. May the glittering ornaments be signs of the joy and happiness you desire for us especially during the Christmas season.**



## Dates to Remember..

December 09 Family Christmas Twilight  
December 11 Third Sunday of Advent  
December 18 Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 25 Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ

## Of your charity, please pray for:

**Recently deceased:** Alan Delaforce, Ken Gillespie, Kevin Holzberger, Veronica Lynch, Marcelo Vitoriano, Jill Rideout Belletty.

**Anniversaries:** Trevor Alexander, Edmond Baker, Katherine Barton, Fay Bishop, Dean Bramley, Kevin Byrne, Joan Copley, Catherine Dillon, Sylvia Fens, Alan Francis, Kathleen Galea, Meg Griffiths, Stephanie Hankins, Jean Kuter, Jennifer Lynas, Olivia Lewis, Eric Morrison, Gerard Ring, Jean Rosenstengel, Madeline Shenton, Henry Sizeland, Wilma Will, Blanca Wiswell, David Vidler, Greg Selwood, Sr Teresita Ahearn and all whose anniversaries occur now.

## We Pray For The Sick

Rose-Marie Dickson, Emma Walters, David Schilling, Pat Ellis, Emily de Looze, Jocelyn Barrow, Barry Smith, Dell Chapman, Ted Chapman, Mrs Ford, Richard Pook, Natasha Skitmore, Irene Gavrilla and Anne Dixon.

*For a name to be included in the 'Prayer for our Sick' list, the Privacy Act now requires the personal permission of the nominee or a close relative. At the end of each month, names for the recently deceased, anniversaries and our sick parishioners will be reviewed.*

St John Vianney's, in conjunction with Bayside Uniting Church are pleased to present a...

## Family Christmas Twilight

All are invited to join this FREE fun family event

**Christmas games and craft activities**

**Nativity Play and Christmas Carols**

**Sausage Sizzle & Ice-creams**

**In:** the St John Vianney's School Hall

**On:** Friday 9 December

**From:** 6pm-7.30pm

For catering purposes please register on the Sign-Up Form in the church foyer or email Nola at [sjvsacramental@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sjvsacramental@bne.catholic.net.au)

**Please join us for Morning Tea after the 9.30am Mass TODAY**

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*The Bethlehem Candle*

Mary and Joseph had to do a lot to prepare for the journey to Bethlehem before Jesus was born. Today, there are things that we can do so we are prepared for Jesus too.

The second Advent candle is a candle of *faith*. *Faith* in Jesus may be the greatest gift we ever receive.



## "A Good Christmas Knight"

**KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS**  
**Fundraiser Dinner @ the Manly Bowls Club**  
**Tuesday 13th December**  
**5.30pm Mass 6.30pm Dinner**

**\$45pp** (3 course meal, buy own drinks at club prices)  
RSVP by Fri 9 Dec to [Chairbr46ksc@gmail.com](mailto:Chairbr46ksc@gmail.com)

## NEXT WEEKEND WE WILL BE HOLDING A SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THE UKRAINE.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is supporting a special Advent appeal for the people of Ukraine, following a request from Bishop Mykola Bychok CSsR, Eparch of Sts Peter and Paul for the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Australia. Collections in dioceses, eparchies and parishes Advent will support Mudra Sprava (Wise Action), a Patriarchal Charitable Foundation in Ukraine. The organisation has three focus areas: Evacuation of people from frontline territories; Food packages for people in need; Shelters for internally displaced persons. Find out more at: [www.catholic.au](http://www.catholic.au)

## - St Vincent de Paul -

## CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL 2022

The Annual Christmas Hamper Appeal for **Non Perishable Food Items** continues THIS Weekend 3-4 December. Hampers will be delivered on Saturday 17 December so early donations would be greatly appreciated.

Donation suggestions include:

### CHRISTMAS FARE

Christmas Cake, Christmas Pudding (*individual*)  
Christmas sweets/chocolate, long life custard, fruit mince pies, jellies, tinned leg ham

### CHRISTMAS TABLE ITEMS

Serviettes, bon-bons, decorations

### GENERAL FOOD ITEMS

Tinned/bottles fruit & vegetables, savoury biscuits, tins of biscuits, shortbread

### DRINKS

Bottles of cordial/fruit juice, packs of poppers, soft drinks

### GIFT VOUCHERS

Woolworths, Coles, Kmart, Target

*St Vincent de Paul appreciates the continuing support of the St John Vianney's Parish to assist those in need in our community and to add a little cheer at Christmas time.*



**Vinnies**  
good works