

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish Henley Beach

On the Traditional Lands of the Kurna People

Second Sunday of ADVENT – Year B

10th December 2023



Parish Priest: Fr Manu Kumbidiyamackal MSFS

Pastoral Care: Sr Helen Armstrong OLSH

Child safe contact Person: Jane Sage 0435062071

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After Hours Emergency Number (for the sick and dying): 0417 584 336

Vinnies Emergency Hotline: 1300 729 202

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Baptism Bookings: www.henleybeachparish.com.au

Office Hours: Mon & Tues: 9am–12pm; Wed & Thurs: 9am–2pm; Fri: 9am–3:30pm

Star of the Sea Primary School: Phone: 8115 7400 Email: info@star.catholic.edu.au

Web: <https://www.star.catholic.edu.au/news-events/enewsletters>

Mass Times: Monday 8 pm Candlelit Mass

Tues: 9:15am, Wed: 8:00am, Thurs & Fri: 9:15am, Reconciliation Saturday 8:45am – 9:10am

Sat 9:15am (qualifies as a Sunday Mass); Vigil Saturday 6:00pm; Sunday 9:30am; 5:30pm

COMING UP:

2nd Rite Reconciliation

Tuesday 12th December
7pm

Advent Retreat

Saturday 16th December
9:15am - 3:30pm

Senior's Mass

Tuesday 12th December
1pm

Advent Reflection Groups

Group 1: Wednesdays
7pm

Group 2: Fridays 10 am

Christmas Mass Times

Sunday 24th:

6 pm : Family mass

8.30 pm : Vigil Mass

12 : Midnight

Monday 25th

8 am , 9.30 am



We are into the second week of Advent. On this the Second Sunday of Advent, we are invited to reflect upon the role of John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus. Today's Gospel is taken from the beginning of Mark. Unlike Luke and Matthew, Mark does not include any details of Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins with the appearance of John the Baptist in the desert. Mark's description of the appearance of John the Baptist highlights John's continuity with the Jewish prophetic tradition. Mark combines quotations from the Old Testament books of Malachi, Isaiah, and Exodus. The people of Judea and Jerusalem

flock to him, listening to his message of repentance and forgiveness; they also come to him to be baptized. Mark's Gospel is clear, however, that John the Baptist's role is only to prepare the way for another who will come, one who is greater than John.

The word prepare comes from the Latin praeparare which is a combination of two words: prae which means "before" and parare which means get ready. To prepare thus means to get ready before an action takes place. Today we have the theme of preparation running prominently throughout the readings especially in the First Reading (Isaiah 40:1-5.9-11). and the Gospel Reading (Mark 1:1-8). In the First Reading, God tells the prophet Isaiah to comfort His people and to assure them that the period of warfare has ended. This simply means that God is coming back to the people after a period of their separation from him. To this end, the prophet went further to tell the people to prepare for God's coming. The aforementioned preparation according to the oracle of the prophet is expected to take place in the form of a road construction. In physical road construction, three important activities are premeditated: levelling, filling and making plain. Translated to spiritual life, similar activities are recommended. The road is our heart that is now marred by mountains and hills of sin and disobedience otherwise seen as obstacles; the road represents our hearts filled with valleys and potholes of absence of love, knowledge of God and other Christian virtues. The road represents our hearts made rough by the paths we have chosen that simply lead us away from God.

The prophetic recommendation tells us to level the mountains and hills and that means pulling down frameworks of sin and disobedience in our lives. Like a typical mountain and hill they block us from seeing and reaching to God.

Cont...

Readings

Second Sunday of Advent Year B

Is 40: 1-5, 9-11

Ps 84: 9-14

2 Pet 3: 8-14

Mk 1: 1-8

Third Sunday of Advent Year B

Is 61: 1-2, 10-11

Lk 1: 46-50, 53-54

1 Thess 5: 16-24

JN 1: 6-8, 19-28

Filling the valleys is a practical advice for us to bring back those virtues and values that should fill up the needful spaces in our lives. Making the rough edges plain is an invitation for us to remodel our lives and retrace our paths to God. After all these, the glory of the Lord will be shown forth and all the flesh shall see it together. It will be good to establish here that the spiritual road construction will take place before the glory of God will be shown forth to all flesh. It is really very painful that in our day and age many people seem to put Advent on hold while preparing to celebrate themselves (not Christ) at Christmas. The geometric rise in consumerism and extreme commercialisation of Christmas has become common in our times. Towards the end of the month of October, we begin to perceive sights and sounds of Christmas while Advent is totally neglected. We tend to anticipate the glory but only few are ready to undertake the spiritual road construction, many of us are seriously waiting to celebrate Christmas but only a few are ready to get there through the Advent. It is more like many of us prefer shortcuts to Christmas; that means avoiding or side tracking the Advent.

The Gospel Reading is very much like the First Reading as the phenomenon of preparation still holds. However, it is more concretely established with the idea of the baptism of repentance. In other words, John the Baptist challenges us to accept repentance as a very dependable way of preparing our hearts for the coming of the Lord. There will be a strong need for us to approach the sacrament of reconciliation this season. There will be need for us to reconsider our lifestyles, there will be a need for us to advance for a positive change to make our hearts habitable for our Lord when he comes. John the Baptist is presented to us as a model during Advent. We, too, are called upon to prepare a way for the Lord. Like John the Baptist, we are messengers in service to one who is greater than we are. Our Baptism commissions us to call others to life as disciples of Jesus. God expects us at this time to be concerned about preparing a way for Him. He is not coming to Bethlehem but into our hearts. For this reason and in this season, we are expected to devote our time and disposition to preparing the way for the Lord. The tomorrow we are expecting belongs to those who prepare for it today and let us also remember that when we fail to prepare, we prepare to fail.



The Candle of Peace: The second candle on the Advent wreath represents Peace. Often called the "Bethlehem Candle," the second Advent candle reminds us of Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before the birth of Jesus. The second candle recalls that after all of the division, destruction, and dispersion of the kingdom in the Old Testament, there might finally be peace on Earth because of the birth of Jesus.

Janakumbudramakela

Parish Office Christmas Closure

The Office will close on Friday 22nd December and will reopen Monday 15th of January.

Stewardship Reflection

December 10, 2023
Second Sunday of Advent

"Prepare the way of the Lord..." - MARK 1:3

We are all called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, puts us on the path to holiness and is an example for others to be holy, too. We are responsible not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. How are you helping others get to Heaven?

Mass for Seniors

There will be a holy mass celebrated for seniors with anointing of the sick on Tuesday 12th December at 1pm in the Parish Hall.

Police Checks Updating

Please contact Ivy Hill: 0413 081 421 if your Working with Children Police Check needs updating.

The Southern Cross



The December Southern Cross will be available at the back of the Church in mid December Please take one

Please Remember in Your Prayers this Week:

Recently Deceased:

George Robertson, Pauline Temby, Sonia Bennie, Josie O'Leary, Des Fahey, Pamela Wolf, Jim Argue, Dragan Pribanic, Kathleen Mary Kuchel, Stanley Blackford, Noreen Fox, Monica Allen, Joe Scicluna, Bernado Forgione, Margaret Billing, Fr Peter Dunn, Savariya Pitchai, Steven Crichton, Kaye Pilkington,

Anniversaries

Molly Storey, Salome & Dennis Lobow, Lorna D'souza, Frank Marafioti, George Robertson,

Sick Parishioners

Sonia Benni, Amelia D'Aloia, Terry Cashin, Pat Berti, Rene Young, Mary Kennedy, Sharon Barber, Brendan Taylor, Rose Oteng, Julie Green, Noel Hocking, Maria Tinus, Brian Barden, Joan Dignan, Brian Fitzgerald, Lola Pedler, Margaret O'Connor, Margaret Kennedy

Thank you



Cath Fahey and family would like to say thank you to the many friends and parishioners who sent condolences and came to say goodbye to Des and may he rest in peace.

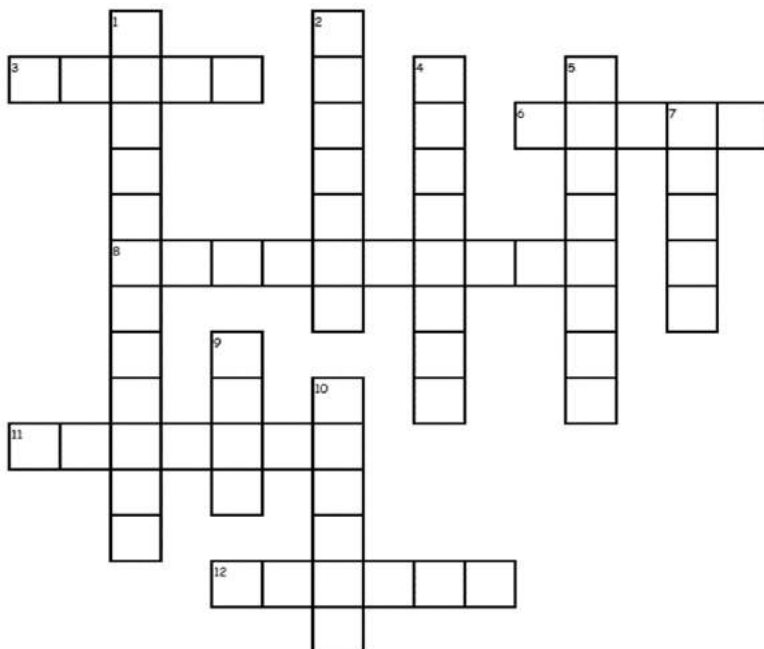
Advent Books

The remaining Advent Books that were ordered and not yet collected have been placed on the back table for collection. If you ordered a book and have not yet collected it please collect yours today. They are \$6.

Thanks.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

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



CROSSWORD

Clear a Path for the Lord 2nd Sunday of Advent

Across

- 3: What we say when we apologise
6: What you hear when someone speaks
8: John told the people God would baptise them with the H_____ S_____ (two words)
11: To get ready
12: John the Baptist baptised people in this river

Down

- 1: John ate these insects
2: John the _____ baptised people in the Jordan River
4: The opposite of crooked
5: A very high piece of land
7: A large group of people
9: A pathway used by vehicles
10: A hot and sandy place

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) @ 9.30am Mass

We have already reintroduced Children's Liturgy of the Word for the youngest members of our Parish, an opportunity for them to gather, connect and build friendships as they discover the Gospel message and the love that Jesus has for them.

Children's Liturgy is appropriate for primary school aged children. However younger children are welcome to come along, with a parent or adult helper.

Anyone wanting to join the CLOW is welcome to contact the Parish Office or Barb Conlon.

Barb Conlon
Families and Faith Outreach Coordinator (Alpha)

Healing Mass

Healing Mass Thursday 14th December Rosary 7pm
Mass 7:30pm including the Sacrament of Anointing, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Reconciliation, Prayer Ministry with Candlelit music in the Spirit of Taize, individual blessings with the Blessed Sacrament in the Monstrance, and Benediction.
Tea/coffee and light supper available. All welcome
Enquiries phone Pauline 0403002240



Giving App

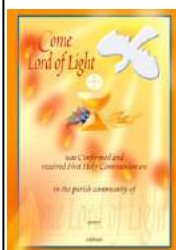
Download the Adelaide Archdiocese's Find a Mass App on your mobile phone and set up direct giving to the first and second collections, as well as special appeals.

Or go to adelaide.goodgiving.com.au to set up direct giving from your computer.

Please note: 1st, 2nd and Special Collections are available on the app.

The QR code will automatically select the Henley beach parish.

Sacramental Program 2024



We are excited to announce the upcoming Sacramental program for the year 2024 at our parish. This program is a significant journey of faith and spiritual growth, and we invite all eligible members of our parish children to participate.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact parish office.

We look forward to a blessed and meaningful Sacramental program in 2024.

Walk for Life 2024

You are encouraged to place in you diaries the date for Walk for Life, 2024 which will be held on Saturday, 10 February, 2024 at Pennington Gardens, opposite St Peters Cathedral, North Adelaide, commencing at 10 am.

Once again next year the walk will be a peaceful public witness to the value of every human life and especially the unborn. The theme will be **"Every Life is a Gift"** with reference to Psalm 127: 3 **"Children too are a gift from the Lord.... a reward"**.

Baptisms in our Parish



We welcome into our Parish Community Liam Robert Hudson, Alesija Simunov and Claudia Simunov being baptised this weekend. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Knit & Natter



Our Group will be having a break until the New Year. I would like to thank our ladies who have knitted and crocheted rugs, scarves and beanies all year for those in need. Thankyou to those who have donated wool. Merry Christmas.

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

Advent Retreat Saturday 16th December 9:15am - 3:30pm in the Church

Topic: "Don't Be Afraid, Mary;

The Day will Include:

Talks given by Fr Manu Kumbidiyamackal MSFS

Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Silent

Reflection Reconciliation Benediction Prayer Ministry

Please bring your own lunch tea/coffee provided.

Enquiries and bookings phone Pauline 0403002240
by 14th December Cost by donation All welcome

Second Rite Reconciliation

We will have second rite reconciliation celebrated in the parish in preparation for Christmas on Tuesday, 12th December at 7 pm. There will be priests from other parishes available for confessions on that day. Please use this opportunity for the sacrament of reconciliation. In case you miss that day there will be opportunities for reconciliation on other days before and after the daily mass.

Young Christian Workers Sol' Music

Every month YCW host a music event called Sol' (Solidarity) Music - aimed at uniting young people from all around Adelaide to share in their talents and tend to breaking social isolation.

The event is open to all ages and fosters opportunity for community from all those from different cultural backgrounds, realities and generations.

December 1 2023, 6pm - Dwell East End, Student Accommodation, 12 - 18 Synagogue Pl, Adelaide

December 8 2023, 6pm - Minor Works Building Community Centre, 22 Stamford Court, Adelaide

Gingerbread Houses



Ginger Bread Houses only \$35 each. If you had placed your orders Please collect your gingerbread house this weekend.

Christmas Table



Christmas tables with loads of goodies are now available at the back of church. This is a great opportunity for you to pick some.

Gingerbread House Building day



There are also gingerbread hearts available for \$2. This will be a great addition to your Christmas Table or a yummy snack.

Thank you very much for all your cooperation and support. God bless you.

Contact Cheryl Wedding 0427 351 008

Christmas Mass Volunteers



If you would like to volunteer for a ministry for one of the Christmas Masses, please complete the volunteer forms at the back of the church. All masses will be held in the Church this year, so we will need lots of people to help us with giving a warm welcome to everyone who comes to the celebrate the birth of Jesus this Christmas with us.

Christmas Mass Times

Sunday 24th:

6 pm : Family mass
8.30 pm : Vigil Mass
12 : Midnight

Monday 25th

8 am
9.30 am

Please note:

There will not be a usual 5.30 evening mass on Sunday 24th of December
There will not be an evening mass on Christmas Day on 25th of December.

Please note: There will be the normal Morning 9.30 Mass on Sunday 24th of December.

Opportunities for Business Promotions

The Parish Finance Council would like to advertise businesses owned by our parishioners in the parish bulletin for a minimal cost.

If you would like to do this please contact the parish office.

It will be a mutual help in presenting your business to the parishioners, Making connections with fellow parishioners and a financial help to the parish.



Lost Property



We have a labelled box in the hall on the Piano for all lost Property can you please place anything left in the church in this box.

CROSSWORD: Answers

Right

3. Sorry, 6. Voice, 8. Holy Spirit, 11. Prepare, 12. Jordan

Down

1. Grasshoppers, 2. Baptist, 4. Straight, 5. Mountain, 7. Crowd, 9. Road, 10 Desert.

Weekly Bulletin

If anyone would like the weekly bulletin emailed to them please contact the office at:

welcome@henleybeachparish.com.au