



THE GOOD OIL

21 NOVEMBER 2021

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Readings This Sunday

1st Reading

Daniel 7:13-14

Resp Psalm

Ps 92:1-2, 5

*The Lord is king,
he is robed in majesty*

2nd Reading

Apocalypse 1:5-8

Gospel

John 18:33-37

Masses This Week

Sat 6pm **Vigil Mass**

Sun 9am & 6pm **Mass**

**Please book
your Mass attendance
by email:**

marsfieldbookings@gmail.com

Mon 9am **No Mass**

Tue- Fri 9am **Mass**

Parish Staff & Contacts

Pastor **Greg Cooney** cm

greg@saintanthonys.org.au

Pastoral Associate **Rachel Murphy**

rachel@saintanthonys.org.au

Parish Secretary **Rose Goh**

rose@saintanthonys.org.au

Parish Secretary **Pauline Jasudason**

pauline@saintanthonys.org.au

St Anthony's Catholic Primary School

Principal **Kevin Turner**

info@stamarsfield.catholic.edu.au



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 will be up near Our Lady of Grace from Friday, 26 Nov. Please consider taking a card from the Tree. We request **no presents** this year,

only gift cards please. Match your gift card with the correct recipients' tag, so that your gift can be correctly distributed. You may drop these off at the Parish Office no later than **12th DECEMBER.**

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

2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION: THURS 9 DECEMBER 7.30PM.

**All are welcome to the Advent Reconciliation Service
in our Parish, as part of our preparation for Christmas.**

• PARISH COLLECTIONS •

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

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

WE HAVE REACHED the end of the Church year. As usual, we celebrate today the feast of Christ the Universal King.

Contrast

There is a great contrast between the readings. The First Reading is from the Book of Daniel and the Second is from the Book of Revelation. These are what we call apocalyptic books. The word 'apocalypse' comes from a Greek word (apokalypsis, ἀποκάλυψις) which means an 'uncovering' or a 'revelation' of something hidden. The books reveal the inner meaning of life and both were written for people who were suffering great persecution for fidelity to their religious beliefs – Jews in one case and early Christians in the other. The books are full of hope and look forward to a day when God will come in triumph and overcome the earthly powers which commit so many evils and bring so much suffering.

Son of Man

The Book of Daniel was written during the time of King Antiochus Epiphanes who desecrated the Temple of Jerusalem and forced many Jews to adopt idolatrous customs and to abandon the requirements of their Law. Many resisted and paid for their actions with torture and death. It is in this dark atmosphere that the author of Daniel wrote in today's reading: "I saw one like a son of man coming, on the clouds of heaven."

Christians, of course, see in the "son of man" Jesus their Lord who often referred to himself as the "Son of Man". He was presented before the "Ancient One", God the Father, from whom he received "dominion, glory – and kingship". And this kingdom, unlike all those which have gone before, "is an everlasting dominion that shall not be taken away, his kingship shall not be destroyed". As Jesus himself was to say, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away." This kingdom is indestructible and everlasting.

Fierce persecution

The Book of Revelation from which our Second Reading comes was written in similar circumstances to Daniel. The Church in parts of the Roman Empire was undergoing fierce persecution. Many were being arrested and martyred while others were driven underground. The Book of Revelation represents an underground document intended to rally morale and build up the courage of Christians.

READ THE FULL COMMENTARY: livingspace.sacredspace.ie/ob341/

Living Space is part of sacredspace.ie

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After losing their home, Heidi and her partner Nikolas had to resort to staying with family and friends for a time, then suddenly it was no longer an option. They had nowhere to go.

"We had been couch-surfing for as long as we could before that was just no longer an option. When we moved into the tent it was terrifying, but what else could we do?" - Heidi

It was a terrifying time. And, sadly, they're not alone.

This Christmas, many families are struggling. Since the pandemic began, many have lost work, and now as the bills continue to mount, they worry about losing their homes, too.

In fact, 1 in 8 Australians are living in poverty - as are 1 in 6 children.

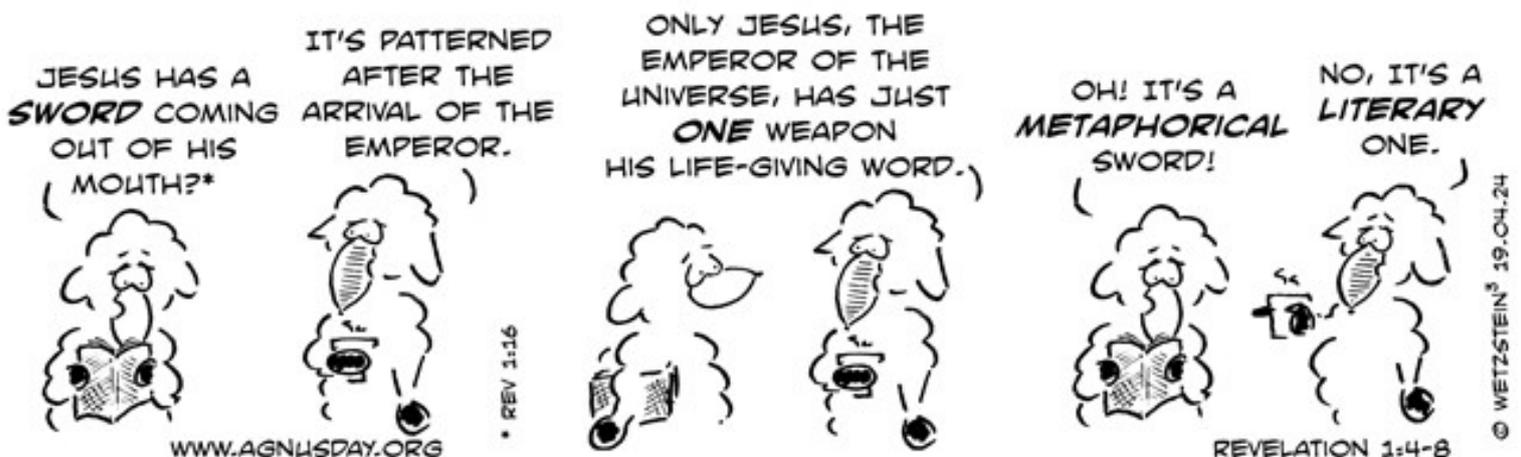


VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL. Help make Christmas a happier and more joyful time for those families who are struggling by donating to our appeal.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND THE 2022 COLUMBAN CALENDAR are now available at the rear of the Church. Prices are \$6 per pack of 10 for Traditional design, \$5 per pack of 10 for Contemporary design cards; \$10 each for Calendars. Please put money in the Poor Box.

NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCES. Please write the names of any deceased loved ones you would like remembered in November, onto the squares of paper available at the Church doors. Envelopes for November Mass Offerings are also available.

 **AUSTRALIAN WOMEN PREACH** is a podcast featuring Christian women preaching on the Sunday Gospel each week, breaking open the Word of God in ways that are meaningful today. Every Monday a new episode is released with preaching on the coming Sunday's Gospel reading. The women bring unique perspectives to the Gospel that are both theologically rich and grounded in life experiences. Listen here: anchor.fm/awp
More info: australianwomenpreach.com.au



PRAYER MINISTRY **PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER:**

Those who are sick

Angelica Owczarek, Moonki Nam, Margaret Cusack, Victor Galea, Valda Newman, Victor Fernandez, Alan Griffith, Victoria Cook, Barbaro family, Konrad Wrzesinski, Jac Smits, Karen Kuek Ah Lan, Colleen Sanderson

The recently deceased

Those with anniversaries around this time.

Ken Spence

29th Anniversary 20 Nov

Fr Jim Maloney

3rd Anniversary 23 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

VOICE YOUR CONCERNS OVER EUTHANASIA LAWS DIRECTLY TO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT. The NSW Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Law and Justice is undertaking an inquiry into the provisions of the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021 with debate commencing on the bill on 12 Nov.

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP has condemned the proposed legislation as a sad move towards state sanctioned killing and a terrible attack on the sanctity of life in our state.

You will find more information on the bill and the Terms of Reference for the inquiry on the parliamentary website here:

parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=2838

NSW residents concerned about the bill are invited to participate in an online questionnaire which you'll find here:

surveymonkey.com/r/XRQNHFZ

THE ONLINE QUESTIONNAIRE CLOSSES ON 22ND NOVEMBER 2021

Online Questionnaire on the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE IS A CRIME. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you or anyone you know have been abused, **please contact the police**. Alternatively, contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org or at (02) 9390 5810. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.