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PARISH TEAM: Fr Ben Brooks, Fr Chathura Silva, Fr Jessie Banez
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FIRST SUNDAY ADVENT (YEAR A) - 27 NOVEMBER 2022

FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9. R. see v.1.

(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. (R.)
2. It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.
For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David. (R.)
3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray:
'Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls,
in your palaces, peace!' (R.)
4. For love of my brethren and friends
I say: 'Peace upon you!'
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good. (R.)

SECOND READING

Romans 13:11-14

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under the cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 24:37-44

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left. 'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at



ADVENT WREATH RESPONSORY

Priest: The Lord is our faith and our life
All: **May the Lord's peace be with us all**
Priest: May his love shine in our hearts
All: **Our hope is in the coming of the Lord**

Food for thought...Reflection by Sr Dianne Bergant CSA

We may be accustomed to think of Advent as the time when we prepare for the coming of God, but the readings also train our attention on our own journey to God. We see this most clearly in this first Sunday with readings that tell us the identity of the pilgrims, the destination toward which they travel, and the way of life that is required of them on their journey. As the Vatican Council has proclaimed: We are a pilgrim people.

Both the reading from Isaiah and the psalm response speak of the pilgrimage to the mountain of the Lord, the place where God can be found. Although the psalm speaks about Jerusalem and refers to the temple there, the broader theological significance of the mountain, the city and the temple is one and the same. They represent the presence of God in our midst, and this presence is the goal of our striving. There are clear directions about how we are to live while we are on this pilgrimage to God. In Isaiah we learn that we must put away our instruments of violence and hatred, our swords and our spears. Lest we pick them up again, we are told to convert them into life-producing implements, into ploughs and pruning hooks. Paul exhorts us to put away our deeds of darkness and self-indulgence and to clothe ourselves instead in the deeds of Jesus Christ. Matthew points out the need for alertness, attentiveness, a disposition that is open to a change of heart.



REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Wake up to the Poetry

Our Lord loved to unfurl the scroll of the Prophet Isaiah in his local synagogue. The poetic image of swords being hammered into ploughshares reverberated into his renouncing violence against the Roman occupying army in his own time. When will this picture come true for all human beings for all time?

Only *God* knows! We don't know any more than we know when a burglar might target our home. But our ignorance of God's timetable is no excuse for being fatalistic and sleepy. We have our own span of life providing the timetable for our own contribution to the hammering of swords into ploughshares.

Recent Popes, especially St John Paul II, have taken up this theme for our times, teaching more restrictive criteria for using armed force, even dropping the term 'just war' to very small print in the Catechism.

We could pause for a moment to pray to be awake to our opportunities to shape society in the light of the vision of Isaiah and the practice of Jesus the Prince of Peace.

A VOCATION VIEW

In our materialistic society, someone must stand up to speak for our spiritual heritage. Could that be you?

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER: Children who suffer

We pray for children who are suffering especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

YOU ARE ASKED TO PRAY

FOR OUR NEWLY BAPTISED especially *Mia Frerk* (Ashley and Zach) and *Esme Cleaver* (Anna and Laine) who will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism within our parish this weekend.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Sr Teresa OCD, Fr Martin Aye Ngwe, Fr Terry Yard, Kath Aldred, Teresa McMahon, Kim Izard, Pauline Heazlewood, Patsy Heath, Alex Thrower, Marie Cousins, Alida Moolenschot, Archivaldo Pechon, Sharon Manzone, Suzy Fenton, Elizabeth Nettlefold, Shirley Ambrose, Qian Zhang-Allchin, Carole Cleary, Bev Callahan, Nanette Gunton, Helen Wright, Alfred Weeding, Maureen Saunders, Mary Morgan, Mary Carter, Scott Bailey, Ralf Roston, Tony Long, Kristel Latham, Joan Keefe, Jennifer Dowell, Andrew Campbell, Bill Lewis, Vincent Burke, Eduardo Bilanes, Brian Hudson, Brian Beardwood, Denise Austin, Jane Gillard, Joel Wilkinson, Jesse Moore, Elaine Blake, John Walsh, Clare Maddox, William Siegrist, Anne Harris, Jane Savaro, Amelia Eckert, Allison Thambugala, Ava Woolley, David Lewis, Christian Barrett, Xavier Banks, George Donovan, Max Jamieson, Jan McClean, John Bennett, and Peter Marshall.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Noelene Clayton, Sofia Zakrzewski, Gianina Battochio, Raiiene Duke and Theresia Burger who have died recently, John Morgan, Jillian Denholm, Tasman McGrath, Douglas Scott, Joel Illingworth, Bernard Morgan, Mark Aspinall, Charlie Mahar, Patrick Cannon, Ellen Williams, Ron Butterworth, Mel Cuschieri, Perry Pereira, all those we remember in our November Book of Remembrance, all victims of the COVID-19 virus and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY: As the COVID virus continues to affect our lives, we pray in a special way for all those involved in frontline services. We pray for the gift of healing and peace for all who contract the virus, especially for those who are in hospital, and for their families.

Our mission is to love and serve our God, each other and the wider community

PARISH ACTIVITIES, INFORMATION AND NEWS

FRIDAY HOLY HOUR Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place for one hour every Friday after the 12noon Mass at the Church of the Apostles. Please come and spend time with the Lord and pray for our parish, our diocese, our nation and our world.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS are available from the Parish Office or the church at the cost of \$9 each.

ROSARY: is recited each and every Monday at 7:30pm in the comfort of your own home. We pray our Blessed Mother will watch over us all at this time of uncertainty and sadness. Enquiries: Jan (0409 175 940) or Adrian & Liz (0407 074 693)

THE CARMEL SHOP: 7 Cambridge Street, West Launceston is open on Wednesdays between 11.00am - 4.00pm

*Please collect a copy of Archbishop Julian's Advent Pastoral Letter available at all Masses this weekend
St Vincent de Paul Leaving Collection at all masses next weekend.*

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Please support the annual Christmas appeal and give the gift of Hope this Christmas

Please take a Christmas Appeal Envelope and return to the Parish Office with your donation or directly to St Vincent de Paul Society. Donations can also be made via bank transfer to: St Vincent de Paul Society Tasmania, Bank: CBA; BSB:067 601; Account No: 10178303.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday	6.00pm Vigil	Sacred Heart, Newstead
Sunday	7.30am	Carmel
9.00am	St Finn Barr's, Invermay	
9.00am	St Patrick's Chapel	
10.30am	Apostles	
6.30pm	Apostles (Oct—March)	

WEEKDAY MASSES - 28th Nov —3rd December

Monday:	7.30am	Carmel
Tuesday:	7.30am	Carmel
	12noon	Newstead -
Wednesday	7.30am	Carmel
	5.30pm	Apostles
Thursday:	7.30am	Carmel
	12noon	Invermay
Friday :	7.30am	Carmel
	12noon	Apostles
Saturday:	9.00am	Carmel

RECONCILIATION

Saturday:	10.00am - 11.00am	Apostles
	5.15pm - 5.45pm	Newstead

MASS LIVE-STREAMED

Each and every Sunday at 9am



On Facebook @catholicparishlaunceston
if you don't have a Facebook account go to:

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/](https://www.facebook.com/pg/CatholicParishLaunceston/videos/)

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Sunday Mass is also televised every Sunday Morning
on WIN and WIN HD, 6.00am - 6.30am.

LAUDATO SI' GOALS

All interested parishioners are invited to a session on understanding the *Laudato Si' goals*,
Sunday 27 November 2022, 2:00 – 4:00pm at the Pastoral Centre (upstairs).



LAUNCESTON PARISH YOUTH GROUP



For young people from grades 5 to 12
Music, Sport, Adventures, Social Work,
Faith

Regular Meeting 1st & 3rd Thursdays,
6.00pm - 7.30pm

St Ailbe's Hall, Margaret Street

Next Meeting: Thursday 1st December

Enquires please contact Fr Chatty 0469 661 578



The Catholic Parish of Launceston embraces and whole-heartedly supports the
Archdiocese of Hobart Safe Communities Policy and Framework.

Further information is available at: <https://hobart.catholic.org.au/safe-communities>

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION



*My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.*

WAY TO ST JAMES CYGNET PILGRIMAGE

14th- 15th January 2023

After a two-year absence due to COVID, our *Way to St James Cygnet Pilgrimage* is happening again on the 14th- 15th January 2023.

This two day Tassie Camino is a great opportunity to begin your new year right walking in peace and solidarity through the beautiful Huon Valley with other pilgrims from Tasmania and across Australia. We walk from Mountain River on day one, and Ranelagh on day two, finishing the pilgrimage with a procession to the Church of St James in Cygnet, in the midst of the Cygnet Folk Festival.

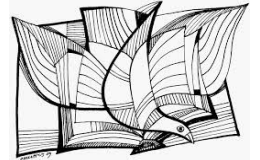
You can find out more about this pilgrimage at the website <https://www.waytostjames.com.au/> Or you can follow the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/waytostjamescygnet>

GOSPELS FOR THE COMING WEEK:

Monday 28th:	Matthew 8:5-11
Tuesday 29th:	Luke 10:21-24
Wednesday 30th:	Matthew 4:18-22
Thursday 1st:	Matthew 7:21, 24-27
Friday 2nd:	Matthew 9:27-31
Saturday 3rd:	Matthew 9:35—19:1, 6-8

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isiah 11:1-10
Psalms 71:1-2,7-8, 12-13, 17: R.
Romans 15:4-9
Matthew 3:1-12



Ponder and pray the living Word of God

Majellan Media – Because Family Matters Most

As we count down the days to Christmas and amid the busyness of the season, a great way to keep the focus on Jesus is to use a time-honoured tradition—the advent calendar. Our online **Advent calendar** is designed to help participate more actively in the season of Advent as we await the joyful celebration of Christmas.

The calendar has a short reflection, and suggestion of an action to help pray each day and remember that in our preparation for Christmas, we are awaiting the birth of Jesus our Redeemer.

www.majellan.media

DINING WITH FRIENDS

An initiative of the St Vincent de Paul Society together with the Launceston Parish.



If you are feeling lonely, would like to make new friends, or would just enjoy a **FREE** home cooked meal prepared by and shared with people who care, please come along to **Dining with Friends**.

Next gathering: Tuesday, 6th December at 6.00pm in the Pastoral Centre.

Bookings are essential for catering
Enquiries and RSVP phone 6326 5551



Try to decipher this teaching that Jesus gave to his disciples. Draw yourself listening to Jesus.



Children's Corner

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of  will come.