

ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

1 Marist Place, Parramatta NSW 2150

(02) 8839 8400 Emergency: 0407 289 360 www.stpatscathedral.com.au

Bishop of Parramatta: Most Rev. Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv, DD

03 December 2023 - First Sunday of Advent (Year B)

Mass Schedule

SUNDAY

6:00pm Saturday Vigil Mass
7:30am Morning Prayer
8:00am Mass
9:30am Mass
11:00am Solemn Mass with Cathedral Choir
6:00pm Mass

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

6:10am Morning Prayer
6:30am Mass
11:15am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
11:15am Reconciliation (till 12:15pm)
Rosary after Angelus at 12:00 noon
12:30pm Mass

SATURDAY

7:30am Morning Prayer
8:00am Mass
8:30am Reconciliation (till 9:00am)
9:30am Mass (Old Rite)

5:00pm Sacrament of Penance (till 5:30pm)

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Mass at 8:00am (No Adoration or Confession)

WEEKLY PRAYER GROUPS

Tuesday 9:30am - Christian Meditation
Tuesday 6:30pm - Legion of Mary
Tuesday 7:30pm - RCIA (September - April)
Friday 1:00pm - Cenacle Prayers

MONTHLY PRAYER

First Friday Devotions: 6:30pm

OTHER CONNECT GROUPS

Playgroup: Wednesdays 10:00am - 12:00pm
Facebook: Parramatta St Pat's Playgroup

Credo Youth Ministries

Contact the office or find information on
Facebook: [credo.stpats](https://www.facebook.com/credo.stpats)
Email: credo@stpatscathedral.com.au

The subtle coming of the Almighty

GOD, THE ALMIGHTY, comes; the Creator of all that is comes to his creatures. Perhaps if you hadn't heard the Christian story, you would guess that this coming is therefore something very obvious – if God came, you would know about it. It'd be the elephant in the room, the bull in the china shop, surely?

But God doesn't barge in when he comes. He doesn't bang and crash and make a lot of noise, though of course, he could. God is not an intruder. God is the master of subtlety. When he comes to his creatures, he comes in disguise.

The history of God's adventus, his coming to his creatures, after they had departed from him, is marked by a slow creep back into the thick of the human condition. Slowly but surely, bit by bit, he takes something that these people have made their own, some cultural practice, some religious observance, some literary technique, some way of governing - whatever human thing it might be - and he transforms it.

When the Israelites insisted on worshipping idols, on making sacrifices to false gods like the rest of the nations, God said, 'Okay, I will take this thing and redirect it; I will accept your insistence on sacrificing things to "gods", but I will transform this into the worship of me, the living and true God.' When they insisted on having a king like the nations surrounding them, despite him reassuring them they didn't need one, God says to them, 'Okay, you will have a king, but this is how he should be so that you may rule yourselves well in submission to my greater rule, unlike the god-kings of the nations.'

This acceptance and redirection by God of the things that are human culminates in his coming in disguise as one of us, taking on himself the fullness of our condition. His coming was undetectable. Jesus didn't glow. He didn't have a halo shimmering around his head; hence why he had to demonstrate who he was by great signs and wonders.

God comes in disguise, in this subtle, undetectable way, so that we may receive him, so that we might know that this God is trustworthy, that he doesn't rule by fear. He came in this way so that we would be able to get back to him, to have that relationship with him for which we were made. The season of Advent reminds us that his coming is continual; that he not only came to us then, but his coming is renewed every year, every day, indeed, in every moment. So let us be alert to his coming. He won't barge in and make a lot of noise. He will come subtly, almost undetectably, in the way that you will best receive him.



Wishing you a blessed Advent season,

Fr Tom



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LITURGY GUIDE

ENTRANCE RITE

Entrance Procession Come, O Long expected Jesus

1. Come, O long ex - pect - ed Je - sus,
2. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion,
3. Born, your peo - ple to de - li - ver,
4. By your own e - ter - nal Spi - rit

1. born to set your peo - ple free,
2. hope to all you shall im - part;
3. born a child and yet a king,
4. rule in all our hearts a - lone;

1. from our fears and sins re - lease us,
2. dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion,
3. born to reign in us for e - ver,
4. by your all - suf - fi - cient me - rit

1. in your heart our rest shall be.
2. joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
3. now your gra - cious king - dom bring.
4. raise us to your glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley 1707-1788, alt.
Tune: STUTTGART 87.87, adapt. Henry J. Gauntlett 1805-1876 from a melody in C.F.Witt *Psalmodia Sacra*, Gotha, 1715

Introit 11:00am

Ad te levavi animam meam

Ps 24:1,.4

The Introit is sung by the choir during the incensation of the altar.

Unto you have I lifted up my soul. O my God, I trust in you,
let me not be put to shame; do not allow my enemies to laugh at me;
for none of those who are awaiting you will be disappointed.
V. Make your ways known unto me, O Lord, and teach me your paths.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Cel: Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins,
and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

The Cantors: *The people reply:*

Have mercy on us, O Lord. For we have sinned a - gainst you.

The Cantors: *The people:*

Show us, O Lord, your mer-cy. And grant us your sal - va-tion.

1 Advent - Year B

Focusing the Gospel



Key words and phrases

- Be on your guard.
- Stay Awake.
- You never know when the master of the house is coming.
- You are our Father; we the clay, you the potter.
- We are the work of your hand.
- Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

To the point...

At the beginning of the liturgical year we are instructed to look to the end: 'The master is coming'. We wait and watch for Christ's coming by being faithful to the work he has given each of us to do.

Connecting the Gospel

- to the first two readings
- We are able to do our work because God moulds us like clay (first reading) and keeps us 'steady and without blame until the last day' (second reading).
to living our religious experience
As the minutes of our lives (i.e., the watches of the night) tick by, the Lord's arrival is always unexpected. The work of Christian living is constant watchfulness that discovers the redeeming possibility of every moment.

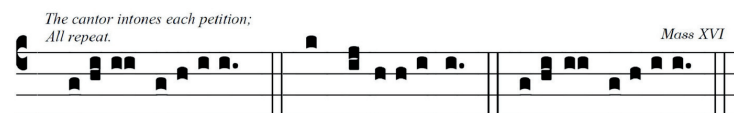
LITURGY GUIDE

Kyrie

Mass XVI

Chant

The cantor intones then all repeat



KY-ri-e e-lé-i-son. Chri-ste e-lé-i-son. Ky-ri-e e-lé-i-son.

Kyrie: 11:00am

Mass in F

A. Casciolini

Collect

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ
with righteous deeds at his coming,
so that, gathered at his right hand,
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (63:16-17; 64:1,3-8)

Oh that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
Our Redeemer is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
and harden our hearts against fearing you?
Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance.
Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down
- at your Presence the mountains would melt.
No ear has heard, no eye has seen
any god but you act like this for those who trust him.
You guide those who act with integrity
and keep your ways in mind.
You were angry when we were sinners;
we had long been rebels against you.
We were all like men unclean,
all that integrity of ours is like filthy clothing.
We have all withered like leaves
and our sins blew us away like the wind.
No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you.
For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins.
And yet, Lord, you are our Father;
we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19



Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians (1:3-9)

The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

R. Twynham

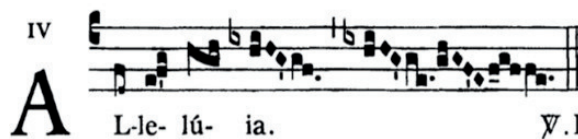
The cantor, alone, intones the Alleluia. All repeat



Cantor: Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation. R.

Gospel Acclamation: 11:00am

Chant Mode IV



Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (13:33-37)

Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

LITURGY GUIDE

Homily

Profession of Faith Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
*At the words that follow, up to and including
'the Virgin Mary', all bow.*
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

Universal Prayer

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE OFFERINGS

To donate via credit card, please use the
QR code shown here.



Motet: 11:00am

Vigilate

W. Byrd

Be watchful (for you know not when the lord of the house will come,
at evening, or at midnight, or at the cock crow, or in the morning):
Watch therefore, lest he come suddenly, and finds you sleeping.
What I say to you, I say to all: Be Vigilant!

Sanctus (Holy, Holy)

Chant Mass XVIII

ICEL

*Cantors * All Mass XVIII*

HO - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts,
Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-sán-na in the high-est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho-sán-na in the high-est.

Mystery of Faith

Missal Tone

WHen we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-claim your Death,
O Lord, un-til you come a-gain.

Amen

Missal Tone

A - men

COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

Sung in Latin on the 1st Sunday of each month.

Pa-ter noster, qui es in cae-lis: sancti-fi-cé-tur nomen tu-um;
Our Father, who art in heaven: hallowed be thy name;
Advé-ni-at regnum tu-um; fi-at vo-lúntas tu-a, sic-ut in cae-lo
Thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as
et in ter-ra. Panem nostrum co-ti-di-á-num da no-bis hó-di -e;
it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
et di-mít-te no-bis dé-bi-ta nostra, sic-ut et nos dimít-timus de-bi-tó-
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass
ri-bus nostris; et ne nos indú-cas in ten-ta-ti-o-nem; sed lí-be-ra
against us; And lead us not into temptation; but deliver
nos a ma-lo.
us from evil.

LITURGY GUIDE

Agnus Dei

Chant Mass ad lib. II

VI Cantors * All Chant ad libitum II

A -gnus De - i, * qui tol-lis peccá- ta mundi: mi-se-ré- re no-bis. (repete)

A -gnus De - i, * qui tol-lis peccá- ta mundi: do- na no-bis pa-cem.

Agnus Dei: 11:00am

Mass in F

A.Casciolini

Communion Antiphon

Dominus dabit benignitatem

Ps 84:13

The Lord will bestow his loving kindness, and our land will yield its fruit.

Communion Hymn Wake, awake, the night is dying

1. "Wake, O wake! The night is dy - ing!"
Night's long watch at last is end - ing.

2. Zi - on fills with voic - es sing - ing.
All at once they stand as - tound - ed.

1. The he - rald of the light is cry - ing:
Be - hold the morn - ing star as - cend - ing.

2. Their hearts re - joice with prais - es ring - ing.
A - round them light breaks forth un - bound - ed.

1. "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - wake!"
and soon a new day's dawn shall break:

2. They wait and watch for Christ the Lord.
They sing and shout with one ac - cord:

1. "Come quick - ly! Set us free! Lord Je - sus,

2. "Come quick - ly! Set us free! Lord Je - sus,

1. Da - vid's Key! Al - le - lu - ia! All

2. Da - vid's Key! Sing: Ho -san - na!

glo - ry be e - ter - nal - ly to

Christ who comes in ma - jes - ty."

[text: based on *Wachet auf! ruft uns die Stimme* Philipp Nicolai 1556-1608;
paraphr. & adapt. Harry Hagan OSB, b.1947; © 2001 St. Meinrad Archabbey
[tune: WACHET AUF, 898 898.664.88; Philipp Nicolai; arr. & harm. Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750 from *Cantata 140*



8:00am Mass Propers

Entrance Antiphon

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me;
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79(80):2-3,15-16,18-19

R. Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face
and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. R.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see,
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. R.

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. R.

Gospel Acclamation

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Communion Antiphon

The Lord will bestow his bounty,
and our earth shall yield its increase.

Next Week's Readings:

SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT

Readings

Is 40:1-5, 9-11: Prepare the way for the Lord.

Ps 84:9-14: R: Lord, let us see your kindness,
and grant us your salvation.

2 Pet 3:8-14: We wait for new heavens and a new earth.

Mk 1:1-8: Make straight the paths of the Lord.

THE BULLETIN

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Deacon

Rev Mr David Dowling
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Priest in Residence

Rev Fr Van Xua (Joseph) Nguyen
Vietnamese Community Chaplain

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0419 153 195 or giftshop@stpatcathedral.com.au

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms are celebrated in the Cathedral on most Sundays. Contact the parish office to book or fill out the form on the website.

Weddings are by appointment only.

At least six months' notice is necessary.
Contact the Parish Secretary on 8839 8412.

First Eucharist and Confirmation
Please contact the Parish Secretary.

Hiring of Rooms

For hire of Cloister Function rooms, call the office on 8839 8400 or enquiry@stpatcathedral.com.au

Material for Bulletin

If you have something that you would like published in the bulletin, please ensure that it is conveyed to our Parish Secretary, Pat, by **12:00noon on Thursday**. Please note that material must relate to the parish and its mission. Don't forget that businesses can advertise on the rear page of the bulletin too!

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST: A CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR COMPASSION AND GIVING.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is calling on our parish's generosity this Advent season to help bring the spirit of Christmas to many families and individuals in our community.



We welcome your donations:

- **Festive Food Items:** Small Christmas puddings, mince pies, long-life custard, and other holiday-specific treats to add a touch of festivity to our hampers.
- **Non-Perishable Foodstuffs:** Help stock our pantry with canned goods, dry foods, and other essentials that can sustain families over the holidays.
- **Toiletry & Bathroom Items:** Donations of soaps, shampoos, conditioners, toothpaste, and toothbrushes are essential for personal care and dignity.
- **Cleaning Supplies:** Kitchen cleaners, washing up liquids, and laundry powders are vital for maintaining clean and healthy homes.
- **Gifts for Children:** Bring smiles to young faces with toys and books suitable for ages 5-10 years, making their Christmas truly special.

Every item you donate contributes to a brighter Christmas for an individual or family in need. Let's share the warmth and love of the season through our collective efforts.

Donations can be placed around the Christmas tree in the Chapel.

Carols at Arcare Aged Care Facility, Oatlands

We're looking for parishioners aged 16-35 to join a Carolling Group to provide an afternoon of carols for the residents at Arcare Aged Care Facility, Oatlands, on **Saturday 16 December** from 1:30pm to 2:30pm.

You don't need to be an amazing singer, just someone who is ready to spread the joy of Christmas with the elderly in our community.

To sign up or for more details, please contact Pat on 8839 8412 or email secretary@stpatcathedral.com.au

Let's unite in song and spirit, spreading the warmth of Christmas through our community!



JOIN US FOR
CAROLS

PARISH and DIOCESAN NOTICES

Weekly Advent Reflection Group

To deepen the understanding of Advent and to foster a communal spirit through, weekly guided discussions focused on the themes of the season will be conducted.

The groups will meet weekly:

- Tuesdays at 9:30am, beginning **28 November**
- Wednesdays at 7:00pm, beginning **29 November**

Both groups meet at the Cathedral Office meeting room.

Credo Youth

The next meeting of our young people for Credo Youth will be on **Friday 08 December** from **5:00pm**. This will be our last meeting of the year but we look forward to a bigger and better year ahead in 2024!



The Friends of St Patrick's Cemetery

Welcome new members! The next Meeting will be held in the Cloister Café at 7:00pm on **Wednesday 06 December**.

Lighting up for Children

Andy and Carmen (two of our very generous parishioners) are lighting up their house again for charity. If you like to travel around looking at highly decorated homes, this will not disappoint. Please pay them a visit. Proceeds go to support children's cancer research.

Address: 45 Grassmere Ave, Northmead

Date: 01 December - 31 December.



Two Concerts for your diary

The Australian Brandenburg Orchestra will be with us once again for their popular Noel! Noel! concert: **Tuesday 12 December** at **7:30pm**. Go to their website for tickets.

River City Voices will celebrate the "Blue Sky Country Christmas" concert here on **Friday 08 December** at **7:30pm**. See the flyer in the Cloister Cafe for details and tickets.

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Christmas Eve

If you have seen the "Did You Know?" section of the bulletin, you will note that the Fourth Sunday of Advent this year falls on 24 December, which is, of course, Christmas Eve. For those people who are regulars at the Sunday evening 6:00 Mass, this poses something of a dilemma if they are keen to celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent since the evening Masses on this day will be Christmas Masses (6:00pm, 9:00pm and Midnight). These parishioners might like to think about coming to Mass on Saturday evening (23 December) or one of the usual morning Masses on the morning of Sunday 24 December.

Mass - Monday 04 December

Bishop Vincent will celebrate a special Mass here at St Patrick's Cathedral on **Monday, 04 December** at **7:30pm** to mark the 60th anniversary of the promulgation of the landmark Vatican II document, the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy.

This Mass is open to everyone, of course, but will be of particular interest to all those in the parish, and around the Diocese, who assist at the Mass and other liturgical celebrations, be it as readers, musicians, ministers at the altar, extraordinary ministers of communion, and so on. Refreshments in the hall will follow the Mass.

RSVP to 0460 037 795 or hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org.

Bishop's Christmas Appeal

Thank you to all those who gave generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal last weekend to support the vital pastoral work of our hospital, prison, and aged care facility chaplains. It is by no means too late to contribute if haven't done so yet. You may pop one of the special envelopes into the collection bags at the usual time at Mass or go online to the Parramatta Diocese website and donate online. A reminder that all donations of \$2.00 or more are tax deductible.

A Community Notice - Energy Rebates

It is a sad fact that up to half a million eligible concession holders in households for which they are the energy account holders, may miss out on up to \$785 this year to offset their energy bills and cost of living expenses. Part of the reason is that they are unaware of their entitlements and who possibly simply read the amount and due date of payment.

This plea is to spread that awareness to people such as elderly parents living apart from you and neighbours or friends living alone. Concession holders at the start of the 2023-24 financial year ought to check their bills to ascertain that they have received two rebates. Registration of your eligibility with your retailer that you are a concession card holder is essential. Self-funded retirees holding, or who are entitled to hold Commonwealth Seniors Health cards, are entitled to up to \$700 this year. In the latter case, yearly re-registration is required as circumstances regarding entitlement may have changed.

A concerned parishioner

Be Part of Our Synod Journey: Diocesan Synod Report Now Available

The Diocesan Synod Report is now available for download. The newly released Diocesan Synod Report offers a summary of our first Diocesan Synod assembly, held from 13-15 October 2023, its preparatory stages, in-depth details of the proceedings, and insights from delegates. Download your copy from the Parramatta Synod website now: <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>

We now look forward to its implementation!

'tis the season
TO BE JOLLY



Looking for Christmas gifts for your loved ones this Christmas?

Check out the Cathedral giftshop for suggestions.

The giftshop is Tuesday to Friday and on Sundays.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for our beloved dead...

Recently Deceased: Emile F Khoury

Deceased: Ralf Hartmann

Anniversaries: Rodney Jayatilaka

Perpetuals: Paul Mahoney, Louisa & Arthur Baxter, Nat Fedyk, Robert Dearie, Norm Hector, Bokeyar family, David family, Japour family, Paula Loto'aniu, Peter Van Tilburg, Margaret Angela Roberts, Sally & Frank Martlew, Sherwood family, Pat & Jim Hartman, Royan & Andrews families, Don Andrews, Juliet Noronha, Dr Joseph Malouf, Abel Moses, Jimmy, Anna & Frank Grainda, Frank Agostino, Bernadette Melhen & Sally Boujandy, Jack & June Barrett, Ann O'Brien, Watson Lee, Ian & Pat Sanders, Bill & Alice Kendall, Allan Kendall, Maria Patterson & Ellen Bancan, Hooper family, Giuseppina & Giovanni Rechichi, Mary Coady, Mary & Jack White, Vincent & Rebecca Vella, Walter Townsend, Ferris Grugeon, McInherny, White, McWilliam & McGuckin families, Mary Abela, Robert Andrews, Sylvester family, Rogan family, Adcock & McMillan families, Love family, Gabrielle Baker, Paula Cowling, McDermott & Starr families, Repose of the Souls in Purgatory and all deceased parishioners of St Patrick's and St Monica's.

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them..."

BAPTISMS



We welcome into our Catholic Christian family the following children who were recently baptised here...

Isla Alberts, Taj Shelley

Scarlet Anne Price, Phoenix Devaney

WEDDINGS



We also pray for the following couples who were recently married here...

Adelin Bayeh & Marc Ishac

Amanda Robertson & Mitchell Sancandi

Esther Egbo & Chibuike Duru

We also pray for...

Sick: Maria & Tony Obeid, Tony Chang, Baldo Polizzi, Francisca Olay, Maximilian Epondulan, Vasvi V Arcot, Nasr Nasr, Stephen Borg, Nicole Slatter, Leonardo Perez Close, Vic Moran, Christopher Doughty, Fr Bob Bossini, Seini Loto'aniu, Joseph Lin, Hildegard Schulz, Fr Peter Zytka, Leonardo Close, Pina Ferrero, James Vargas, Rachael Sumagui, Fred & Odette Harb, Jenny Cheung, Hilgerdaro Schole, Finn McConnor, Jenny Cheung, Debra Thomas, Ashley Brown, Michael D'Penha, Serg M., Habib Nohra, Sharon Webb

Special Intentions: Kumavan Guuasagaran, BVM & Infant Jesus, Rachel & Kathleen, Tracy, Deborah L John, N.N, Michelle Travis, Leonardo P Close, Mary Rose Perez Tito, Napoleon, Agnes & John Patacsil, Naveen, Tian, Raveen, Harry Perrottet, Dra Julie Lee, Nima, Jorge & Lyn Vargas Patacsil, Franz Tito, Santiago & Antonio Tito, Mary Rose Perez Tito, Terry Joseph, Michael Perez, Tian, Kumaran Gunasagaran, Amarro Bumactao, Raveen, Jewel Peterson, Joe Suttie, Bartolome Cabezas, Amarra Bumaciao, Isabella Suttie, Zoe, Harriet, John, Charles & Ignatius Perrottet, Patrick & Stephen, Katie, Judy, John R Casimiro

POPE FRANCIS'

Prayer Intention for December



For persons with disabilities

"We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation."

From Pope Francis...

From a tweet dated 29 November

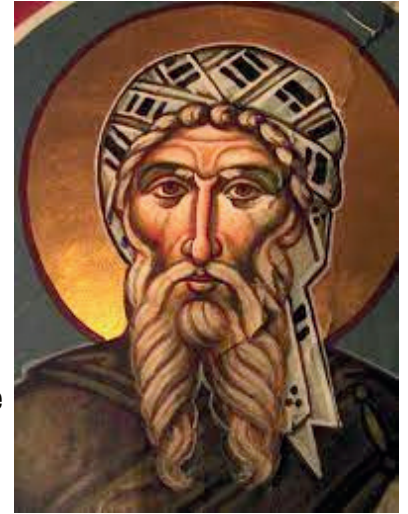
"Let us continue to pray for the serious situation in Israel and Palestine. It is the ordinary people who suffer. Let us ask for peace. And may we not forget the dear Ukrainian people, who are suffering so much and are still at war."

Saint of the Week

04 December - St John Damascene (c.675-749), Priest, Doctor

He was born of a Christian family in Damascus in the second half of the seventh century, where his father was a high official under the Umayyad caliph; a post which he inherited. When the Iconoclast movement (seeking to prohibit the veneration of icons) gained acceptance in the Byzantine court, John, being under Muslim rather than Byzantine rule, was able to write effective treatises attacking Iconoclasm and attacking the emperor for supporting it. At about this time he retired to the monastery of Saint Sabas near Jerusalem, where he became a monk and was ordained. He died in the middle of the eighth century.

He wrote many theological treatises in a dangerously clear and accessible style which made the issues understandable even by non-experts. His name was reviled and execrated by the imperial Iconoclast party even after his death. Sometimes known as "the last of the Church Fathers," he was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Leo XIII in 1883.



Information: Universalis

"Quote of the Week"

"Whatever I had read as a child about the saints had thrilled me. I could see the nobility of giving one's life for the sick, the maimed, the leper....But there was another question in my mind. Why was so much done in remedying the evil instead of avoiding it in the first place?...Where were the saints to try to change the social order, not just to minister to the slaves, but to do away with slavery?"



Dorothy Day
(1897-1980)

Co-Founder of the Catholic Worker

Did You Know...?

...that Advent begins on the latest possible date this year?

The day of the week on which Christmas Day falls determines the start of Advent. Last year, Christmas Day fell on a Sunday, meaning that the Sunday prior to that, the 18th, was the fourth Sunday of Advent, meaning therefore that Advent started at its earliest possible date on 27 November.

This year, because Christmas Day is a Monday, the Fourth Sunday of Advent is the day before Christmas, the 24th, meaning that it starts today, 03 December, its latest possible starting date.



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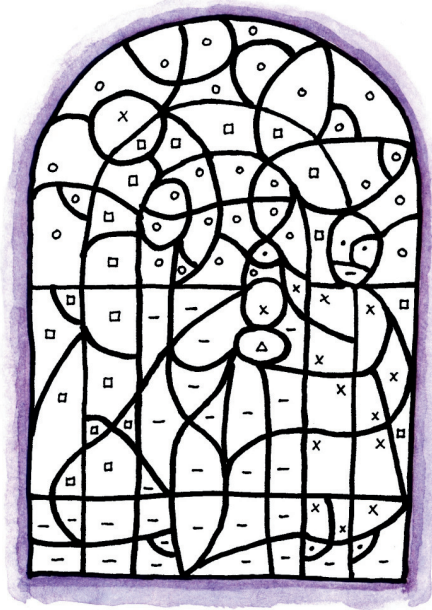
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The Kids' Bulletin

First Sunday of Advent
December 3rd, 2023



In the Gospel, Jesus tells us to always be ready.
Here's someone waiting
for his master to return...

Use this code to colour the picture in:

- DARK BLUE ◻ GREY - BROWN
- SKIN COLOUR × WHITE ▲ RED

Advent is Here! Jesus is coming!



Advent is here! It's time to begin preparing for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

Jesus came the first time long ago in Bethlehem. Now He comes to us every time we go to Mass, in Holy Communion. But we celebrate Jesus' coming in a special way at Christmas time.

Advent is the time to get ready for Christmas. We get our houses ready by cleaning and decorating. We get our souls ready by cleaning out our sins when we go to confession, and by learning and thinking about Jesus.



Here are some things that will help you get ready for Christmas:

~ Light a candle on an advent wreath when you say your prayers every day.

~ Read a book about Advent or Christmas.

~ Go to Confession before Christmas.

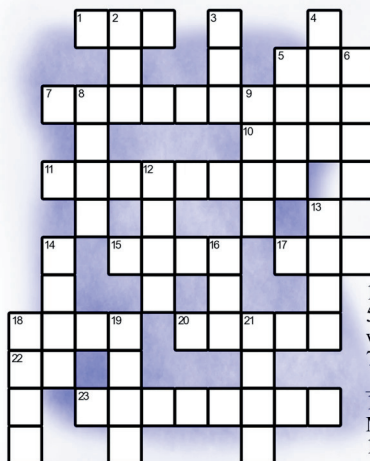


~ Do nice things for people. Remember that anything you do for someone else you do for Jesus!

Answers to Cross-word: Across: 1. she 3. saw 7. immaculate 10. over 11. preserve 15. pure 17. man 18. lamb 20. ready 22. am 23. original. Down: 2. him 3. you 4. hate 5. save 6. were 8. Mary 9. love 12. soul 13. baby 14. Adam 16. Eve 18. laws 19. born 21. Anne

www.thekidsbulletin.com

Immaculate Conception Cross-Word



Fill in the blanks to do this puzzle about Our Lady.

ACROSS:

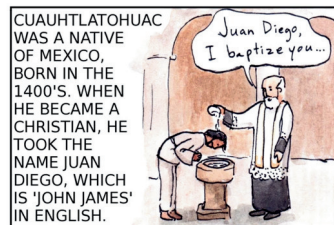
1. _____ was without sin.
5. God _____ that Mary would do His will.
7. She was the _____ Conception.
10. God watched _____ Mary.
11. God decided to _____ her from sin.
15. Mary's soul was not stained- it was _____.

17. God's Son become _____.
18. He is called the _____ of God.
20. When the time was _____, the angel came to Mary.
22. She said, "I _____ the handmaid of the Lord.
23. She had no _____ sin, so she was always ready to obey.

- DOWN:
2. Whatever God wanted she would do for _____.
3. She brought the Saviour into the world for _____ and me.
4. She teaches us to love God and _____ sin, which offends Him.
5. God had decided to _____ Mary from all sin.
6. If you _____ God, how would you make your mother?
8. The name of God's mother is _____.
9. She did every single thing out of _____ for God.
12. He had preserved her _____ from every stain of sin.
13. Before she was even a little _____ she was chosen by God.
14. We all have original sin because of _____.
16. ... and his wife, _____, who committed the first sins.
18. They had chosen to disobey God's _____.
19. Since then, every other person* was _____ with original sin.
21. Mary was the daughter of the holy saints, _____ and Joachim.

* Except Saint John the Baptist, who, according to tradition, was freed from original sin - 'filled with the Holy Spirit' when his mother was greeted by Mary who was expecting Jesus.

SAINT JUAN DIEGO DECEMBER 9



SAINT JUAN DIEGO LIVED A LONG AND SIMPLE LIFE TEACHING THE FAITH. MARY CHOSE HIM, BECAUSE HE WAS HUMBLE, TO BRING HER MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH AT THAT TIME. WHEN THE NEW CHURCH WAS BUILT, MILLIONS OF THE PAGAN PEOPLE IN MEXICO BECAME CHRISTIANS. JUAN DIEGO DIED AT AGE 74.

THEKIDSBULLETIN@GMAIL.COM

Taking Action to Respond to the Call of Laudato Si'

10 Things You Can Do



Reduce your energy consumption by switching off lights, appliances and computers when not in use



Use products made from recycled materials such as toilet paper and printer paper



If your superannuation fund invests in fossil fuels, ask it to stop supporting coal and oil projects



Use biodegradable detergent in your kitchen and laundry



Buy FairTrade certified products such as coffee, tea and chocolate



Grow native plants suitable for your locality in your garden



Get involved in Clean Up Australia Day on the first Sunday in March



Be aware of how much food you throw away and make a conscious effort to reduce food waste



Don't buy fruit and vegetables which are pre-wrapped in plastic

Read a few paragraphs of Pope Francis' encyclical, Laudato Si', each day and use it as the basis for your private prayer and reflection.



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