

BULLETIN

St Pius X Church

4th Sunday of Advent - Year C

22nd December 2024



Christ our Anchor

Manning Parish

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

23 Paterson Street, Manning WA 6152

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Parish Website: manningparish.org.au

Scripture Commentary by Dianne Bergant CSA



vines, God cares for the growth and productivity of the community. These apt images characterise the relationship between God and the people. Though God is powerful like an imperial ruler or a military leader, the care that God provides compares to that of an attentive shepherd or a patient vine dresser.

The author of Hebrews contrasts the former sacrificial ritual with Christ's sacrifice. The sacrifices mentioned represent the entire sacrificial system. Christ's sacrifice is preferred over all others, because of the preeminence of his human body as compared with the bodies of the sacrificial animals. The author also contrasts adherence to the law and Christ's obedience to God's will. Christ annuls the first (external adherence) in order to establish the second (internal obedience). By freely offering his body in sacrifice, Christ identifies his own will with the will of God. We are sanctified through this sacrifice, not through any sacrifice required by law. For it was through his human body, a body like ours, that he demonstrated his obedience.

The response of the child in Elizabeth's womb is reminiscent of the joy that filled David as he leaped before the ark of the covenant. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and proclaimed her faith in the child that Mary was carrying. In both cases, it was the realisation of being in the presence of God that caused them to rejoice. It is as if Mary is the ark and the child within her is the glory of God. There is a sequence of recognition that begins and ends with Mary. At the sound of Mary's greeting the child in Elizabeth leaped for joy, signalling to her the presence of her Lord in Mary's womb; at this, Elizabeth recognises the blessedness of Mary's unborn child and, through him, the blessedness of Mary.

The reference to Bethlehem is rich in early royal importance quite distinct from association with Jerusalem, the capital of the royal family. The ruler promised is not the dynastic successor, but a new Davidic king, fresh and totally committed to God as the young David was. He will be called forth for God and strengthened by God to rule. Kings were frequently characterised as shepherds, because of their responsibility to care for the people. This promised king will shepherd in the strength and majesty of God. The oracle suggests that tribulation will precede the birth of this new ruler. However, once the tribulation of birth is over, the joy of new life will blot out the pain.

The communal lament contains several images of God. As shepherd, God is responsible for the care of the flock, leading it to verdant pastures and protecting it from danger. God is also an imperial ruler, majestically enthroned and surrounded by cherubim. As Lord of Hosts, God can marshal the 'hosts' (units) of heavenly defenders. Finally, as keeper of

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Parish Secretary

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Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday 9am to 1.00 pm

SCHEDULES

Confession

Saturday 5.00 to 5.45pm

Or anytime by appointment

Weekend Masses

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 7.30am, 9.00am Mass

& 11.00am Chinese Mass

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

Or any time by appointment
with Fr Anthony

Sacrament of Marriage

By appointment with Fr Anthony

At least 6 Months before wedding

Marriage Preparation Course Enrolment

Website: www.cmfs.org.au

Email: enquiries@cmfs.org.au



I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Parishioners and their families a safe, Happy and Holy Christmas

Thank you to all our parishioners for all your assistance during the last six months and I look forward to continuing to build our community spirit in 2025

God's Blessings
Fr Anthony Vu



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Web: <https://stpiusx.wa.edu.au/>

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

First Reading

Micah 5:1-4

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19. R. v.4

(R.) Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

1. O Shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. (R.)
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)
3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. (R.)

Second Reading

Hebrews 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 1:38

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

Gospel

Luke 1:39-45

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

Reflection for Young People

By Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

When Elizabeth and Mary met, they were both pregnant, and they were both filled with joy and hope. But sometimes when a woman finds she is pregnant, it isn't always good news.

Sometimes it takes quite an adjustment, and sometimes difficult decisions must be made.

Do you know anyone who has been pregnant? Do you know what kind of an experience it was for her? What do you see as the joys and the challenges of being pregnant?

Have you ever played with a baby? Have you ever held a newborn? Have you ever changed a baby's nappy? Have you ever fed a baby? How much time have you spent with babies? How do you feel about babies?

Next Sunday Readings

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

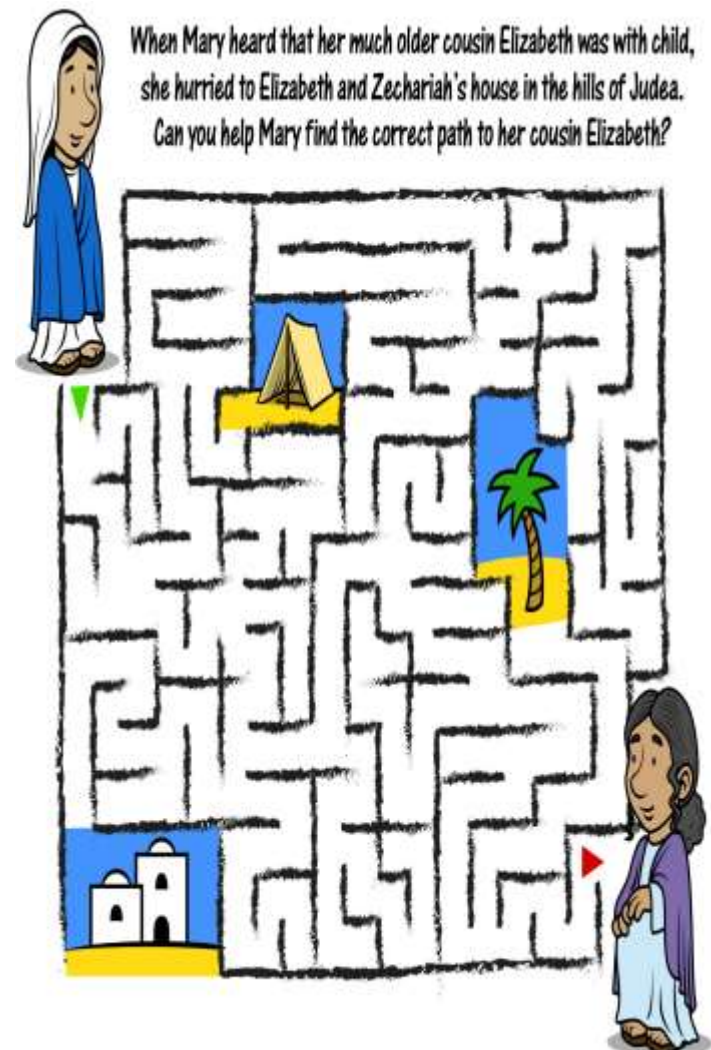
29 December 2024 - Year C

First Reading: 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

CHILDREN'S CORNER



ROSTER		Weekend of 21/22 December	Weekend 28/29 December
Special Ministers	Sat 6.00pm	David Handojo	David Handojo
	Sun 7.30am	Marilyn Lamplugh	Marilyn Lamplugh
	Sun 9.00am	Sandra McLlheney	Sandra McLlheney
Readers	Sat 6.00pm	Barbara Thompson	Christine Carvalho
	Sun 7.30am	Mitchelle Cota	Volunteer
	Sun 9.00am	Shirley Whitfield	Vincent Whyte
	Counters	Colleen & Pat Lowry	Terry & Meagan Scanlan

St Pius X Church Masses		
Dec Mon 23	8.00am	Communion Service
Tue 24		As per Christmas schedule
Wed 25		As per Christmas schedule
Thu 26	8.00am	Mass
Fri 27	8.00am	Mass
Sat 28	8.00am	Mass
	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph)
Sun 29	7.30am	Mass (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph)
	9.00am	Mass (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph)
	11.00am	Chinese Mass (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph)



Christmas Schedule
Tuesday 24 December 2024
 7.00pm Christmas Family Mass
 9.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass

Wednesday 25 December 2024
 9.00am Christmas Morning Mass

Tuesday 31 December
New Year's Eve

Holy Hour + Benediction 7.00pm
 Mass 8.00pm

Wednesday 1st January
New Year's Day
 Mass 9.00 am

Line Dancing Classes
 Mondays and Wednesdays
 10am - 12noon \$6 per session
 All proceeds go to the Parish
 Wednesday 18 December will be the last class for this year and will recommence on 8.1.2025. Merry Christmas to all Francis & Hellen Tay

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

Readers Christmas Masses

Tuesday 24 December 2024
 7.00pm Christmas Family Mass
 Christine Carvalho
 9.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass
 Corrie Barnes

Wednesday 25 December 2024
 9.00am Christmas Morning Mass
 Vincent Whyte

New Year's Eve Mass
Tuesday 31 December
 Holy Hour + Benediction 7.00pm
 Mass 8.00pm
 Carmen de Sousa

New Year's Day
Wednesday 1st January
 Mass 9.00 am
 Sandra McLlheney

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth
Employment Opportunities

The Catholic Archdiocese of Perth has employment opportunities for suitably qualified persons to join its team and continue the good work of the Church

For details and how to apply, refer to <https://www.perthcatholic.org.au/Employment.htm>.

Administration Assistant (Episcopal Services) – Perm/Full-time (Admin Assistant, Episcopal Services Job in Perth WA - SEEK)

Administration Officer (Safeguarding Office) – Perm/Full-time (apply through: recruitment@perthcatholic.org.au)

Coordinator, Personal Advocacy Service – Perm/Part-time (Coordinator (Personal Advocacy Service Job in Morley Perth WA - SEEK)



SPX Parish Office
 The Parish Office will be closed from Monday 23rd December - Monday 6 January 2025 (both days inclusive)
 We wish all our Parishioners a safe and Blessed Christmas

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