

The Living Word

The Presentation of the Lord

2 February 2025

First Reading Mal 3:1-4

The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple.

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23:7-10. R. v.10

**(R.) Who is this king of glory?
It is the Lord!**

1. O gates, lift up your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
2. Who is the king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,
the Lord, the valiant in war. (R.)
3. O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
4. Who is he, the king of glory?
He, the Lord of armies,
he is the king of glory. (R.)

Second Reading Heb 2:14-18

He had to be made like us in all things.

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of

the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

***This is the light of revelation to
the nations,***

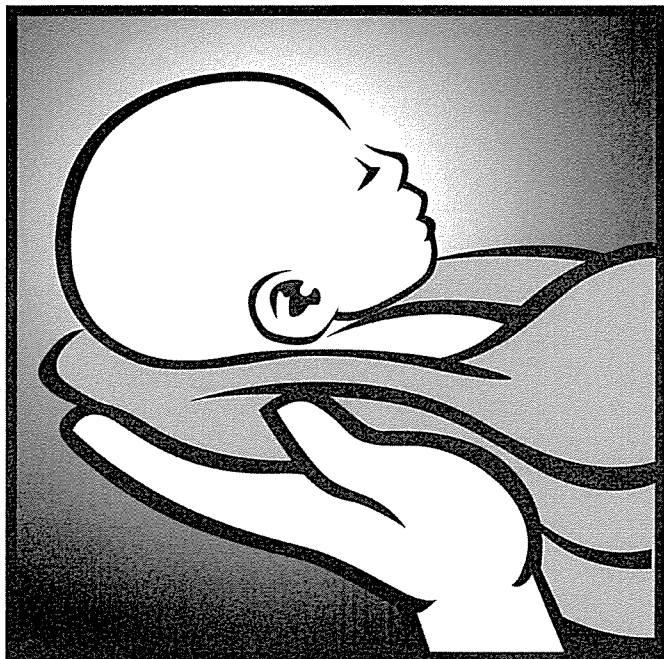
and the glory of your people Israel.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 2:22-40

My eyes have seen your saving power.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God, and he said:



'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace,
just as you promised;
because my eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared for all the nations
to see,
a light to enlighten the pagans
and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

Reflection by Greg Sunter

The gospel writer has merged two different ritual events into one in this passage: a ritual of purification following childbirth and an act of redeeming a first-born son through tribute to the Temple. The ritual of purification referred to would take place forty days after childbirth and today's feast is the fortieth day from Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Jesus. It was a ritual for the mother, not the child. Mary and Joseph took the opportunity of attending the Temple to bring Jesus into the presence of God who, according to tradition, dwelt in the Temple. The tradition associated with this purification of women after childbirth dictated that a lamb and a turtledove or pigeon be sacrificed. However, for the poor, an extra turtledove or pigeon could be substituted for the lamb. The gospel tells us that Mary and Joseph were sacrificing a pair of birds. This fact gives us an indication of the status of Mary and Joseph – they were sufficiently poor that they could not afford to sacrifice a lamb.

The other ritual alluded to in the passage relates to the tradition from Exodus 13:2 and Numbers 18:15 that every first-born son belonged to the Lord and had to be 'bought back' or 'redeemed' by payment to the Temple. The original command of the first-born belonging to the Lord meant that the child was destined to serve in the Temple. However, the child could be 'redeemed' from this service by payment to the Temple.

There is a great contrast between the forceful entry into the Temple by the Lord as foretold by Malachi in today's first reading and the humble entry of the baby Jesus into the Temple. It reinforces the way in which throughout his ministry Jesus confounded many of the expectations about the Messiah.

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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

Parish Priest: Fr Linh Pham
Parish Secretary: Mrs Daniella Sutera
Parish Mission Ambassador: Ms Josephine Barnes
Pastoral Care Coordinator: Sr Nola Morrissy RSM

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

PARISH OFFICE & PRESBYTERY
34 Stevens Street, Queenscliff 3225
Telephone: (03) 5258 1673
Email: queenscliff@cam.org.au

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
10:00am to 1:00pm (closed 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. Kerryn 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/

COLUMBARIUM

Please visit www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/about-us/parish-columbarium/

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN ATTENDING NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Please visit our website for all information:
<https://www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/sacramental-program-1/>

Please send in bulletin notices by 1:00pm on Thursdays

If you would like a deceased loved one(s) prayed for on their anniversary, please contact the parish office on 5258 1673 or queenscliff@cam.org.au by 1:00pm on Thursdays.

PARISHIONERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE THEIR BULLETINS HOME AFTER MASS

The Presentation of the Lord

Anniversaries 2nd January to 8th February: Stephen Modestie, Christine James, Chettina Sammut, Gaetana Scicluna, Eileen Marie Moroney and Michael Sheehan.

Please pray for those who are Sick: John Anwyl, Naomi Bianco, Jacqueline Blake, Mary Blonk, Peter Bourke, Helen Carter, Sam Caruana, Sue Casey, Ian Downing, Robert Drummond & Patti Semler, Nell Faigneux, Kay Freyne, Ross Gilham, Margaret Gladstone, Mary Gladwin, Martin & Mary Grundy, Justin Hanan, Stephen Hanan, Susan Hardy, Peter Harrington, Jeanette Hodgkinson, Gregory Holien, Robert & Lyne Horner, Melissa Keogh, Hilda Koerntjes, Margaret Lomas, Michelle Mahoney, Belinda Monterosso, Christine Naulty, Helen Pearce, Cecilia Picc, Mavourneen Ray, Geraldine Richards, Betty Rushton, Kevin Teasdale, Deanne Warren, Cathy Williams and Peter Williams.

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: 9th February at 9:00am:

(C) Frank Rice (L) Maureen Earls (SM) Carmel Rice, Marg Lucas (W) Catherine Hayes, Margaret Donovan.

QUEENSCLIFF: 9th February at 11:00am:

(C) Terry Philp (L) Adrian Redfern (SM) Angela Hatch (W) Rosamaria Guthrie.

COUNTERS: Tuesday 4th February at 10:00am:

Judy Compton & Fay Neville.

** NEWS & EVENTS **

If you need Pastoral care & support, or you are aware of others who may need assistance, please phone our Parish office.

For all Safeguarding updates, please visit the parish website:

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.

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord – candles: if parishioners wish to bring their candles to church this weekend, they are welcome to do so. Fr Linh will bless the candles during or after Mass.

Hospitality Sunday: will take place on **this Sunday**, 2nd February, following 9:00am Mass (including children's liturgy) at Ocean Grove and 11:00am Mass at Queenscliff. All welcome!

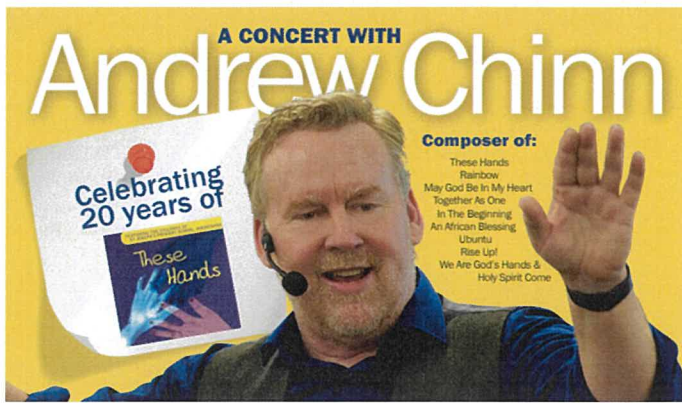
Thank you for the Christmas billboards, Bellarine Property! A massive shout-out to Bellarine Property for supplying the Christmas billboards and a big thank you to Donnie Grigau for the Christmas artwork last year.

Ladies Social Group: lunch at Queenscliff Bowling Club on Wednesday 5th February at 12midday. Those interested in a walk before lunch, please meet in the car park at 10.30. To book call or text: Julie 0411578285 or Sandra 0423947862. Everyone is welcome.

This weekend, we welcome families preparing for Baptism, and together, we pray (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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BAPTISM PREPARATION – the parish office and Baptism Team need your help: if you are interested in joining the Baptism Team and undertaking Baptism Preparation for families (on the first Saturday of each month), please contact the parish office.



St Aloysius Primary School – PARISHIONERS, YOU ARE INVITED! On Tuesday 4th February, Australian religious songwriter and singer, Andrew Chinn, will be visiting our school to share his songs with our students. Andrew’s songs such as “These Hands”, “Rainbow” and “An African Blessing” are used in classrooms and liturgies around Australia, New Zealand, the USA and Canada. The concert will take place in the Parish Hall at 2.00pm. We look forward to seeing you there. *Andrew will also lead the music for our Beginning of the Year Whole School Mass on the morning of the 4th February at 9.15am. Please join us then.*

+ LENT 2025 +

This Lent, the Faith Development Group is sourcing the booklet: ‘START ANEW IN CHRIST,’ a new Lent and Easter resource for individuals and groups from the Diocese of Brisbane. The daily reflections will invite the reader to contemplate a verse from the Scripture reading of the day.

Estimated cost per booklet is \$6.00.

We hope to run two reflection groups (one during the day and the other in the evening) during Lent. The first meetings will be held on **Tuesday 4th of March.**

If you are interested in obtaining a book for personal reflection and/or would like to join a reflection group, please contact either: Sandra Gould (sandra@salmandra.com) or on 0418 537 941, or Kerin Fox (foxeskb@gmail.com) or on 0407 519 585.

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LITURGY IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

Monday 3rd February – Weekday, Ordinary Time 4

2:15pm Our Lady Star of the Sea Beginning of School Mass (musical guest: Andrew Chinn) at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

Tuesday 4th February – Weekday, Ordinary Time 4

- 9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove
- 9:15am St Aloysius Beginning of School Mass (musical guest: Andrew Chinn) at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff
- 2:00pm Andrew Chinn and St Aloysius Concert in Parish Hall, Queenscliff
- 4:00pm Sacramental Program Parent Information Session at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

Wednesday 5th February – St Agatha (Memorial)

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

Thursday 6th February – St Paul Miki and companions (Memorial)

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

Friday 7th February – Weekday, Ordinary Time 4

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

Saturday 8th February – Weekday, Ordinary Time 4

Sunday 9th February – 5th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

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Caritas Australia’s Gaza Crisis Appeal: We urgently need your support. The ceasefire means more aid can assist people in Gaza, but the need is immense and the recovery long. Gaza’s people cannot recover alone. They need the support of the global community to survive and rebuild. Please donate to Caritas Australia’s Gaza Crisis Appeal. You can donate online www.caritas.org.au/gaza or phone 1800 024 413.

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**** YOUR SAFETY IS OUR PRIORITY ****

1. If an emergency occurs near you, please raise your hand or stand up and speak out to alert the Emergency Wardens. Directions as to what to do next will then be given and assistance rendered.
2. If it is necessary to evacuate the building, the Chief Emergency Warden or other nominated Safety Wardens will take control. The Chief Emergency Warden will be identified by the wearing of a yellow Hi Vis vest. Please remain calm and in your seats etc until you are directed by the Chief Emergency Warden as to what to do next. You will be advised as to which exit/s to use and the location of the Assembly Point. Please remain at the Assembly Point until you receive further advice.
3. In an emergency, our first priority is your safety, so please remain calm & follow all directions of the Emergency Wardens.

For more information, please contact the Parish Office:

5258 1673 | queenscliff@cam.org.au | www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au

Thank you, OH&S Committee.

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Thought for the Week:

Do all things with love.

-Unknown.

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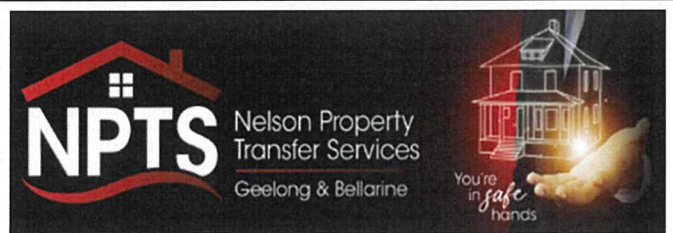
Anthony & Letitia Dowling
with the friendly team you know and trust.

2 Park Lane, Ocean Grove VIC 3226

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Visit: www.oceaneyes.com.au



Phone: 03 5221 7411 | Email: bellarine@npts.com.au

CHARLIE’S MAINTENANCE CO

General maintenance, handyman, gardening, and cleaning. Servicing the Bellarine and Geelong areas.

Contact Charlie on 0413 609 170 or email

charlie.sutera76@gmail.com.