



Fourth Sunday of Advent

22nd / 23rd December 2018

Parish Administrator

Fr Martin Cruickshank

Parish Office

Gemma Whitehead—Monday

Fran Kernaghan- Wednesday, Friday

9.00 am – 2.00 pm

Phone: 6025 1516

Email: sacredheartna@gmail.com

Web: <http://sacredheartnorthalbury.com/>

Mass Times

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm

SUNDAY: 9.30 am

WEEKDAYS MASSES: **This Week:**

Outside Christmas Eve / Christmas Day

Wednesday & Friday 9.30am

NO Mass Thursday

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM

BAPTISMS—By appointment

Preparation Course: 0411 883 661

CHURCH STORES.

Religious gifts and supplies shipped overnight. Phone (02) 9233 2268.

churchsupplies@ozmail.com.au

PAULINE BOOKS AND MEDIA

Phone (03) 9882 3424



There is always excitement at this time of the year. It is as if everything is filled with promise. Animositities are set aside; estrangement dissolves into reconciliation; the whole world seems gentler; and we are filled with the spirit of generosity. In the days just before Christmas, the possibility of newness is almost palpable. The spirit of the season has caught hold of us even before the actual day has arrived. Today we stand on the threshold of fulfilment. The future that God has prepared for us is open before us, even though we have not yet stepped out into it.

The incarnation takes place in human history, thus affirming the fundamental goodness of human life and concerns, and sanctifying them even further. The child comes from simple people, from a place that is relatively insignificant, thus underscoring God's preference for what is ordinary. The body that was offered for our salvation, the body that consecrated us through having been offered up, was the body that grew in the womb of Mary. The extraordinary salvific deed of God was accomplished through his coming into the world as one of us. The obedience that Christ played out through his body fulfilled for us the promises made by God.

We stand on the threshold of fulfilment, the fulfilment of an event that has already taken place. We ritually re-enact it so that we never take it for granted, so that we never forget that it is in and through human history that the marvellous deeds of God are accomplished.

(Dianne Bergant CSS)

Parish Community



We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith especially:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Fr Jim Victory, Peter Bartlett, Margaret Power, Sr Marie Duffy, Leesa Hamond, Goldi Bovis, Tracey Robinson, Kit Clancy.

ANNIVERSARIES: Fr Kevin Flanagan, Ross Smith, John Gawen, Joan Krautz, Oswald Stenson, Jim Brooder, George Pugh, George Rossmann, Norm Robinson, Stan Deveney, Stanley Harrison, Frederick Mackay, Michael Dunn, Gavin Surrige, Griff Rosser, Tom O'Rourke, Lyn Maloney, Scott Larkin, Robert Weissel, Maddison Palmer, John Nenzl, Jack Galvin, Bill Ryan, Kevin Krautz, Peter Rolfe, Jill Fox, John Hallam, Barbara Kidd, Pat Smithenbecker, Jane Hill, William Foo, Kit Telby, Johanna Henry, Bernard Harper.

Gather our loved ones into your arms. Quiet our doubt and anger and send us your healing grace. Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer for the Sick

We pray for all those who are sick. May they draw strength and healing from God's presence with them and from our prayers and thoughts for them.

May they have peace in their hearts and know they are greatly loved by all.

We offer our prayers believing that God's presence and power can do more than we can ever know. Amen

ROSTERS

Sat / Sun: 22nd/23rd December

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Kellie Gordes	Leanne Michael
Lector 1	Karen Purtle	Terry Hillman
Lector 2	Volunteer	Michael Stephenson
Eucharistic Ministers	Noelene Cruise Anna Farrell	Pauline Willis Fran Kernaghan Volunteer
Cantor Musicians	Margaret & Ed Brown Judy Foley	Catherine Cutler & Judy Lindsay Val Hayes
Counters: Des Lum & Jane Togher		Cleaning Group: Group 1

Sat /Sun: 29th/ 30th December

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Virginia Mitsch	Jane Murtagh
Lector 1	Barbara Godde	Gavin Dykes
Lector 2	Michael Byrnes	Cathy Nyhan
Eucharistic Ministers	Lyn Hamilton Pauline Mulquiney	MACE Sisters Sue Hayhoe Trish Parkinson
Cantor Musicians	John van Lint Judy Foley	Simon Goss Val Hayes
Counters: Peter Toner & Gordon Bryant		Cleaning Group: Group 2



Prayer for the lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle at Home

God of my heart, thank you for this day. As we light all the candles we think of the courage it must have taken Mary and Joseph to make that trip to Bethlehem. She was so near her time of delivering, and she left her family and travelled with Joseph for the census. With no place to sleep, they both must have felt some fear.

The story of your nativity is filled with comfort and courage, for them and for us. Give us the strength we need and help us to see those around us who are in fear and need our support on this day.

Amen.

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

“In Advent we rediscover the beauty of all being on a journey ... across the paths of time.”

Parish News

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve – 6.00pm Mass St Anne's School Hall
9.00pm Mass in the Church

Christmas Day – 9.30am



This weekend we welcome to the community of the church through the sacrament of baptism Bonnie Harper Robinson daughter of Ethan & Kiera; Mia Grace Toohey daughter of Christopher & Rachael; Hud Jack & Billy Joseph Knight sons of Wayne and Kate; Sadie Mary Laforest daughter of Daniel & Meggie.

Christmas Eve Family Mass

Children going to Christmas Eve family mass at St Anne's school hall are invited to come along as an Angel or Shepherd.

As a parish community we offer best wishes for a long and happy retirement to Judy Foley who retires from teaching at St Anne's at the end of this school year. For twenty years Judy has taught music and raised the self worth and esteem of so many young people through their participation in school productions. Through helping young people to shine and giving them the opportunity to experience achievement and hope in their lives Judy has been a living witness to gospel values.

Vinnies Christmas Appeal

We continue to support the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. Donations of gifts (unwrapped) suitable for children up to 12 years, \$20 Gift Vouchers, monetary donations or non-perishable food items would be most gratefully accepted. Please leave these gifts in the baskets provided at the entrances to the Church.

Together

Our diocesan newspaper for December has arrived. Please take a copy from church entrances.

Volunteer Driver Needed

There is a vacancy on our roster for once a month to drive a long term parishioner from Riverwood Retirement home, West Albury, on Sundays. Please contact Rom Hayes if you can help out 6025 5904.

Fr Jim Victory died on Sunday evening 9 December in the Mercy Hospital Palliative Care Unit. Jim was diagnosed with inoperable cancer in September so his journey through death to the Lord was swifter than most expected.

Jim was ordained in 1959 for servant priesthood in the diocese of Wilcannia Forbes. He fulfilled this pastoral ministry with great openness, integrity and faithfulness Jim retired from full time ministry five years ago and came to live closer to his family in Albury. His willingness to help out sacramentally in this parish and many others was much appreciated.

His sister Kathryn and her husband Paul are much valued members of this parish community. To them and the rest of Fr Jim's family we offer our prayerful support in this time of loss and grief. Fr Jim's body was laid to rest in his hometown of Broken Hill last Tuesday

Christmas Offering Envelopes

Available at church entrances if needed.

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors Christmas Roster

Sign up sheet for those available for Christmas Masses at back of church.

Outreach Visitation

It is planned to begin visitation of Parishioners who are ill, unable to come to Mass, bereaved, live by themselves etc in mid February 2019.

If you would appreciate seeing a friendly face or two, we would love to call on you in your home or nursing home.

So that plans can be made can you please contact the Parish Office on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday 9am to 2pm on 6025 1516. Please leave your name and phone number and preferred day for visitation.

Liturgy of the Word

Fourth Sunday of Advent—Year C

Readings: *Mic 5: 1-4; Heb 10: 5-10; Luke 1: 39-44*

Responsorial Psalm:



Lord make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

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Communal Prayer for Lighting the Fourth Candle of Advent

Leader: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Last Sunday we lit the Candle of Love. We light it and the Candles of Hope and Peace again as we remember that Jesus, born in Bethlehem, will come again to fulfil all of God's promises and bring us everlasting peace and joy. *(A person lights the Candles of Hope, Peace and Love)*

Today we light the Fourth Candle of Advent, the Candle of Joy. When the angel Gabriel told Mary that a special child would be born to her she was filled with joy. She sang a song that began with the words: "My soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour." Just as the birth of Jesus gave great joy to his mother, so his presence in the world gave joy to those who had none before. He healed them and gave them hope and peace when they believed in him.

From hope, peace and love grows joy.

We light the Candle of Joy to remind us that when Jesus is born in us we have joy and that through him there will be everlasting joy on earth. *(A person lights the Fourth Candle the Candle of Joy)*

Joy is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at this candle we celebrate the joy we find in Jesus Christ.

Leader: Let us pray:

All: Thank you God for the joy you give us. We ask that as we wait for all your promises to come true, and for Christ to come again, that you would remain present with us. Help us today and everyday to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your joy with each other. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen

