No. 50 Second Sunday of Advent - B 10 December 2023

Mary Mother of the Church Catholic Parish

Parish Centre & Mary Immaculate Church
Cnr Waverley Ave & Upper Heidelberg Rd, Ivanhoe

St Bernadette's Church
89 Bond St, Ivanhoe

Parish Office & Administrator
Rosa Botoulas
Hours: Tuesday – Friday
9am to 2pm
2-6 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe
(PO Box 319, Ivanhoe 3079)
03 9926 2310
Ivanhoe@cam.org.au
www.melbcatholic.org/ivanhoe



Parish Priest
Fr. Bill Edebohls
0427 879 733
Bill.Edebohls@cam.org.au

Korean Catholic Community
Fr. Joseph Youn
9440 9515

As a Parish Community we value Inclusion, Hospitality, Service and Mission

Bookings: Parish Office: 9926 2310 for use of facilities, sacramental enrolments or appointments for Marriage etc.
Our Parish *is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults. If you wish to report any safeguarding issue contact the Chair of our Safeguarding Committee, Lucy Dal Pozzo, via the Parish Office.*

OUR PARISH CENTRE CHAPEL

DEDICATED TO THE MOTHER OF GOD
IS OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER
DURING OFFICE HOURS TUE - FRI 9AM - 2PM
PLEASE ENTER THE CHAPEL VIA THE PARISH OFFICE ON UPPER HEIDELBERG RD

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Saturday	**5.30pm**	**Mary Immaculate**
Sunday	**8.30am**	**St. Bernadette's**
	10.00am	**Mary Immaculate**

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

At Mary Immaculate weekday Masses are in the Lady Chapel (except when there is a school Mass). Please enter the chapel via the Parish Office on Upper Heidelberg Rd.

Tuesday	**9.15am**	**Mary Immaculate**
Wednesday	**9.15am**	**Mary Immaculate**
Thursday	**9.15am**	**Mary Immaculate**
Friday	**9.15am**	**St. Bernadette's**
Saturday	**9.15am**	**Mary Immaculate**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday at Mary Immaculate
9.45am in the Chapel (after 9.15am Mass)

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING THE SICK

1st Wednesday each month
(except school holidays)
12 Noon Mass at Mary Immaculate
followed by luncheon

EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION

1st Friday each month
Following 9.15am Mass at St. Bernadette's

From the Patriarchs and Heads of the Churches in Jerusalem

A Statement on the Celebration of Advent and Christmas in the Midst of War

Each year during the sacred seasons of Advent and Christmastide, our Christian communities throughout the Holy Land take great delight in their preparations for the commemoration of the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. In addition to attendance in religious services, these celebrations have normally involved participation in numerous public festivities and the largescale display of brightly lit and expensive decorations as a means of expressing our joy at the approach and arrival of the Feast of the Nativity.

But these are not normal times. Since the start of the War, there has been an atmosphere of sadness and pain. Thousands of innocent civilians, including women and children, have died or suffered serious injuries. Many more grieve over the loss of their homes, their loved ones, or the uncertain fate of those dear to them. Throughout the region, even more have lost their work and are suffering from serious economic challenges. Yet despite our repeated calls for a humanitarian ceasefire and a de-escalation of violence, the war continues.

Therefore, We, the Patriarchs and Heads of the Churches in Jerusalem, call upon our congregations to stand strong with those facing such afflictions by this year foregoing any unnecessarily festive activities. We likewise encourage our priests and the faithful to focus more on the spiritual meaning of Christmas in their pastoral activities and liturgical celebrations during this period, with all the focus directed at

(continued on page 3)

IVANHOE PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St Bernadette's Primary School
Principal: Vivienne Armarego
53 Stanley St, Ivanhoe West 3079
Phone: 9499 3914

Mary Immaculate Primary School
Principal: Veronica Antrim
9 Rockbeare Grove, Ivanhoe 3079
Phone: 9497 1827

As a Catholic Community we respect the Wurrundjeri people, traditional custodians of the land upon which our parish resides, and commit ourselves to reconciliation and justice for all in our community and nation.



PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR

Saturday 9 December *(Advent Feria)*
9.15am Mass at Mary Immaculate (Lady Chapel)
9.45am Reconciliation at Mary Immaculate
5.30pm Mass at Mary Immaculate

Sunday 10 December ***(Second Sunday of Advent)***
8.30am Mass at St. Bernadette's
10.00am Mass at Mary Immaculate

Monday 11 December *(Advent Feria)*

Tuesday 12 December *(Advent Feria)*
9.15am Mass at Mary Immaculate (Lady Chapel)
1.45pm Bluecross Christmas Mass
7.30pm Christmas Choir Practice at MI Church

Wednesday 13 December *(Saint Lucy)*
9.15am Mass at Mary Immaculate (Lady Chapel)
6.00pm St Bernadette's School Graduation (SB)
6.30pm Mary Immaculate School Carols (MI)

Thursday 14 December *(St John of the Cross)*
9.15am End of Year School Mass at Mary Immaculate Church
12noon Rosary & Funeral Mass for Louis Zahra at St. Bernadette's

Friday 15 December *(Advent Feria)*
9.15am End of Year School Mass at St Bernadette's

Saturday 16 December *(Advent Feria)*
9.15am Mass at Mary Immaculate (Lady Chapel)
9.45am Reconciliation at Mary Immaculate
5.30pm Mass at Mary Immaculate

Sunday 17 December ***(Third Sunday of Advent)***
8.30am Mass at St. Bernadette's
10.00am Mass at Mary Immaculate
12Noon Baptisms at Mary Immaculate

LOOKING AHEAD - CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve:	5.00pm	Mass at SB
	6.30pm	Carols at MI
	7.00pm	Sung Mass at MI
	11.30pm	Midnight Mass at MI
Christmas Day:	10.00am	Mass at MI

THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL COLLECTION

Many thanks to all who supported last week's special collection for the deaf. Our total collection $601.20.



MASS ROSTERS	THIS WEEKEND 9 / 10 December	NEXT WEEKEND 16/17 December
5.30pm Mary Immaculate		
Sacristan	J. Gray	J. Gray
Welcomer	L. Dal Pozzo	J. Gray
Reader / Lector	S. Moorhen	P. Shannon
Special Minister	A. Coonan	T. Gleeson
Multimedia	G. Shamieh	S. Moorhen
8.30am St. Bernadette's		
Welcomer	E. McCrohan	D. Dixon
Reader / Lector	D. Landsberg	C. Dixon
Special Minister	D. Landsberg	T. Nibali
10.00am Mary Immaculate		
Hospitality	Team 1	Team 3
Sacristan	E. Mount	P. Verrocchi
Welcomer 1	A. Pegoraro	T. Tee
Welcomer 2	A. Rizzo	A. Barro
Reader	A. McKern	E. Mount
Lector	N. Merlin	M. Sibilin
Special Minister	D. Jones	A. Moloney
Multimedia	J. Chiera	R. De Silva

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

SICK: Dal Bellio, Fr Reece Beltrame, Stefanie Cremasco, Svetka & Michael Vukic, Debbie Hainsworth, Asja Jaksic, Anthony Clifford, David Butler, Bernie Jowett, Brad Antrim, Sara Collodetti, Betty Dolzan, Merle Gilbo, Julia

RECENT DEATHS: Alan Crabbe, Louis Zahra

RIP ANNIVERSARIES: Steve & Oswald Berthelot, Angela Bono, Anna Maria Bono, Domenica Zampatti, Valentin Vukic, Giuseppina Nibali, Mary Inverarity, Lucy Thomas, Felix Hernandez

NAMES OF THE SICK & THE DEAD *for inclusion in newsletter must be sent to the parish office by Thursday 10am.*

Names on sick list remain for 9 weeks (a Novena) unless otherwise advised. For privacy reasons people must give their permission before their names can be included.

Come along and join our Christmas Choir singing for 6.30pm Carols & 7.00pm Sung Mass on Christmas Eve
Christmas Eve Choir Practices at Mary Immaculate Tuesdays 12 & 19 December at 7.30pm.



LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH Collection	Envelopes:	$650	**PRESBYTERY Collection**	Envelopes:	$572
	Loose:	$352		Loose:	$352
	Direct Debit & Credit Cards:	$1,306		Direct Debit & Credit Cards:	**$**439
Total (Parish Account)		**$2,308**	**Total (Presbytery Account)**		**$1,363**

The parish has changed its donation software system to a more secure and safe platform. As such, the description on your Bank Statements for Direct Debits and Credit Cards may be different. If you have any concerns please contact the parish.

THREE WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR PARISH

I. Use our Weekly Offering Envelopes (contact Parish Office) **2024 Envelopes available for collection**
II. Online via your Credit Card: go to our website www.melbcatholic.org/ivanhoe click on ***Donate***
III. Direct Debit: Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe
Parish Offering: BSB. 083 347 Ac. 59005 4163 Presbytery Offering: BSB. 083 347 Ac. 46806 0279

Give Serve Attend Grow Stewardship

(continued from page 1)

holding in our thoughts our brothers and sisters affected by this war and its consequences, and with fervent prayers for a just and lasting peace for our beloved Holy Land.

Moreover, during this season of giving, we also invite the faithful to advocate, pray, and contribute generously as they are able for the relief of the victims of this war and for those in dire need, as well as to encourage others to join them in this mission of mercy. In these ways, we believe, we will be standing in support of those continuing to suffer—just as Christ did with us in his Incarnation, in order that all of God's children might receive the hope of a New Jerusalem in the presence of the Almighty, where "death shall be no more, neither mourning, nor crying, nor pain, for the former things have passed away" (Revelation 21:4).

—The Patriarchs and Heads of the Churches in Jerusalem

In response to the above Statement from the Patriarchs and Heads of the Churches in Jerusalem to Christians around the world, and in solidarity with our Palestinian brothers and sisters in Christ, our Christmas Tree at Mary Immaculate will remain undecorated. A symbol not just of the death and destruction in Gaza but a reminder that even in the West Bank Palestinian town of Bethlehem, the place of Christ's birth, Palestinian Christians will be prevented from entering the city to attend Mass by the Israeli blockade that surrounds the Holy City.

John Rankin R.I.P

On Friday 1st December at a beautiful Family Mass at St. Bernadette's, John's Family and relations farewelled their beloved Father and relative.

John was an active and dedicated parishioner for numerous decades since the formation of the parish at St. Bernadette's. He experienced many joys and sorrows with his family life over the years.

Joe Manders

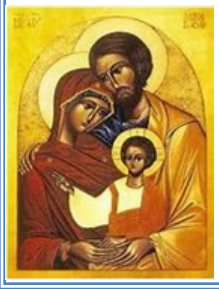
CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve:

5.00pm Mass at St. Bernadette's

6.30pm Carols at Mary Immaculate

7.00pm Sung Mass at Mary Immaculate



11.30pm Midnight Mass at Mary Immaculate

Christmas Day:

10am Mass at Mary Immaculate

Parish Climate Action Group

Pope Francis in "Laudate Deum" calls for change from those with political or economic power. The latter can be very cynical as they aim to make "the greatest profit possible at minimal cost and in the shortest…time." He appeals to the pride of politicians to work against such interests lest they go down in history as unwilling to take the hard decisions crucial to the safety of our earth.

You may well feel powerless beside these people. Our Pope, however, assures us we do have grass roots power to put pressure on politicians and to create a whole new culture of care for the earth and for the poor by our "efforts to reduce pollution and waste, and to consume with prudence." He speaks of "transformation from deep within society" through adopting new values.

The values we express this Christmas will help create a culture that cares for the earth and those who share it. One way to test our values will be to look in our bins on Boxing Day – if they are filled with Christmas paper, plastic trinkets (made of fossil fuels by those chasing profit) and wasted food, we have a lot more to do to create a culture that honours the earth. But do look around for the many signs of a changing culture; this week there has been a concerted grass roots effort to support "Second Bite". Its very existence – saving food from landfill and giving it to those who need it in our society – is proof of grass roots power. So, join the cultural revolution towards a better life and aim to celebrate in ways that honour the earth and her "little ones" whom Jesus so loved.

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL Our Parish Vinnies Conference has assisted over 100 families and individuals throughout this year. For many of these families Christmas will be a struggle. Our Conference would like to brighten their Christmas with a hamper and toys for their children. We are asking if you could please help us make this possible by donating food, gift vouchers, or a cash donation. There is a box in the Entry Foyer. Thanking you for your support.

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Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon

(When there is no Entrance Hymn)

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.

1st Reading Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

'Console my people, console them' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

R/ **Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.**

I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. ***R/***

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. ***R/***

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. ***R/***

2nd Reading 2 Peter 3:8-14

A reading from the second letter of St Peter

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. **Alleluia!**

The Gospel Mark 1:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
✠ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.''

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

(When there is no Communion Hymn)

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

Reflection

"John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness," Mark writes, and "all Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him." Where are the Baptists of today? Into what wilderness might we venture to own our collective moral failures, repent and seek forgiveness? Here are a few that come readily to mind. The wildernesses of blighted landscapes and warming oceans, of rapacious economies, populist politics, racial hatred, domestic violence, wars and injustice, forced migration and the industry of misinformation. Each one has its Baptists declaring the truth and heralding a better way, if we but choose to attend to them and embrace the future that God is forever bringing to birth. Advent promises nothing less than a new heaven and a new earth.

Prayer For Our Parish

Father, pour out your Spirit upon the people of this parish, so that inspired by your word, nourished at your altar, and graced by your empowering love, our lives may be devoted to the service of our brothers and sisters, and the building up of your Kingdom. May our parish community, under the Patronage of Mary, Mother of the Church, truly be for this place and time the body of Christ your Son, through whom we make this prayer. Amen.

Mary, Mother of the Church:
Pray for us.

Our readings are from the Jerusalem Bible © 1966 Darton, Longman & Todd Ltd. & Doubleday & Com. Inc. Used by permission.

Next Week: ***Third Sunday of Advent***
1st Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
Gospel: John 1:6-8,19-28