

BULLETIN

St Pius X Church

4th Sunday of Advent- Year B

24th December 2023



Christ our Anchor

Manning Parish

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

23 Paterson Street, Manning WA 6152

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Scripture Commentary by Dianne Bergant CSA



Let what you have said be done to me

fortune is established. The psalm ends restating the endurance of the Davidic rule.

Paul sums up the central theme of his teaching, namely, that God's new act of revelation in Christ will bring even the Gentiles to the commitment of faith. Paul calls this 'my gospel' not because the content is significantly different from that taught by the others, but because he is the one who proclaimed the gospel to the Gentile world. The passage praises God, the real source of revelation. From ages past, God planned the salvation of all and revealed this message through the tradition. Now, the fullness of this revelation has come in Jesus, and through him the blessings of salvation promised so long ago are given to all nations. Such a message can elicit only unending gratitude and praise.

The account of the annunciation is cast in a traditional pattern of angelic birth announcements (cf. to Hagar [Genesis 16:7-16]; to the mother of Samson [Judges 13:2-7]). Such stories alert the reader to the divine significance of future events in the lives of the children to be born. As with other stories of angelic appearances to women in patriarchal worlds, Mary interacts directly with God's messenger, without the mediation of her father or intended husband (cf. Genesis 16:7-16; Judges 13:2-5). She is a model of openness and receptivity, regardless of the apparent impossibility of what is being asked and the prospect of subsequent hardships. The reading shows that the expectations of the past are now being fulfilled; God's plan is being accomplished.

The reading from the court history is pivotal in understanding Davidic theology. The first section is an account of David's desire to construct a temple that is suitable for the God of Israel; the second is a description of the establishment of the Davidic dynasty. Although these two episodes were mutually independent, they are bound together there by means of a very clever turn of phrase. There is a play on ideas here rather than a play on words. David sought to build a house (temple) for God, and God promised to establish a house (dynasty) for David. The reading ends with a promise that the dynasty will endure forever before God.

The royal psalm praises God's faithfulness to the promises made to David. They contain certain themes that are very important in the Davidic theology. Loving kindness and faithfulness are technical terms for covenant fidelity. The promises that are a part of this covenant are pure gift from God. Unlike the covenant made with the people through the mediation of Moses (cf. Exodus 19-21), an agreement which required compliance to God's law, this covenant imposes no added responsibilities on David or on his descendants. Besides the titles 'father' and 'God', the king refers to God as 'rock of salvation', the solid and reliable foundation upon which the king's good

SPX Safeguarding Officers

The role of Safeguarding Officers is to ensure the safety of children, young people and the vulnerable in the Catholic Church

6pm Vigil Mass - Harry Rai

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



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Melissa Vranjes

Principal

Our Motto

At St Pius X Catholic Primary School, the values lived by Jesus Christ are the foundation for everything we do

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ROSTER		Weekend of 23/24 Dec	Weekend of 30/31 Dec
Special Ministers	Sat 6.00pm	Krystyna Henderson	Krystyna Henderson
	Sun 7.30am	Marilyn Lamplugh	Marilyn Lamplugh
	Sun 9.00am	Mary Webster	Mary Webster
Readers	Sat 6.00pm	Christine Carvalho	Pam Vincent
	Sun 7.30am	Les Price	Volunteer
	Sun 9.00am	Vincent Whyte	Ian Lane
	Counters	Volunteers	D & B Molony


Parish Calendar		
Dec Tue 26	8.00am	Mass (St Stephen) Church
Wed 27	8.00am	Mass (St John the Evangelist) Church
Thu 28	8.00am	Mass (The Holy Innocents) Church
Fri 29	8.00am	Mass (5th day in the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord) Church
Sat 30	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph) Church
Sun 31	7.00am	Sunday Mass (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph) Church
	9.00am	Sunday Mass (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph) Church
	11.00am	Sunday Mass (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph) Church

VOLUNTEERS 2024 COUNTING ROSTER

Counters are urgently required to assist with the weekly collections. Please place your name and contact details on the form located in the church foyer.

Alternatively you can contact Terry Scanlan on 0439972583 or tscanlan1240@gmail.com for further details.

Parishioners can also assist by making donations via direct payment EFT to the 1st and 2nd collection bank accounts.



Line Dancing Classes

Wednesday 20 December will be the last class for this year and will recommence on Monday 23 January '24.

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

Important Notice

We would like to inform parishioners that our Monday Communion Service is suspended for December and January and Saturday 8.00am Mass is cancelled until further notice

New Year's Masses

Sunday, 31 December 2023
New Year's Eve Mass - 7.00 pm

Monday, 1 January 2024
New Year's Day Mass - 9.00 am



Tai Chi Group

There will be no Tai Chi Class during January and will recommence first week of February 2024.

For more information, please contact or text Maurice on 0408 782 224 or Stephen on 0403 167 838

2023 Christmas Masses

24 December 2023
7.00pm Family Mass
9.00pm Vigil Mass

25 December 2023
9.00am Morning Mass



Visitation of our Lady's Statue

We would like to commence the visitation of our Lady's Statue in Parishioners' homes. If you would like to have the statue in your home, please call Mignonne Goes on 0409 688 594.

Manning Parish Office

Please note the Parish Office will be closed during the Christmas week,
26th December - 31 December 2023.

The office will reopen on Tuesday, 2 January 2024.

We wish all our Parishioners a safe and Blessed Christmas.

Gardening & General Maintenance of garden

Two of the church volunteers have reached retirement age and we are looking for volunteers to take over maintenance of the grounds and gardens.

It has been suggested that two mini working bees be conducted each month. One on the first and one on the third Saturday. If any parishioner is available on either of these two days each month, please place your name on the list in the foyer. Ideally, we would wish to see five or six volunteers on each of the two Saturdays. Please contact the Parish Office on 9313 3251



Tasks include but not limited to-

- Maintaining gardens, removing all weeds and dead material - dead heading plants
- Spraying weeds in all paved areas, car park, footpath and kerbing with glysohate or something similar.
- Treating areas of ant infestation in all paved areas, car park, footpath and kerbing with Antex or something similar.
- Collecting and disposing of any rubbish, leaves etc on grounds
- Sweeping all paved areas and car park perimeter
- Watering pot plants in church and columbarium

It is realized that many of our parishioners have busy lives and a number of commitments, but we are asking for only a few hours of your time each year to maintain the grounds of your church.

First Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent'. Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 88:2-5. 27. 29. R. see v.2

(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (R.)
2. 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.' (R.)
3. He will say to me: 'You are my father,
my God, the rock who saves me.'
I will keep my love for him always;
for him my covenant shall endure. (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 16:25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the

angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

Reflection for Young People

By Lisa Marie Calderone-Stewart

Lots of paintings, movies and TV specials have shown Gabriel visiting Mary. Usually, it is dramatic and fascinating.

How do you think the visitation really happened? Do you think Gabriel flew through the window or just appeared out of thin air? Do you think Gabriel was really there or is the angel just a literary symbol? How else could Mary have received her message? What do you suppose Mary was thinking? Angels are popular decorations, and they appear as characters in TV programs, movies and stories. Their appeal has increased in recent years.

Why do you think people are so interested in angels? Do you believe in angels? Do you believe you have your own guardian angel? If not, why not? If so, what do you think your guardian angel does?

What do you think the purpose of angels is? What can angels do that people cannot? Do you think you can communicate with angels? Why or why not?

Next Sunday Readings

30/31 December 2023

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - Year B

First Reading: Genesis 15: 1-6, 21:1-3
Second Reading: Hebrew 11:8, 11-12, 17-19
Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Draw a picture of yourself
doing something special
for your family or
friends during
Christmas

