



**ST ANTHONY'S  
PARISH**  
M A R S F I E L D

# THE GOOD OIL

**HAPPY NEW YEAR** to everybody! Perhaps you think I am getting confused. This is not January 1 nor is it the lunar new year or the beginning of the Muslim year. Yet it is the beginning of a new year, the beginning of another Church year. Last week we celebrated the Feast of Christ the King and the last Sunday of the outgoing Church year. Today is the First Sunday in Advent and the beginning of a new Church year. Why are these four weeks before Christmas called "Advent"? The term comes from a Latin word (adventus) meaning 'coming, arrival'. We immediately think it refers to the coming of Jesus at Christmastime and that is correct. But it is not the whole story.

## Three 'comings'

The First Reading from the prophet Jeremiah refers prophetically to the coming of Jesus, our King and Saviour: That is the coming of the Child Jesus in Bethlehem, which we anticipate and prepare for in these four weeks. That is what we may call the First Coming. The Gospel speaks in ominous terms of the end of the world and what we refer to as the Second Coming of Jesus at the end of time. However, there is still a third coming which forms an important and indispensable link between the First and Second Comings. That is what is spoken about in the Second Reading. It is the welcoming of Jesus into our lives in the here and now. This is something which takes place every day. By it we both acknowledge the First Coming of Jesus in Bethlehem and prepare for the Second Coming at an unknown future date.

## Why the end at the beginning?

It may seem strange to start the beginning of the Church year by speaking about the end of the world. Should we not rather be speaking about creation? Or at least about the beginnings of Christianity and the moment of Incarnation?

**READ THE FULL COMMENTARY** at [livingspace.sacredspace.ie/AC011/](http://livingspace.sacredspace.ie/AC011/)  
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## 2 DECEMBER 2018 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C

1<sup>st</sup> Reading **Jeremiah 33:14-16**  
Resp Psalm **24:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14**

*To you O Lord,  
I lift up my soul*

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading **1 Thes 3:12-4:2**  
Gospel **Luke 21:25-28, 34-36**

### Masses This Week

Sat 6pm	<b>Vigil Mass</b>
Sun 9am & 6pm	<b>Mass</b>
Mon 9am	<b>Liturgy of the Word</b>
Tue - Fri 9am	<b>Mass</b>

### Parish Staff & Contacts

Pastor **Greg Cooney** cm  
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**GROUPS IN THE PARISH:** The St Vincent de Paul Society · The Finance Committee · Works and Maintenance Committee · Hospitality Groups · Meditation Groups · Book Club · St Anthony's Ladies Club · St Anthony's Men Club · Fraternity of our Lady of Grace · San Francesco di Paola Association · Italian Ladies Club · Indonesian Youth Bible Study Group · Ministers to sick and Housebound · Catechists · Youth Off the Streets Food Van · Choirs—Adult, Children's; St Arnold Jansen; Youth; Indonesian Youth ·

**Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to know more.**

**HOUR OF GRACE.** You are invited to commemorate an hour of grace in our Parish from 12-1pm on Sat 8 Dec, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. It is a time for prayer and penance, as told to Sr Pierina of Montichiari in Italy in 1947. Please contact Marietta Barbaro should you require further details.

### **LIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS WED 5 DEC.**

Come and celebrate with Bishop Richard Umbers and Gary Pinto at the end of the Year of Youth and the Launch of the Lights of Christmas.

Join us on the Wed 5 Dec for:

- 5.30pm** Mass celebrated by Bishop Richard Umbers
- 6.30pm** Concert on the Cathedral steps featuring Gary Pinto
- 7.30pm** Lights of Christmas celebration followed by official opening with Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP and NSW premier Gladys Berejiklian.

**AN ADVENT APP FOR CHRISTMAS! – MEET ME IN THE SILENCE.** Each day delivers a new video, podcast or written feature to assist you prepare for Christmas and meet Jesus in the silence, despite the busyness of the season. The Advent Calendar App is free on your iPhone, iPad and Android devices. Search for "Xt3 Advent" in the Google Play store or the App store, or visit [www.sydneycatholic.org/xt3advent](http://www.sydneycatholic.org/xt3advent)

### **CATHOLIC CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIA – TWILIGHT CAROLS**

Where: Mary, Mother of Mercy Chapel, Rookwood Catholic Cemetery When: Thu 13 Dec commencing 6:30pm. Fireworks at 9pm.

**FOR SALE AT THE PARISH BBQ THIS SUNDAY, 2 DEC:** St Anthony's Tea Towels for just \$5 each. Get one for your home!

**CHRISTMAS TREE OF JOY.** Many families in our community face hardship, especially during the Christmas Season. We can assist in a small way through our Christmas 'Tree of Joy', which is up near Our Lady of Grace. Please consider taking a card from the Tree. You may give a gift card instead of a gift, should you prefer. Please place your card from the Tree in a GIFT BAG (do not wrap) & drop it off at the Parish Office no later than Monday 10 Dec .

No food hampers, please, as some people have food allergies.

**ST ANTHONY'S PARISH AND THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY  
THANK YOU SINCERELY FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.**

**A CHORAL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION CONCERT.** On Fri 14 Dec, St Mary's Cathedral will celebrate the annual, and much anticipated A Choral Christmas Celebration concert. There will be two performances at 11am & 7pm with tickets starting from \$20. Visit [www.cathedralchoir.sydney/acc](http://www.cathedralchoir.sydney/acc) for more information.

**KIMBERLEY CATHOLIC VOLUNTEER SERVICE.** The Diocese of Broome, WA, requires volunteers to assist with the work of the local Church in the Kimberley. There are various important voluntary tasks: administration, building maintenance, gardening, shop staffing, cooking, cleaning etc. Placements are preferred for a period of 6 months. We are currently seeking volunteers for several parishes including Balgo, and La Grange/Bidyadanga and Warmun. For further details on how to be a part of this unique experience, and an application form, please contact: Volunteer Coordinator: Anneliese Rohr 08 9192 1060 Email: [volunteers@broomedioocese.org](mailto:volunteers@broomedioocese.org) . Web: [www.broomedioocese.org](http://www.broomedioocese.org) . Mail: **PO Box 76, BROOME WA 6725**

**FR RICHARD LEONARD SJ TALK— 'ADVENT: THE NEW BEGINNINGS'.** Tue 4 Dec, 7pm, at St Kevin's, Eastwood. Fr Leonard is known for his dynamic presentations around the world. Don't miss this opportunity to hear him speak, as we prepare for Christmas. 36 Hillview Rd, Eastwood, 9874 2533.

**NATIVITY PAGEANT FOR CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MASS,** 6pm Christmas Eve 2018. Children wishing to participate in this year's pageant will need to attend compulsory rehearsals, about 1 hour-long, on 16 Dec, 10am, 18 Dec, 4.30pm and 23 Dec, 10am. Parents are asked to attend the rehearsals to supervise your own child(/ren). Please take a flyer from the church, with the form to **complete and return to the Parish Office by Friday 7 Dec**. Queries to **Jen O'Donovan** at **0417 220 201** or **Kath Della Vedova** at **0408 255 533**.

# PARISH DIARY

2 DEC — 9 DEC 2018

Anointing Mass	Fri 7 Dec	9am
Book Club	Fri 7 Dec	9.30am
Hour of Grace	Fri 7 Dec	12-1pm

## PASTORAL SESSIONS

Mon: Rosary in Italian 7.30pm.

Tue: **Cenacle** 9.30am. **Cenacle & Adoration** 4pm.

Wed: **Adoration** 9.30am. **Meditation** 10am Parish Centre.

Fri: **Rosary** 9.30am. **Adoration** 6pm.

**Reconciliation** by appointment or Sat 5.30-5.50pm

## THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

is available at the church doors.

Please put \$2 in the Poor Box.

### Parish Collections

**1st collection** supports the needs of the Parish Priest, presbytery upkeep, food, utilities, support of the Archdiocese, care of elderly priests.

**2nd collection** supports maintenance & upkeep of Parish buildings & grounds, pastoral works, Parish administration, insurance, utilities, salaries, priest car expenses & Charitable Works Fund shortfall.

## COUNTERS ROSTER SEP/OCT

2/12 - Team 1; 9/12 - Team 2; 16/12 - Team 3;

23/12 - Team 4; 30/12 - Team 5; 6/1 - Team 6

## COMMUNION UNDER BOTH KINDS

- If you have a cold or flu symptoms (or any other communicable disease, cold sores, etc.) you **MUST NOT** receive communion from the Chalice.
- In accordance with the General Instruction, we **DO NOT** **DIP** the Host in the Chalice.

Please turn off your mobile phone in Church. Thank you.

## THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY SAFEGUARDING OFFICE.

If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support & discuss the options you have available to you. Contact the Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office on 02 9390 5812.

# PRAYER MINISTRY

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER:

Those who are sick, especially-

Kenny Hee Teck Lim, Irene Tija,  
Fr Michael Walsh CM,  
Ambrose Hee Chong Lim,  
Phillip Hopson, Eddie Yap,  
Chris South, Konrad Wrzesinski,  
Bishop Geoffrey Robinson,  
Janet Godsell, Barbaro family,  
Fr David Catterall, Victor Galea,  
Terry Wallace, Moonki Nam,  
Joe Mesiti.

The recently deceased

## Tony Youssef

(grandfather of Christine Ianello)

## May Grech

(sister & sister-in-law of Lilian & Michael Brincat)

## Sr Marie O'Connor SGS

And those with anniversaries  
around this time.

## Judith Anne Dorahy

(5th anniversary 28 Nov)

## Francis Joseph Rogers

(1st anniversary 27 Nov)

## Frances Sara

## John Skraban

(father of Rosemary Klemenic),  
14th anniversary 30 Nov)

Due to privacy laws, if you would like the name of a family member or friend printed in the Good Oil, please contact the Parish Office.