

ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.'

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

WELCOME AND THANK YOU

Today we welcome Fr Michael Trainor as our reflection writer. Fr Michael is senior lecturer in biblical studies with the Australian Catholic University and parish priest of Lockleys in the Archdiocese of Adelaide. His area of specialisation is the study of the New Testament and its relevance for our contemporary world, ecology and pastoral life.

We are very grateful and thank Dr Rosemary Canavan for her insightful reflections on the readings during the past liturgical year.

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Breaking Open the Word

STAY AWAKE!

On this First Sunday of Advent we come into a new liturgical year with the Gospel of Luke, penned for urban Greco-Roman followers of Jesus, possibly living in Rome in the late first century of the Christian Era, around 85CE.

Today's Gospel proclamation comes from a particular literary style, called 'apocalypticism'. It is a style not to be taken literally. It is more like theological poetry intending its listener to recognise images that come from the writings and prophets of the First ('Old') Testament. Its fundamental insight is a reminder that, despite all the calamity and upheaval present in the world, God is present and liberating. Rather than being overwhelmed by global tragedies and disasters, Luke's audience is encouraged to 'stand erect ... with heads held high' and recognise that freedom and release are near. Jesus followers are to be confident in God's presence and care of them, themes that Luke will repeat throughout the year.

Sometimes we can be overwhelmed by global events. At the beginning of this new liturgical year, today's Gospel proclamation is timely. It is a reminder that a different, divine power is at work. Hence, Luke's injunction, 'Stay awake'. We need this reminder. We can forget or be lulled into a form of spiritual forgetfulness by the unimportant or ephemeral. Advent becomes this precious moment to allow ourselves to view the world with faith and confidence in the continual care of God.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / C

1 DECEMBER 2024

FIRST READING

Jer 33:14-16

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

'In those days and at that time,

I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David,

who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.

In those days Judah shall be saved
and Israel shall dwell in confidence.

And this is the name the city will be called:
The Lord-our-integrity.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 24:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14. R. v. 1

R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord,
teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your
truth, and teach me: / for you are God my
saviour. **R.**

2. The Lord is good and upright. / He shows
the path to those who stray, / he guides the
humble in the right path; / he teaches his way
to the poor. **R.**

3. His ways are faithfulness and love / for
those who keep his covenant and will. / The
Lord's friendship is for those who revere him; /
to them he reveals his covenant. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Thess 3:12-4:2

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to
the Thessalonians

*When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts
in holiness.*

May the Lord be generous in increasing your
love and make you love one another and the



whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

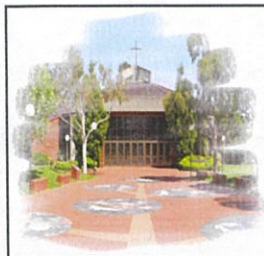
GOSPEL

Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Luke.

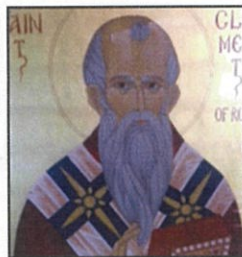
Your redemption is near at hand.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in
the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations
in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the



St Clement of Rome Church

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<https://www.facebook.com/stclementsparishbulleen>
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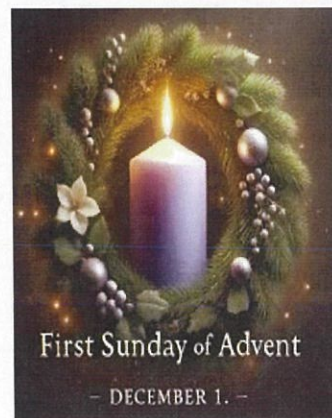


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 Mark.Reynolds@cam.org.au

Italian Chaplain: Fr Vito Pegolo (0419 736 890), **School Principal:** Mr Michael Watt (9850 1216)
Parish Secretary: Bernadine De Silva , **Parish/School Sacramental Coordinator:** Marilyn Robert
St Vincent de Paul Helpline (1800 305 330)

Parish Vision Statement : Guided and inspired by the Holy Spirit, the Parish of St Clement of Rome seeks to be a community of authentic disciples of Jesus, living the Word of God. As a welcoming community, through humble service, we acknowledge our stewardship of God's creation and strive to promote the dignity of all God's people.

Welcome to St Clement of Rome as we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent
Today's theme is : Your redemption is near at hand
 We invite you to reflect on this theme throughout the Mass.



As we commence the season of Advent, we hear Jesus speak to us in prophetic and even somewhat frightening words. He talks of signs in the sun, moon and stars, of the heavens being shaken and the ocean in tumult, and of human beings dying of fright. In the chaotic and turbulent times in which we live, we may readily wonder if we are witnessing such signs at present. The answer to this is : yes, indeed we are. But then, if we look at history, we realise that almost every age and era has had its fair share of trials, disasters, and catastrophes. And, in a sense, they are all signs of the coming of the Son of Man. For truly, Christ comes to us not just once, but many times, or rather, he is continually coming to us. The word 'advent' literally means 'coming', and we are called upon to prepare our hearts and lives for this coming at every moment, but especially during this season. Let us guard ourselves against excessive distraction, busyness, and stress, so that when the infant Jesus arrives, he may find a serene and peaceful dwelling place ready for him in our hearts!

CHRISTMAS EVE

TUESDAY, DEC 24TH
 5:00PM – CAROLS
 5:30PM – VIGIL IN ENGLISH
 7:30PM – VIGIL IN ITALIAN

CHRISTMAS DAY

WEDNESDAY, DEC 25TH
 9:00AM – MASS IN ENGLISH
 11:00AM – MASS IN ITALIAN



Advent Series at St Clement's

Parishioners are invited to the Clifton Centre, every Friday at 10am (during Advent) to share and discuss the Advent Series prepared by Garratt Publishing

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS

Mass Times: Sat 5:30pm (Vigil), Sun - 9am & 11am (Italian)
 Tues 9:15am (Italian), Wed-Sat 9:15am (unless informed)

Reconciliation: Sat 9.45am (and on request). Marian Devotions & Eucharistic Adoration : Sat 8.40am
 Baptisms: Welcoming (3rd weekend) & Baptism (4th weekend) every month. Weddings: By Appointment

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand.
We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently on this land.

PARISH DIARY

Sun 1st Dec @ 9am—Mass & Baptisms followed by morning tea in the Clifton Centre
 Mon 2nd Dec @ 9.15am—no Mass
 Tue 3rd Dec @ 9.15am—Mass in Italian
 Wed 4th Dec @ 9.15am—Mass
 Wed 5th Dec @ 9.15am—Mass
 Fri 6th Dec @ 9.15am—no Mass
 Sat 7th Dec @ 9.15am—Mass & Reconciliation

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, **Antonio Frazzetto, Vittorio Sist** and for the repose of the souls of **Valerie Noonan, Flora & Dominic Crivelli, Rocco Menchise** and all those, whose anniversaries occur at about this time. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Congratulations & welcome to God's family at St Clement's Parish
Oliver Boyce
Michael, Mietta & Olivia Carnovale
Ella & Mason Carmusciano
Halle Carmusciano
 baptised this weekend



Please put your names on the list in the foyer, to confirm your attendance for the Volunteer Appreciation Gathering. Thank you.

ST CLEMENT OF ROME PARISH

Join us for a meaningful evening of prayer and fellowship

Parish Advent Reconciliation
 Personal Absolution with
 Fr Mark, Fr Vito & Fr Franco
 6.30pm Wednesday, December 18
 in the church

Volunteer Appreciation Gathering
 Following the service, we invite all parish volunteers to a gathering in the Clifton Centre as a token of gratitude for your dedication
 lite supper and drinks will be served
 Please RSVP by December 8th to confirm your attendance for catering purpose

we would love to have you all there!

THANK YOU Volunteers

New Ways of Giving



Support our Church with ease!
 simply scan the QR code with your phone camera to donate directly.
 Thank you for your generosity and support!

LITURGY ROSTER SAT 5.30PM SUN 9.00AM

30 Nov/1Dec	Sacristan	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
1 Advent	Commentator	Jacinta De La Cruz	Daniel Abdallah
	Reader	Rene De La Cruz	Grace Cannatelli
	Special Ministers	Zina Scalzo	Fulvia Gerasolimo
		May Teh	Pina La Mattina
		Martin Teh	Ricardo La Mattina
7/8 Dec	Sacristan	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
2 Advent	Commentator	Rene De La Cruz	Grace Cannatelli
	Reader	Paul Sammut	Rocco Gagliardi
	Special Ministers	Enza Wilcocks	Agnes Lu
		Warwick Wright	Gloria Ng
		John Bruce	Maria Papalia

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL' EUCHARISTIA
08/12	N BISOGNANO N DI MARZIO	FAM B ROMANIN	L VETTORETTO G VETTORETTO

Parish morning tea this Sunday after 9am Mass

Please join us for a delightful morning tea after Mass in the Clifton Centre. All welcome.



Items available for disposal

There are some items available for disposal in the Clifton Centre. If you are interested in viewing them, Please contact the parish office to arrange a suitable time.

Waiting in joyful hope

In the chaotic lead up to Christmas, this Advent retreat will provide rest in reflection and contemplation. Held in the heart of Melbourne where Mary MacKillop lived, worked and prayed.

When : Mon 9—Wed 11 Dec
 Where : Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre
 262 Albert Street
 East Melbourne
 Tel : 9926 9300
 Meals included for day 2-3
 Facilitator : Rita Malavisi