
St. Theresa's Parish Community Newsletter

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"Do Small Things Well"

St. Theresa's Primary School - 93119070
16 Drummartin St., Albion 3020
Principal: Rob Macklin

Mother of God Primary School - 93631734
Blanche St., Ardeer 3022
Principal: Assunta Iacovino

Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

The first Sunday of Advent sees the commencement of the new liturgical year. This new liturgical cycle is referred to as Year A and features the gospel of Matthew. (Year B features the gospel of Mark and Year C, that we have just completed, features the gospel of Luke.) Advent comes from the Latin word *Adventus* which literally means 'coming'; it is also reflected in the Greek word *Parousia*, which is used to describe the second coming of Jesus. So Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation of the coming of Christ into the world that is celebrated in the Nativity at Christmas. The gospel passage chosen for today's reading richly expresses that anticipation and need for preparation.

It may seem a little confusing that we begin our year-long exploration of the gospel of Matthew by taking a reading from chapter 24. However, the need for readiness and alertness that Jesus speaks about in relation to the coming of the Kingdom is equally suitable for a modern audience when preparing to celebrate once again the coming of Jesus into the world. Jesus is the best expression of the Kingdom that we have yet experienced and so rather than seeing the choice of this passage as a confusion, we should recognise the alignment that exists between the anticipation of the Kingdom and the anticipation of the Nativity.

The two great feasts of Christianity – the Nativity and Easter – are each preceded by a period of preparation: Advent and Lent. The emphasis of these seasons is on the mental and spiritual preparation to fully enter into one of the great mysteries of faith. In the Nativity, we celebrate God become human; God present in the world in a physical way. Advent is a time to remember the many and varied ways that God continues to be present in the world.



St Theresa's Parish is committed to the safety of children, young people and vulnerable adults



✠ IN HOLY STILLNESS – ADVENT REFLECTION GROUP

Parishioners are warmly invited to join our Advent Reflection Group, meeting on Saturday 6, 13 & 20 December, 10.30am in the Presbytery. Those who wish to purchase the book for personal reflection may do so at Mass.

✠ PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH ✠

Join us for a joyful celebration of the season! 📍 **Venue:** Deer Park Club, 780 Ballarat Rd, Deer Park

📅 **Date:** Tuesday, 16th Dec 🕒 **Time:** 12.00pm. Please RSVP to Mary Azzopardi or Ann-Maree
Let's come together in festive spirit—everyone is welcome!

🌟 CHRISTMAS EVE YOUTH PERFORMANCE 🌟

Is your child interested in being part of our joyful Christmas performance during the 8.00pm Christmas Eve Mass at St Theresa's Church? 📞 Please contact Carmen – 0421 796 522 to register.

✠ All ages are warmly welcome to join!

Let's celebrate the birth of Christ together with music, spirit, and community. 🎄

MASSES THIS WEEK

ST THERESA'S

Drummartin St, Albion

8.30am Wednesday

8.30am Friday Reconciliation

9.00am Friday

8.30am Sunday Reconciliation

9.00am Sunday

10.30am Sunday

MOTHER OF GOD

Blanche St, Ardeer

10.00am Wednesday (Polish)

9.00am Thursday

6.00pm Friday (Polish)

5.00pm Saturday Reconciliation

5.30pm Saturday

10.15am Sunday (Polish)

QUEEN OF HEAVEN

Holt St, Ardeer

CLOSED

RECONCILIATION

(Individual Confession)

Other times by Appointment

HOLY ROSARY

Before regular Wednesday & Friday Masses each week

BENEDICTION

Friday 5th December at
St Theresa's Church

CUPPA AFTER MASS

Join us next Sunday (7th Dec) after each Mass for a cuppa and a chat? Please bring a plate to share.

CONGRATULATIONS To Annabelle Lucas on her baptism as we welcome her into our faith community.

CHRISTMAS FOOD DONATIONS

Over the next two weeks, we invite parishioners to contribute Christmas foods such as puddings, shortbread, and other festive treats. 🍽️ A donation basket will be placed at the back of the Church. Thank you for your kindness and support!

COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR 2026 — On Sale Now!

Available at each church, the Columban Calendar will **Cost \$11**, and make a beautiful and meaningful gift for Christmas. Pick one up after Mass today.

ESTIA HEALTH, 30 North St, Ardeer.

Mass on Tuesday 2nd December at 11.00am.

LEGION OF MARY Last meeting Tuesday 16th Dec, 10.30am will recommence 20th Jan 2026.

COLLECTIONS RECEIVED

Thanksgiving \$844 Loose Money \$330 Presbytery \$627

COUNTERS 7th December

Team 4: M Poulter, A Silva, S Silva

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK St Francis Xavier, 3 December

READINGS Today

Isaiah 2.1-5

Psalm 122.

1-2, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (R. see 1)

Romans 13.11-14

Matthew 24.37-44

Next Week

Isaiah 11.1-10

Psalm 72.

1-2,7-8,12-13,17 (R.see 7)

Romans 15.4-9

Matthew 3.1-12

