

Second Sunday of Advent - Year B

Sunday 6 December 2020



*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

Cosmic Time

God, in creating the universe and all creatures also brought time into being with the sun, moon and stars to rule the passages of time. The days and years, the changing of the seasons and birth, aging and death of living creatures are constituent of cosmic time. The rising of the sun and its setting, planting and harvesting, beginnings and endings are all marked and celebrated by rites and commemorations. Over millennia pagan rites gave way to religious rites and feasts marking God's providence and intervention into our human existence and the marvellous events of salvation.



Looking at the Readings

From the endings of scriptural passages last week we hear from the beginnings this week. The first reading is the beginning of Second Isaiah. The Israelites are now in exile. The Prophet Isaiah comforts the people in their despair with words of hope of the coming of God in might and in loving care like a shepherd.

The beginning of the Gospel of Mark today is explicit: "The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God". Mark, the earliest completed Gospel and the shortest goes directly to the announcement of the Good News with the herald of John the Baptist: "Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight (Mk 1:3) that echoes Isaiah 40:3.

Both prophets are announcing the coming of the marvellous works of salvation of God but we have to be ready to receive. Not only tidy the house for the visitor but go out into the streets, remove the obstacles, make the road come directly to our home. Our home is where we live, our lives are our home for God. Advent is our preparation; Christmas is our delight in God's visit.

Quote for Advent

I don't think we'll understand Advent correctly until we see it as a preparation for a revolution. *Bishop Robert Barron*

Advent Prayer

New earth, new world to save his people, God will come. Peace on earth, heaven among us: We must prepare the way of the Lord.

Pope Francis' Encyclical Fratelli Tutti

The world exists for everyone, because all of us were born with the same dignity. Differences of colour, religion, talent, place of birth or residence, and so many others, cannot be used to justify the privileges of some over the rights of all. As a community, we have an obligation to ensure that every person lives with dignity and has sufficient opportunities for his or her integral development. (118)

On the Lighter Side

Q: What football team did baby Jesus support?

A: Manger-star United!

Q: Why did nobody bid for Donner and Blitzen on eBay?

A: They were two deer!

Q: How does Good King Wenceslas like his pizzas?

A: Deep pan, crisp and even!



	Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving	
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	
	Our sick and their carers	Sue McDonald, Teresa Muto

Christmas Mass Timetable

Reconciliation

Wednesday 16th December 7.30pm

Christmas Eve

Thursday 24th December Carols 5:30 pm

Thursday 24th December Mass 6:00 pm

Christmas Day

Friday 25th December Mass 9:30 am

Helpers are needed for the Christmas liturgies

Please put your name on the list in the Narthex if you are available to help with any ministries during the Christmas period. Thank you!

Mass Timetable Week commencing 7th December

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 7 th December	No Mass
Tuesday 8 th December	No Mass
Wednesday 9 th December	9:15 am Mass
Thursday 10 th December	No Mass
Friday 11 th December	9:15 am Mass

Weekend Mass

Saturday 12 th December	5:30 pm
Sunday 13 th December	9:30 am

At this stage Reconciliation is by appointment only, please call Mary on 0484 332 397 to book.

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

Joyful, Hope-Filled, Servant Communities

How do we form parish centres of Joy, Hope and Service in the Sandhurst Diocese? Join a zoom gathering Wednesday 9th December 7.30-8.30 pm to share some practical ideas.

Email plenary@sandhurst.catholic.org.au for the zoom link. Read the Plenary Council Theme paper for 'Joyful, Hope-filled, Servant' communities at www.plenarycouncil.com.au. View video presentations on the theme at www.facebook.com/PlenaryCouncilSandhurst or [Sandhurst Advent 20](#)

Sandhurst Advent Leaflets 2020

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>

St Vincent de Paul – Christmas Tree

Please ensure that you return your gift vouchers by the end of Mass on Sunday 13th December. Thank you for your support.

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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.