

The Living Word

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year A

18 December 2022

First Reading Is 7:10-14

The virgin will conceive.

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:
are you not satisfied with trying the
patience of men
without trying the patience of my God, too?
The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.
It is this: the maiden is with child
and will soon give birth to a son
whom she will call Immanuel,
a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23:1-6. R. see vv 7. 10

**(R.) Let the Lord enter;
he is king of glory.**

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. (R.)
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the
Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure
heart,
who desires not worthless things. (R.)

3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 1:1-7

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 1:23

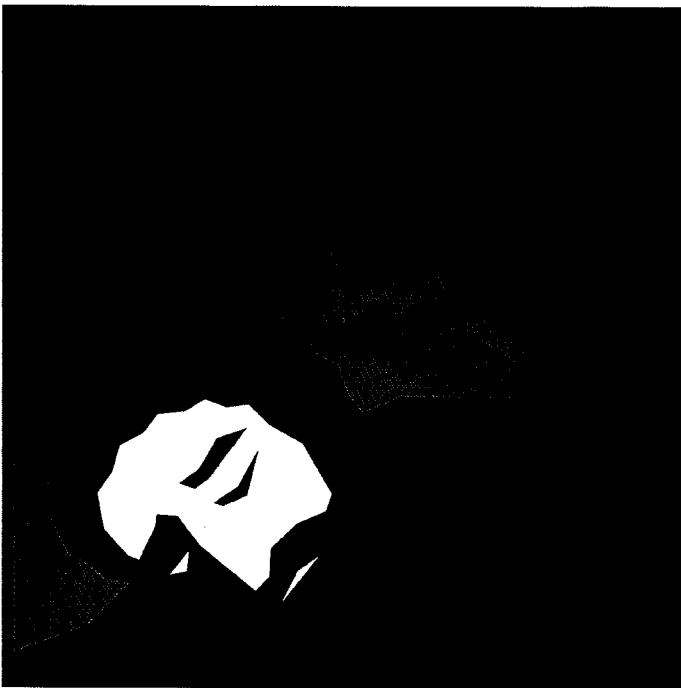
Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;

his name will be Emmanuel:

God is with us.

Alleluia!



Gospel Mt 1:18-24

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to
a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

Reflection by Greg Sunter

We will see throughout the coming liturgical year that the gospel of Matthew places a great deal of emphasis on the importance of the Law and upon its proper application. Indeed, the gospel writer casts Jesus in the role of the 'new Moses' – Moses was the great Law-giver of the Old Testament and Jesus is portrayed in this gospel as bringing a new Law to the people of Israel. In this gospel, the proper application of the Law is as important as the Law itself. In today's passage, Joseph provides an example of the proper application of the Law. His betrothed wife was pregnant; she would have been subject to the Law against adultery and probably would have been stoned to death. Under the Law, Joseph was obliged to divorce her, and yet he determines that he will do so quietly and protect Mary from too much shame and possibly save her life. Joseph did not intend to ignore the Law, but he sought to carry it out in such a way as to bring the least shame and the least hurt to all involved.

The role of Joseph is often overlooked. There is no mention of him during the public ministry of Jesus. In fact the latest mention in any of the gospels is the account of Jesus in the Temple at the age of 12. After that, Joseph disappears and we can only assume that he has passed away by the time Jesus takes up his ministry. Yet Joseph is truly a man of great faith. By rights he should have divorced Mary and walked away. But he trusts in the word of the God that is addressed to him in a dream and from that point on he goes to great lengths to protect and care for his family.

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HOLY TRINITY

CATHOLIC PARISH

Incorporating the Mass centres and communities of

Holy Family Our Lady Star of the Sea Holy Trinity
101 Hitchcock Av 68 John Dory Drive 34 Stevens St
Barwon Heads Ocean Grove Queenscliff

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather, the Wathaurong people. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully in the land.

We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Fr Darien J Sticklen

Parish Secretary: Mrs Daniella Sutura

Safeguarding & Admin Support:

Ms Jennie Ryan

Baptism Preparation:

Mrs Bel Campbell, Mrs Margaret-Mary Flynn,
Mrs Maria Sammut

Parish Mission Ambassador:

Ms Josephine Barnes

Holy Communion to the sick:

Jo Ballard, Sue Condon, Judy Considine, Louise Frances,
Genevieve Malone, Eva Millie, David O'Connor,
Majella O'Connor, Von Philp

PARISH OFFICE & PRESBYTERY

34 Stevens Street, Queenscliff 3225

Telephone: (03) 5258 1673

Email: queenscliff@cam.org.au

Website: www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
10:00am to 1:00pm (excluding public holidays)

PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St. Aloysius, Queenscliff

Principal: Ms. Miriam Leahy, Tel: 5258 1736

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

Principal: Ms. Kerry Sells, Tel: 5255 4308

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

BARWON HEADS: Saturday Vigil 6:00pm
Sunday 9:30am, Mass for
St Mary's Syro-Malabar
Community (Malayalam
language)

OCEAN GROVE: Sunday 9:00am

QUEENSCLIFF: Sunday 11:00am

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Please see below: Liturgy in our Parish this week

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

is available prior to each weekend Mass,
and also before or after weekday Masses if needed

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Please visit our website or contact Parish office

Please send in bulletin notices by 1pm on Thursdays

Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A

Recently Deceased: Rev Joseph Patrick Hynan PE.

Anniversaries 18th December to 24th December: Kevin Murray, Stanley Taylor, Des Hayes, Des Sullivan, John Charleston, Thelma Hirst, Jack van Elst, Margaret Vagg, James Collins, David Hanlon, Joe Ambrose, Edith Mary Reilly and Maria Danzi.

Please pray for those who are Sick: Elly Anwyl, Peg Benham, Naomi Bianco, Mary Blonk, Ron & Helen Carter, Sam and Yvonne Caruana, Connie D'Amico, Benedict Darby, Jack Davin, Ian Downing, Robert Drummond & Patti Semler, Margaret Dyer, Isabel Fitzgerald, Gloria & Ron Forbes, Nell Fraigneux, Kay Freyne, Ross Gilham, Peter Harrington, Jeannette Hodgkinson, Gregory Holien, Robert & Lyne Horner, Kerin Hoyer, Robert Hurley, Melissa Keogh, Gary Kingsbury, Hilda Koerntjes, Margaret Leahy, Margaret Lomas, Toni Lukauskas, Belinda Monterosso, Christine Naulty, Helen Pearce, Cecilia Picc, Mavourneen Ray, Margaret Renwick (Snr), Daniel & Geraldine Richards, Sean Richards, Betty Rushton, David Selva, Pauline Shannon, Mac & Mary Sullivan, Pam Sullivan, Kevin Teasdale, Aldo Trentini, Deanne Warren, Susan Weston, Michelle Williams, Peter Williams and Shirley Woodruff.

ROSTERS

*If you are unable to meet your commitment on your day,
please arrange a substitute. Thank you!*

COMMENTATOR (C), LECTOR (L), SPECIAL MINISTER (SM),
WELCOMERS (W), PROJECTIONIST (P)

BARWON HEADS – CHRISTMAS EVE: 24th December at 6:00pm:
To be confirmed.

OCEAN GROVE – CHRISTMAS EVE: 24th December at 6:00pm:
Special ministers to be confirmed.

QUEENSCLIFF – CHRISTMAS EVE: 24th December at 8:00pm:
To be confirmed.

OCEAN GROVE – CHRISTMAS DAY: 25th December at 9:00am:
(C) Brenda Bissinella (L) Maureen Earls (SM) Jo Ballard, David O'Connor
(W) Michael & Barbara Hardy.

COUNTERS: Tuesday 20th December at 10:00am:
Judy Compton and Fay Neville.

A MASSIVE THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

To all our wonderful people who volunteer their time and skills, we are truly thankful, grateful and blessed. Thank you to those who have signed a Code of Conduct and provided their Working With Children Check and/or National Police Check details.

All our amazing volunteers are such an asset to the Parish.

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

If you are a volunteer in our parish, have you:

1. A current Working With Children Check?
2. Signed a Parish Code of Conduct?
3. Done the *Safeguarding Essentials* 30-minute online training?
4. A National Police Check (for counters and collectors only)?

To make it easier, instead of online training, a group training session is being planned for early February next year. To register your interest, please contact Jennie Ryan via email: Queenscliff.Safeguarding@cam.org.au

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR MORE UPDATES!

www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/safeguarding/parish-child-safe/

We appreciate your understanding and support as we work together to comply with our legal requirements. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

** NEWS & EVENTS **

If you require Pastoral care & support, or you are aware of others who may need assistance, please phone our Parish office. Mobile number for emergencies is on the recorded message.

Columban Calendars 2023 on sale at all churches. \$10.00 each.

Parish office closure over the festive season: the parish office will be closed from 1:00pm on Friday 23rd December 2022 and will reopen at 10:00am on Tuesday 3rd January 2023.

Happy end of school year! We wish fantastic and joyous end of year celebrations to all the staff and students of Our Lady Star of the Sea and St Aloysius schools. We wish you all a happy and safe summer break.

Attention Ocean Grove Special Ministers: if you will be attending the Christmas Eve Mass at Ocean Grove, please let Josephine know on Sunday (18th Dec).

Holy Family Church in Barwon Heads will be open 10-11am on Thursday 22nd December. This will be a time for private prayer, and morning tea will be available.

Together we pray for the children receiving the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

Trinity Aid for Refugees will be recommencing grocery collections in January 2023, starting with Barwon Heads then rotating monthly across our Parish. Thank you to our generous supporters this year. If you would like to support the Refugee Families in Geelong through December you could donate online to Wesley Church Welcome Place BSB 633 000 Account: 160 305 066. Or contact Shirley 0409 424 243 or email shirleyhurley@inet.net.au.

TAR Catholic Social Justice Corner (weekly update): Pope Francis: 'Our Common Home', p 218. "In calling to mind the figure of Saint Francis of Assisi, we come to realise that a healthy relationship with creation is one dimension of overall conversion, which entails the recognition of our errors, sins, faults and failures, and leads to a heartfelt repentance and desire to change. The Australian Bishops spoke of the importance of such conversion for achieving reconciliation with creation... "We need to experience a conversion, or change of heart."

St Bernard's Belmont Parish is recruiting 2 staff members to join its team: Pastoral Worker and Administrative Officer. Do you know someone who is interested in undertaking one of the roles above? If so, please let them know. Job descriptions: www.melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies

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LITURGY IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

Monday 19th December – Monday of the 4th week of Advent

Tuesday 20th December – Tuesday of the 4th week of Advent

9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

10:00am Meditation & Prayer group

at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

11:00am St Aloysius End of Year Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

7:00pm Advent Service of Reconciliation

at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

Wednesday 21st December – Wednesday of the 4th week of Advent

9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

7:00pm Advent Service of Readings & Carols at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

Thursday 22nd December – Thursday of the 4th week of Advent

9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

Friday 23rd December – Friday of the 4th week of Advent

9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

Saturday 24th December – Saturday of the 4th week of Advent

CHRISTMAS EVE

6:00pm Mass at Holy Family, Barwon Heads

6:00pm Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

8:00pm Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

**** CHRISTMAS TIME ****

Sunday 25th December – The NATIVITY of the LORD

(Solemnity with octave)

CHRISTMAS DAY

9:00am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

10:00am Syro-Malabar Mass at Holy Family, Barwon Heads

11:00am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

This weekend, we light the Fourth Advent candle – the candle of Love.



Anthony & Letitia Dowling
with the friendly team you know and trust.

2 Park Lane, Ocean Grove VIC 3226

Phone: 5255 5655

Email: info@oceaneyes.com.au

Visit: www.oceaneyes.com.au



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Vinnies No Interest Loan Scheme ("NILS")

Geelong Vinnies NILS provides people on pensions & low incomes with loans up to \$1500 for essentials such as whitegoods, TVs, computers, medical & dental services, car repairs, etc... with absolutely no interest or fees! For further information, contact Vinnies NILS Tel 5229 8829 or email enquiries.nils@vinniesnils.org.au.



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or transfer property?

Contact Frank Nelson

0413 017 053

bellarine@npts.com.au



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hands

FLETCHERS

LOCAL EXPERTS

74 HESSE STREET, QUEENSCLIFF | 5258 2833

3/80 THE TERRACE, OCEAN GROVE | 5255 1721

bellarine@fletchers.net.au

fletchers.net.au

IT'S A FLETCHERS THING

CHARLIE'S MAINTENANCE CO

General maintenance, gardening, cleaning and tiling. Servicing the Bellarine and Geelong areas. Contact Charlie on 0413 609 170 or email charlie.sutera76@gmail.com.

Estia Health Leopold is a Residential Aged Care home and has availability for respite and permanent vacancies and with **50% of their respite fees for December and January**. Call Gabrielle on 0416 336 841 if you would like to have a look at our wonderful home and find out more details on respite care. **52 Ash Road, Leopold. Ph: 5250 2156.**

Estia Health