



St Patrick's Parish

PO Box 547, 65 Clarke St

Lilydale 3140

Ph. 9739 5977 0448 658 418

Email: Lilydale@cam.org.au

<http://stpatrickslilydale.cam.org.au>

Administrator: Rev. Fr. Francis Denton

Email: lilydale@cam.org.au

Secretary: Mrs Sharon Jacob

Pastor Emeritus: Fr John Dupuche

Pastoral Worker: Mrs Debbie Edwards

19th & 20th DECEMBER 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year B)

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

A reading from the second book of Samuel

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."' "

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 88:2-5, 27, 29

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;

I have sworn to David my servant:

I will establish your dynasty for ever

and set up your throne through all ages.'

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

He will say to me: 'You are my father,
my God, the rock who saves me.'

I will keep my love for him always;

for him my covenant shall endure.

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Luke 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:

may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this

greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

General Intercessions

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST



PARISH PRAYER LIST

Recently Deceased: Joe Di Battista,
Anne Moroney Marco Tassiello (Iserna, Italy)

Anniversaries:

Sick: Joan Keuken, Angela Del Guidice, Lynne Fleming, Kim J, Cherie, Izaak, Anne-Maree Sullivan, Peter & Aurelia Di Ciero, Tony Cunningham, Claudette & Gilbert, Florens, Kate, Tim Lawson, John Hopper, Cassandra, Mary and John Hamilton, Carmel O'Healy, Michelle, Pat Robb, Robert Taylor, Nancy Leonard, Brian Walsh, Michael Paola, Barbara De Vincentiis, Emma, Wayne, Julian Monteiro, Dolly Maher, Salvacion Santos, Ricky, Giovanna Zammit, Michael Jordan, , Catherine Fields, Sam Lawson, Geoff, Grace Quinlivan, Bianca, , Mary Ovans, Stephen, Gael Holliday, Rob Meridith, Bill Meyer, Cathie & Jose Grima, Roman De Angelis, Tedi & Santi, Stephen Wakeham, Gwen Weaver, June, Jenny Goh, Paul Payne, Peter Bedford, Rose Roberts

Reconciliation By appointment
Anointing of the sick By appointment
Marriages: Please give at least six months' notice.
Baptism: Please contact parish office for details.
Parish office - Please call 0448 658 418
Pastoral worker - Please call 0448 664 731
St Vincent de Paul - If assistance is required please contact 1800 305 330 Mon-Fri 10.00am – 4.00pm
Care group Contact Parish Office 0448 658 418



We are a child safe Parish



Mass Bookings

Bookings are essential to ensure our compliance Booking are through Trybooking

All sanitising, social distancing and contact tracing rules need to be followed.
If you don't have access to a computer, or need assistance with TryBooking, please call Sharon on 0448 658 418.

Please use below link and follow the prompts for Masses Tues 22nd, Wed 23rd, Sat 26th & Sun 27th December

<https://www.trybooking.com/BNQYX>

Mass Times are as follows:

Lilydale	
Tuesday	9.15am
Wednesday	9.15am
Friday	9.15am
Saturday	9am Latin Mass 6pm Vigil
Sunday	10.30am
Healesville	
Thursday	9.15am
Sunday	8.30am



Christmas Mass Times

Everyone must be signed in upon arrival at Mass, Seating will be set up a little different to normal.
 Please allow extra time to enter the church or Community Centre.

Christmas Eve Thursday 24th December
 Children's Nativity Play and Carols: 4.30pm
 Christmas Eve Family Mass: 5.00 pm. In the community centre

Midnight Mass
 Mass at 12 am in the Church

Friday 25th December
 Christmas Day Mass 10.30am

<https://www.trybooking.com/BNQWM>

Bookings are essential. Please use this link for Christmas Masses.

WEEKLY THANKSGIVING

Weekly Pledged Amount to Parish (thanksgiving only)

\$1404.50

Thanksgiving received week ending 13th December 2020

Thanksgiving Collection \$ 1784.00

Presbytery \$ 1056.00

Restoration \$ 199.65

St Vincent DePaul \$ 1936.60



4th Sunday Advent 2020

There are some pedants who would argue that strictly speaking carols are more properly saved up for Christmas Day onwards, for the same reason that we don't sing joyful Easter hymns during Lent. After all

Advent is a penitential season too, not that you would notice given all the pre-Christmas feasting! If that's the case then there really ought to be more Advent carols. One of the few songs that could properly be called an Advent hymn is "O come, O come, Emmanuel." This hymn has a fascinating history with roots that go back to the Church's ancient liturgy, with a strong scriptural grounding, drawing in particular from Isaiah.

Throughout the weeks of Advent the readings at Mass and in the Divine Office have focused heavily on the prophet Isaiah. More so than any other prophet, Isaiah proclaims the promise of the 'Messiah' (or in Greek, 'Christ') meaning the Anointed One, who would come to save not only Israel but all the nations. Isaiah employs a range of titles and prophetic imagery that anticipate the Christmas story quite directly: "behold the Virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel!" (Isaiah 7:14). Seven of these Messianic titles from Isaiah were arranged into Magnificat antiphons to be used at Evening Prayer in the Divine Office in the seven days leading up to Christmas. These have become known as the Great 'O' Antiphons, because they each begin by invoking Jesus Christ under a title in the vocative form. In order these are: O Wisdom (*Sapientia*), O Lord (*Adonai*), O Root of Jesse (*Radix Jesse*), O Key of David (*Clavis David*), O Rising Sun (*Oriens*), O King of the Nations (*Rex Gentium*) and O Emmanuel. If the

first letter of each title is read backwards it forms an acrostic, 'ERO CRAS,' which in Latin means "tomorrow I will come" (literally, "tomorrow I will be"). Whether it was deliberate or coincidental is academic, however what is clear is the prominence given to these antiphons from at least the 8th century (and possibly as far back as the 6th century). In the monasteries the expression "Keep your O" became a common pre-Christmas salutation!

The popular Advent hymn "O come, o come, Emmanuel" is a 19th century poetic arrangement based upon these 'O' antiphons: each verse is based upon one of the seven Messianic titles (although note that the first verse is in fact the last of the 'O' antiphons). We may want to reflect on this ancient and beautiful hymn in the coming week as we prepare for the coming of Christ who is *Emmanuel* – 'God With Us.'

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.*

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orders all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. (Refrain)*

*O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law in cloud and majesty and awe. (Refrain)*

*O come, thou Rod of Jesse's stem, from every foe deliver them;
That trust your mighty power to save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. (Refrain)*

*O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by your drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. (Refrain)*

*O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. (Refrain)*

O come, O King of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;

*bid thou our sad divisions cease, and
be thyself our Prince of
Peace. (Refrain)*

Fr Francis Denton



From Debbie's Desk

As we light the last of our Advent candles, our waiting for the celebration of the birth of our Saviour, the one who was promised through the ages, is nearing its fulfilment. Week by week, the light is gathering in intensity as each lit candle adds to the symbolism that prepares us for Christmas joy, pointing to truths beyond sight. I am fond of saying that nothing ever happens by accident in our Catholic traditions, everything has a meaning. The significance of candlelight piercing the darkness is reinforced in our minds over and over again, candles are an integral part of our formal liturgies, and very often of our informal moments in God's company. Light overcomes darkness, no matter how tiny that light may be. It defeats it, always. Light dispels fear, it leads to knowledge. Light reveals truth. The Advent wreath's 3 purple candles encourage our earnest contemplation of our own relationship with God, we examine our commitment to him with the light of truth as our guide. The pink candle symbolises a spark of joy as we draw nearer, day by day, to the fulfilment of our Advent journeys. The white candle at the centre of the wreath, lit on Christmas Day, is a mere shadow of the glory that the angels proclaimed in celebration of the moment of Jesus' birth. Together, these symbols speak to our hearts without words. We move from darkness to light, remembering Jesus as the light of the world, the hope of all mankind. As we rejoice with the angels, we can 'see' them in our hearts, hosts of angels, throngs of angels, filling the dark sky above the shepherds with golden light as they sang for the Son of God, newly born and lying in his mother's arms. 'Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth' fills our very beings.

My mind spins on to Jesus on the mountain, transfigured, as his divinity shone through his humanity to allow his friends a glimpse of understanding within their struggling minds. 'His face shone like the sun'... Our imaginations are bathed in the light of Jesus' face, they draw us to him, a man like us in every way, yet God, the Son, the beloved. We imagine the light that pierced Mary and Joseph's hearts as they gazed in wonder at tiny, newborn Jesus, so beautiful, so perfect, born

with his mum's eyes, his grandmother's hair, and his Father's, well, everything! Imagine their hearts on fire with love that spilled out to light the lives of whomever they met. The sword that eventually pierced Mary's heart, foretold at Jesus' presentation in the temple, could never extinguish the light that burned there, the light of hope that was lit within her soul at the moment of her own creation. That same light burns in our souls too, it is a pilot light, with limitless potential to flare up, to inspire us, to give us courage, to extinguish our darkest moments of fear and loneliness, to set our own hearts burning with a fire that we cannot keep to ourselves. Spend a minute or two noticing our Advent Wreath today. Perhaps you could light a candle this week in a quiet place, and spend a few minutes prayerfully contemplating Jesus, 'the light'. What might your heart find as you gaze into that tiny light? God only knows!

Online Advent Seminar

Parousia Media are hosting this great online series of talks for Advent. They run daily and are FREE! Since we've missed the opportunity for a parish based program this is great alternative that you can watch at your convenience. Special thanks to Mary Dowling for the tip off!

Welcome to the Advent Pilgrimage – Bill Synder and Charbel Raish

<https://watch.parousiamedia.com/programs/bill-and-charbel-welcome-videomov-10ea29?autoplay=true&categoryId=65394>

Annual Collection for Melbourne Overseas Mission

This year you can donate to the Melbourne Overseas Mission Collection online through their website at: MOM annual appeal donation link:

<https://bit.ly/CDFpayMOM>

Link to weekly mass

A reminder that Fr Francis' Sunday Masses are recorded each weekend and are available on St Brigid's You Tube Channel each Sunday morning. Fr Francis records Masses from St Brigid's, St Patrick's and St Aloysius churches. The link is accessible through St Brigid's Healesville's website, <http://www.stbrigidshealesville.cam.org.au/> or by searching St Brigid's Healesville on You Tube, or using the link: <https://bit.ly/StBsHville>