

We Respond

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 84)

ANTIPHON: Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

RESPONSE: Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

LECTOR: I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**

LECTOR: Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. **R.**

LECTOR: The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

TODAY'S READINGS Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

NEXT WEEK (3rd Sunday Advent, Year B) Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

*Brighten up
your day with
The Majellan*

Majellan Christmas Closure

Thank you to all our loyal customers for your support this year. Majellan Publications will be closed from Tuesday December 22 and won't reopen until Monday January 11, 2021. Please stay safe during the Christmas/New Year period and we look forward to your continued support in 2021.

majellan

*A world weary
of suffering*



6 December 2020 2nd Sunday Advent Year B

"Here is your God!" These words of the first reading, attributed to a prophet called the second (or Deutero)-Isaiah, are words of hope for a disheartened people. The Israelites, although freed from slavery under the Egyptians, now find themselves exiles in what is called the "Babylonian captivity." The Babylonians had destroyed the temple in Jerusalem and exiled most of the Hebrews who were beginning to despair of ever returning to their homeland. The prophet is a scribe for Israel's God communicating words of comfort and hope.

A popular idea at the time was to attribute hardship and misfortune as punishment for sin. While the prophet does not directly challenge a connection between sin and suffering, he presents the people with a far more profound message of the assurance of God's victory over evil as well as the offer of divine mercy and forgiveness. Such a God is not only "coming with power" but also "like a shepherd feeding his flock, holding the lambs in his arms."

What is also clear in these verses is that God does not act alone nor impose the divine will without respect for human freedom. Rather, messengers will be sent, signs will be given, so that all people are invited to see that Israel's God is not simply the God of the Hebrews, but the God of all the earth and every people. The most powerful of God's messengers is John the Baptist, calling people to repent their sins

and open their hearts to see in Jesus Christ the Messiah. We may almost call 2020 our own 'Year of Captivity' in wake of the physical, mental, economic and spiritual challenges through such confronting experiences as bushfires and the coronavirus. There is always the temptation to despair forgetting that, despite human ineptitude, stupidity and sinfulness, creation is still God's world and we are still God's people. Our task is not to "give in" but to "act out" a new way of living focusing on the infinite mercy of God, the dignity of every human person, and the sacredness of the earth.

If bushfires and the pandemic have anything to teach us, it is surely that our human plans are often confronted by new and unexpected life challenges. Pope Francis' powerful encyclical *Laudato Si'* [On Care for Our Common Home] reiterates this understanding that "everything is interconnected." We need to take seriously human responsibility for global warming and environmental destruction—and to change our ways. And we also need to place our faith and trust in God.

Advent is a time of both prophecy and promise. The prophet—whether Deutero-Isaiah or John the Baptist—calls us to change our ways. The promise—"Here is your God!"—calms our fears and answers our deepest hopes for a world wearied of suffering.

Gerard Hall SM
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CURRENT PARISH NEWS

WEEK START SUN DEC 6 2020
2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

REGINA CAELI CATHOLIC PARISH

FR JOHN GARRAHY, ADM.

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PARISH OFFICE: TUES, WED, THURS, 9.30AM - 2.30PM

JEANNE SCHNEIDER M: 0414 836 071

ALL ENQUIRIES RE BOOKING BAPTISMS,

WEDDINGS, FUNERALS & SACRAMENT OF Penance

PLEASE CONTACT PARISH OFFICE.

NEXT BAPTISM ENROLMENT TALK SUN DEC 6 AT 4PM IN PARISH HALL. NO APPT NECESSARY!

Sat ~ 9am, 6pm;

Sun ~ 6.30am & 8.30am

Mon & Wed ~ 6.30am;

Tues & Fri ~ 9am

Public Holidays ~ 9am



Thank You ...to all who support Regina Caeli in any way, be it practically or financially. All assistance is valued & important. For new practical helpers contact p/office. For financial support facilities please contact office or you may also deposit online: BSB 064 786 A/c: 006171102

(Please incl ref) or Parish Giving app available now & supports our parish [downloadable to your phone]

'Passing the plate' is prohibited at the moment, hence, "gifting" boxes are located at all doors if you are



wishing to support parish financially.

Spare envelopes available for your convenience

<http://parishgiving.brisbanecatholic.org.au/>

Click on links for resources & articles:

Archdiocese of Brisbane:

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/>

Webcast : www.archbne.org/bzw

The Catholic Leader & Catholic Kool Kids [CKK]

Visit parish website under: "Stay Connected"

Regina Caeli Parish will deliver newsletters to those who may find themselves isolated and/or unable to visit parish itself. Contact us for an email copy or hardcopy delivery to home.

Volunteers needed for all Christmas Masses as Sacristans, Readers & Persons to assist 'Sign In' those attending Christmas Masses. To help us plan ahead, if you are available & happy to assist please add your name to helper sheet in foyer.



YEAR **B**



SPEND TIME WITH GOD EVERY MORNING

Sign up to receive the Daily Gospel Reflection. These reflections are mailed to your inbox at 6am daily (Mon-Fri) & are just a 3 minute read that could be done over breakfast, intended to invite you into prayer. Written by Catholic lay people (men & women from Evangelisation Brisbane), for Catholic lay people about gospel of the day to help you start your day with God. Subscribe by simply scanning the QR code or via Evangelisation Brisbane <https://evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/daily-reflections/>



Palms Australia

PALMS AUSTRALIA ORIENTATION COURSE

- JANUARY 2021 - Palms Australia places

Australians with communities that request their particular expertise to help develop the skills of local people. Palms will enter its 60th year with an **Orientation Course in January 2021**. A fresh group of skilled and committed applicants will be thoroughly prepared for this cross-cultural mission in remote parishes, schools and communities as soon as international travel resumes. If you are interested in learning more please visit www.palms.org.au.



Mass of Reconciliation

prior to the 2020 season of Christmas, Tuesday December 15 @ 7pm

SONGS OF ADVENT JOY

Each Thursday in December (December 3, 10 & 17) commencing at 7:30pm

Following the success of 'Songs of Easter Hope' series earlier this year, the Cathedral of St Stephen will again be filled with sound to celebrate the Season of Advent.

Come and explore hymns, prayers and motets rejoicing in the coming of Christ at Christmas, all led by the Cathedral Schola.

Entry is by donation 'notes for notes' (with all money raised supporting the Cathedral Music program).

Registration for the three evenings is via the Cathedral website: <https://www.cathedralofststephen.org.au/christmas.html>

Songs of Advent Joy will be live-streamed for those who are unable to attend in person.

These will be accessible via <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/multimedia/web-cast/>



The 'New Norm' 20 11 2020



- ◆ Stay home if unwell
- ◆ Sign In & Sanitise your hands
- ◆ Sanitise your space with wipes on exit
- ◆ Social Distancing: (1person or family / 2m²)
- ◆ Sign of Peace spoken greeting only
- ◆ Take newsletter home with you
- ◆ Gifting boxes available at doors for donations
- ◆ No Hymn books used

Please ensure all contact details are up to date and lodged with parish. They are to include Phone number plus email or residential address as a minimum.



RECENTLY DECEASED: Joyce Byrne, Bianca Capelli, Clare Dugger, Dan Egan, Bart Gaffney, FT 'Bill' Hanley, Lucy Houghton, Dominic VU,

ANNIVERSARIES: Mr & Mrs Andruczyk, Louise & Maurice Chappuis, Bill Cummins, Roy Gleadhill, John Scott Tom Sternfeldt, Helen Shaw

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Joshua Chester, Pat Cochrane, Veronica & Cathy Comiskey, Neil Cremin, Pat Dugger, George D'Allura, Loye Gardiner, Paul Heathwood, Allaura Hows, Kath Keogh, Nicky Logan, Paddy Logan, Katie Loveday, Trish McConnell, Fr Ron Mollison, Marie-Louise O'Brien, Pam O'Reilly, Peter Owen, Peter Reid, Wal & Joyce Smith, Lester Steen, Nathaniel Williams, Zelina & family

2020 Christmas Mass Times

Mass of Reconciliation

Tuesday Dec 15, 7pm

Thursday Dec 24 Christmas Eve

6pm Carols & Mass 6.30pm

Friday Dec 25

Christmas Day

6.30am & 8.30am

New Year's Day 2021,

Friday 9am



PROCESSIONAL ©BRIAN BONIWELL **PREPARE THE WAY**

V1 There was a man of God whose name was John. He came to speak for the light: The voice of one in the wilderness; 'Prepare the way of the Lord.'

R/: Prepare the way of the Lord...prepare...prepare...

OFFERTORY ©Bernadette Farrell **COME TO SET US FREE**

REFRAIN: Come to set us free, come to make us your own. Come to show the way to your people, your chosen. Open our lives to the light of your promise. Come to our hearts with healing, come to our minds with power, come to us and bring us your life.



V1 You are light which shines in darkness, Morning Star which never sets. Open our eyes which only dimly see the truth which sets us free.

R/:

COMMUNION ©BOB DUFFORD **LIKE A SHEPHERD**

REFLECTION ©Bernadette Farrell **BREAD OF LIFE, HOPE FOR THE WORLD**

REFRAIN: Bread of life, hope of the world, Jesus Christ, our brother: feed us now, give us life, lead us to one another.

V1 As we proclaim your death, as we recall your life, we remember your promise to return again.
V5 You are the bread of peace, you are the wine of joy, broken now for your people, poured in endless love

RECESSIONAL ©Dan Schutte **CITY OF GOD**

V1 Awake from your slumber! Arise from your sleep! A new day is dawning for all those who weep. The people in darkness have seen a great light: The Lord of our longing has conquered the night.

REFRAIN: Let us build the city of God. May our tears be turned into dancing! For the Lord, our light and our love, has turned the night into day!

V5 We are sons of the morning; we are daughters of day. The One who has loved us has brightened our way. The Lord of all kindness has called us to be a light for his people to set their hearts free.

