



# Second Sunday of Advent

## 10 December 2017

### Year B



*"We are a child safe Parish"*

#### Next Week's Readings

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

#### RESPONSE

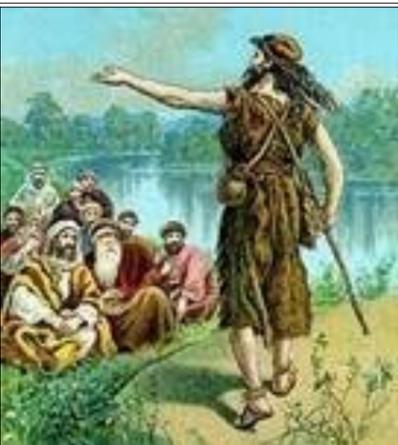
Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

#### ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

#### PREPARE A WAY FOR THE LORD

Homecoming is the central theme of the Scripture readings for the Second Sunday of Advent. All three readings focus on the absolute necessity of our getting ready for Christ's "Homecoming" into our hearts and lives by true repentance, reparation, prayer and the renewal of our lives. They also remind us that the past coming of Jesus 2000 years ago, the present daily coming of Jesus into our lives through the Eucharistic celebration, through the Scriptures and through the praying community, and his future coming (the *Second Coming*) are actually the fulfillment of God's saving plan for us, from all eternity.



The Gospel tells us through John the Baptist how we should prepare to receive Jesus our Savior's "coming home" into our lives by repentance and the renewal of life. John preached that the appropriate behavior for those preparing "the way of the Lord" was to be baptised "as they confessed their sins." He wanted the Jews to prepare their lives for the Messiah by filling in the valleys of prejudice, leveling the mountains of pride and straightening out their crooked paths of injustice and immorality. John recommended a baptism of repentance in the river Jordan to the Jews who were familiar with ritual and symbolic washings. The most amazing thing about John's baptism was that, as a Jew, he was asking fellow-Jews to submit to the baptism of repentance which only a Gentile was obliged to undergo.

We need to prepare for the rebirth of Jesus: We are invited by the Church to prepare for Christmas by repenting of our sins and renewing our lives so that Jesus may be reborn in us.

Excerpt from Fr. Tony Kadavil's homily on Mark 1:1-8 available at [www.cbci.in/Sunday-reflection](http://www.cbci.in/Sunday-reflection)

#### POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER: 'FOR THE ELDERLY'



Pope Francis on Monday released a video message accompanying his prayer intention for the month of December, which this

month is "For the elderly."

*A people that does not take care of grandparents, that does not treat them well has no future. The elderly have wisdom.*

*They are entrusted with a great responsibility: to transmit their life experience, their family history, the history of a community, of a people.*

*"Let us keep in mind our elders, so that sustained by families and institutions, may with their wisdom and experience collaborate in the education of new generations."*

Full video is available at <http://en.radiovaticana.va>



#### A PRAYER FOR SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*God of patience, show us your wisdom in time, that we may grow to expect your action on your time. Teach us to be gentle and patient with ourselves. Make us receptive to your timing in others. Help us see the long view when we are caught in the frustration of waiting. Amen.*

#### THANKSGIVING

Church: \$1,617.20 Priest: \$1,045.00  
 (Retired Priest & Archdiocese)

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING AND THEIR FAMILIES

ANNIVERSARIES: Andrew Kriss, William Malane, Masie McPeake, Herbert Zvikevitch, Alan Piergrosse, Mary Tallent, Noreen Barry.  
 SICK: Mary Edmonds, Marta Kristan, Geoff Bell, Ted Davies, Peter Lisle, Margaret Ratcliffe, Ray Robinson

#### Christmas & New Year Services 2017-2018

**Advent Reconciliation: 20 December at 7:30pm**

#### Weekend Masses of 23-24 December:

23 December - Vigil Mass at 6pm  
 24 December - Mass at 8am and 10am

#### Christmas Masses:

24 December - Christmas Family Mass at 6pm with Nativity Play  
 Carols at 8pm  
 Christmas Vigil Mass at 8:30pm  
 Christmas Midnight Mass at 12:00  
 25 December - Christmas Day Mass at 9am (No afternoon Mass)

#### Weekend Masses of 30-31 December

30 December - Vigil Mass at 6pm  
 31 December - Mass at 8am, 10am, 5pm

#### New Year Masses:

31 December - New Year Prayers & Mass at 11:30pm  
 01 January 2018 - New Year Day Mass at 9am



#### ANOINTING MASS AT OLOL



About 40 sick and elderly people attended the anointing Mass organised by our Care and Support Group last Saturday, 2 December despite the bad weather.

The Care and Support group worked very hard to bring the sick and elderly people in the Church and made them feel comfortable and give a wonderful treat.

Special thanks to Bernadette Pascoe and Thea Stephenson for organising everything.

#### Feasts of the Week

12 December - Our Lady of Guadalupe  
 13 December - St Lucy  
 14 December - St John of the Cross

#### MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSION APPEAL

There will be a special 3rd collection in all Masses THIS WEEKEND in support of the MOM Appeal 2017.

#### RCIA PROGRAM

We are inviting interested individuals to join our RCIA program. If you know someone who would like to be a part of this program, we are still open. We would like to get as many participant as possible. Please coordinate with the Parish Office. Our next session will be this Wednesday, 13 December at 7pm.

#### ARCHBISHOP HART RESPONDS TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION'S REPORT INTO CASE STUDY 35

The Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne Denis Hart has received the report by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse into the Archdiocese of Melbourne in Case Study 35 covering the period up to the introduction of the Melbourne Response in 1996.

The Archbishop accepts the report's conclusion. He said that 'the Church should be a safe place for children. Where this abuse occurred resulting from the passivity or inactivity of predecessors of mine, I sincerely apologise and accept responsibility'.

He also made the point that he was now confident that the Archdiocese and its parishes and schools have the policies, codes and processes required to ensure child safe environments and to deal with complaints.

The Archbishop said 'as a Church we will learn from this Case Study and the upcoming Royal Commission's report and I make a commitment to greater transparency in our processes, in order to assist victims and their families'. Full report at [www.melbournecatholic.org.au](http://www.melbournecatholic.org.au)



#### BIG THANK YOU

to CAROL SMITH for organising the Volunteer Appreciation Night and to her family for preparing the BBQ for the event.



Likewise, we would like to thank all who have participated in the Working bee this afternoon in preparing our Church and its surrounding for Christmas. Kudos to everyone!