

First Sunday of Advent, Year B 28 - 29 November 2020

WHAT IS ADVENT? WAITING IN JOYFUL HOPE

Dietrich Bonhoeffer writes "The celebration of Advent is possible only to those who are troubled in soul, who know themselves to be poor and imperfect, and who look forward to something greater to come."

This prayer written by Matthew Kelly offers us a prayer to recite during this season of joyful hope. "God of hope, I look to you with an open heart and yearning spirit. During this advent season, I will keep alert and awake, listening for your word and keeping to your precepts. My Hope is in you."

> 'The season of Advent lasts for four Sundays leading up to Christmas.' A reflection for the first Sunday of Advent

'It's funny how we 'followers of Christ' can find ways to blame God for everything, even our own indifference. "Why do you let us wander, O Lord, from your ways..." We hear in this weekends first reading. Even when we harden our hearts and distance ourselves from God, we act as though God should be chasing us down, making us stay, like children who need to be disciplined to obey our parents. But, that is not how God's love works. God we know gives us free will and allows us to make our own choices, even if the choice is to keep God at arms length.'

Today, as we begin our Advent journey, we have a chance to start again, to reflect on the ways we have pushed God aside. "Be watchful! Be alert!" The Gospel of Mark reminds us, making clear we need to get our own spiritual house in order.

Now is the time. This is our season. God has not abandoned us in the desert, or left us to wander without a guide. God waits patiently for us to choose for God willingly, for us to recognize that when we find ourselves lost and faltering it is because we have pushed God aside. On this first Sunday of Advent, we have a choice. Do we plan to go it alone, or will we anchor ourselves to the One who is always there for us?

Today we take the first step on our path through Advent, let us recommit ourselves to being alert to the Lord, moving through the days ahead closer to our God.

Let us pray

Dear Lord, we know that we are not always attentive to you or grateful for the ways you give meaning to our lives. Help us remember that you will never leave us to wander this life, lost and alone. Our Joy is to know - You are always there.

Care and love to all

Dean Peter

PRAYER FOR **BISHOP-ELECT GREG BENNET**

Eternal God, our Shepherd and Guide We bless and thank you for the appointment of your servant, Greg Bennet, as the tenth Bishop of Sale. May your Holy Spirit grace him with the gifts of wisdom and strength,

gentleness and compassion,

as he prepares to take up his role as our pastor and teacher.

May he be a shepherd after your own heart,

who will walk in your ways and, with loving care, watch over your people.

May he be a leader of vision and a teacher of your truth.

As Bishop-elect Bennet prepares to make his home among us,

may we welcome him joyfully into our Diocesan community,

now entrusted to his care and leadership.

May we, as the Body of Christ in the Diocese of Sale, through our work and prayer

together bear witness to Christ and the building up of your kinadom.

We ask this through your Son Jesus Christ, in You may still be able to come to Mass if you the unity of the Holy Spirit.

One God, for ever and ever, Amen,

Our Lady of Perpetual Help pray for us St Mary of the Cross MacKillop pray for us.

ORDINATIONS: Bishop-Elect Greg Bennet's Episcopal Ordination is to be held Tuesday 8 December (refer to Fr Peter Slater's invitation on the next page for details). Unfortunately we cannot invite parishioners generally as even though you heard the numbers increased to 150 - we have to abide by the restrictions and the social distancing measurements only allow for RITE OF WELCOME AND BAPTISM: This 70 all up to attend the Ordination-Installation ceremony. We do encourage parishioners to tune into the life-stream links provided for the Gocotano. Congratulations to the family from us ceremony. The ordination Ceremony begins at all. 10.45am on livestream.

31 CLUB REMINDER for 30 Nov - 6 Dec. for a Youth Participation Coordinator based in Please pray for vocations.

PARISH OFFICE is open once again from Monday to Friday 9.00am to 3.00pm. It is closed from 12.30 - 1.30pm for our lunch break.

THREE ORDINATIONS TO TAKE PLACE IN ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL, SALE

Friday December 11 - 11.00am Ordination of Deacon Paul Zahar Saturday December 12 - 11.00am Ordination of Deacon Confidence Masvosva Saturday December 12 - 5.30pm Ordination of Deacon Jithin Anto

Sunday Dec 13 - 9.30am First Mass - Fr Jithin Anto. Next bulletin we will know how many can apply to book in for his first Mass. Unfortunately due to Covid regulations we can't cater for people afterwards.

MASSES: Mass can now be held for up to 70

people. All standard Covid-19 directives to be strictly followed. Tuesday to Thursday Mass is at 9.30am and Friday Mass is at 11.00am. Reconciliation and exposition will be held after Friday's Mass. Please continue to make SAVE THE DATE: SION GATHERING We can bookings for weekend Masses at the Cathedral through Clare in the Parish office on 5144 4100 9.00am to 3.00pm Monday to Friday. You will be pleased to know we have streamlined the sign in process. PLEASE NOTE: have not booked for weekend Masses but the weekend, which will also include events on doors will be closed once we reach the maximum number of 70.

We are pleased to be able to visit our outer churches again please keep these times handy:

Stratford	Sunday Nov 29	9.30am
Loch Sport	Saturday Dec 5	11.00am
Stratford	Sunday Dec 6	9.30am
Rosedale	Sunday Dec 13	9.30am
Briagolong	Sunday Dec 20	9.30am
Rosedale	Sunday Dec 27	9.30am

weekend at St Mary's Cathedral, we welcome for Baptism Aletheia daughter of Glenn and May

CARITAS AUSTRALIA are currently advertising their Alexandria NSW office, however the location can be flexible for the right person. This is a full-time, ongoing role but flexible working options are available. The closing date for applications is COB Wednesday, 2 December 2020. See Clare in the office if you would like more information.

PARISH PRAYER.

God our loving Father, we give you thanks and praise for our Cathedral Parish of Sale, for your people and your Creation. Nourish us by your daily Word and Eucharist. Enrich us in our faith, hope and love. Strengthen us with the spirit of your mercy and grace. Make us grateful for your gifts as we journey through our lives together. May we be a welcoming and servina community. always discerning and doing your will for one another. We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

now confirm that our next gathering will be held on Sunday 14 March 2021 at the Sion Campus. As usual, there will be Mass at 9:30am followed by lunch, time for fellowship and a lituray. This will be our last gathering as the campus and chapel will be officially closed during this 13 March and a decommissioning of the Sion Campus. Invitations will be sent out in January 2021, as we need to be sure COVID does not cause a delay or cancellation of these events.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

We offer prayers for those who have died Don Schuback, Martin Coffey, Rodney Burney (Bairnsdale), Vittorio (Vic) Catenacci and those whose anniversaries occur about this time Fr James Hayes, Fr Dave Cagney. We pray for those who are sick Joan Turner, Keith Nieuwenhuizen, Sue Barr, Barry Lyon, Daryl Leggett, Celie Smith, Carolyn Everard, Robert Hopkinson, Fr Brian O'Connor, Kim Yacoub. Joan Whitford. Bill Harkin. Cynthia Freshwater, Angela Jones, Fr Bernard Buckley and Maureen O'Kane. We pray in thanks for all who care for the sick.

MASS INTENTIONS

BAPTISMS: By arrangement through the Parish Office or with Veronica, phone 5144 4100. ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament, Friday after Mass 1130am—12.00noon First Friday of the Month 11.30am-4.00pm At St Rose of Lina, Rosedale on 1st Wednesday of each month 9.30am-10.30am RECONCILIATION: Cathedral: Friday 11.30am after Mass . Saturday After the 9.30am Mass-10.30am Stratford and Briagolong on Sunday or Rosedale on Saturday evening: Before or after Mass or anytime by arrangement with the priest. MARRIAGES: Not less than six months notice please.



With thanks from a grateful parish.



Mass Timetable this week First Sunday of Advent, YEAR B 28 - 29 November 2020

Day/Date	Time	Place
Weekend Masses		
Sat 28 November	5.30pm	Cathedral
Sun 29 November	9.30am	Stratford
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
Weekday Masses		
Mon 30 November	1.00pm	Cathedral
Funeral Mass Don Schuback	•	
Tues 1 December	9.30am	Cathedral
Wed 2 December	9.30am	Cathedral
Thurs 3 December	9.30am	Cathedral
Serran Mass for Vocations		
Fri 4 December	11.00am	Cathedral
Reconciliation & Exposition to follow Mass	11.30am	Cathedral
Weekend Masses		
Sat 5 December	11.00am	Loch Sport
	5.30pm	Cathedral
Sun 6 December	9.30am	Stratford
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
Please social distance	Use hand sanitiser	Use the sign in sheets



Father Peter Slater Diocesan Administrator, Catholic Diocese of Sale mindful of the Covid-19 pandemic and restrictions in the State of Victoria cordially invites

> to join in prayer via live-streaming: www.cdsale.org.au/bishop-ordination-bennet with the Clergy, Religious and People of Sale for the

Episcopal Ordination and Installation of

Most Reverend Gregory Charles Bennet

as Tenth Bishop of Sale

on Tuesday 8th December 2020 from 10.45am at St Mary's Cathedral, Sale

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May Our Lady of Perpetual Help, intercede for the sick, the aged and those dedicated to their care.

NEW TO THE PARISH? CHANGED ADDRESS IN THE LAST YEAR? NEED PLANNNED GIVING ENVELOPES OR TO UPDATE THE PARISH RECORDS? Please let us know we'd like to meet you! NAME: ADDRESS:

PHONE: EMAIL: Please tick: If you would like to join the Planned Giving Program If you would like to join a Family Group Please place on the plate at Mass or drop into the Parish Office

Prayer for the Year of Laudato Si' Loving God, Creator of Heaven, Earth, and all therein contained. Open our minds and touch our hearts, so that we can be part of Creation, your gift. Be present to those in need in these difficult times, especially the poorest and most vulnerable. Help us to show creative solidarity as we confront the consequences of the global pandemic. Make us courageous in embracing the changes required to seek the common good. Now more than ever, may we all feel interconnected and interdependent. Enable us to succeed in listening and responding to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor. May their current sufferings become the birth-pangs of a more fraternal and sustainable world. We pray through Christ our Lord, under the loving gaze of Mary Help of Christians, Amen. ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS APPEAL AND GIVING TREE. Despite all the difficulties, challenges and hardships brought about by this year by the Covid-19 Pandemic, most of us have survived not only with our lives, but also our finances more or less intact, while many others have not fared so well and are suffering hardship through reduced working hours and loss of jobs. Again, others who do not have access to Government payments are particularly affected and become reliant on non-Government agencies like Vinnies for their basic survival. St Vinnies have been an integral part of our Parish for the past sixty years, providing help and support for all who are needy in our wider community. St Vinnies volunteers attempt to walk with people in need, helping them through financially difficult times, being there with them and for them in these times of need. Once again, we are seeking your financial support which in turn will enable us to do more than just moral support. As in the past, a Giving Tree will we in the open area in the church where gifts of non-perishable food items can be placed. Tags listing of types of food needed can be taken from the tree and brought back to be placed under the tree or alternatively taken to the Parish office as access times to the church may be restricted due to Covid. Monetary gifts are also will also be gratefully received and these

can also be left at the Parish office. (Collections at Mass may be possible later if restrictions are lifted) A tree is life giving and our gifts can also be lifegiving for both those who give and those who receive. If you know of parishioners unable to come to Mass and who would like to give, consider taking tags from the tree to them and returning their gift for them.

St Vinnies volunteers are very conscious that these efforts are a combined Parish effort to do for others who are unable to do for

themselves. God bless the poor in their need and us for our support to try and alleviate some of their poverty,



Happy Christmas. St Vincent de Paul Society.

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: To you, I lift my soul, O my God. GOSPEL: In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 13:33-37 enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

FIRST READING:

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

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 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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

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.)

SECOND READING :

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

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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

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

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

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

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,

I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace You and Unite myself entirely to You: never permit me to be separated from You. Amen





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Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Each Friday from 11.30am—12.00pm **RECONCILIATION:** Cathedral Each Friday 11.30am - 12.00pm

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

First Reading: Second Reading: Gospel:

Second Sunday of Advent, Year B Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 2 St Peter 3:8-14 Mark 1:1-8

MARY'S SOUP KITCHEN CHAPTER HOUSE

Cancelled currently due to Covid restrictions.



WEEKEND MASS TIMETABLE

Saturday: Loch Sport - 11.00am (1st Saturday of the Month) Saturday: Cathedral - 5.30pm Vigil Sunday: Cathedral - 9:30am (Live-streamed only Sunday: Rosedale - 9.30am (2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month) Sunday Stratford - 9.30am (1st & 5th Sunday of the Month) Sunday. Briagolong - 9.30am (3rd Sunday of the Month) Sunday: Cathedral - 5.30pm