

WELCOME TO SACRED HEART PARISH TATURA

Fr Michael Morley – Parish Priest

Sacred Heart – Tatura

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Presbytery – 65 Hogan Street
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Judith Steele – Secretary
Marli Kelly – Administration

We acknowledge the Yorta Yorta nation, the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet today, as they have occupied and cared for this country for many generations. We also celebrate their continuing contributions to the life of region.



**Sacred
Heart
Parish**
TATURA

Readings -
Year B
Mark
Weekday Year 2

*Parish Pastoral Council
In recess until March 2018*

As Christ's disciples our mission is:

- * to be inspired by Christ
- * to actively live out Christ's message and the Gospel values by respecting, celebrating and honouring our Catholic traditions
- * to provide welcome and sanctuary for all
- * to foster a sense of social justice and to protect, nurture and support our Catholic community and the wider community by respecting life, self, others and the environment.

Second Sunday of Advent 10 December 2017

Pope Francis' message for Advent

Pope Francis welcomed Advent with a message encouraging us to let go of worldly distractions and to remain focused on God and on strengthening our relationship with Him.

Pope Francis implored us to remain vigilant and watchful throughout the Advent season and to keep our hearts filled with prayer and concern for others.

"The watchful person is one who, in the noise of the world, does not let themselves be overwhelmed by distraction or superficiality, but lives in a full and conscious way, with concern above all for others," the Holy Father, Pope Francis said.

He added that, by maintaining this attitude of attentiveness, we cannot help but become acutely aware "of the tears and necessity of our neighbour and we can also welcome the human and spiritual qualities and capacities". In being attentive, an individual "also turns to the world, trying to counteract indifference and the cruelty of it, rejoicing in the treasures of beauty that also exist and must be preserved".

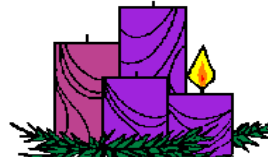
Pope Francis went on to remind us all that the Advent season is an opportunity "to welcome the Lord who comes to meet us, to verify our desire for God, to look ahead and prepare ourselves for the return of Christ".

Now that Advent is upon us, Pope Francis' message serves as an important reminder of the true meaning of Christmas – celebrating the birth of Christ.

Candle Lighting Prayer

As we now light the second candle the Bethlehem Candle or the Preparation Candle.

Let us pray that nothing will hinder us from receiving Christ with joy as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ at Christmas.



Morning Tea this morning after Mass in the Mercy Centre.

A special thank you to the Sacred Heart School Staff.



Advent

It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope. *Pope Benedict XVI*

We
pray for



Our recently deceased and those who are grieving	Vera Dullard, Hazel Lonnergan (Joan Cummins' sister), Michael Sullivan
For those whose anniversary occurs	Evelyn Woodman, Vincenzo Casuscelli, Giuseppina Casuscelli, Marg Glover
Our sick and their carers	Eileen Ryan, Anne Heathman, John Harford, Terry White

(Our practice is to leave the names on the sick list for a month. To extend the time, please contact the parish office.)

Date	Commentator	Reader	Gospel Procession	Presentation of the Gifts	Special Ministers	Counters
Sat Dec 16 th 6pm	Steph Hicks	Denice Bourke	D Corrigan	Debbie Turvey Bryan Miller	T Miller A Hicks L McGrath	Carol Coulston
Sun Dec 17 th 9.30am	Maeve Kerrins	AM Nihill	Carmel White	Marg Normington Sheila McCann	C Coulston B Curtis E Worm	

MASSES FOR THE COMING WEEK:

DAY	DATE	
Monday	11 Dec	No Mass
Tuesday	12 Dec	No Mass
Wednesday	13 Dec	9.15am Anointing Mass intention for Evelyn Woodman
Thursday	14 Dec	9.15am Mass
Friday	15 Dec	9.15am Mass
Saturday	16 Dec	6pm Mass
Sunday	17 Dec	9.30am Mass
Saturday Reconciliation	9 Dec	11.30am
ROSARY	15 Minutes Before weekday Mass	

DECEMBER DIARY DATES

Mon	11 Dec	
Tues	12 Dec	Italian Rosary 2pm in the Church and break up in the hall 7pm St Vincent de Paul at the Centre
Wed	13 Dec	9.15am Anointing Mass intention for Evelyn Woodman 5.30pm Finance Meeting Parish Hall
Thurs	14 Dec	Saint John of the Cross
Fri	15 Dec	9.15am End of Year Mass
Sat	16 Dec	6pm Mass
Sun	17 Dec	9.30am Mass
Mon	18 Dec	
Tues	19 Dec	
Wed	20 Dec	9.15am Mass
Thurs	21 Dec	9.15am Mass
Fri	22 Dec	9.15am Mass Sacred Heart School finishes for the year
Sat	23 Dec	6pm Mass
Sun	24 Dec	9.30am Mass 7pm Christmas Eve Mass

PASTORAL CARE

- Pauline Hindson 5824 1841; Marli Kelly 0457 772 869
- Anne Hutchison 5824 3460 Debbie Worm 5824 1841

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

"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, does just that – it puts us on the path to holiness and it invites others to be holy, too.

ITALIAN ROSARY

Il S. Rosario Mensile sarà recitato nella "Sala di St Mary" ore 2 P.M. Martedì 12 Dicembre.

The Italian Rosary will be recited in St. Mary's hall. Tuesday 12 December at 2PM

Every one welcome.



SCHOOL NEWS

Founders Day:

Last Monday we celebrated Founder's Day. We listened to our past story and reflected on the wonderful legacy the Sisters' of Mercy have given all of us at Sacred Heart. Through living our school's Graduate Outcomes each day we strive to keep the Mercy values of social justice and compassion alive in our school community. Strength Through Faith and Love.

End of Year Mass:

Our End of Year Mass is taking place next Friday 15th December at 9:15am. We warmly invite all families to join us to give thanks and reflect on the past year and celebrate all we have achieved. It is also an opportunity to farewell and thank our Yr. 6 students and leaving families for their time at Sacred Heart. Following the mass we are having a morning tea to thank all the parents for their support and contributions throughout 2017. We hope families can join with staff for this special thank you morning tea.

Advent Mass:

We had a beautiful Advent Mass led by our P-2 students last Friday. Our first Advent candle was lit at the beginning of Mass to remind us that we are now waiting for the coming of Jesus. The students were very involved in the Mass, reading the Acknowledgement of Country, Introduction and Prayers of the Faithful. Students also presented a wonderful reflection following Communion.



TATURA COMMUNITY MARKET



The Christmas Tatura Community Market will be held on 16th December commencing at 9.00 am at St. Mary's Hall Hogan St Tatura. There will be demonstrations, food, craft, produce and family fun. Please come along and support your local town – it is the last market before Christmas.

Along the Track – the Gift of Christmas

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. (Luke 2:6 – 7)

We are all so familiar with the Christmas scene that we can miss its powerful message. These two travellers from the north are lost among the crowds, desperately seeking a place of refuge, a place for Mary to give birth. But there's no room for them. 'Move on, nothing here'. Their first baby is born in very, very basic conditions, no fanfare, no family or friends around, no support. Just a stable filled with livestock. Did anyone assist at the birth? What preparations had they made? Some visitors arrive to welcome the baby but within hours Mary, Joseph and the new-born Jesus are on the road, refugees, fleeing for their lives.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – AIRS 17 December 2017

This week on the Journey, Fr Graham Schmitzer shares his reflection from the Gospel of John, Sr Hilda shares her Wisdom From The Abbey, and encourages us to Stare at God, Trish McCarthy talks to us about The Word of God in her Milk and Honey segment, and Sam Clear encourages us to Let It Go in his Walking the Walk God spot. Our program is jam packed with inspiration and music, all round we have a great show about faith, hope, love and life. Go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE 2017

Reconciliation: Thursday 21st December
7.30pm

Saturday 23rd December Mass 6.00pm
Sunday 24th December Mass 9.30am

Christmas Eve

Sunday 24th December Carols 6.00pm
Sunday 24th December Mass 6.30pm

Christmas Day

Monday 25th December Mass 9.00am



Readings for
this week:

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
2 Peter 3:8-14
Mark 1:1-8



Readings for
next Sunday:

Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28



Liturgical Jottings

Advent Colours

Violet (colloquially called purple) is the liturgical colour for Advent. It symbolised penance, preparation and waiting. Rose may be used for the third Sunday of Advent, adding a sense of anticipation and joy into this season. Many churches, however, have a range of shades in the vestments: from red-purple to blue-violet as to differentiate between Lent and Advent Seasons respectively.



The second candle on the Advent wreath is called the **Bethlehem Candle**. Jesus was born in an ordinary little town, in a stable full of animals. He comes to us also in ordinary places, among ordinary people. And just as God set His star above Bethlehem that night, He also fills our seemingly ordinary lives with His light.

Looking at the Readings

In the wilderness God's salvation comes to a broken people. In the midst of what is seemingly an impossible situation, hope emerges with vigour. In this context, hope is an openness to surprise, the surprise that God is in no way limited to the imaginings of human minds and the consequences of human history. This is the kind of hope that is proclaimed in the wilderness by John; it is the kind of hope that trusts that from the impossible, God can work a new creation.

There is something of a time warp in Christianity. What is future is made present. The prophetic oracle announces the future as if it is already happening. This sense of the future-present prompts new ways of living. As the future takes root in human lives, the present is transformed into a new creation and the Day of the Lord appears.

God's future comes through the wilderness into the broken city and inspires a broken-hearted people. The contrite heart is a broken heart, an emptied-out heart, a hope-filled heart. It is a heart that is unencumbered by the past and that lives currently in the passing of time and the fragility of being alive. The contrite, broken heart can be filled only by what is promised in the future. This is the paradox of Advent. In the middle of the wilderness, God works the impossible in those whose hearts are ready for the surprise of hope.

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Quotable Quote

Advent ... is also an invitation to "sobriety, to not be dominated by the things of this world" but rather to keep them in their proper place. If, on the other hand, we allow ourselves to be overpowered by a concern for material things, we will not be able to perceive what is much more important: our final encounter with the Lord.

Pope Francis Advent Message 2016

On the Lighter Side



A man sent his friend a cryptic Christmas card. It said:
I send A B C D E F G H J K M N O P Q R S T V W X Y Z to U.
The recipient puzzled over it for weeks, finally gave up and wrote asking for an explanation. Months later he received the explanation on a postcard: To "You (U)" a Christmas message "No L." from me (I).

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'Console my people, console them,' says your God . . .
A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.
Make a straight highway for our God across the desert . . .'
Isaiah 40:1-11