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PARISH TEAMS

Pastoral Team:

Fr. Albert Yogarajah PP
Fr. Huy Nguyen
Fr. Anton
Aseervathampillai
Rev. Deacon William Daw

Kemp Vinson
Pastoral Worker

Benita Dahanayake
Home Based RE Coordinator

Finance:

Natascha Eve Klein

Administration:

Cora Ilagan

Tamil Chaplain

Fr. Anton
Aseervathampillai

South Sudanese Chaplain

Rev. Deacon George
Piech Meat

Assistant Chaplain

Rev. Deacon William Daw
9741 4144

PARISH SCHOOLS

St. Andrew's Primary

School – Ph. 9741 3686
Principal:
Michael Gavaghan

Corpus Christi Primary

School – Ph. 9741 8440
Principal: Linda Roynic

Bethany Primary School

– Ph. 9742 9800
Principal: Joanne Webster

Our Lady of the Southern Cross Primary

School – Ph. 9974 8500
Principal: Justin Hilton

St. John the Apostle PS

Tarneit West -
Ph. 8754 4300
Principal: Simon Dundon

St. Joseph Primary

School – 8742 3381
Principal: Shelley Ryan

MacKillop Catholic

Regional College –
Ph. 8734 5200
Principal: Chris Caldwell

Thomas Carr Catholic

Regional College -
Ph. 8734 2444
Principal: Rose Connolly.



ST. ANDREW'S PARISH

Incorporating the Communities of
Werribee Central, Wyndham Vale, Werribee South,
Werribee North,
Tarneit West, Upper Point Cook
and Little River

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B – 9TH / 10TH DECEMBER 2023

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand, the Wathaurong People. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully upon the land.

The 2nd Sunday of Advent symbolizes FAITH with the “BETHLEHEM CANDLE” reminding us of Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem. We are required to prepare our hearts and love for the coming of Christ. **“A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all people will see God’s salvation.’” (Luke 3: 4-6)**



FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins. A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

THE WORD OF THE LORD.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 85:9-10-11-12,13-14

Response: Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what God proclaims; the LORD – for he proclaims peace to his people. Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him, glory dwelling in our land.

Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss. Truth shall spring out of the earth, and justice shall look down from heaven.

The LORD himself will give his benefits; our land shall yield its increase. Justice shall walk before him, and prepare the way of his steps.

Response: Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

SECOND READING: 2 Peter 3:8-14

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard “delay,” but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out. Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace. **THE WORD OF THE LORD.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: All flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.

***** GOSPEL CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE *****

St. Andrew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." **THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD.**

GOSPEL REFLECTION: In the wilderness God's salvation comes to a broken people. In the midst of what is seemingly an impossible situation, hope emerges with vigour. In this context, hope is an openness to surprise, the surprise that God is in no way limited to the imaginings of human minds and the consequences of human history. This is the kind of hope that is proclaimed in the wilderness by John; it is the kind of hope that trusts that from the impossible, God can work a new creation. There is something of a time warp in Christianity. What is future is made present. The prophetic oracle announces the future as if it is already happening. This sense of the future-present prompts new ways of living. As the future takes root in human lives, the present is transformed into a new creation and the Day of the Lord appears. God's future comes through the wilderness into the broken city and inspires a broken-hearted people. The contrite heart is a broken heart, an emptied-out heart, a hope-filled heart. It is a heart that is unencumbered by the past and that lives currently in the passing of time and the fragility of being alive. The contrite, broken heart can be filled only by what is promised in the future. This is the paradox of Advent. In the middle of the wilderness, God works the impossible in those whose hearts are ready for the surprise of hope. **Dianne Bergant CSA**

PRAYER AT HOME: Repeat these words often this week and act on them in a small way each day: ***Prepare the way to the Lord; make straight his paths.***

VOCATION VIEW: The cry of the people: "Lord, let us see your kindness". Who will prepare the way of the Lord coming to us today

RECENT DEATH: Josian Laval Barbe

ANNIVERSARIES: Angelo, Mario and Lou Martini, Vincenzo Capobianco, Julijana Balog

PRAYER FOR THE SICK: Fe Oronos, Agata (Tina) Ravaneschi, Matthew Skinner, Charles Ilagan, Lorilee, Geoffrey, Danuta Clark, Matthew Clark, Nimal Pandithakoralege, Nini Lu, Bong Lu, Vincent Lozzaro, Stanis Smith, Renato Rances, Luke Bien, Edna Domingo, Elisa Ramos Blackman, Ferdie Garcia, Elisa Rama Blackman, Tresiana Kordic, Medy Chavez, Michael Leonora, Ricarda Montuya.

The names for Prayers for the Sick will be kept for two months. If you want to renew or add any names, please contact the Parish Office on 9741 4144 or send email to werribee@cam.org.au

REMINDER: Parishioners please note that names for Recently Deceased, Anniversaries etc. to be included in the Sunday Bulletin must indicate the time of Mass you will be attending for name to be mentioned and request must be at the Parish Office no later than **Wednesday** afternoon and **please address envelopes to the Admin Staff.**

WEEKDAY LITURGY (11th to 16th Dec 2023)

Mon: 9.00am Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Tues: 9.00am Mass
Wed: 9.00am Mass
Thurs: 9.00am Mass.
Fri: 9.00am Mass
Sat: 9.00am Mass followed by confession.

WEEKEND MASSES (16th /17th December 2023)

Sat: 6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sun: 8.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am and 5.00pm Mass
2.30pm South Sudanese Community Mass

LEGION OF MARY

Praesidium: Immaculate Heart of Mary

will be having a Christmas break from 12th December 2023 and will resume on 9th January 2024. For more information please call the Parish Office 9741 4144.

WORKING BEE



will be held in the Church on Saturday, 16th December 2023 from 9.30am to 1pm to prepare our Church and Church grounds for Christmas Season. We would greatly appreciate it if you could spare some time to help! Thank You! More hands make work lighter and easy to Accomplish!

BAPTISM PREPARATION – As the Parish Office will be closed during Christmas season, all Baptism enquiries can be emailed to werribee@cam.org.au. Please provide **Catholic Baptism Certificate copy** of one of the parents, **current street address, best contact no., name and age of the child.** Baptism Preparation will resume on 17th February 2024, in the church at 2pm.

Thank you. Baptism Coordinator.

MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSION APPEAL will be held at all Masses next weekend 16th /17th December 2023. Your support which has, over the years, made it possible to fund many projects for disadvantaged people. Your donation has provided in clean water, health, education and improved living stands to people who would not otherwise have had this opportunity over the last year. Please visit <https://mom.org.au> for more information or to donate.



Congratulations !!!

Deacon William

on the 3rd Anniversary of
your Deaconate Ordination
on this Monday,
11th December 2023.

May God continue to bless you as you work
humbly in the Lord's vineyard.
Please keep Deacon William in your prayers.



Calling all Singers!
Come Christmas Carolling!

Join us weekday evenings 6pm to 8:30pm from
Monday Dec 4th to Friday 15th December as we
travel from house to house bringing the true
meaning of Christmas to our parish families.

If you are interested in spreading *JOY TO THE
WORLD* and singing *Christmas Carols*, join the
CHRISTMAS CAROLLING team
Please contact Powlin 0408 524 293 or
Susanne 0438 372 952.

If you want to subscribe for St. Andrews Parish Take Away Sheet please follow the link below
<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/subscription?id=0012w00000LOj75AAD&req=subscribe>
or check our website.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS APPEAL - "Thanks to the families of St Andrew's Parish, Werribee who have generously contributed to our Annual Vinnies Christmas Appeal. Total monetary donation received were a wonderful **\$ 1,831.45**. Your donation will greatly assist our Vinnies Conference of St Andrew's to help the needy families in our Parish. We still encourage parishioners to leave non-perishable food or gift cards in the Vinnies basket in the church before 16th December hampers will be prepared following that weekend. **Please note we are unable to accept donations of clothing.** These should be dropped off at the Vinnies Shop, Costa Drive, Hoppers Crossing. Thankyou.

St. Andrews Church Christmas Timetable 2024 - is now available at the brochure rack of each side door of the church and in the foyer.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE BROCHURE RACKS AT EACH SIDE DOORS, FOYER AND ON THE PEWS IN THE CHURCH.

ROSTERS FOR THE WEEK 10th to 18th Dec 2023

	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am	5.00pm
LECTORS 16 th / 17 th Dec	Gerry Ilagan	Red Dubier	Titus Lizardo	Clarissa Monteiro	Youth Group
MUSIC 16 th / 17 th Dec	Sariling Tinig Choir	Tina D'Monte & Red Dubier Group	St. Andrew's Choir	Joseph the Dreamer	Youth Choir
Communion Minister 16 th / 17 th Dec	Gerry Ilagan Anson John Kristine Ventura	David Cox Alfred Obieta Tenza Jerkovic	Jen Climie Mary Nguyen Volunteer	Graeme Roberts Ernie Demate Dominic Theip	Judy Anderson Genni Douglas Andrew Canet
COMMUNION SERVICE (MONDAY)	This week: Next week:	Mon 11 Dec: J. Hennessy Mon 18 Dec: M. Chong			
CLEANER	Cleaning: Vacumming:	Mon 11 Dec: M. Tong, N. Chol Fri 15 Dec: A. Ucala, R. Nykuy Mon 11 Dec: Volunteer			
ALTAR CLOTH	This week: Next week:	Sun 10 Dec: M. Galea Sun 17 Dec: C. Demate			
OUR LADY'S STATUE	This week: Next week:	Sun 10 Dec: S. Rafael Sun 17 Dec: S. Rafael			



Dear Families, you are invited to be a part of
TWO VERY SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVENTS

St Andrew's Parish
Nativity Play and Carols Night
On Saturday 16th December, 2023
At 7:00pm
St. Andrew's Church Grounds
Performance of the Nativity Play, followed by Carols and Sausage Sizzle BBQ.

St Andrew's Parish
Christmas Eve Mass and Nativity Play
On Sunday 24th December, 2023
The Nativity Play will be performed during St Andrew's Christmas Eve FAMILY MASS



RINNOVAMENTO NELLO SPIRITO SANTO - Il gruppo di preghiera "Gesù Risorto" augura Buon Santo Natale e felice anno nuovo a tutti i parrocchiani. Ricordiamo che il nostro ultimo incontro per il 2023 sarà Mercoledì 13 Dicembre dalle ore 10am-12.00pm. Ed il primo incontro per il 2024 sarà Mercoledì 14 Febbraio 2024 sempre dalle 10am alle 12.00pm. Vi aspettiamo numerosi.

PEONIES CRAFT GROUP – will be having a Christmas break from 14th December 2023 and will be back in February 2024.

DIVINE MERCY GROUP - is on every Friday, after the 9am Mass in the church. Everyone is welcome to join.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF STUDENTS – RCIS

St Andrew's Parish will be conducting workshops for Secondary Students residing within the Parish of St. Andrew's and wishing to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist and/or Confirmation in 2024. Please contact the Parish Office at St. Andrew's Parish on Ph. 9741 4144 or werribee@cam.org.au for more information and to leave your details. Enrolments close 20th December 2023. Thank you.
Benita Dahanayake – HBRE Coordinator

HOME BASED RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM AT ST. ANDREW'S PARISH WERRIBEE

Parents of children attending Catholic and Non-Catholic Primary Schools in the Werribee area who are interested in their child attending the Sacramental Program for 2024 are asked to leave their details at the Parish Office on 9741 4144 or email werribee@cam.org.au. The program is conducted for children in Grade 3 PreSacrament, Grade 4 Reconciliation, Grade 5 Eucharist and Grade 6 Confirmation. If you have any queries, please leave your name and phone number at the Parish Office on Ph. 9741 4144 or email werribee@cam.org.au. Please note Enrolments close 20th December 2023. Thank you. Benita Dahanayake, HBRE Coordinator

PRAYER OF WELCOME BEFORE BAPTISM

Dear Parents, as you prepare for your child's Baptism, the people of St. Andrew's rejoice that you have chosen to baptise your child, and we pray that in the coming years you and your family will continue to know and grow in the love of God that is everlasting.



We now have an official parish facebook page: **St. Andrew's Catholic Parish, Werribee**. This will be used to post announcements and other events in our parish. Please like and share our page.

St. Andrew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.