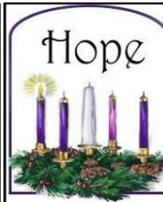




# First Sunday of Advent

27 November 2016

Year 7



## Next Week's Readings

**1st Reading:** Isaiah 11:1-10  
**2nd Reading:** Romans 15:4-9  
**Gospel:** Matthew 3:1-12

## RESPONSE

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

## ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.  
Alleluia!

## JUMP ON A BOAT THIS ADVENT

Several years ago Hurricane Katrina flooded New Orleans. Hundreds died. Rescuers found hundreds trapped on rooftops. Some argued that many people suffered only because the government authorities weren't prepared for the storm. As Advent begins this week, Jesus reminds us that people suffered in Noah's time because they weren't prepared. Remember the story? It tells us that sin and injustice – ignored by God's people – caused the world's destruction.

Are we ignoring sin and injustice today? This is a good season to think about that. As you do, prepare yourself for Christ in three ways. First, take time this Advent to read newspapers closely. Look for evidence of injustice: war, poverty, prejudice. Keep your eyes open at school. Keep your eyes open at work. Notice those people ignored by others and notice the bullies who prey on the weak. Sadly, you'll see that our world is still plagued by sin and injustice. But remember, Advent is also a season of hope. We light candles to remember that Christ's power seeks to beat back the darkness of injustice every day. Second, prepare yourself by looking for evidence of grace. To every war, God sends peacemakers. To every kid who feels left out, God sends a friend. Stay awake, Jesus says, and you'll see reasons for hope all over the world. Third, prepare yourself to be grace and hope this season, the person who shines light by standing for peace, feeding the hungry, forgiving an enemy, or welcoming an outcast. Sure, sin floods our world, but God sends boats to the rescue. Jump on board this Advent. People stranded by pain and injustice are waiting for you.



**Stay AWAKE,  
you must be  
READY!**

Complete text at [www.gpbs.com.au](http://www.gpbs.com.au), Copyright © 2014 GPBS, All rights reserved ;image by [www.superiorcatholicerald.org](http://www.superiorcatholicerald.org)



## CHURCH CELEBRATES THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF ST JOHN PAUL II'S VISIT TO ALICE SPRINGS

This Sunday 27th November 2016, church leaders, parishes and Indigenous communities will gather together to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of Saint John Paul II's (JPII) visit to Alice Springs in the heart of Australia on 29th November 1986. The theme of the commemorations is, **Walk Tall and Command Respect. The time for this rebirth is now.**

Bishop Eugene Hurley, Chairman

of the Bishops Commission for Relations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples (BCRATSIP) said,

'It is appropriate that we celebrate and observe the thirtieth anniversary of the visit of John Paul II as we prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in Advent. As with both, the theme is one of hope and rebirth'. 'This timely theme is an invitation and call to us to create and ensure a change in societal attitude and promote not only rebirth and hope but justice and equal rights of indigenous peoples.'

It is an opportune time to remind us of the important words of Pope St John Paul II, the Bishop of Darwin said. 'You are part of

Australia and Australia is part of you.' This is the right time and place when we, the Church, are invited and encouraged to listen to our indigenous sisters and brothers and look at specific actions we need to take to ensure their meaningful roles and contribution in our Church and society.'

Full text at [www.melbournecatholic.org.au](http://www.melbournecatholic.org.au)

## Feasts of the Week

30 NOVEMBER - ST ANDREW  
03 DECEMBER - ST FRANCIS XAVIER  
\*\*\*\*\*

## THANKSGIVING

♦ CHURCH : \$ 1,369.50  
♦ PRESBYTERY : \$ 1,000.00  
(RETIRED PRIESTS & ARCHDIOCESE)

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING AND THEIR FAMILIES

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Joseph Vella, Francis Snelius, Harry Cox, Elizabeth Allen, Val Feruglio, Alan Burnes, Maureen Rubbino, Catherine Dunne, Andrew Edmonds, Bruno Warnke, Godefrida Wolfs .

**SICK :** Mary Edmonds, Brian Taggart, Pauline Muscat, Marta Kristan, Kala Lindsay, Geoff Bell, Stan Piergrosse, Peter Himing, Michael Kent

## BUILDING REFURBISHMENT PROGRAM AT OUR LADY OF LOURDES SCHOOL



Digital image of the school entrance



Digital image of the school entrance top view

There will be a building/refurbishment program taking place in 2017 at the OLOL School. After several meetings between the school and our architects (dwp suters), Fr Sebastian signed an agreement between the school (and parish) and the Archdiocese of Melbourne that will lead to a building project during the 2017.

This ongoing commitment from the Archdiocese of Melbourne and the parish affirms the strong commitments that we have in place to ensure the best possible learning and teaching opportunities for students at our school.



## POPE EXTENDS SPECIAL YEAR OF MERCY PROVISIONS ON CONFESSION

Priests have been given permanent permission to absolve those who confess to having sought an abortion. Acknowledging and sharing God's

mercy is a permanent part of the Christian life, so initiatives undertaken during the special Year of Mercy must continue, CNS reported Pope Francis as saying. "Mercy cannot become a mere parenthesis in the life of the church," the pope wrote in an apostolic letter, "Misericordia et Misera," which he signed on Nov. 20 at the end of the Year of Mercy.

Complete text at [www.uacanindia.in](http://www.uacanindia.in)

## MEETING ON CHILD SAFETY POLICY



A group of some twenty one parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Bayswater met last Monday, 21 November to discuss development of a Child Safety policy for the Parish. The meeting was facilitated by Melissa Mackellin, Head of the Junior College Marcellin. Melissa provided valuable insight and experience and her assistance was greatly appreciated.

The question & answer session really shed light to many areas we were unaware of. At the conclusion of the meeting a small committee was established to drive the development of a formal Child Safety Policy for the Parish, consistent with the guidelines provided by the Archdiocese."

## Father Michael Payyappilly, VC

is away for a preaching ministry in India, Hong Kong, Malaysia, UK and Germany. He will be back by the middle of January 2017.

## JOB VACANCY

There are 2 Fulltime Teachers vacancies at Our Lady of Lourdes School Bayswater this coming school year 2017. Please visit the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CECV) website for the details:

[http://www.cecv.catholic.edu.au/Positions-Vacant/Classroom-Teacher-2-positions-available-\(1\)](http://www.cecv.catholic.edu.au/Positions-Vacant/Classroom-Teacher-2-positions-available-(1))

## ANOINTING MASS

Our Lady of Lourdes Church Bayswater

Saturday, 3 December 2016, 2:30pm

Followed by an afternoon tea in the Narthex

## Working Bee

Saturday, 10 December, 9 am -12 noon

\* Please come along and help spruce up our church and garden for Christmas.

\* More hands make less work.

\* Bring your tools.

\* Morning tea, drinks and light lunch provided