

St Mary's Cathedral Parish

December 15, 2019 YR A/2
Third Sunday of Advent



Weekly Mass Times

St Mary's Cathedral

Tue-Fri : 7.30am

Sat : 6pm Mass

Sun : 10.30am & 6.00pm Masses

Sacred Heart Church

Tue-Thu : 9am

Sat : 8.00am Mass

Sun : 8.30am Mass

Lawrenny Court Cnr Arthur and Hill
Sts, West Hobart

*No Masses until 9 February 2020***

Reconciliation

Sacred Heart Church : Sat following
8.00am Mass

St Mary's Cathedral: Sat 5-5.30pm

Rosary

Sacred Heart Church : Sat 7.30am

St Mary's Cathedral—Cnr Harrington & Patrick Streets,
Hobart; Sacred Heart Church—Cross St, New Town;

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, come and save us.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia! **Readings:** Is 35:1-6, 10; James 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11 **Next Week's Readings :** Is 7:10-14 ; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

LOOK, YOUR GOD IS COMING!

We have all experienced and know how it feels to have to WAIT. We wait for a kettle to boil, a flower bud to unfold and expose its beauty, for fruit to ripen, a wound to heal, visiting friends to arrive, rain to fall and the sun to shine, and new life in all its forms. Waiting is fundamental to human existence. It can be a time of confusion or reflection, concern or expectation. The first reading for today's liturgy comes from the Old Testament prophet Isaiah (Is 35:1-6). Isaiah assures us in such picturesque language that the whole of creation will 'sing for joy' at the 'first' coming of Christ which also announces Christ's second coming when he will establish his reign on earth as King of the Universe. 'Look, your God is coming - he is coming to save you.' I recommend to you all the readings from today's liturgy for your personal reflection, meditation and prayer. We are reminded to go out to the world with patience and courage armed with Christ's presence within our own being to seek out the poor and needy of our time. This third Sunday of Advent is traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday which means REJOICING. 'Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice' The joyful Rose coloured vestments are worn today which adds to the spirit of the season of Christmas as we celebrate two thousand plus anniversaries of Christ's birth. In the Gospel of Matthew (Mt 1: 2-11) we encounter John in prison waiting to be condemned to death at the hand of Herod. John had a momentary doubt about the authority of Jesus. "Are you the one who is to come or have we got to wait for someone else? Are you the promised Messiah?" Jesus sent his reply, "Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk and the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the 'Good News' is proclaimed to the poor and happy is the man (John) who does not lose faith in me. Is Matthew reminding us to see the signs of the kingdom around us and by word action and prayer enhance the lives of the needy around us?



Sr Monica Shelveton PBVM

The Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council invites all parishioners to a Christmas BBQ this Sunday 15th December 2019 following 10.30am Mass. Meat and drinks will be provided and you are invited to simply bring along a salad to share. Come and enjoy the festive season!



MANY THANKS TO ELIZABETH HORNE AS SHE LEAVES THE CATHEDRAL PARISH OFFICE

This week (20th), our St Mary's Cathedral Parish Office Manager of nearly 7 years will leave us. Liz has always been very dedicated to the job, steady under pressure, and has related well to all staff, parishioners, school staff, parents and visitors alike. Liz is a faith-filled woman, and that is her foundation; she has always tried to recognise the presence of Christ in every person who came to seek her assistance at the Cathedral Office. She read the issues well and was always pastorally savvy in providing solutions. Liz's two sons, Mitch and Isaac, have been committed altar servers until recent times and it has been a pleasure to see them grow and mature among us in the last couple of years.

Liz has managed to successfully keep the chaotic schedule of the Cathedral and the Centre, and has risen up to meet the many challenges of the job. Under her watchful eye, everything has run smoothly. A friendly, smiling face always greeted everyone coming into the Centre.

As we say farewell to a multi-talented and dedicated parish office manager, we wish her all the very best for the future. She leaves to tackle her next challenge with our prayers and our grateful thanks.

We welcome our new parish secretary, Shilpi Samida, who is now off to a good start as Liz has been showing her the ropes for the past few weeks.

Fr Shammi Perera

Last Saturday at St Mary's Cathedral Lorraine and Larry Dooley celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary!

Lorraine and Larry's children and grandchildren took part in the anniversary Mass during which Fr Shammi Perera presented the certificate that carries the Apostolic Blessing of the Holy Father Pope Francis.

The parish congratulates them on reaching this beautiful milestone in their marriage!



Fr Norberto Ochua will be offering three days of the Simbang Gabi (Dawn Mass) at the Cathedral at 5am on December 22, 23, 24 kindly assisted by Deacon Steven Smith.



Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Christmas tradition. It is (usually) a series of nine dawn Masses on the days leading up to Christmas. This tradition was introduced by the Spanish friars to allow the farmers to hear Mass before going to the fields early in the morning. The Masses can start as early as 4 in the morning. Simbang Gabi is also known by its popular Spanish name, Misa de Gallo, or "Mass of the Rooster."

In the olden days, the church bells start ringing as early as three o'clock, waking people up so they can get ready for the four o'clock dawn Mass. The Roman Catholic churches across the nation start to open their doors shortly before the break of dawn to welcome the faithful to the Simbang Gabi Mass.

BLESSING OF NATIVITIES

Given to mark the first Sunday of Advent in Greccio Italy at the Shrine of the Nativity, Pope Francis presented his most recent Apostolic Letter 'Admirabile Signum' ("Enchanting Image") on the Meaning and Importance of the Nativity Scene. A Nativity scene is a simple reminder of something astonishing: God became human to reveal the greatness of his love "by smiling and opening his arms to all," Pope Francis said in his letter on the meaning and importance of setting up Christmas cribs. The Holy Father wrote "I wish to encourage the beautiful family tradition of preparing the nativity scene in the days before Christmas, but also the custom of setting it up in the workplace, in schools, hospitals, prisons and town squares." He said "It is my hope that this custom will never be lost and that, wherever it has fallen into disuse, it can be rediscovered and revived."



To assist us in giving effect to the Holy Father's express desire to promote the worthy custom of establishing the Christmas Crib in our homes, **His Grace Archbishop Porteous will at the 10:30am Mass on Sunday December 22 to bless the Cathedral's Nativity Scene and, in what is to become an annual event, invites families to bring with them to this Mass the baby Jesus and such other figures of their choosing from their own Nativity scenes which His Grace will also bless.**

Dear Parishioners, as part of the **Safe Communities Program**, we would like to **remind parents that it is their responsibility to escort children/minors to the bathroom during Masses. Also, children should not be left to run around unattended either within the Cathedral, the Cathedral Centre or the grounds. It is important that parents can see their children at all times.** Quite apart from the issue of child safety, we have had a number of expensive breakages from curious little fingers in recent times in the lift and cloister area and with our security door buttons. ***With thanks!***



Tickets to the Archdiocese of Hobart's Carols on the Hill event in Hobart are now available to order online. The event will be staged at the Hobart campus of Guilford Young College on Saturday, December 21 from 7pm to 9pm, with gates opening at 5.30pm. The oval is secure and can comfortably hold around 1200 people, making it an ideal venue for families with children. Entry to Carols on the Hill is free; however, attendees must order tickets through an official website. A valid email address is required to order up to a maximum of six (6) tickets. A single general admission ticket must be reserved for each & every attendee (adults & children) There are no costs involved when ordering tickets. You can choose to receive tickets by email that requires printing, or electronic tickets delivered to your smart phone or tablet. Tickets are available once you accept the event Terms & Conditions on the ticketing website. **To reserve your tickets, go to www.eventbrite.com.au and search for 'Carols on the Hill'.** The Carols on the Hill Community Choir are seeking voices to join them. All are welcome. Rehearsal dates continue : Thursday 19 December. These will be held at the St Mary's Cathedral Centre from 6-6:40pm. Please contact Ella Tobin on ella.tobin@aotahs.org.au or 0468 601 517 to register your interest.

We welcome you to St Mary's Cathedral Parish!

To help you become involved in our parish life and any of the various ministries of the parish, please return this slip to the Cathedral Office or place it on the collection plate at any Mass.

We will then be in touch.....with thanks.

Name

Email

Phone

Address

.....



Ministries you may be interested in: (please circle)

greeters, lectors, choir members, musicians, childrens' liturgy, youth ministry, cleaners, setting up for morning teas, altar servers, Eucharistic ministers, book stall attendant after Mass, office help, handyman work, gardening, organising special events/fundraising.

St Mary's Cathedral Parish Sacramental Program 2020

will begin with an information evening on Tuesday 25th February from 6:00 to 7:30pm in the Cathedral Centre. The program is strictly for children aged 7 and above. Parents wishing to enrol their child should contact Jo MacFarlane at macfarlane3jo@gmail.com to register interest. When registering interest, please provide child's name, birth date and school. Any queries can also be directed to the same email address.



If it is true that God in Jesus Christ is waiting for our response to divine love, then we can discover a whole new perspective on how to wait in life. We can learn to be obedient people who do not always try to go back to the action but who recognize the fulfilment of our deepest humanity in passion, in waiting. If we can do this, I am convinced that we will come in touch with the glory of God and our own new life.

Advent and Christmas—Wisdom from Henri J.M. Nouwen



Lord, our Saving Light who came to set us free, shine upon us in your glory. May your light provide illumination for us so that we recognize all those who need our help, however much, however little. Keep us from straying into the works of darkness, wipe away our tears, and grant us your light and blessings.

Amen.



A limited number of Columban Calendars are now available from Maureen at Sacred Heart Church and from the Cathedral bookstall for \$10.

Classes in "Inspiring Faith" Catechesis for children aged 8–11 years have now concluded.

In 2020, we would like to introduce a further class for 12-15 year-olds. For more information contact Jo 0407 876 913 or macfarlane3jo@gmail.com

Classes will recommence Feb 16, 2020



Made for Each Other Summer School January 20-24 in Hobart

The Made for Each Other Summer School will be held from January 20-24, 2020 at St Mary's Cathedral Centre, Hobart. It will be a unique event for young Catholics aged 18-35. The Summer School will offer a series of lectures from a well-qualified faculty, group discussions, field trips, prayer time and social occasions to create a unique experience of the beauty, goodness and truth of the Church's teaching on relationships, sexuality, marriage and the family. For more information please contact Ben Smith on 6208 6036 or ben.smith@aohtas.org.au. A web page with detailed information on the event can be viewed at: bit.ly/2oCtnOU.



Donations of tea, plunger coffee, biscuits etc are always welcome at the Cathedral for weekend morning teas. Please consider popping an extra packet in your trolley! **With thanks.**

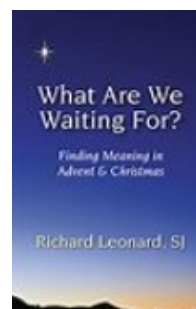
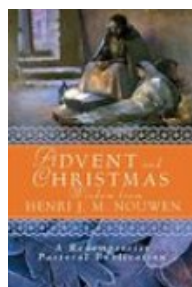


Limited copies of Advent reflections are now available in our bookstall.

The Way—\$7

What Are We Waiting For? \$20 Finding Meaning in Advent & Christmas—by Richard Leonard, SJ

Advent & Christmas—Wisdom from Henri Nouwen \$27



Dear parents....we invite all Interested primary aged children (or younger) to our parish to a Nativity rehearsal at **10.30am in the Cathedral on Wed 24th December!** The children will then perform their enactment during the 6pm Cathedral Family Mass that evening. All welcome—costumes supplied. For info please contact Sharon Lawler on 0407437888.



Presbytery 99 Barrack St, Hobart 7000
 Administrator Fr Shammi Perera
 Assistant Priest Fr Norberto Ochoa
 Deacon Nick MacFarlane
 Pastoral Associate Sr Monica Shelverton PBVM
 Cathedral Office Manager Ms Liz Horne
 Office Hours Mon—Fri 9.00am-3.00pm
 Phone 6234 4463
 Email cathedral@aohtas.org.au
 Website www.stmaryscathedralhobart.org.au

www.facebook.com/cathedralparishhobarttasmania

(remember to 'like/follow us' to stay up to date!)



From Our Anniversary Book Alice and Thomas Smythe, May Westbrook, Mary Parkinson, Maureen Rice, Theresa Dwyer, Panfilo Di Giovanni, Stanislaus Rose, Thomas Lacey, Dorothy Stewart, Sr. Brigid Barry, Irene Cundari, Mary Johnston, Mary McDonald, Joan Dempsey, Rosa Schiro, Kenneth Grubb, Patricia Jones, Michael Waters, Grace Donnelly, Ellen Baker, Leona Fulton, Cynthia Parker, Augustine Bravo, Marguerite Harris
May they rest in peace.



Reminder : Regular Weekly Events

Fri 4.30-5.30pm : Cathedral—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction; **Sat 11am** : 2nd Floor Cathedral Centre—Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help;
Sun 9.45-10.15am : Children's Catechesis (8-11yrs in school terms)



Christmas/New Year Masses

Saturday 21st Dec

8am : Sacred Heart Church
 6pm : St Mary's Cathedral

Sunday 22nd Dec

8.30am : Sacred Heart Church
 10.30am : St Mary's Cathedral
 6pm : St Mary's Cathedral

Tuesday 24th Dec

Christmas Eve
 6pm : St Mary's Cathedral (Family Vigil Mass)
 8pm : Sacred Heart Church (Family Mass)
 Midnight Mass with Service of Carols beginning 11.15pm St Mary's Cathedral

Wednesday 25th Dec

Christmas Day
 8.30am : Sacred Heart Church
 10.30am : St Mary's Cathedral
 Please note there is NO evening Mass on Christmas Day

Thursday 26th Dec

St Stephen, first martyr
 9am : Sacred Heart Church

Friday 27th Dec

St John, apostle, evangelist
 9am : Sacred Heart Church

Saturday 28th Dec

The Holy Innocents, martyrs
 8am : Sacred Heart Church
 6pm : Vigil St Mary's Cathedral

Sunday 29th Dec

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
 8.30am : Sacred Heart Church
 10.30am : St Mary's Cathedral
 6pm : St Mary's Cathedral

Tuesday 31st Dec

7th day in the Octave of the Nativity
 9am : Sacred Heart Church

Wednesday 1st Jan

Mary, the Holy Mother of God
 10.30am : St Mary's Cathedral

Thursday 2nd Jan

Sts Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
 9am : Sacred Heart Church

Friday 3rd Jan

Christmas Time
 9am : Sacred Heart Church

Saturday 4th Jan

Christmas Time
 8am : Sacred Heart Church
 6pm : Vigil St Mary's Cathedral

Sunday 5th Jan

The Epiphany of the Lord
 8.30am : Sacred Heart Church
 10.30am : St Mary's Cathedral
 6pm : St Mary's Cathedral

Reconciliation :

St Mary's Cathedral : 5pm Saturdays
 Sacred Heart Church : following 8am Mass Saturdays



Dear Readers and Eucharistic Ministers,

The Feb-July 2020 rosters are at the back of both Churches in hard-copy, and have also been emailed to anyone who has supplied me with an email address. All readers should however be aware that on the extremely rare occasion that it is apparent there is no other reader standing up that day, to please also do the other reading.
With thanks.

14/15	SHC : 8.30am Sun	SMC : 6.00pm Sat	SMC : 10.30am Sun	SMC : 6pm Sun
Greeter	n/a	n/a	Maria Respondek	TBA
Lector	Eva Dunn, Elizabeth Longo, Peter Tierney	Andrew Pinelli, Sr Monica Shelverton	Noelle Harradine, Julianna Smith	Johnnie Lennard, Margot Suber
EMOC	Tony Longo & Marg Fox	TBA	Angela Ritar, Michael Midson, Maria Saracino	TBA