BULLETIN

St Pius X Church

Third Sunday of Advent Year C

12th December 2021



Manning Parish

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

23 Paterson Street , Manning WA 6152 Parish Telephone: 9313 3251 Parish Email: manning@perthcatholic.org.au Parish Website: manningparish.org.au

New Testament Commentary by Mary Coloe PBVM



The Gospel continues with the message of John, as preparation for the coming of Jesus. As mentioned last week, within the early church there was the concern to give honour to John, while at the same time to preach that Jesus was even greater. John was the herald, announcing the coming of the saviour, but Jesus was the Saviour, as the angels will tell the Shepherds at Bethlehem. Some even wonder if John is the Christ, the long promised Messiah. John asserts that his baptism is only with water, but Jesus will baptise with the Holy Spirit and fire.

The winnowing fan is an agricultural image which describes a method of sorting the wheat from the chaff. All the harvest is gathered into a pile and then a wind, either natural or made with a fan, is used to blow on the piles. This causes the lighter chaff to blow away and the heavier wheat to fall back to the ground. Luke may continue to be influenced by the Deutero Isaiah. Last Sunday's Gospel cited a passage from Isaiah 40 and the return of the Exiles. In Isaiah 41 the image of winnowing is used to describe the crushing of Babylon and the gathering of Israel.

You shall seek those who contend with you, But you shall not find them; those who war against you shall be as nothing at all. Do not fear, I will help you, says the LORD; your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel. Now, I will make of you a threshing sledge, sharp, new, and having

teeth; you shall thresh the mountains and crush them, and you shall make the hills like chaff. You shall winnow them and the wind shall carry them away, and the tempest shall scatter them. Then you shall rejoice in the LORD; in the Holy One of Israel you shall glory.

Rejoicing is the theme of this Sunday as announced in the First and Second Readings, as well as the Psalm. As Zion was told to rejoice for her salvation is near, so Paul tells his community to 'Rejoice always in the Lord'. This is an extraordinary faith in the certainty of the presence of Jesus in the midst of the community.

When asked the question, 'What must we do?' John gives advice that is as appropriate in our time as it was in his. He tells us, 'Share with those in need, be fair in your dealings with others and don't abuse your power.' Luke's community is thought to have been the city of Antioch, the third largest city in the Roman Empire at that time. His Gospel must deal with the real-life issues that affect his hearers, such as how to live as a Christian in a complex, urban, economically driven and multiracial world: does this sound familiar? Being a Christian is far more than one hour of worship each week. We live out Christian values in the choices we make at the supermarket and the bank, the petrol we purchase, and the brand of clothes we wear. John's answers were no doubt uncomfortable to his listeners who may have been expecting a more 'religious' answer, such as 'Pray longer in the Synagogue', but John plunges to the heart of the Gospel message. You can desire God's reign or you can seek after wealth and power, but you cannot have both. This may sound impossible but John holds out a message of hope: for having spoken to the people about what they must do, John then speaks of what God will do baptise you with the Holy Spirit. The symbol of fire associated with the Spirit suggests that the Spirit will purify us. God's gift of a purifying Spirit can empower us to choose the values of God's reign (the basilica) as against the attractions of wealth.

Fr Patrick Lim

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Antonia Chandrasegaran

Parish Secretary Office Telephone: 9313 3251 Email: manning@perthcatholic.org.au

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 Website: www.cmfs.org.au Email: enquiries@cmfs.org.au



the Catholic Church 6pm Vigil Mass – Ryan Gonsalves 0423 708 777 7:30am Mass – Jeevan Joseph 0434 038 353 9am Mass – Barbara Thompson 0408 955 859

11am Chinese Mass Gregory Lo 0435 383 417, Augustine Lai 0402 185 248, Juliana Tseng 0438 864 689

Email: safeguarding@manningparish.org.au



St Pius X Primary School

Cnr Ley St and Cloister Ave, Manning WA 6152 Phone: (08) 9416 5600 Fax: (08) 9416 5601 admin@stpiusx.wa.edu.au

Melissa Vranjes

New Principal 2021

Our Motto

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ROSTER		Weekend 11/12 Dec	Weekend of 18/19 Dec
Special Ministers	Sat 6.00pm	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
	Sun 7.30am	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
	Sun 9.00am	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
Readers	Sat 6.00pm	Carmen de Sousa	Barbara Thompson
	Sun 7.30am	Les Price	Pauline Joseph
	Sun 9.00am	Giselle Shankar	Elicia Eng
Altar Servers	Sat 6.00pm	Volunteers	Volunteers
	Sun 9.00am	Volunteers	Volunteers
Counters		D & B Molony	Mark & Erica Lazarus

Parish Calendar				
Dec Mon 13	8.00am	Communion Service (St Lucy) Church		
Tue 14	8.00am	Mass (St John of the Cross) Church		
Wed 15	8.00am	Mass (3rd week of Advent - Year C) Church		
Thu 16	8.00am	Mass (3rd Week of Advent - Year C) Church		
Fri 17	8.00am	Mass (3rd Week of Advent - Year C) Church		
Sat 18	8.00am	Mass (3rd Week of Advent - Year C) Church		
	5.00-5.30pm	Confession - Church		
	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (Fourth Sunday of Advent Year C) Church		
Sun 19	7.30am	Sunday Mass (Fourth Sunday of Advent Year C) Church		
	9.00am	Sunday Mass (Fourth Sunday of Advent Year C) Church		
	11.00am	Chinese Mass (Fourth Sunday of Advent Year C) Church		



Line Dancing Classes

Monday 20 December will be the last class for this year.

Classes will recommence on Monday 10 January 2022.



Thursday 16 December 2021 12 to 2pm

If you are interested please put your name and contact details on the list in the foyer.

Thanks, Social Committee

2nd Rite of Reconciliation For Christmas

Queen of Apostles Church Riverton Tuesday 14 December 7.00pm



Tai Chi Group

There will be no Tai Chi Class as of Monday, 13 December and will recommence first week of February 2022.

For more information, please contact or text Maurice on 0408 782 224

Divine Mercy Hour

Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy prayers, Rosary and Benediction every third Sunday of the month at 3pm.

Please join us next Sunday at 3 pm.



Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve Masses

Family Mass - 7.00 pm (No Nativity play) Vigil Mass - 9.00 pm

Christmas Day

Morning Mass - 9.00am

New Year's Eve 6.00 pm **New Year's Day** 9.00 am

Counters Needed

Volunteers are needed to count the second collection on Sunday mornings. Volunteers are rostered in twos, and the work takes less than an hour. Please add your name to the form in the church foyer or contact the office with your full name and phone number.

Thank you, Antonia



THANK YOU FROM CATHOLIC catholic MISSION The total amount donated by the Manning Parish for

the 2021 Appeal was \$3,524.50.

Reach out. Give life. Thank you to all who have supported our missionaries and their work throughout the world. Please hold

them in your prayers.

If you would like to participate in God's mission more fully by helping to promote the work of Catholic Mission and the vision of Pope Francis, in a voluntary capacity in your own parish, or by leaving a bequest, please email Francis Leong at director.cm@perthcatholic.org.au to arrange for a chat about the possibilities.

First Reading

Zephanians 3:14-18

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

Responsorial Psalm

Isaiah 12:2-6 R. v.6

- (R.) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.
- Truly, God is my salvation,
 I trust, I shall not fear.

 For the Lord is my strength, my song,
 he became my saviour.
 With joy you will draw water
 from the wells of salvation. (R.)
- 2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name! Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples! Declare the greatness of his name. (R.)
- Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds, make them known to all the earth! People of Zion, sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (R.)

Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Isaiah 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 3:10-18

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

Reflection for Young People

By Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

In the days of John the Baptiser, untying a sandal strap was the work of a slave. People's feet became very dirty every day from walking along the dusty roads. When you entered the home of a person who was rich enough to own a slave, the slave would untie your sandals and wash your feet. Imagine a person so mighty, that even John the Baptiser was unworthy to untie his sandals.

Have you ever felt unworthy? Did you ever meet someone you were in awe of? Did you ever receive an honour you felt you hardly deserved? If so, talk about what it was like. If not, can you imagine it? Who would be the person, and what would be the situation that could make you feel unworthy?

The third Sunday of Advent is meant to be a day of awesome, incredible, totally magnificent joy. Rejoice is a key word and concept in the readings.

Has anything ever brought you awesome, incredible, totally magnificent joy? Describe what that sort of joy might be for you.

Jesus – the Messiah, the Almighty One, the Chosen One of God, the Saviour of the Universe – is coming. Does his coming seem to bring on a joy that is awesome, incredible, and totally magnificent?

Do Christmas and even Jesus seem overrated in this world? Why or why not?

Next Sunday Readings

19 December 2021

Fourth Sunday of Advent Year C

First Reading: Micah 5:1-4 Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10 Gospel: Luke 1:39-44

CHILDREN'S CORNER

John the Baptist had great respect for Jesus. He told people, "Someone more powerful is going to come, and I am not good enough even to untie his sandals." Write down in the shell how you can show your respect for Jesus.

