

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF MENTONE - PARKDALE

SAINT PATRICK - SAINT JOHN VIANNEY



Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year B) : 24 December 2017

FATHER MICHAEL'S MESSAGE

Christmas is the feast of God's magnanimity. Had God not chosen to do so, who would ever have conceived that God would come down to earth in order to give himself as the one who would save us from our sins and suffering? Therefore, Christmas is celebrated by us, in our turn, giving gifts. These objects express our sentiments of gratitude and affection. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who give gifts to our parish community – gifts of financial support and gifts of time and talent.

I am grateful to our Counters and Cleaners, and Carillonners; Sacristans, especially Marjorie Nicholas, and all the SJV team; and Servers at the altar.

Creating a roster is a thankless task. I thank Bob Razga and Jane Dillon, and all those who fill the rosters for Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and for Readers, that Jane and Bod draw up.

The choir with the organists are integral to our worship, assisting our 'full, conscious and active participation' with their careful blend of support of our singing and reverent performance of the motets at Mass. Thanks this year, particularly, to Anne Earle who has stepped up as acting Director of Music.

In the office, we are all blessed with the presence of Pat Morton and Vivienne Lillis who carry out administration with skill and grace; I am blessed with Gloria L'Abbate's care of my house and kitchen. Our volunteers in the presbytery garden have a ghostly quality, rarely observed but constantly at wrestling with weeds and water, leaving a really comforting display behind them. Thanks to Kevin, Brian and gardeners of SJV.

To Sister Damian SPC and Sr Marie Therese SPC, I express our thanks on behalf of all our ill and confined parishioners who have received kindly spiritual care from them.

Fr Ramsay Williams OLSC has welcomed me and supported my ministry with generosity and grace. Thank you and the faithful of the parish of St Edmund Campion.

To the leaders and members of all our

groups, thank you for participating and enriching the life of the community of faith. The Legion of Mary, Men Alive, Knights of the Southern Cross, St Vincent de Paul, Patricians, Solas, Parish Advisory Group, Parish Finance Council and RCIA team support spiritual and social life in our parish. You represent the missionary dimension of the Church.

Finally, to all of us who participate in the liturgy each week and each day, I wish a truly blessed celebration of Christ's birth.

Welcome to Ms Myfanwy McIndoe, our newly arrived Director of Music. Miffy commenced her service at St Patrick's and St John Vianney's at the funeral yesterday of Sebastian D'Imperio (altar server and graduate 2011 from St Patrick's primary school) and continues today with all our Christmas Masses.



Moments of Mystery

Christmas again! How quickly another year has passed! Yet I do not mind. As I sit alone reflecting, and having passed the biblical age of "threescore and ten", the Christmas season brings not only a host of cherished memories but deeper thoughts. As the decorations go up, as Christmas trees are installed and much loved traditional carols are heard, as cards start arriving bearing greetings from distant loved ones, somehow and very mysteriously a child arises in this old mind and body. This rebirth is betrayed in clearer and glistening eyes, in increased cheerfulness and in a quickened step. It is the buoyancy derived from a sense of expectancy.

Behold now how the child of childhood's dreaming is reborn. Each year as I reflect upon and am influenced by this mystery, I rejoice that I follow a religion which had its beginnings in the birth of a child. Not for me the teachings of fiery soldier prophets of the deserts, nor the wisdom of a rich prince enlightened under the Lotus, nor the wise insights of the great sages of the East, nor simple religions which rightly honour the

deserving dead. I find immense comfort knowing that the Timeless Divinity, "in the stillness of the night, when quietness was on the land" leapt into time, in the form of a new born child. He came among us as we came by that same process, born of a woman, which He in the very beginning blessed and pronounced good. Now the birth of any baby is God's judgement that life is good and the world should continue, but the birth of this child was to change the world.

So I treasure my annual rebirth. In my Christmas walks, especially in the evenings, it seems to me that Bethlehem's star still shines upon our streets, and echoes of angelic choirs wishing peace to all people of good will are still to be heard in much loved Christmas carols. Humble people still go over to the Bethlehems of their churches to "see the marvellous things that have been told to us" So this Christmas, love me O Babe of Bethlehem and I, like you, will be born anew. 'Unless, you become as a little child you shall not enter the Kingdom.'

Welcome Christmas.

F B Freemann SDB

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Saturday, 23rd DECEMBER 2017
6.00pm: Vigil Mass, (SP)

- 4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday, 24th DECEMBER 2017
9.00am: Morning Mass, SJV,

- 4th Sunday of Advent

9.30am: Ordinariate Mass (SP),
- 4th Sunday of Advent

11.00am: Mass, (SP)

- 4th Sunday of Advent

CHRISTMAS EVE

- SUNDAY, 24 DECEMBER

6.00pm: Vigil Mass of Christmas: (SP)

8.00pm: Vigil Mass of Christmas: (SJV)
(preceded by carols from 7.30pm)

Midnight: Solemn Mass of Christmas: (SP)
(preceded by Carols from 11.30pm)

CHRISTMAS DAY -

MONDAY, 25 DECEMBER

10.00am: Mass of Christmas Day (SP)
(please note there are no other Masses on Christmas Day at St Patrick's and St John Vianney)

Presbytery & Office: 10 Rogers Street, Mentone 3194. Ph: 9583 2103 Fax: 9584 7372

• **Parish Priest:** Rev. Fr. Michael McEntee Ph: 0417 673 857 • **Associate Priest:** Rev. Fr. Ramsay Williams OLSC

Website: stpatrickmentone.org.au **Email:** stpatrickmentone@bigpond.com

• **Pastoral Associate:** Sr Damian SPC Ph: 0410 002 270 • **St Patrick's School:** Ph: 9583 5033 • **St John Vianney's School:** Ph: 9580 5812

Recently Deceased

Sebastian D'Imperio, Cath (Rina) Deverell, Charlotte Roberts, Rosario (Sam) Marguglio

Anniversaries

Orazio Costanzo, Lillian Shanahan

Prayer for the Sick



Di McNicholas, Chris McAller, Maureen Steinfert, Rita Buckner, Joan McCarthy, John Blore, John Van Dyk, Anne Curtain, Greta Sprague, Frank

Sampieri, Oscar Hopkins, Pat Casey, Louie Cenina, Joan Nolan, Carmen Lotzniker, Molly Shannon, Hector Burra, Nanette Woodbridge, Bernie Grimes, Annette Portelli, Bonnie Alford, Sebastian Wolfenden, Fr Terry Naughtin MSC, Ellen Farrugia-Merlo, Patricia Power, Maureen Oswald, Patricia M, Patricia Walker, Madeline Wesson, Jenny Rawlings and those on the continuing prayer list. *(PLEASE LET US KNOW IF A NAME SHOULD BE REMOVED)*

Prayer / Meditation

Adoration of the

Blessed Sacrament:

Each day the Church is open from 8.00 am to 6.00pm.

Please choose a time (1/2 hour) to spend in Adoration.

Each Friday the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration following the 9.15am Mass until 4.30pm, when Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is given.



Rosary:

1. In St Patrick's Church the Rosary is prayed each day before morning Mass at 8.45am All welcome.

2. The Rosary is also prayed on Thursday after 10:30am OLSC Mass and on Wednesdays evenings, 5pm at Bridie's (9585 5142)

Divine Mercy Devotions:

Are held in St Patrick's Church each Friday at 3.00pm.

Special Prayer Groups:

Mother's Prayer Group: The 1st meeting in 2018 will be on 23rd January (10 - 11:45am), no meeting in February, and March, From April to the end of the year, meeting will be on the 1st Tuesday of every month.

1st Collection:

Presbytery: \$1,493.20

2nd Collection:

Thanksgiving: \$3,354.30

Loose Money: \$632.25

Pope's Intentions:

December 2017

The Elderly

That Christians in Asia, bearing witness to the Gospel in word and deed, may promote dialogue, peace, and mutual understanding, especially with those of other religions.

Vocation View

Every person who has ever born a child, and every person who has freely vowed this honour, helps in some mysterious way to bring Jesus Christ into this world again. Can you say: "Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord?"

Gospel today?

Pray for Vocations



You will conceive and bear a son.
The Annunciation to Mary (Luke 1:26-38)

Parish Events

Christmas Offering Envelopes

are available in both our churches. The contributions via the Christmas Offering supplements the funds raised via the First Collection for the support and upkeep of priests. Please support the Christmas Offerings. The envelopes can be placed on either plate.

Sunday School will re-open on 11th

February, 2018. This is for catholic students in non-catholic schools to be able to join a Catholic education program to support their catholic faith development. Children of school age are invited to attend and classes are held in the Prep Block of St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Mentone, 10am to 10:45 every Sunday during Victoria State School Term time. Catholic children to be prepared for First Holy Communion must first attend the class to be prepared for Reconciliation. Candidates for Confirmation must have been going to the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion regularly. For registration or enquiries, please contact parish office or the Pastoral Associate by text or email.

30 / 31 December 2017

Parish of Mentone-Parkdale Rosters

Readers:

6:00 pm - T Dillon (SP)
9:00 am - M Webster, J Lewis-Williams (SJV)
11:00 am - V Mathers (SP)
5:00 pm - K Ady (SP)

Procession of Gifts

6:00 pm - P Brennan, L Harkness (SP)
9:00 am - Hoppe Family (SJV)
11:00 am - Hirst Family (SP)

Extraordinary Ministers:

6:00 pm - H Foley, R Razga (SP)
9:00 am - J O'Donoghue (SJV)
11:00 am - T Mengle, C D'Souza (SP)
5:00 pm - K Ady (SP)

Extraordinary Minister to the Sick

J O'Donoghue (SJV)

Counters: Team 9

J Goodwin, H Foley, T Terblanche, G Intemann, G Scandurra

Sacristans:

St Patrick's - Group 1:

J Lewis-Williams, L Smith, L Terblanche, J Green (SJV)

Flowers (SJV)

J Lewis-Williams

Pilgrim Statues:

This Week:

Succuala Family, 4 Alameda St (SP)

Next Week:

Narvarria Family, 9 Dorothea St (SP)

This Week:

Nixon Family, 44 Brownfield St (SJV)

Next Week:

Webster Family, 22 Mountview Ave (SJV)

Adoration Roster:

Week 3 - Pope Pius X



Travelling Chalice

This week beginning 24 DEC
Price Family
Next week beginning 31 DEC

Parish Events

The Patrician Group

(Adult Family and Friends Welcome)

I would like to keep up the Patricians' tradition of playing cards. Because of Jim's most unfortunate passing, we shall not be able to play at 21 Balcombe Road any more. I am therefore suggesting that we start a new cycle at my house in Dingley. However, before I commit myself fully, I shall be pleased to know if there are sufficient numbers of interested people. So, if you are INTERESTED, please let me know. My telephone number is 9558 3646 and, if I happen to be out, there is an answering machine. *Tony Busuttill*



Piety Stall

The *Columban Art Calendar*, available in our Piety Stall now, is an iconic Catholic *Calendar*, well-known for its traditional religious paintings and liturgical information 2018 marks the 96th edition.

Normal open time is Sunday 10.30am to 12.30pm

Prayer/Meditation, Special Prayer Groups:-

Mothers' Prayer Group 2018:

For mothers and spiritual mothers to support each other by adoration, sharing of prayers and reflection on experience and scripture, the Mothers' Prayer Group has been meeting regularly in our parish since its registration with the headquarter in UK over 8 years ago.

The 1st meeting in 2018 will be on 23rd January (10 -11:45am), no meeting in Feb., and March, From April to the end of the year, meeting will be on the 1st Tuesday of every month.

Mothers and spiritual mothers are invited. Feel free to contact Sr. Damian if interested or for further information.

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In 2001, the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments introduced legislation that deals with the manner in which public and private sector organisations may record, use, store and disclose information, including health information, collected from individuals. This parish is committed to upholding and implementing the Privacy Principles set out in legislation. A copy of the Parish Policy is available by contacting the Parish Office.

Credit Card and Direct Debit

Please inform the Parish Office on 9583 2103 or send an email (stpatrickmentone@bigpond.com) of any changes to your credit card number/ expiry date or direct debit account. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Email Address

If you have changed your email address, or now have an email address, could you please notify the Parish Office. Thank you.

Online Giving

Online donations/contributions may be made at any time from the comfort of your own home or at any place with internet access. Please call the Parish Office for the BSB and Account number for the Parish.

Other Events

CTC 2018 Study Tour of The Biblical Lands:

27 Days – 17th November – 14 December
Catholic Theological College's Study Tour of the Biblical Lands 2018 will take place in November–December next year, travelling to Jordan for three days, Israel and Palestine for ten days, Turkey for six days and Greece for seven days, plus an option to add three days in Rome. This afternoon information session in January will detail all of the exciting places on the itinerary, as well as answering any questions you may have.

The 27-day tour is to be led by Dr Rosemary Canavan (Senior Lecturer in New Testament) and Rev. Anthony Dean CM (Lecturer in Old Testament). Journey to the heart of your faith!

Info session RSVP: by Wednesday 17 January to 9412 3314 or jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au

Cost: \$12,355 twin share includes guides, all airfares and buses, quality accommodation, and breakfast and dinner daily.

Details: For itinerary and further information, contact Jenny Delahunt on 9412 3314 or jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au

CTC Graduate Certificate in Guiding Meditation

Six Saturdays 10am – 4.30pm

Meditation in the Christian Tradition 2018:

dates 3,10,17; March 21,28; April, 5 May

Applied Meditation 2018:

dates 4,11,18 August; 13, 23, 27 October

Contact the Academic Records Office for Enrolment Information

Jenny Delahunt on 9412 3314 or jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au

The Christmas Candy Cane

The Christmas Candy Cane originated in Germany about 250 years ago. They started as straight white sugar sticks.



A story says that a choirmaster, in 1670, was worried about the children sitting quietly all through the long Christmas nativity service. So he gave them something to eat to keep them quiet! As he wanted to remind them of Christmas, he made them into a 'J' shape like a shepherds crook, to remind them of the shepherds that visited the baby Jesus at the first Christmas. However, the earliest records of 'candy canes' comes from over 200 years later, so the story, although rather nice, probably isn't true!

Sometime around 1900 the red stripes were added and they were flavoured with peppermint or wintergreen.

Sometimes other Christian meanings are giving to the parts of the canes. The 'J' can also mean Jesus. The white of the cane can represent the purity of Jesus Christ and the red stripes are for the blood he shed when he died on the cross. The peppermint flavour can represent the hyssop plant that was used for purifying in the Bible.

Around 1920, Bob McCormack, from Georgia, USA, started making canes for his friends and family. They became more and more popular and he started his own business called Bob's Candies. Bob McCormack's brother-in-law, Gregory Harding Keller, who was a Catholic priest, invented the 'Keller Machine' that made turning straight candy sticks into curved candy canes automatically!

In 2005, Bob's Candies was bought by Farley and Sathers but they still make candy canes!

The Liturgy for Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year B) : 24 December 2017

Mass Response

Psalm Response: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia!**
I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done. **Alleluia!**

Memorial Acclamation: We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection, until you come again.

Legend: "Gather" - Gather Book "CWB" - Catholic Worship Book "CWBII" Catholic Worship Book II

6:00 pm Vigil Mass (Saturday) - St Patrick's

Entrance Hymn: CWBII 247
Mass Setting: Mass of OLHC - Connolly
Offertory Hymn: CWBII 595
Communion Hymn: CWB II 460
Recessional Hymn: CWBII 232

9:00am (Sunday) - St John Vianney's

Entrance Hymn: CWBII 242
Mass Setting: Mass of OLHC - Connolly
Offertory Hymn: CWBII 232
Communion Hymn: CWBII 651
Recessional Hymn: CWBII 239

11.00am Choral Mass (Sunday) - St Patrick's

Entrance Hymn: CWBII 247
Mass Setting: Mass of OLHC - Connolly
Offertory Hymn: CWBII 242
Communion Hymn: CWBII 460
Recessional Hymn: CWBII 239

5:00 pm (Sunday) - St. Patrick's

NOTE: No 5pm Mass

Christmas Eve Masses are

6pm (SP)

8pm (SJV) with carols at 7.30pm

Midnight Mass (SP) with carols at 11.30pm

Readings Next Week:

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Genesis: 15:1-6. 21:1-3
Hebrews: 11:8. 11-12. 17-19
Luke: 2:22-40

MASSES THIS WEEK

(SP) St Patrick's Church; (SJV) St John Vianney's Church

WEEK DAY MORNING MASSES

Monday, 25th Christmas Day
NOTE: Mass at 10am (SP) only
10:00 am (SP) The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Tuesday, 26th Boxing Day Public Holiday
11:00 am (SP) Feast: St Stephen, the first martyr

Wednesday, 27th
9:15 am (SP) Feast: St John, apostle, evangelist
10:30 am (SJV) Mass

Thursday, 28th
9:15 am (SP) Feast: The Holy Innocents, martyrs
10:30 am (SP) Ordinarate Mass

Friday, 29th
9:15 am (SP) 5th day in the Octave of the Nativity
5:15 pm (SJV) Mass

Saturday, 30th
9:15 am (SP) 6th day in the Octave of the Nativity

WEEKEND MASSES

(Vigil) Saturday: 6:00pm (SP)
Sunday: 9:00am (SJV)
Sunday: 9:30am (Ordinarate Mass) (SP)
Sunday: 11.00am (Choral Mass) (SP)
Sunday: 5pm (SP)

RECONCILIATION

After the 9:15am Mass on Wednesday & Saturday mornings (SP) and 5:15 pm Saturday (SP)

**EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION
WILL RESUME IN FEBRUARY 2018**