

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 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, 2015. No 1588. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

# Reflections on the Gospel



# THE SAVING WORD

First Sunday of Advent / C

29 November 2015

## STAY AWAKE.

### YOUR LIBERATION IS NEAR.

For the people of Israel, time is not only measured by the passing of days, months, and years. Especially in places where agriculture is a way of living, time is also measured with the changing of seasons. The budding of fruit-producing trees is a good way to tell the changing of seasons. Mark mentions the fig tree but Luke adds "all other trees" (Lk 21: 29) to say that other trees exhibit the same phenomenon.

Trees tell us of the passage from dormancy to growth, which is also a passage from death to life. In like fashion, Jesus' coming will be a passage from agony to redemption, from the old world to the new.

The Gospel readings on the last Sundays of the liturgical year are taken from the "eschatological" discourses of Jesus. Eschatology points to end-time realities, when the old world or order will pass away. Eschatology in the Bible is painted with "signs of the end": wars, tribulations, persecutions, and cataclysm in the cosmos. They are symbols and are not to be taken literally; they mean the "disappearance" of the old order.

But this is not disappearance to nothingness; rather, the old gives way to the new. And the coming of the new – as we observe in nature – is shown in the "budding" of trees which presages flowering and harvest. And so the eschatological discourses end with a note of promise, of hope, of newness.

Advent, which means "coming", prepares us for remembering and celebrating the Incarnation, when the Son of God became part of human history. But on the first Sunday of Advent, our minds are turned to Christ's Second Coming when human history reaches its final fulfilment. We look forward to it in "joyful hope".

Fr Gil Alinsangan SSP

## 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 PS

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

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), Parish Secretary: Bernadine De Silva (9850 3262)  
Communion to the Sick: Trish Atherton (9850 2746), Clifton Centre: Mary Hansen (9850 1860)  
St Vincent de Paul Helpline (1300 305 330)

**Feast of St Clement of Rome Celebrations**  
Grateful thanks to Mal Dubock convener for the community multicultural lunch and all who were involved in making our celebrations such wonderful events - Mgr. Franco

**Riconciliazione D'avvento in Italiano**  
Giovedì, il 17 dicembre alle ore 7.30pm

Mons. Franco Cavarra PP  
Padre Vito Pegolo CS

**Lourdes Day Mass**  
Will be held on Sat 5th December at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne at 10.30am. Flyers available in the Foyer.

**Christmas Vigil Mass 2015: Thursday 24 December @5.30pm**  
We hope to have a Children's Christmas pageant as part of the Mass. We encourage all children to come dressed as shepherds/angels/inn keepers/stable animals etc. Children who would like to take part in the actual pageant need to come for rehearsals. Children and those Parents wishing to participate in this year's Vigil Mass please leave your names and contact numbers with the Parish Office or call Susan Russo @ 0411436925 or email: [suzperry@hotmail.com](mailto:suzperry@hotmail.com) or [Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au](mailto:Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au)

**Speed Barriers**  
The Health and Occupational Safety Act of 2004 demands that all measures required to ensure the safety of all those who attend public places be put into practice. St Clement's Primary School has therefore installed yellow speed barriers on our grounds to draw attention to and raise awareness of the very real danger posed by speeding cars to our children who attend the school. Higher and very visible markers and signs will also be installed so that the warnings can be seen by all drivers from the vehicles at all times. Thank you for your understanding.

**Everyone Welcome!**  
**YARRA DEANERY**  
**ADVENT REFLECTION**  
**PRAYER ON THE PIAZZA**  
Held on the piazza and drinks and samosas served  
Friday, 12 December 2015  
7:00pm  
St Clement of Rome Parish  
7-21 Egan Drive  
Bulleen VIC 3105

**MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS**  
Mass Times: Sat 5:30pm (Vigil), Sun - 9am, 11am (Italian) & 5.30pm.  
Tues 9:15am (Italian) & 7.30pm (English), Wed-Sat 9:15am. Eucharistic Adoration: Tues-Sat 8-9am.  
Reconciliation: Sat 10am & 6:30pm, Sun 10am (and on request). Marian Devotions: Sat 8.40am.  
Baptisms: Welcoming (3rd weekend) & Baptism (4th weekend) every month. Weddings: By Appointment.

**Recently Deceased : Krishna Costa**  
**Death Anniversaries : Santa Barbuto, Giovanni Barbuto, Berardino De Amicis, Luigi Colaci, Mario Giacomantonio, Marianna Jacques**  
**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.**  
**May they rest in peace. Amen.**

**PARISH DIARY**  
Fri 4th Dec @ 9.15am—Advent 2—Prep & Grade 6 Mass  
Wed 9th Dec @ 6.30pm—Graduation Mass  
Thur 10th Dec @ 7.30pm—Advent Reflection in the Clifton Centre  
Fri 11th Dec @ 9.15am—Advent 3—Grade 1 & 4 Mass  
Fri 11th Dec @ 7.30pm—Deanery Advent Reflection in the Clifton Centre

**THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY: "Be Merciful, just as your Father is merciful."**  
POPE Francis' invitation to the Year of Mercy is a call to renew and deepen our understanding and actions for Mercy. The Holy Father will open the door of St. Peter's Basilica to officially welcome the Jubilee Year. The door will become "a Door of Mercy through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons, and instills hope."  
The Archdiocese has organized a 'Walking into Mercy Pilgrimage' to St. Patrick's Cathedral, Date: 13 December 2015, Time: 2.30pm  
Pilgrims are encouraged to bring a photo/memento of someone who has been merciful to them, and place it on a special 'wall of mercy' upon arrival at the Cathedral.  
From Romero to Francis: The joys & tensions of becoming 'A poor Church for the Poor'  
Date: Sunday, 29th November 2015  
Time: 3pm—4.30pm  
Speaker: Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez SDB

**In Our Parish: We have organized a special event: "Advent: and Introduction to the Year of Mercy" presented by Fr. Chris Monaghan, cp.**  
Date: Thursday, 10 December 2015  
Time: 7.30pm to 9.00pm  
Place: The Clifton Centre  
Please collect the pamphlet containing some excerpts from *Misericordiae Vultus* and the major themes Pope Francis has included in the Papal Bull.

**RCIA:** There are pamphlets available for distribution to anyone you may know who may wish to find out more about the Catholic faith. Please take some home and invite others to come to know the beauty that is the Catholic faith. This program is not only for those who wish to become Catholics. Our sessions are run to benefit anyone who wish to deepen their understanding of the Sacraments and what the Catholic Church is about.

**YOUTH GROUP:** We would like to build a team to begin discussion and planning for a Parish Youth Group to begin in 2016. If you are keen to be part of the team, please contact Linda Cultrera @ tel: 0412411731 or email: [cultrera@bigpond.net](mailto:cultrera@bigpond.net)

**The Pastoral Associate's hours:** I am generally 'on site' on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. However, the nature of my role is such that I have to attend to a number of different things that often take me out of the office. If you do have a concern and wish to see me personally, please contact the parish office or email me: [Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au](mailto:Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au) for a mutually suitable time. Thank you all. Cecilia.

**Children's Sacraments:**  
Enrolments for 2016: We have started taking enrolments for 2016. Please contact the Parish Office or email [Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au](mailto:Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au)  
The sequence for the sacraments for 2016 are as follows:  
Term one: Reconciliation, Term two: Eucharist, Term Three: Confirmation.  
Duration of preparation of each sacrament: 10 weeks  
Classes will be held every Tuesday after school from 4pm—5pm.  
Children's Liturgy: Every 2nd and 4th weekend of each month except during school holidays.  
Catechists: If you would like to share your faith with young children, do consider becoming a catechist to help our children grow in their faith through the Sacramental Program.  
Email: [Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au](mailto:Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au)

**Collections Last Weekend**  
1st Collection (Thanksgiving)  
Actual — 2,746  
2nd Collection (Presbytery)  
Actual — 1,461  
Many thanks & every Blessing!

**LITURGY ROSTERS**

	Sat 5.30pm	Sun 9am	Sun 5.30pm
28 <sup>th</sup> /29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Sacristan Rita Gagliardi	Francis Ng	Corinne Goh
	COMMENTATOR Rocco Gagliardi	Grace Cannatelli	Jan McQueen
	Reader Rocco Gagliardi	Jim Cowhey	Linda Cultrera
	Special Ministers Warwick Wright	Sylvia Mascitti	Cecilia Lam
		Loretta Galante	David Mitchell
		Reg Lecordier	Pam Mitchell
			Gloria Ng
			Maria Papalia
			Italo Rigoni
			Nerina Rigoni

5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Sacristan John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng	Corinne Goh
	COMMENTATOR John Bruce	Jim Cowhey	Linda Cultrera
	Reader Paul Sammut	Sylvie Duff	Donna Hoyne
	Special Ministers Maree Marsi	Chris Zordan	
		May Teh	Trish Atherton
		Martin Teh	Grace Canatelli
			Corinne Goh
			Anne Fusca
			Gabriella Grande
			Eleanora Mascitti
			Sylvia Mascitti

**St Clement of Rome Parish Website**  
This weekend we are launching a brand new website ([www.stclementsparishbulleen.org.au](http://www.stclementsparishbulleen.org.au)) for our Parish. This presents you with a more compact view of what is happening in the Parish and the Community. Please feel free to browse through and we are open to your suggestions.  
Bernadine De Silva

**Charity Luncheon for Nigerian Mission**  
Following the 11am Mass, a charity Luncheon organized by the FCI will be held in the Clifton Centre on 6th December at 12 noon to support the missions in Nigeria. Cost \$30 (all inclusive).

A thanksgiving will also be presented to Rev. Fr. Raffaele Rossi who will be taking up a new ministry.

Please put your details on the sign up sheet in the Foyer.

**Readers and Commentators:** Please Collect your new rosters from the Plastic holder next to the Notice Board.