

# The Living Word

**First Sunday of Advent, Year B**

**3 December 2023**

## **First Reading Is 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 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.

## **Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4**

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

1. 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.)
2. 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.)
3. 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 1 Cor 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.



## **Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

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

*Alleluia!*

## **Gospel Mk 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!'

## **Reflection by Greg Sunter**

Stay awake! With these words, Jesus cautions his disciples to be constantly vigilant and to be alert to the return of the Lord. It is a very fitting way to begin the season of Advent. Advent has traditionally been observed as a time of preparation and waiting. It culminates in the Christmas season and so the waiting and preparation is related to the celebration of the coming of Christ into the world.

Perhaps the time of preparation this Advent is also a call to stay awake and stay alert in faith. One of the great challenges to faith today is the complacency that has taken hold of many in our society. When life is comfortable, the perceived need for faith appears to diminish. Many young people in our society cannot see the value of religious belief or religious practice. In a world of instant communication and instant 'satisfaction', the reflective and slow work of faith can seem too much effort for some people. The gospel call to stay awake in preparation for the coming of the Lord is a call to continue the work of bringing about the Kingdom of God.

Over the last three weeks, the gospel passages from Matthew 25 were reminders about continuing to prepare for the coming of the Kingdom. This week, with the beginning of Advent, it is the gospel of Mark that also reminds us that we cannot take the Kingdom for granted and must remain vigilant in working to realise the Kingdom. This vigilance needs to be applied to nurturing our own faith life as well as making a difference in the lives of those around us and the needy in society. Rather than 'Stay awake!' maybe some of us need to be told, 'Wake up!' It is never too late to pay closer attention to faith and perhaps this Advent is an ideal time to do that.

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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  
Parish Mission Ambassador: Ms Josephine Barnes

For all parish ministries, including Holy Communion to the Sick, RCIA, Baptism & Sacramental Program, Men Alive, Faith Development & Spirituality Group, St Vincent de Paul local Conference, Trinity Aid for Refugees, etc., please visit:

[www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au](http://www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au)

**PARISH OFFICE & PRESBYTERY**  
34 Stevens Street, Queenscliff 3225  
Telephone: (03) 5258 1673  
Email: [queenscliff@cam.org.au](mailto:queenscliff@cam.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  
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 before or after weekday Masses if needed.

**BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS**  
Visit our website for all information or contact Parish office  
[www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/](http://www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/)

**COLUMBARIUM**  
Please visit [www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/about-us/parish-columbarium/](http://www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/about-us/parish-columbarium/)

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN ATTENDING  
NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**  
Enrolments are open for 2024.

Please visit our website for enrolment form and all information:  
<https://hollytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/sacramental-program-2/>

Please send in bulletin notices by 1pm on Thursdays

## First Sunday of Advent, Year B

**Anniversaries 3<sup>rd</sup> December to 9<sup>th</sup> December:** Denise Love, Peter Compton, Carl Schenk, Raymond Blake, June Crane, Eileen Buckeridge, Michael Beavis OAM, Frank Hayes, Bonnie Ryan and Olive Hutchins.

**Please pray for those who are Sick:** Elly Anywl, Naomi Bianco, Denise Blake, Mary Blonk, Peter Bourke, Ron & Helen Carter, Sam Caruana, Brian Cotter, Jack Davin, Pat Dickeson, Ian Downing, Robert Drummond & Patti Semler, Gloria Forbes, Nell Fraigneux, Kay Freyne, Ross Gilham, Margaret Gladstone, Martin & Mary Grundy, Ben Hanan, Stephen Hanan, Peter Harrington, Jeannette Hodgkinson, Gregory Holien, Robert & Lyne Horner, Robert Hurley, Melissa Keogh, Gary Kingsbury, Hilda Koerntjes, Margaret Lomas, Toni Lukauskas, George Marshall, Belinda Monterosso, Christine Naulty, Frank Nelson, Helen Pearce, Cecilia Piec, Mavourneen Ray, Margaret Renwick (Snr), Geraldine Richards, Betty Rushton, Jeannett Stevens, Mary Sullivan, Pam Sullivan, Kevin Teasdale, 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)

**OCEAN GROVE: 10<sup>th</sup> December at 9:00am:**

(C) Brenda Bissinella (L) Catherine Hayes (SM) Marg Lucas, Fiorentina Romeo (W) Nan Calnin, Sr Nola Morrissy.

**QUEENSCLIFF: 10<sup>th</sup> December at 11:00am:**

(C) Adrian Scott (L) Diana Scott (SM) Terry Philp (W) David Millie.

**COUNTERS: Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 10:00am:**

Remo & Naomi Bianco.

### \*\* NEWS & EVENTS \*\*

*If you need 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.*

For all Safeguarding updates, please visit the parish website:

[www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/safeguarding/parish-child-safe/](http://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.*

**Hospitality Sunday:** will take place on **this Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December**, following 9:00am Mass (including children's liturgy) at Ocean Grove and 11:00am Mass at Queenscliff. ALL WELCOME!

**Message for Ocean Grove from Josephine:** Thank you to all the people who have assisted with food or help during the year to make these gatherings so pleasant. If you would like to help in 2024, please add your name to the list in the foyer or introduce yourself to me after Mass. New parishioners are especially invited to join us.

**QRAR (Queenscliff Rural Aid for Refugees) afternoon tea on this Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December**, from 1-3pm at the Queenscliff Uniting Church Hall. All welcome to come and chat about the refugee organisation.

**Ladies Social Group** lunch on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 12-noon** at the Ocean Grove Hotel. RSVP text/call Julie on 0411 578 285. All welcome

**Taizé Pray | Peace Gathering:** people in the Bellarine Peninsula and beyond are invited to gather to pray and worship for Advent at Santa Casa (33 Flinders Street, Queenscliff) on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 2:30pm** followed by a cuppa at 3:30pm. Please RSVP to Sr Lizzie Finnerty RSM on 0418 194 261 or [santacasa@ismapng.org.au](mailto:santacasa@ismapng.org.au) for catering purposes. All welcome.

**COUNTERS WANTED!** If you are interested in joining the counters team, please contact Daniella at the parish office. A National Police Check (arranged via parish office) and WWCC are required.

**Caritas Australia's Global Gifts Christmas cards** are a great way to spread joy and hope this Christmas season and to make a life-changing impact. Order now to receive in time for Christmas at [www.globalgifts.org.au](http://www.globalgifts.org.au). Details on church noticeboards.

**PRAYER FOR BAPTISM FAMILIES:** Dear Parents, as you prepare for your child's Baptism, the people of Holy Trinity Parish rejoice that you have chosen to baptise your child, and we pray that in the coming years, you and your family will continue to know and grow in the love of God that is everlasting.

**Upcoming annual appeal and special collection:** Melbourne Overseas Mission Annual Appeal will be held next weekend (9-10 December). *Thank you for your generosity and support.*

**Carols at Iona College:** parishioners are invited to join the Iona College musicians for an evening of Christmas music making. **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December from 6-8pm.** BYO picnic, chairs and blankets. Free event, however bookings via Trybooking. See Church noticeboard for information.

**Friends of Faith & Light Geelong – Christmas Celebration:** join us to welcome Jesus into our lives at a special Christmas gathering on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December** from 2:00-4:30pm. Pioneer Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, St Mary's Parish (150 Yarra St, Geelong). Please bring some food to share and a small Christmas gift for another. Pre-booking is a must. Call/text Tricia 0414 672 267 by 8<sup>th</sup> December. Further details on Church noticeboard.

**Annual Parish Christmas Carols at the Basilica: Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December** from 2pm - 4pm. Carols start at 3pm in the Basilica. Lots of activities and stalls on the day and Christmas Raffle (tickets: \$1ea; 3 for \$2; 8 for \$5). All welcome.

**Geelong Catholic Diners Club:** You are warmly invited to join us for a social get-together for food & friendship. **Date:** Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. **Time:** 6:00pm. **Venue:** The Bistro, Belmont Hotel (High St, Belmont). **Cost:** Purchase meals & drinks at your own cost. **RSVP** to John Santospirito on 0409 165 943 or [john.santospirito@bigpond.com](mailto:john.santospirito@bigpond.com) by 8<sup>th</sup> December.

**Trinity Aid for Refugees (TAR):** to donate directly to Wesley Church Welcome Place: BSB 633 000, Account 160 305 066. Website: [www.queenscliffar.org](http://www.queenscliffar.org)

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### LITURGY IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December – St John Damascene (Memorial)**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December – Tuesday of the 1<sup>st</sup> week of Advent**

9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove  
5:45pm Our Lady Star of the Sea School Concert

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December – St Nicholas (Memorial)**

9:15am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion  
at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December – St Ambrose (Memorial)**

9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove  
11:00am Mass with anointing at TLC Homestead, Wallington  
6:00pm St Aloysius School Concert and Awards Presentation at Queenscliff Town Hall

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December – The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Solemnity)**

9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Saturday of the 1<sup>st</sup> week of Advent**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December – SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT**

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### **\*\* ADVENT SERVICE OF READINGS & CAROLS \*\***

You are warmly invited to an ecumenical **Advent Service of Readings & Carols** **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7:00pm**

at Holy Trinity Church, 34 Stevens Street Queenscliff.

Carols Ancient & Modern ... Readings from Sacred Scripture ...  
Poems & Reflections

Voluntary Gold Coin Donation to support Trinity Aid for Refugees

Light refreshments served afterwards in the parish hall

Everyone who enjoys singing is welcome to participate on the night.

We hope to see you, and wish you a blessed, peaceful and joyful Christmas.

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### **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](mailto:charlie.sutera76@gmail.com).

### SPREADING THE NEWS

#### Meet your PPC member and Principal of Our Lady Star of the Sea Primary School, Ocean Grove – Kerry Sells (by Susan Weston)

I have been teaching at Our Lady Star of the Sea since 1996, Principal since 2019 & part of this parish for most of this time. I am from a large catholic family - family is very important to me, as is catching up with friends. My hobbies include reading, gardening, pilates & walking.

As Principal there are many aspects to my role. I am a faith leader, who models all I do on the gospel values. I see my role as serving all in the community with conscious compassion & ensuring the learning opportunities provided grow all students spiritually, academically, socially & emotionally, for them to be good citizens.

Our Religious Education learning gives an awareness of the parish, our Church & how we belong to this extended family. Our dedicated teachers provide opportunities to connect & be involved via the Sacraments & attending a weekday Mass each term, at each year level. Fr Darien is our wonderful faith leader & chats to students around the Sacraments or on other RE topics. He also welcomes classes at weekday Masses & says special Masses for us as a whole school throughout the year.

We have a very strong focus on social justice. This year our theme is "Beacons of Hope" & we found many opportunities to help make a difference, e.g. visiting the elderly, Mission fete & raising money for Caritas & Catholic Missions, making St Vincent de Paul hampers, & visiting Bellarine Foods to name a few.

We are very open to working with parish volunteers & really enjoy making parish links.

For more information about the PPC, please contact the Parish Office: 5258 1673 | [queenscliff@cam.org.au](mailto:queenscliff@cam.org.au) visit [www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au](http://www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au).

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Visit: [www.oceaneyes.com.au](http://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](mailto:enquiries.nils@vinniesnils.org.au).



Nelson Property  
Transfer Services  
Geelong & Bellarine

Looking to buy, sell  
or transfer property?

Contact Frank Nelson  
0413 017 053  
[bellarine@npts.com.au](mailto:bellarine@npts.com.au)

