

BULLETIN

St Pius X Church

Second Sunday of Advent - Year A

4 December 2022



Christ our Anchor

Manning Parish

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

23 Paterson Street, Manning WA 6152

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Parish Email: manning@perthcatholic.org.au

Parish Website: manningparish.org.au

New Testament Commentary Mary Coloe PBVM



have their own mikvot and would carry out this ritual every day before serving in the Temple. This ritual of outer cleansing symbolised an inner cleansing of one's heart in preparation for encountering God. John used the cleansing waters of a river rather than a constructed mikvah, but the meaning was the same – a ritual of inner cleansing in preparation for God. The early followers of Jesus, who were Jews and so familiar with this ritual, used this plunging beneath water as their ritual of commitment to Jesus and initiation into the community.

The word translated as 'repent' means something like 'change your way of being, change your heart' – metanoia. John doesn't go into details of how to do this. Exactly what 'metanoia' means is left to each individual. All John demands is a true change of heart. This is why he is critical of the Jewish leaders who are presented here as just going through the motions. They want the waters of baptism without doing the hard work of seeking the truth in their lives. Rituals are easy. Truth seeking costs.

Paul describes some of the changes needed if people are to live out their commitment to Jesus – to be tolerant and treat each other as friends would. Paul asks the community in Rome to look back at the scriptures and find in them something that can help their own lives. He singles out those who persisted in their faith. Paul's community needs such examples of fidelity in times of trouble, since they are struggling to live a new faith while surrounded by others who don't understand it or may even regard it with suspicion. Some years later, such suspicion will lead to outright persecution and death. During this time leading up to Christmas, perhaps we could take up Paul's advice and find just five or ten minutes during the day to stop and quietly read the Gospel of the Sunday. Reading it slowly, and prayerfully seeing a word that could help your own life – in what way could you prepare for the Lord in your family; do you feel at the moment as if you are in a wilderness time seeking to find God; can you invite the power of the Holy Spirit into your life this Christmas?

If John appeared in our Churches today what would we make of him? Smile at his delusion? Be embarrassed by his challenge? Be angered by the upset to our normal religious routines? If these questions cause discomfort, John caused discomfort in his time, so much so that he was thrown into prison and executed. John preaches the coming of God. Nothing about him is attractive – the environment is the harsh Judean wilderness, his clothes and food are bizarre and his message 'Repent' is hardly an advertising slogan. And yet people come to him. Jerusalem, all Judea and the whole Jordan district go to him for baptism. People can recognise truth. It may not be attractive, some may prefer to avoid it, but we cannot fully hide from the truth. John speaks to the truth of God. God is near. God is coming. Is your life open to receive God or not?

When we hear the word 'baptism' we may immediately think of the Christian ritual of baptism. The word in Greek meant to plunge into the water and this was a very common ritual within Judaism. Archaeologists have found many bathing pools in some of the houses in Jerusalem and at the entrance to the Temple – these are called mikvot (singular: mikvah). Before going to the Temple pilgrims would first totally undress, then submerge themselves under the waters of a mikvah – there were some for women, and some for men. Priests who lived in Jerusalem would

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Vinita Rai

Parish Secretary

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Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday 9am to 12 noon

SCHEDULES

Confession

Saturday 5.00 to 5.30pm

Or anytime by appointment

Normal Weekend Masses

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 7.30am, 9.00am Mass

& 11.00am Chinese Mass

Normal Weekday Masses

Monday 8.00am Communion Service

Tuesday to Saturday 8.00am Mass

(Check Parish Calendar for Variations)

Sacrament of Baptism

Saturdays at 10.30am

No Baptism during Lent

Other Time

Negotiable with Father Patrick

Sacrament of Marriage

By appointment with Fr Patrick

At least 6 Months before wedding

Marriage Preparation Course Enrolment

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Email: enquiries@cmfs.org.au

SPX Safeguarding Officers

To ensure the safety of children, young people and the vulnerable in the Catholic Church

6pm Vigil Mass - Ryan Gonsalves 0423 708 777

7:30am Mass - Marie Chaperon - 9313 4585

9am Mass - Tina Fernandes 0411 821 065

11am Chinese Mass

Gregory Lo 0435 383 417, Andrew Tai 0435 950 532,

Juliana Tseng 0438 864 689

Email: safeguarding@manningparish.org.au



St Pius X Primary School

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Melissa Vranjes

Principal

Our Motto

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ROSTER

Weekend 3/4 December

Weekend 10/11 December

Readers	Sat 6.00pm	Susanna Hooper	Carmen de Sousa
	Sun 7.30am	Jim Kelly	Carol Nicklette
	Sun 9.00am	Shirley Whitfield	Giselle Shankar
Counters		Janine Stanley, Nancy Permadi	Colleen & Pat Lowry

Parish Calendar

Dec Mon 5	8.00am	Communion Service (Second week of Advent - cycle 1) Church
Tue 6	8.00am	Mass (Second week of Advent - cycle 1) Church
Wed 7	8.00am	Mass (St Ambrose) Church
Thu 8	8.00am	Mass (Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary) Church
Fri 9	8.00am	Mass (Second week of Advent - cycle 1) Church
Sat 10	8.00am	Mass (Second week of Advent - cycle 1) Church
	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (Third Sunday of Advent - Year A) Church
Sun 11	7.30am	Mass (Third Sunday of Advent - Year A) Church
	9.00am	Mass (Third Sunday of Advent - Year A) Church
	11.00am	Chinese Mass (Third Sunday of Advent - Year A) Church

Centre for Faith Enrichment

2022 End of Year Mass

Tuesday, 6 December at 10 am
St Catherine's Centre Chapel
31 Williamstown Road, Doubleview

Following the Mass, there will be some refreshments at the Newman Siena Centre (walking distance from the Convent) in the undercroft area next to the car park.

RSVP your attendance by Friday, 25 November by emailing cfe@perthcatholic.org.au or calling our new number, 9278 0261

Parking directly next to the chapel or at Hale School carpark next to the Newman Siena Centre.



Line Dancing Classes

Mondays and Wednesdays
10am - 12noon \$6 per session
All proceeds go to the Parish
This is a community building initiative to keep you fit and active with the help of Francis & Hellen Tay
All are welcome; no age limits.



Tai Chi Group

Mondays in Parish Hall except holidays
Starts 7:30pm and finishes at 8:30pm
All parishioners are most welcome
For more information, please contact or text Maurice on 0408 782 224 or Stephen on 0403 167 838



Catholic Mission's Christmas Concert

"Leaning towards the Light"
Saturday, 10 December at 6.45 pm

Chapel of St Thomas Aquinas, Aquinas College, 58 Mount Henry Road, Salter Point
For tickets visit <https://www.trybooking.com/CDTHE> (Adults \$40, Concessions \$25).
Livestreamed at <https://cm.org.au/Perth2022>.

For further information email Francis at director.cm@perthcatholic.org.au or phone 6234 1760.

Safeguarding

Induction for All Church Workers - Online

ALL church workers (volunteers or paid) are invited to attend an online safeguarding induction

The session will cover the Safeguarding Policies and Procedures, the importance of Safeguarding in the parish and the role of the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Wednesday, 07 December 2022 at 2 pm
Thursday, 15 December 2022 at 7 pm

To register please Phone 9221 7762 or visit:

<http://safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au/training-calendar-church-workers/>



Christmas Schedule

Saturday 24 December 2022

NO MORNING MASS

6.00pm Christmas Family Mass
9.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass

Sunday 25 December 2022

No 7.30am mass

9.00am Christmas Morning Mass
11.00am Christmas Mass in Chinese



Seniors Christmas Lunch

A THREE COURSE MEAL WITH DRINKS

Entree
Turkey, Ham and Vegies
Plum Pudding with Custard & Ice-cream

on Thursday 15 December 2022
from 12 to 2pm

If you would like to attend, please put your name and phone number on the form provided in the church foyer.
Thanks - Social Committee

Nativity Play Christmas Family Mass



If your child is in primary school and would like to take part in the nativity at the 6pm Christmas Family Mass on

Saturday 24 December, please meet Karen on Sunday 11 December after the 9am mass in the church hall. We would need a minimum of 10 children for this to go ahead.

Morning Tea



Our hosts for December's morning tea are Faye Keeffe and Colleen Lewis.

Please join us this Sunday after the

9.00 am mass

ALL ARE WELCOME

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked.

Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea.

That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations = and its home will be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R. cf. v.7

(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. (R.)
2. In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to the earth's bounds. (R.)
3. For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. (R.)
4. May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 15:4-9

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 3:4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

Reflection for Young People

By Lisa-Marie Calderone Stewart

Human beings are supposed to be more 'civilised' than animals. We have jobs. We have hobbies. We celebrate holidays. Yet we can learn from animals. When we see a pride of lions stalking a cape buffalo on television, we don't think badly of the lions – lions are supposed to hunt and kill. It is in their nature. But what about people? The pride of people can also kill, even when stomachs aren't empty. You won't see lions doing that.

What can we 'civilised' people learn from the animal kingdom?

If you were an ambassador for the United Nations, what would you do in order to stop countries from fighting? How would you prevent one people's pride from causing the killing of other people? How would you encourage world peace? What plans would you present?

Next Sunday Readings

11th December 2022

Third Sunday of Advent - Year A

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10

Second Reading: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Manning Parish Youth

Quest Youth Ministry

Guiding our youth on a Quest to know, love and serve the Lord. The youth ministry for the parish is open to youth aged in High School or University, and meet every second Saturday after mass.

Get in touch with us by finding us online at
<https://www.facebook.com/youth.manningparish/>



CHILDREN'S CORNER

