

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 24:37-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according
to Matthew.*Stay awake, you must be ready.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.****A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

01 DECEMBER 2019

READINESS FOR THE LORD

Advent is the time when the Church longs for the coming of the Lord. We believe, of course, that the Messiah has already come in the person of Jesus, born at Bethlehem. But the state of our world makes us acutely conscious of just how 'unfinished' the business of salvation is. So, with the early believers who keenly awaited Jesus' second coming, we can still identify with the expressions of hope for salvation expressed by the people of the Old Testament. In today's First Reading the prophet Isaiah gives us a vision of peace based on nations setting aside their desire to wage war.

Paul urges the Christians in Rome to live like people expecting an important visitor. Though it is still 'dark'—in the sense that salvation is not complete—they rise early, to have all ready for him when he comes.

Jesus develops this theme of readiness in the Gospel, employing a favourite image: the prudent householder. Jesus does not want to suggest that God deliberately waits to catch us out. The image makes the simple point that, since one never knows when a burglar will strike, prudent householders do not allow themselves to be distracted by all kinds of activities. They keep a sharp ear and a keen eye for anything unusual. Christian life similarly involves keeping a sharp ear and a keen eye for the coming of the Lord—and not just for his coming at the end of time but for all the various ways and guises in which he comes into our lives every day.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

Isa 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.*The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning
Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come
the mountain of the Temple of the Lord
shall tower above the mountains
and be lifted higher than the hills.
All the nations will stream to it,
peoples without number will come to it; and
they will say:

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the
Lord,
to the Temple of the God of Jacob
that he may teach us his ways
so that we may walk in his paths;
since the Law will go out from Zion,
and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations
and adjudicate between many peoples;
these will hammer their swords into ploughshares,
their spears into sickles.
Nation will not lift sword against nation,
there will be no more training for war.
O House of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

■ **The word of the Lord.****RESP PSALM**

Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9. R. cf. v. 1

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say: / Let us
go to God's house. / And now our feet are
standing / within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**

2. It is there that the tribes go up, / the tribes
of the Lord. / For Israel's law it is, / there
to praise the Lord's name. / There were set
the thrones of judgement / of the house of
David. **R.**



3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray: / Peace
be to your homes! / May peace reign in your
walls, / in your palaces, peace! **R.**

4. For love of my brethren and friends / I say:
'Peace upon you!' / For love of the house of
the Lord / I will ask for your good. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Romans*The time has come, our salvation is near.*

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake
up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was
when we were converted. The night is almost
over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up
all the things we prefer to do under cover of
the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the
light. Let us live decently as people do in the
daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or
licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy.
Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

■ **The word of the Lord.**



Sacred Heart Parish Church

Roman Catholic Diocese of Armidale

81 Vivian St. Inverell, NSW 2360 (P. O. Box 107)

Email: inverellparish@armidale.catholic.org.au

Phone 67221103

PRIESTS: FR JAMES POOVATHINKAL MS. P.P., VF

FR JAYARAJ GORANTLA AP

PPC Chair: Mrs Sharon Hollis

Holy Trinity Principal: Mrs Jillian Rainger—67224066

Parish Secretary: Mrs Noela Turner—67221103. Office Hours

Mon & Fri 8am—1pm; Thurs 8am—12 noon

PARISH MASS TIMES

Sacred Heart Church Inverell

Saturday 6pm (5.30pm from May to August)

Sunday 9am

Monday, Tuesday and 1st Saturday 9.30am

Wed and Thurs 12noon

1st Friday Mass and Benediction 12.00pm

First Wednesday Anointing Mass 12noon

McLean Village Each Friday except 1st Friday 11.00

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4.30 to 5.30pm

Sunday 8.00am—8.30am

Tingha St. Francis' Church Saturday 4.30pm

Ashford St Patrick's Church Sunday 11.00am

Bundarra St Mary of the Angels 2nd & 4th Sunday 8.00am

Yetman St Joseph the Worker 5th Sunday 10am

Baptism (Saturday only) 11am; Marriages and Funerals by Appointment

For Emergencies please phone 0428126703 or

0410840359



PARISH SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

MONDAY: Rosary 9:00am
Mass 9:30am

TUESDAY: Rosary 9.00am
Mass 9:30am

WEDNESDAY : Rosary 11.30
Anointing Mass 12noon

Home Rosary at the home of Bernie & Colleen Graham, 11 Diamond Street each Wednesday at 4.30pm All welcome.

THURSDAY: Primary Graduation Mass 9.30am

FRIDAY Year 10 Graduation Mass 9.15

First Friday Mass and Benediction 12 noon

SATURDAY First Saturday Mass 9.30am

OUR VISION AND OUR MISSION:
 We as a **PARISH**, try to live out our
VISION: To continually form a Christ-centred community based on the Gospel Values expressed through **SERVICE** in peace, justice and love.
MISSION: To know Christ more, His life and His teachings. To imbibe Christ's message of love and service. To try to share generously what graces and



Linda, Pat and Margaret Pischke, Bill Kahler, Peter Stieger, Jonathan Crombie, Kevin Dickins

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK
 Lloyd Fleming, Rhonda Lee Watts (daughter of Phyllis Nichols) John Sanders, David Sanders, Rex Parry, Jeanette Rennie, John Lennon, Danny Dickins, Katrina Newbigin, Bob Kneipp. Brian Barker, Linda Redondo, Marie Ward, Margaret Wales, Dorothy Ball, Mary Porchedda, Denise Taveira, Gregory Stephen, Joanne Essey, Terry Kelleher, Graham Tom, Fred Boight, Bob Sullivan, Mary Jordan, Agnes Hannigan **the sick members of our parish whose names are not**

We Pray for the Recently Deceased & Anniversaries
 Kevin Dickins, Barbara Tidswell, Peter Stieger, Maurie Moses, Peter & Michael Monie, George Johnstone, Frances Griffey, Warren Hooper, George Turner, Jim Sweeney, Allan Kennedy, Patricia Durkin, Sue de Ferranti, Chris Waters, Anne Migheli, Pat Clancy, Carol Moses (niece of Eileen Hanna) Joe Sanders, Peter Cloonan, Julie Higgins (daughter of Betty Leech)
Eternal life grant unto them Oh Lord May their souls and all the faithful departed rest in

Welcome Christmas—a Celebration of Hope. A free, family friendly concert by the Danthonia Youth Chor on Friday, 13 Dec at 6.30pm at the Inverell Town Hall

ADVENT GATHERINGS began on Thursday, 28/11/19 at 5pm in the Church Meeting Room. All are welcome. If you would like a booklet only, please note on the sheet at the church entry.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES
 Christmas Eve: Inverell 7pm; Tingha 4.30pm
 Christmas Day Inverell 9am; Bundarra 8am; Ashford 11am
 Yetman Sunday 29/12 at 10am

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / YEAR A

Thursday 12th December 2019 is the Centenary of the Ss Mary & Joseph's Cathedral Dedication.

The Cathedral Parish welcomes you to attend the celebrations on Thursday 12th December and Sunday 15th December 2019.

ADVENT CANDLE RESPONSES
P: Lord Jesus your coming was proclaimed by the prophets of old. The Prophet Isaiah called the Chosen People and today calls all people to walk in the light of the Lord.
R: COME LORD JESUS
P: Lord Jesus we believe you come among us now. St Paul urges us to be people of light and to let our armour be the Lord Jesus Christ
R: COME LORD JESUS
P: Lord Jesus you will come again in glory. You ask us to stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour we do not expect.
R: COME LORD JESUS

PARISH CHRISTMAS BBQ will take place on Saturday, Dec 14 after the vigil mass. Everyone is very welcome to attend. Mass on that day will be at 5.30pm. Bring a sweet and salad to share, a chair, perhaps your own cutlery if you don't like plastic. Please place your name and the number of people from your family on the sheet at the door

Parish Reconciliation for Christmas will take place on Tuesday, 10 December at 6pm at the Church.

Prayer For Rain
 Eternal God, in wisdom and love you created our earth to sustain us and give us life. We turn to you now in faith, hope and love, asking you to look with favour on our drought stricken land, on our starving animals, on our failing crops.
 Strengthen, sustain and give new heart to our farmers and to all who are affected by drought; be with those who support them.
 In your loving providence, send abundant rain and restore our parched earth.
 Father of all compassion, hear our prayer through Jesus Christ your Son in whom the promise of new life has dawned, and through the power of the Holy Spirit the Lord and giver of life. Renew your faithful people; Renew the face of the earth.
 Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Mary help of Christians—Pray for us.
 St Mary of the Cross Mackillop—Pray for us.

ROSTER ...	NOV 30– SAT 6PM	DEC 1– SUN 9AM	DEC 7– SAT 6PM	DEC 8– SUN 9AM
GREETERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	REDONDO FAMILY
PROJECTOR	N. TURNER	R.McGREGOR	S.SZUMOWSKI	D.BRYANT
READERS	D.DASEY. SR CORAL	M.ROBINSON. C.BRUSE	MIKE & ANN CASEY RANSOM	BOB McGRATH, J.MONIE
COMMENTATOR/	P.ARMSTRONG	J.HARRIS	JO KELLY	R.LONG
GIFTS	ALBERT & VICKI TALAMPAS	GASCON FAMILY	JIM & KAY HARMON	C.BRUSE, J.SAINT
COMMUNION MINISTER	J.TURNER, P.PEVY, TERI AND ROBERT BENARES	S.HOLLIS, J.RAINGER, M.NEWBIGIN, D.HANNIGAN	P.CROFT, R.TUTT, VOLUNTEERS	J.HARRIS, M.ROBINSON, D.HANNIGAN, VOLUNTEER
ALTAR SERVERS	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
MUSIC MINISTRY	C.McCOSKER	MEN'S CHOIR	QUIET MASS	TRINITY SINGERS
CANTOR				
COLLECTION	M.WARD	R.DIZON	K.MIDDLETON	R.DIZON
MORNING TEA		ALTAR SOCIETY		ALMOITE & DIZON GP
COUNTERS		J.FRATER, D.HANNIGAN, T.KING		G.CHIE, M.SCHOFIELD, G.FLEMING