

First Sunday of Advent - Year B

Sunday 29 November 2020



Readings for  
this week:

Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1,3-8  
1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
Mark 13:33-37



Readings for  
next Sunday:

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



## Liturgical Jottings

### It is Time

One of the many strains of Advent is that it is time for the coming of the Lord. "Adventus" translates as "Coming" It is the Lord's coming now in our time and at the end of time. But what is "Time?"

Theologians, philosophers, mystics, and canonists have much to say. St Augustine and St Aquinas, two giants in Catholic thought wrote extensively about the mystery of time. It is earthly, we measure it in seconds, hours, days and years using caesium atoms and the sun. But time is also cosmic, historical, liturgical and mystical to name just a few of its aspects.



## Looking at the Readings

The readings of the first Sunday of Advent present us with the end section of the writing of the Prophet Isaiah and the end of the last chapter of Jesus' earthly ministry before his passion, death and resurrection in Mark's gospel. The words of St Paul in the second reading are a greeting for the present and encouragement for the future. It certainly complements the other two readings.

Isaiah speaks of the coming of God who made us and who can reform us like a potter with clay. Isaiah calls him "Our Redeemer": (Is 63:16) Jesus emphasises his message that we do not know the time that the Lord will come again but "Be Alert" (Mark 13:33, 35 & 37) The message to stay wake is recorded in the three synoptic Gospels see also Matthew 24:42 and Luke 21:36. But Mark uses the symbol of night or darkness, customarily when evil things are done but now when the darkness is overcome by the coming of the Lord.

We have a hint of Easter in Advent: darkness dispelled by light; St Paul's exclamation of joy and thanksgiving in preaching the Risen Christ to the Christians at Corinth. Yes, we wait for the coming of Christ at his birth in Bethlehem, his resurrection from the tomb and his coming again.

## Quote of the Week

The Lord is coming, always coming. When you have ears to hear and eyes to see, you will recognize him at any moment of your life. Life is Advent; life is recognising the coming of the Lord. Henri Nouwen

## Advent Verse

O God of hosts, restore us:  
if your face shine on us then we shall be safe  
O God of hosts, restore us.

## Pope Francis' Encyclical Fratelli Tutti

The brutal and unforeseen blow of this uncontrolled pandemic forced us to recover our concern for human beings, for everyone, rather than for the benefit of a few. The pain, uncertainty and fear, and the realisation of our own limitations, brought on by the pandemic have only made it all the more urgent that we rethink our styles of life, our relationships, the organisation of our societies and, above all, the meaning of our existence. (33)

## On the Lighter Side

A Jesse tree, an Advent wreath and calendar walk into a bar, buy three beers, drink them and leave. After that the bar was pretty un-adventful!



|                                                                                  |                                                                   |                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <b>Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving</b> | Joan Cummins, Concetta Serra, Rosina Ciavarella (1 month) |
|                                                                                  | <b>For those whose anniversary occurs at this time</b>            | Judith (Judy) Maher, Antonio Ciavarella                   |
|                                                                                  | <b>Our sick and their carers</b>                                  | Teresa Muto, Victoria Gale                                |

## Mass Timetable Week commencing 30th November

We are now able to accommodate 120 people at Mass using the Choir Loft and the Nuns Chapel, so there is no need to book. However, we still need to collect your name and contact number and we have to observe social distancing and wear a face mask.

### Weekday Mass

|                                    |              |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Monday 30th November               | No Mass      |
| Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> December   | No Mass      |
| Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December | 9:15 am Mass |
| Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December  | No Mass      |
| Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> December    | 9:15 am Mass |

### Weekend Mass

|                                   |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> December | 5:30 pm |
| Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> December   | 9:30 am |

At this stage we still do not have Reconciliation

## Can You Help?

Now we are nearly back at full capacity, we need people to put their names down on the roster for Commentators, Readers, Special Ministers and Cleaning. Cleaning is an extra activity that we now have to undertake due to COVID-19 as they say many hands make light work so we would appreciate as many as possible to help.

Please put your name, phone number and tick the relevant activity, on the list near the organ.

Thank you



## CARITAS GLOBAL GIFTS

This year has been a tough one for all of us. But sometimes, if you're able to bring hope to others, it can also make you feel more hopeful. What better time to spread hope than in the season of giving?

By giving a **Global Gift**, you'll bring hope and joy to some of the most vulnerable families in our world. You'll also bring a smile to your loved ones when they find out you've given hope and joy on their behalf.

**Send joy across the globe:** Your purchase of **Global Gift cards** will make a real difference, bringing the gifts of education, food and protection to families struggling with poverty, disability and the COVID-19 pandemic. Our beautiful gift cards start at \$15 and come in both printed and e-card versions.

**Order online (by 8<sup>th</sup> Dec to allow for post) at [www.globalgifts.org.au](http://www.globalgifts.org.au) or call 1800 024 413**

## St Vincent de Paul – Christmas Tree

The Christmas Tree is now in the Church.

Due to Covid-19, instead of presents, we ask that you purchase a voucher from a local business (to whatever value you wish) to be distributed to a child or family in our community who may be struggling this Christmas.

Please place the voucher in one of the envelopes on the tree by the end of 9:30 am Mass on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2020.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Tatura Conference Members

## Sandhurst Advent Leaflets 2020

**How do we form communities of Joy, Hope and Service?** In Advent 2020, individuals and small groups are invited to dip into the Advent Scriptures, Pope Francis' latest encyclical *Fratelli Tutti* ('Brothers and Sisters All') and a Plenary Council Thematic paper for discernment, to reflect, pray and discern practical ideas for the future. Go to:

<https://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au/item/1776-advent-leaflets-2020>

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Presbytery – 65 Hogan Street, PO Box 110 Tatura  
We acknowledge the Yorta Yorta nation, the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet today.