

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*Your redemption is near at hand.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.'

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

#### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.



#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

Reproduction of this bulletin in any form prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 02 9394 3400 Fax 02 9746 1140. Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible, published and © 1966, by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co. Inc. are used by permission of the publishers. Psalm text from *The Psalms, A New Translation*, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from *The Roman Missal* ©2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2018. No 1747. Website: [www.stpauls.com.au](http://www.stpauls.com.au)

# Reflections on the Gospel

## STAY AWAKE, PRAYING AT ALL TIMES

Today's Gospel, taken from Jesus' long instruction on the future (Luke 21:5-38), focuses on his second coming. It is full of the kind of apocalyptic descriptions and portents that have always excited the fundamentalist religious imagination. We need not dwell on these. The important thing to focus on is the basic intent of such instruction, which is to address the sense of dismay and the challenge to hope that calamities of various kinds present. While God may appear to be silent or absent, somehow all these things are held within the divine purpose, which will ultimately win through.

While the basic message, then, is one of comfort, the second part of the Gospel adopts a more admonitory tone. The time of waiting requires attentiveness and a sharp spiritual sense. Believers must be like people who expect visitors but are unsure when exactly they will arrive. Anything that dulls the spirit (debauchery and drunkenness) or causes it to be distracted (absorption in the cares of life) must be avoided, and commitment to prayer intensified.

Advent is a time for examination in such areas. It is also a time for exploring our deepest longings and desires and allowing them to surface. They can ride up, so to speak, on the Scripture texts that the Church puts before us at this time.

God's only wish in our regard is to communicate to us the life and love for which we long. Each Advent should expand both our longing and our capacity to receive the gift of God.

**Brendan Byrne, SJ**

# THE SAVING WORD

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / C

02 DECEMBER 2018

## FIRST READING

Jer 33:14-16

**A reading from the prophet Jeremiah**

*I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.* See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

'In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.

In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence.

And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'

#### ■ The word of the Lord.

## RESP PSALM

Ps 24:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14. R. v. 1

**R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. **R.**

2. The Lord is good and upright. / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path; / he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

3. His ways are faithfulness and love / for those who keep his covenant and will. / The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him; / to them he reveals his covenant. **R.**

## SECOND READING

1 Thess 3:12-4:2

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians**

*When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.*

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the



whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

#### ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 84:8

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.**

**Alleluia!**

# St Clement of Rome Church

Address: Egan Drive, Bulleen 3105 - Phone: 9850 3262, Fax: 9850 2550  
 Email: bulleen@cam.org.au, Web: www.stclementsparishbulleen.org.au  
 Office Hours: Monday—Friday 9:00am-3:00pm

Parish Priest : Monsignor Franco Cavarra (Parish Office 9850 3262) or (Presbytery 9850 6073)  
 Italian Chaplain: Fr Vito Pegolo (0419 736 890), School Principal: Mr Michael Heenan (9850 1216)  
 Pastoral Associate: Cecilia Tan (9850 3262), Assistant Pastoral Associate : Franka Waters  
 Parish Secretary: Bernadine De Silva (9850 3262)  
 Clifton Centre: Mary Hansen (9850 1860) St Vincent de Paul Helpline (1800 305 330)

Wishing you every blessing for the  
 Christmas Season!



## Christmas Mass Time Table – 2018

### Wednesday 5th December

7.30pm Parish Reconciliation Service

### Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December

9.45am Italian Reconciliation Service (after 9.15am Mass)

### Monday 24th December

5.30pm Family Mass

7.30pm Italian Vigil

9.30pm Maronite Vigil

11.30pm Carols & 12.00 Midnight Mass

### Tuesday 25th December

9.15am Mass

11.00am Mass in Italian

6.00pm Maronite Mass

### Prepare the Way - Advent Reflection: Week 1

What signs of God's presence do I notice in the world? How and through whom, has Christ come into my life recently? May I seek to bring hope and encouragement to others this week.

God of Love, our hearts long for your coming.  
 God of Mercy, open our eyes to see you in the poor and vulnerable.  
 God of Hope, make us bearers of Good News.



### St Vincent de Paul Christmas donations

Donations of long life foods (tins, packets etc.) may be placed under the Christmas tree in the Church. These will be distributed to the less fortunate within the local community. Thank you for your generosity.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas appeal will take place next weekend 8/9th Dec. Envelopes available. Please support.

Congratulations to  
 Alexandra Gammilonghi  
 & Jonathan Richardson  
 on their Wedding  
 At St Clement's  
 this Saturday



### MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS

Mass Times: Sat 5:30pm (Vigil), Sun - 9am, 11am (Italian) & 6pm (Maronite Community Mass)

Tues 9:15am (Italian), Wed-Sat 9:15am. Eucharistic Adoration: Tues-Fri 8-9am (in the Chapel)  
 Reconciliation: Sat 10am (and on request). Marian Devotions: Sat 8.40am.

Death Anniversaries : Maria Tereza Tang, Rosario Spano  
 Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
 May they rest in peace. Amen

## PARISH DIARY

Tue 4th Dec @ 9.15am—Healing Mass (School—Grade 3)  
 Wed 5th Dec @ 7.30pm—Parish Advent Reconciliation Service  
 Thurs 6th Dec @ 7.30pm—Advent Reflections in the School Library- Living with Integrity. What does it take?  
 Fri 7th Dec @ 9.15am—Immaculate of Conception (School Mass Year 4)  
 Fri 7th Dec @ 6.45pm—Presepio Musicale Concert

## ST CLEMENT OF ROME PARISH, BULLEEN WELCOMES YOU TO A VERY SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

### PRESEPIO MUSICALE

WITH MARCO CINQUE, CARMELA DE LOSINNO &  
 ANGELO FALCONE

The Banda Musicale Vincenzo Bellini,  
 Conductor M. Giuliano Di Lenno

Coro Gruppo Culturale Italiano  
 —Daniela Sartor—Alessia Licitra

MC and Compare Cav. Frank Di Blasi, OAM

Friday December 7  
 6.45pm at St Clement of Rome Church,  
 Egan Drive Bulleen.

Entrance donation \$20.00 per person.

For bookings contact Giorgio Baglieri 0411 662 932 or  
 St Clement's Parish Office 9850 3262

Liturgy Roster	Sat 5.30pm	Sun 9am
1/2 December	Sacristan John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
1 Advent	COMMENTATOR John Bruce	Mark Gregor
	Reader Linda Cultrera	Christine Landsberg
	Special Ministers Enza Wilcox	Rita Gagliardi
	Warwick Wright	Fulvia Gerasolimo
	John Bruce	Gabriella Grande
		Eleanora Mascitti
		David Mitchell
		Pam Mitchell
		Gloria Ng
8/9 December	Sacristan Rita Gagliardi	Francis & Gloria Ng
2 Advent	COMMENTATOR Linda Cultrera	Christine Landsberg
	Reader Jacinta De La Cruz	Tim Landsberg
	Special Ministers Linda Cultrera	Maria Papalia
	Rene De La Cruz	Elsa Waters
	Corinne Goh	Chris Zordan
		Trish Atherton
		Grace Canatelli
		Anne Fusca
		Gabriella Grande
		Eleanora Mascitti

### Sacramental Program 2019

Please register your interest for 2019. The fee to cover all administrative and resource cost is \$200 per sacrament per child. Fees payable on enrolment through the Parish Office. Enrolment forms can be downloaded from the website or collected from the Parish Office.

Confirmation classes commence on Tue 12th Feb 2019  
 Last enrolment date : 5th Feb 2019

Reconciliation classes commence on Tue 21st May 2019  
 Last enrolment date : 14th May 2019

Eucharist classes commence on Tue 6th Aug 2019  
 Last enrolment date : 30th July 2019

All classes : 4.30pm—5.30pm in the Parish Office.

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL'EUCHARISTA
09/12	G. BAGLIERI D. DI MARZIO	FAM. B. ROMANIN	L. VETTORETTO G. VETTORETTO L. CIAMPA

### Christmas Roster

Readers & Special Ministers roster is now available in the Foyer. Please pick up your copy.

### Scripture Studies

Advent Scripture Reflections are scheduled for:

6 December : Living with Integrity. What does it take?  
 13 December : The choice to rejoice. Am I willing to make that choice?  
 20 December : Here I am, I am coming to do your will. How ready am I to do God's will?

All sessions will begin from 7.30pm in the School Library  
 Our Theme: Art as the carrier of the Word