



Fourth Sunday of Advent Yr C

22nd December, 2024

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

Parish Secretary Tammie Dalglish
P O Box 467, Gisborne Vic 3437
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, Henslee C,
Doris S, Jacqueline D, Sebastian M,
Diane M, Eddie G & Ivor P.**

We pray for the recently deceased and for those who have an anniversary at this time, especially

**Jim Bodsworth, Julia Chicarelli, E.K. Danister,
John de Lai, Mick Seric, Shirley Howard,
Gerard Bailey & Norrie Gardiner.**

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

21/12/24 Saturday 6pm Mass – Gisborne
22/12/24 Normal Sunday Masses
24/12/24 **NO weekday Mass**
24/12/24 6pm Family Christmas Mass – Gisborne
24/12/24 8:30pm Vigil Mass – Macedon
Carols begin at 7:45pm
24/12/24 11pm Vigil Mass – Gisborne
Carols begin at 10:30pm

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE

25/12/24 8:30am Christmas Day Mass – R/Creek
25/12/24 10:30am Christmas Day Mass - Gisborne
26/12/24 **NO Weekday Mass**
27/12/24 9:15am – Weekday Mass
28/12/24 Saturday 6pm Mass – Gisborne
29/12/24 Normal Sunday Masses

REFLECTION by Fr. Michael Tate

This little gospel story tells us that ‘the baby in Elizabeth’s womb leaped’ and not merely leaped, but leaped ‘for joy’. Is this just poetic hyperbole?

We know that beautiful music can have a wonderful effect on life in the womb. Good vibrations. Here, the presence of Jesus, being carried by Mary in her pregnancy, had a wonderful effect on the life carried by Elizabeth. Very good vibrations.

From the moment of the conception of Jesus, good vibrations reverberated out to all human beings. The good news is that you and I and every human life ever conceived is visited by Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ, and we receive that visit as Original Blessing.

There is a further and consoling truth. Every mother or father who has lost a baby too early needs to know that the same extraordinary sense of Our Lord’s presence was felt by your baby. That Divine Presence conferred a powerful Original Blessing on that little life within the womb, and that same Presence accompanied your baby into the everlasting embrace of Divine Love in Heaven.

We could pause a moment to pray using the very words of Elizabeth, reciting:

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.**Blessed art thou among women,**and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.**Holy Mary, mother of God,**pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.*

Amen.

mtate@bigpond.com**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**Tuesday, December 24th – 6pm Gisborne – Family Mass – *Fr. Vincent*Tuesday, December 24th – 8:30pm Macedon – Nativity of the Lord (Carols begin 7:45pm) – *Fr. Vincent*Tuesday, December 24th – 11pm Gisborne – Nativity of the Lord (Carols begin 10:30pm) – *Fr. Arnold*Wednesday, December 25th – 8:30am Riddell’s Creek – Christmas Day Mass – *Fr. Vincent*Wednesday, December 25th – 10:30am Gisborne – Christmas Day Mass – *Fr. Arnold*

Fr. Arnold Heredia has again agreed to offer some assistance to St. Brigid’s Parish and we will welcome him on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day in the Gisborne church to share the Masses with Fr. Vincent.



Rosters & Events



Ministers for next weekend's Masses

The Holy Family – Year C

28th & 29th December, 2024

6:00pm Mass St. Brigid's Reader: F. Murone Eucharist: N. Spiers	8:00am Mass St. Ambrose's Welcomer: J. White Reader: P. Sammut	Flowers: J. Shumack Greenery only during Advent
9:30am Mass St. Patrick's Reader: E. Kilgariff Eucharist: B. Stanchinotti	11:00am Mass St. Brigid's Reader: C. Fry Eucharist: E. Egan	



Christmas Eve Masses & Volunteers

6pm **Gisborne - Family Mass** – Volunteers from teaching staff to be arranged on the night.

8:30pm **Macedon - Nativity of the Lord** (Christmas) Vigil – Available volunteers please.

11pm **Gisborne - Nativity of the Lord** (Christmas) Midnight – Available volunteers please.

Christmas Day Masses & Volunteers

8:30am **Riddells Creek - The Nativity of the Lord** (Christmas) Day – Available volunteers please.

10:30am **Gisborne - The Nativity of the Lord** (Christmas) Day – Available volunteers please.



Volunteers – if you see a need either Christmas Eve or Christmas Day – please make yourself available thank you.

WEEKLY CARDS GROUP

We will recommence on
January 21st, 2025.

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.

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.

SECRETARY ANNUAL LEAVE

Tam will be taking some time off throughout January but will still attend the office one day per week to do the most urgent of tasks.

From January 1st to the 31st the office will only be manned on Thursdays. If you have any queries during this time, email would be the best option and I can reply as time permits.

COLUMBAN PARTNERSHIP FUNDRAISER CHRISTMAS WINGS

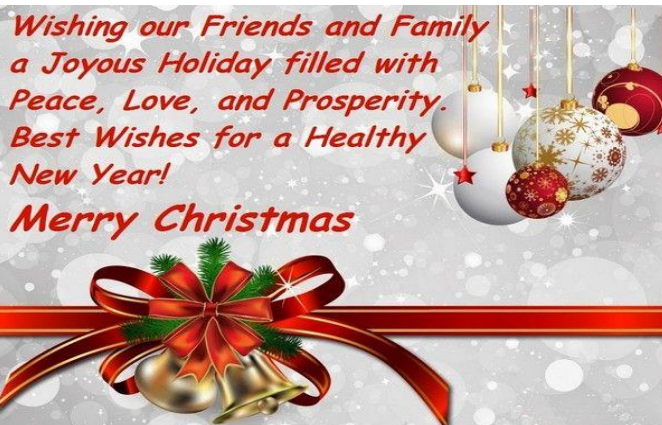
Available in churches now, \$8 each.

All proceeds to go to St. Elizabeth Hospital – Hyderabad.

Wings can be used for Christmas Tree decorations, small gifts for teachers/school friends or gift tags.

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. The more I can get right now, the less we have to change next year.



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!

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 \$508
Thanksgiving \$968

Thank you for your ongoing support through the Thanksgiving Program.

Introduction: On this Fourth Sunday of Advent we have the Gospel scene of the visitation of Mary to Elizabeth, which becomes the example of the events which led to the birth of Jesus.

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

The 4th Sunday of Advent symbolizes PEACE with the ANGEL CANDLE reminding us of the message of the angel “peace on earth, good will toward men”.

(Purple candle)

4th week Lighting of the Advent Candle.

O come, come Emmanuel. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Response: Have mercy on us Lord. Have Mercy on us.

1st Reading: Micah 5:1-4

The prophet Micah points to the new Israel when Jerusalem and the people will be restored. This is the role of the promised Messiah.

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

We hear from the letter to the Hebrews how the psalms come to be interpreted in the light of Christ. He is the one who came to do God's will.

Gospel: Luke 1:39-44

Mary is portrayed as the believer whose response in faith was consistent all her life. This is reflected in her prayer, the Magnificent.

Prayer of Intercession: Just as Elizabeth says to Mary: “Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord would be fulfilled”, we, too, come to prayer with faith and confidence before God.

1. Blessed is she who believed that the promise made by the Lord will be fulfilled. May we, like Mary the Mother of Jesus, rest secure always in the love of God for all his people.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

2. May the light of Christ shine in our lives and in our Church. By our anticipation and longing for the birth of Jesus, may we bring to the world new hope, new life, and new beginnings.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

3. May we as a Christian community live with the light of Christ to empower us, and may we live in humble service of others as Jesus encouraged us.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

4. Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth. We pray that all family visitations in this season engender a spirit of goodwill that will prevail throughout the year ahead.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

5. On the 20th anniversary of the Boxing Day Tsunami and the 50th anniversary of Cyclone Tracy, we pray for those who suffered and were impacted by these events. May they find peace and joy this Christmas.

6. In the spirit of the season we pray for ourselves and the special needs of all in our parish community. We pray for those who are sick – especially those on our parish prayer list – the frail, and for all who care for them. For the faithful departed: for those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially **Jim Bodsworth, Julia Chicarelli, E.K. Danister, John de Lai, Mick Seric, Shirley Howard, Gerard Bailey & Norrie Gardiner**, that the Lord will bless everyone as God knows best.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

Please join in the Parish Prayer.

Celebrant: Loving God, may your peace, which surpasses all human understanding, guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus, our Lord and our Saviour. Amen.

Next weeks readings: Samuel 1:20-28; 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year C

22 December 2024

First Reading

Micah 5:1-4

A reading from the prophet Micah.

Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth.

Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel.

He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God.

They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land.

He himself will be peace.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19. R. v.4

(R.) *Lord, make us turn to you;
let us see your face and we shall be saved.*

1. O Shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. (R.)
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)
3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. (R.)

Second Reading

Hebrews 10:5-10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

I am coming to do your will.

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation,
prepared a body for me.

You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin;
then I said,

just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book,
'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will.

He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 1:39-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Why should it happen that I am honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



Reach out. Give life.

Catholic Mission thanks the parish of St Brigid's for your generous support of this year's World Mission Day Appeal. Through your contribution of \$290, you have empowered Church workers across 1047 mission dioceses to share a message of hope and compassion with communities around the world.

Your partnership with Catholic Mission makes an incredible difference. Thanks to you, Cardinal Giorgio Marengo and Brother Andrew in Mongolia can continue delivering life-saving care, essential resources, and educational support. Your gift not only uplifts individuals but also strengthens global mission programs, reaching countless others who need our support.

Thank you for being a light of hope to those in need!

St. Brigid's Catholic Church, Gisborne

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS 1875 - 2025



You are invited to celebrate this wonderful moment in our history.

Our Celebration will include Mass at 11.00am
(also live-streamed for those who cannot attend in person),
a memorabilia display, activities and food vendors.

This day of festivities is an opportunity to learn more about our St. Brigid's Church story and meet, or reconnect with present and past parishioners.

Location: *St. Brigid's Parish Church
Aitken Street, Gisborne, Victoria*

Date: *Sunday 9th February, 2025*

Time: *11.00am Mass*

Followed by activities and events (12-4.00pm approx)

Bring along your family and friends and any others you know of with
a St. Brigid's connection to this special event.

We would love as much memorabilia or information about our wonderful history as possible, so if you have any stories, memories, photos or memorabilia that you can share, please contact us at trishannarmstrong@gmail.com / 0417 526 945

