



## Sacred Heart Parish (Canonically Erected 1868) Roman Catholic Diocese of Armidale

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

Email: [inverellparish@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto:inverellparish@armidale.catholic.org.au)

Website: [www.sacredheartinverell.org.au](http://www.sacredheartinverell.org.au)

Facebook: Sacred Heart Catholic Church Inverell

Phone: 02 6722 1103

Administrator: Fr Paul Chandler

Parish Secretary: Mr Peter Turner

PPC Chair: Mr Matthew Rennie

Holy Trinity School Ph 6722 4066

Principal: Mrs Jillian Rainger

### JUBILEE YEAR 2025 - "PILGRIMS OF HOPE"

### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A - 7 DECEMBER 2025



**"Advent is a time of renewal and purification, leading us to greater holiness."**

**- St Francis de Sales**

**Entrance Antiphon:** O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of His voice heard in the joy of your heart.

**First Reading** Isaiah 11:1-10

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

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.**

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

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

1. 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.**

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

3. 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.**

4. 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

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

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.**

**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

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

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 Isaiah 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.**

**Communion Antiphon:** Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

*Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible*

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon, 8 December & Fri, 12 December - 8am to 1pm

Tues, 9 December - 8am to 12pm

## PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CLERGY AND THE PARISH

### 1st Collection: Presbytery (for support of priest)

BSB 082105 Account No. 001023550

Account Name: Sacred Heart Presbytery Inverell

Savings Ac.

### 2nd Collection: Church upkeep, maintenance, expenses

BSB 082105 Account No. 001013072

Account Name: Sacred Heart Parish Inverell

For those on the Planned Giving Program could you please quote your surname and envelope number for the reference.

If you wish to join the planned giving program, please contact the parish office.

## PARISH FINANCES

Thank you to those who made significant donations recently. Here is month-to-date comparison of Parish total costs against the income from the Second Collection.

### Income v. Expenses

**Was a deficit of \$2327.88**

*This seems to be approximately our regular monthly deficit. We are all suffering from rising costs.*

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

**We pray for:** Repose of the souls of all whose death anniversary occurs at this time; Repose of all souls in Purgatory.

**the Recently Deceased:** Florence Kennedy, Coralee Stewart, Guiseppina Fenu

**the sick:** Margaret Wales, Jennifer Wheeler, Francis McPhee, Christina O'Brien, Chris Perceval, Sue O'Brien, Julie Daley, Pat Gurr, Christopher Pay, Lara Bentley, Elizabeth Albany, Rebecca Lane, Fr David Crabb, Brian Barker, and all the sick members of our parish.

**Please contact the Parish Office to add or remove names to/from the Sick List.**

**Visits to the Homebound and the Sick:** Please contact Fr Paul at email [frpchandler@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto:frpchandler@armidale.catholic.org.au) on call 02 6722 1103.

## PARISH NOTICES & EVENTS

### UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

**Sunday Morning Tea:** Sun 14 Dec 2025, after Mass

**Sunday Sausage Sizzle:** Sun 14 Dec 2025, after Mass

**Liturgy Committee:** Sat 17th Jan 2026, 9.00am

**Pastoral Council:** Wed TBA, 5.00pm

**Finance Committee:** Wed TBA 2025, 5.00pm

**Altar Society Roster For December:** Shirley Kenny, Margaret Moroney, Anne Dale, Robyn Johnson, Melissa Newham

**Reflection:** This Sunday's reflection may be read on the parish website (Resources>Parish News) or on the parish Facebook page on Sunday morning.

**Weekly Liturgy Schedule (including Confession times):** This can be found at the noticeboards in the church, on the parish website, and is also emailed out with the parish bulletin. This reduces printing costs.

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - FAITH CANDLE

The second candle of Advent represents Faith and is called "Bethlehem's Candle" for it symbolises the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. The candle is purple to symbolise our preparation for the coming king.

## SVDP CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Members of our SVDP Conference will be available after Mass accepting donations in cash or electronically for the **Annual Christmas Appeal**.

## IMMACULATA SUMMER SCHOOL

Missionaries of the Immaculata Community are visiting our parish this weekend to speak about and distribute information for the 2026 Immaculata Summer School.

## PARISH CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Tickets are on sale after each Mass in the meeting room and during normal working hours at the parish office. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. The raffle will be drawn after Mass on Sunday 21 December. Information about the many great prizes is available where the tickets are sold.

## 2026 CALENDARS

The **Columban Art** calendars are on sale for \$10.

## JUBILEE INDULGENCE

There are only a few weeks remaining to gain the plenary indulgence. See noticeboard for details.

## MASS THIS THURSDAY

Thursday, Dec 11th is the Thanksgiving Mass for 2025 at Holy Trinity School. All parishioners are welcome and it begins at 9:15am in the school hall.

## FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

Among the many rising costs is the price of fresh flowers. To reduce expenditure, any parishioners who can help by supplying **white agapanthus or other white flowers** could bring them to the church from Dec 23rd. Thank you.

## CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve **5:30pm** (Vigil Mass) **8pm** (Night Mass)

Christmas Day **6am** (Dawn Mass) **9am** (Mass During Day)

**All Masses are at Sacred Heart Church, Inverell**

### If you are using a Sunday Missal:

- \* Proper of Mass, Pg 136
- \* Preface I of Advent, Pg 27
- \* Eucharistic Prayer No. 1, Pg 61
- \* Daily Missal uses Year Two, Pg 4 (weekday Mass)