



Second Sunday of Advent Yr C

8th December, 2024

Parish Priest Fr Vincent Nguyen
66 Aitken Street, Gisborne Vic 3437
Ph: 5428 2591

Parish Secretary Tammie Dalgleish
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Ph: 5428 2591

CHILD PROTECTION - is everyone's responsibility

Check the Parish Website for:

Child Safety & Code of Conduct Policy
Parish Privacy Act / Professional Standards

*A parent must accompany any child leaving the church during Mass.***Parish Email** gisborne@cam.org.au**Parish Website** melbcatholic.org/s/gisborne**Secretary Hours** Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am – 5:00pm**CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:**

Please pray for those who are in ill health:

**Eileen S, Corine V,
Anthony S, Fran S, Helen K,
Shane R, George T, Gerard H,
Henslee C, Doris S, Jacqueline D,
Sebastian M, Diane M & Eddie G.**

We pray for the recently deceased, especially **Mitchell Phelan & Megan Branigan** and for those who have an anniversary at this time, especially **Nell Templeton & John Ewels.**

May they rest in peace*Please email Tam if you would like an Anniversary included.***UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

07/12/24 Saturday 6pm Mass – Gisborne
08/12/24 Normal Sunday Masses
08/12/24 6pm - Community Carols – Dixon Field
10/12/24 The Oaks Mass
10/12/24 12:30pm – Funeral – Gisborne
10/12/24 NO Weekday Mass
11/12/24 9:15am – Weekday Mass – Gisborne
12/12/24 NO Weekday Mass
12/12/24 10am – Scripture Study – see ad
12/12/24 12pm Holy Cross End of Year Mass
12/12/24 6pm St. Brigid's Graduation Mass - Gis
13/12/24 NO Weekday Mass
13/12/24 Sacred Heart Staff End of Year Mass
14/12/24 Saturday 6pm Mass – Gisborne
15/12/24 Normal Sunday Masses
15/12/24 12pm – Baptism – Gisborne
17/12/24 9:15am – St. B's School end of year Mass
17/12/24 5pm – Weekday Mass - Gisborne
18/12/24 9:15am – Weekday Mass – Gisborne
18/12/24 7pm – Communal Service of Forgiveness

REFLECTION by Fr. Michael Tate

Do we have to be like John the Baptist, eccentrically dressed and scavenging for food, to prepare the way of the Lord? No. You and I are called to be a John or Joan the Baptist, preparing people's hearts in our own time and place.

But we have to allow God to prepare our hearts for this role. John the Baptist challenges us to 'Repent', i.e. to turn around our own lives seeking God's forgiveness. John then challenges us to see the big picture which is that 'All who live shall see the salvation of God'.

Pope Francis is the exemplary universal pastor inspiring us to become 'les mercifuls sans frontieres'. And young people through social media are already saying 'We are one community of human beings on this fragile planet'.

The challenge for most of us is more immediate and apparently of smaller scope. The challenge this Advent is to identify the one person whose heart you can help prepare to celebrate the coming of the Lord Jesus in three weeks' time. The best method is to let that person see your faith and joy centred on that little Jewish baby lying in a manger.

Do that, and who knows what may happen because that little baby is in fact the Sovereign Lord of history and of the whole cosmos. With God's grace, you don't have to be as eccentric or bizarre as John the Baptist to play your part in changing the course of history!

We could take a moment to pray that, repenting of our own sins where necessary, we may prepare the heart of at least one person so that the Lord Jesus may enter in this Christmas, helping him fulfil his mission that all who live shall see the salvation of God.

mtate@bigpond.com**Weekday Mass Cancellation List**

This time of year gets very busy in the parish with extra school Masses for students and teachers, Graduation Masses and special Advent services. Weekday Masses can be cancelled at short notice and although an email will be sent out as soon as possible, notice doesn't always get to the parishioners that need it. If you would like to be placed on a contact list to be phoned if a Weekday Mass has been cancelled at short notice, please contact Tam at the office. Details above.



Rosters & Events



Ministers for next weekend's Masses

Third Sunday of Advent – Year C

14th & 15th December, 2024

6:00pm Mass St. Brigid's Reader: B. Floreani Eucharist: L. Scott	8:00am Mass St. Ambrose's Welcomer: J. White Reader: A.M. Drummond	Flowers: T. Armstrong Greenery only during Advent
9:30am Mass St. Patrick's Reader: B. O'Callaghan Eucharist: K. Petherbridge	11:00am Mass St. Brigid's Reader: K. Page Eucharist: Vol. Required	

HOME VISITS TO THE SICK

Parishioners wanting to have a home visit from Fr. Vincent should please contact the office by phone or email to arrange a suitable time.

Our Safeguarding Policy does not allow for a Priest or volunteer to attend a home to provide Communion or counsel without consent of the person directly involved.

2024 GIVING TREE

This year we will again be supporting the Gisborne branch of St. Vincent de Paul. They are asking for donations of Food Gift Cards, which can be purchased from Foodworks, IGA, Coles and Aldi in Gisborne to any value. Also included is a "Pennies from Heaven" option, and any monies will be used to purchase Gift Cards. The Gift Cards will be used to support families in need over the Christmas period. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

The Giving Tree program will commence on the first week of Advent – 30th Nov / 1st Dec. Could donations please be returned no later than Sunday 15th December, so the Gift Cards can be distributed to families for Christmas. Gift cards can be returned to any Mass, Parish Office and both Schools.

WEEKLY CARDS GROUP

Our last cards evening for 2024 will be held on December 10th and we will recommence in 2025 on January 21st.

2025 VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all volunteers who have advised they are happy to continue with their service next year.

In order to produce effective rosters, could you please advise if you have made any holiday plans and know of times when you will be away so I don't roster you on during that time. I've found that many of us head north for the winter to find a bit of sun. The more I can get right now, the less we have to change next year.

FINANCE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!!

Nomination forms will be available in the coming weeks to express interest in joining the Parish Finance Committee. Please contact the office if you are interested.

CAROLS IN THE HALL

A huge thank you to all those involved in the organisation of the parish "Carols in the Hall" last Sunday. A great afternoon was had by all and lots of positive feedback was received.

Special mention must go to Kevin & Gerard from www.facebook.com/ThatVideoGuyAUS for all things sound and musical. The ladies responsible for afternoon tea did a wonderful job and of course everyone who participated with a song or poem on the day made the event such a success.

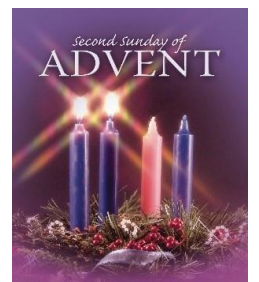
Holy Cross School children
 St. Patrick's Choir
 Anglican Choir

Finally to those who helped with the packing up and cleaning of the hall, it was very much appreciated.

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR S.V.D.P.

Christmas cards now available in church.
 Packet of 5 cards - \$5

All proceeds will go to the operations of the Gisborne Conference of St. Vincent De Paul.



SCRIPTURE STUDIES

Thursday – 10am
 For all enquiries please contact
 Bernie 0414 890 377

OPEN HOUSE

Meet after 11am
 Sunday Mass at the
 Kaffeine Bar for a
 coffee and chat.
Everyone Welcome!

THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

If you would like to contribute to the Thanksgiving Program, you may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

St. Brigid's Church Account
NAB

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6742 95773

Please use your surname and TG number as the reference.

PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

If you would like to contribute to the Priest & Presbytery expenses, you may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

St. Brigid's Presbytery Account
NAB

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6672 72303

Please use your surname as the reference.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Should you have a loved one gravely ill and in need of anointing or the services of a priest, please call the Parish Landline on 5428 2591.

St Brigid's Parish Weekly Giving

Collections last week: Presbytery \$474
 Thanksgiving \$1039

Thank you for your ongoing support through the Thanksgiving Program.

Introduction: On this second Sunday of Advent we focus on the historic coming of Jesus into our world, through the figure of John the Baptist, who prepares the way of the Lord.

We welcome..... to light the Advent Candles on behalf of the community.

The 2nd Sunday of Advent symbolizes FAITH with the BETHLEHEM CANDLE reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

(Purple candle)

2nd week

Lighting of the Advent Candle.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight of his paths; all people shall see the salvation of God.

Response: Come Lord Jesus, come. Have mercy on us Lord.

1st Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

We hear Baruch's use of the Jewish practice to mirror all God's promises to the people in personifying Jerusalem.

2nd Reading: Philippians 1:3-6.8-11

We hear St. Paul's classic models of thanksgiving prayers from the Jewish tradition. The Spirit of Jesus will lead us to the day of righteousness.

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Luke introduces the figure of John the Baptist who is portrayed as one who has received a call from God, just like the prophets of old.

Prayer of Intercession: As members of the community of Jesus Christ, we offer our prayers for healing and peace in our world, in our Church and in our families.

1. The Baptist proclaims, 'prepare a way for the Lord'. May we be attentive to that voice and prepare ourselves spiritually as well as practically for the ways the Lord comes to us in this season.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

2. As summer begins and we bask in the wonder of sunlight, let us give praise and thanks to Jesus, the light of the world, who ever reveals himself in the gift of creation.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

3. The days of the month become frantic with busyness. May our sense of goodwill for all encourage us to be open to the lonely, to the bereaved and to the frail in this special season leading to the birth of our Saviour.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

4. For those who are oppressed, for refugees and those who suffer war: that we will reach out in service, financial support and prayer to bring comfort and compassion to those in need.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

5. We pray for ourselves and the needs of all in our parish community. We pray for those who are sick – especially those on our parish prayer list – and for all who care for them. For the faithful departed: for those who have died recently, especially *Mitchell Phelan & Megan Branigan* and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially *Nell Templeton & John Ewels*.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

Please join in the Parish Prayer.

Celebrant: Gracious God, through our prayers we ask you to continue to lead us in holiness, help us to discern what is of value, and fill us with the fruits of your mercy. We make our prayer through Christ the Lord. Amen.

Next week's readings: Zephaniah 3:14-18; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18

ST. BRIGID'S GISBORNE PARISH PRAYER

God our Father, we thank you for all the blessings we enjoy in our parish family of St. Brigid's Gisborne.

Many have laboured to build our parish. May we all work together and hand in hand stand together.

May our parish be filled with holiness and prayer, faith and love.

May all who come here find a welcoming home, comfort in their needs and strength for their journey.

St. Brigid, St. Patrick, St. Ambrose and St. Colmcille watch over us always we pray, that with faith we grow and learn.

We make our prayer in Jesus name.

Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, (*all bow*)

born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; "he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen

The Living Word

Second Sunday of Advent, Year C

8 December 2024

First Reading

Baruch 5:1-9

A reading from the prophet Baruch.

Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,
put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever,
wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you,
put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head:
since God means to show your splendour to every nation
under heaven,
since the name God gives you for ever will be,
'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'.

Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights
and turn your eyes to the east:
see your sons reassembled from west and east
at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has
remembered them.

Though they left you on foot,
with enemies for an escort,
now God brings them back to you
like royal princes carried back in glory.
For God has decreed the flattening
of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills,
the filling of the valleys to make the ground level
so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God.
And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade
for Israel at the command of God;
for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory
with his mercy and integrity for escort.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 125. R. v.3

- (R.) *The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.*
1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. (R.)
 2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. (R.)
 3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. (R.)
 4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. (R.)

Second Reading

Philippians 1:3-6. 8-11

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians.

Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy,
remembering how you have helped to spread the Good
News from the day you first heard it right up to the present.
I am quite certain that the One who began this good work
in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ
Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving
you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love
for each other may increase more and more and never stop
improving your knowledge and deepening your perception
so that you can always recognise what is best. This will
help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you
for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect
goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory
and praise of God.

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

Luke 3:1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

All people shall see the salvation of God.

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when
Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of
Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea
and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the
pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came
to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went
through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of
repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the
book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness;
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley will be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
winding ways will be straightened
and rough roads made smooth.
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Seventh Meeting
St Brigid's Church
150th Anniversary
Working Party
Tuesday, November 19th



Our major focus during the month of September/October was on promoting the sale of pavers to families in both our schools as well as to parishioners past and present. The extended date gave families in schools the opportunity to purchase a paver on their return after the school holidays. This was only a short window of time but it certainly was well responded to across the parish and in the schools. We were extremely happy with the 210 paver orders we received. As I read over the names, there is a real legacy to those families past and present who have supported this Parish endeavour.

The Good news is that monies received for the pavers has covered the cost of the pavers as well as their installation.

As mentioned in our last Report, a donation from the Tuesday Night Card Group in St Brigid's Hall has provided us with the opportunity to add a set of pavers naming the purpose for our pavers, as part of the St Colmcille, Bullengarook Gate Installation.

There were many sites proposed for this installation but it was finally decided by those giving us quotes for the laying of the pavers, that the best site would be outside the main front doors of the church on the same side as the Grotto. The two large shrubs between the rose bushes will be removed and the pavers will be laid between the Rose bushes with the St Colmcille Gate Installation behind; all under the shade of the tall elm tree on the nature strip outside the church. [Image to right]



ST BRIGID'S CHURCH
150TH ANNIVERSARY
1875 – 2025

Over the next week or two, the History of our Parish up until 2000, written by long time parishioner Leo Duggan with an addendum covering 2000-2025 will be printed and presented to the St Brigid's community for purchase. This will occur over the Masses and an A4 and an A5 copy will be made available to each of our schools. Pre-Order Forms will be available and we are hoping that some of the orders can be realised before the end of the year and/or in readiness for our Major Event on Sunday, February 9th. The cost of the A4 will be \$20 and the A5 size \$10. We believe this makes this achievable for all purse strings as a memento of this special day in our parish. Families in our schools will be able to view the two sizes and make their choice. Pre Order Forms will be available to be completed and placed in an envelope with your money. On the front of the envelope please write your name and **Parish Book Order**. Orders made through our schools can be left at the School Office.

In organising for this very special event we have tried to keep our costs to the minimum. Unfortunately, there are three major items that we cannot cover:

1. 4 storyboards to create a History Trail of our Parish
2. Sound System in the Church on the Day
3. Streaming into the Parish Hall & Homes

It is for this reason that we are reaching out to our Parish Community to seek donations to help finance these 3 major items. We have always been able to rely on the generosity of our Parishioners and School Communities when money is needed and this is such a cause. Over the next 3-4 weeks we will have a collection after each Mass at St Patrick's Macedon, St Ambrose Riddell and St Brigid's Gisborne. School families can leave their donation at the School Office in an envelope clearly marked with your **Surname and 150 Anniversary Donation**.

Should you wish to donate to this event by direct debit, details are below:

St. Brigids Church Account NAB **BSB: 083 347**
Acct: 6742 95773
Ref: Surname & 150 Anniversary

Gisborne Community Carols

Sunday 8th Dec
6:00pm

Dixon Field,
Robertson St Gisborne

Carols sung by local Primary Schools & Choir
Pre-entertainment by Burnt Honey & TAKT



Community Bank
Gisborne & District

 Bendigo Bank



PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



Macedon Ranges
Shire Council



GOURMET
PIZZA BAR

44A Aitken St, Gisborne 5420 7898
sopranospizzabars.com.au

CONNECT
REAL ESTATE

Shop 3, 10-20 Aitken Street, Gisborne
5460 0505 connectrea.com.au

MACEDON
RANGES SIGNS

2 Aberdeen Court, Woodend 5427 1616
macedonrangessigns.com.au



**Choir of the Anglican Parish of Gisborne
Young Voices of Macedon
with singers from St Patrick's, Macedon
and St Ambrose, Woodend**

Alan Grinton, organ

**Sunday 15 December at 7.30 pm
Church of the Resurrection
Corner of Honour Ave and Mt Macedon Rd, Macedon**