

Sunday Readings

Year A

First Reading - Is 11:1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.)

He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loin-cloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips. The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

Second Reading - Rom 15:4-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

Gospel - Mt 3:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

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Office Hours : Tuesday—Friday (9.00 am to 2.00 pm)



A house of welcome to all and a place of service to all

2nd Sunday of Advent, Year A

December 4, 2016

Preparing the way

Soon after the Annunciation, when the angel Gabriel declared to Mary that she would conceive a child, Jesus, Mary set out to visit her kinswoman, Elizabeth. Elizabeth was six months further advanced in her pregnancy and soon to give birth to her son, John, who would come to be known as the Baptist.

Much to the astonishment of both women, when Mary arrived and Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped for joy in Elizabeth's womb. The gospel (Luke 1) tells us that, even from within the womb, John recognised that Jesus in Mary's womb was Emmanuel, God with us, and that his coming heralded an entirely new age.

Years later, Jesus, after having lived about 30 years of relative seclusion, was about to embark on his public ministry. John again played a powerful prophetic role in announcing, this time to the whole community, the coming of the Lord, the Lamb of God, the Messiah for whom Israel had been waiting in hope for so very long.

Like the prophets of old who had gone before him, John exhorted the people to prepare for the Lord's coming. Just as the prophets before John had exhorted, criticised, and chastised the people and urged them to repentance of their sins, conversion of their hearts, and renewal of their lives, so did John now. True to his own preaching, he himself withdrew to the wilderness, and dedicated himself to fasting, prayer and repentance in preparation for the Lord's coming.

It is no accident that we are presented with this story of John the Baptist in Advent,

Weekly Mass Times:

Monday:	7.00 am	Tuesday:	5.30 pm	Wednesday:	8.00 am
Thursday:	7.00 am	Friday:	5.30 pm	Saturday:	8.30 am
Saturday:	Vigil 6.30 pm (Novena 6.00 pm)				
Sunday:	8.00 am, 9.30 am, 11.00 am & 6.00 pm				

Reconciliation: Saturday: 11.00am - 12.00 noon and 5.00pm - 6.00pm



Fr. Phong Nguyen
Parish Priest



Fr. Garret Vergara
Assistant Priest



Fr. Cyprian Shikokoti
Priest in Residence



Deacon Bruce
Parish Deacon

as we prepare for the coming of the Lord at Christmas. John urges us to prepare, by means of prayer, fasting, reflection on our sins and our failings, and attention to our need for conversion of our hearts and our lives. He urges us to focus on the things that really matter in our lives and in our relationships with God and with each other, and on our practical care and compassion for others, and especially for those in need.

He challenges us to make real time — for prayer, for reflection, and for some honest self-examination and serious commitment to change. Really, he calls us to make our new resolutions now and to put them into effect now. Not after the festivities of Christmas and New Year, but now.

John is himself a model for us as followers of Jesus — a model of devotion to Jesus, of hope in God's promises, and of humility, perseverance, courage and self-discipline in our lives. Indeed, Jesus spoke with very high praise of him: "Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist" (Matthew 11). Let us give time and care to prepare for the coming of Our Lord this Christmas — by repentance of our sins, conversion of our hearts, and renewal of our lives.

Emeritus Professor Anne Hunt OAM
@ Redemptorists 2016

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Baptisms:

We welcome Paige Kathleen Derby, Sam Stanley Figgins, Lewis Jack Cuthbert into our Parish Community.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Deaths: Please pray for Huang Quan Cai who passed away recently.

Anniversaries:

Please pray for Marie Lam Chee Chun, Guido Mancini, Joseph Pittorino, William James Mowatt, whose anniversaries occur around this time.

R O S T E R S

for 11th DECEMBER

NEXT WEEK

Bulletin: Yunita Darmawan

Flowers: ADVENT

Counter: 1. J Jirgilli 2. G Oldenhof 3. N Kristanto

	Saturday 6.30pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 11.00am	Sunday 6.00pm
Greeters	D Kumala D Kumala	J Fitzpatri F Foster	A Faleiro J Hendricks	A Ford S Ip	I Iman C Jung
Acolytes	D Ng	D Bianchini	C Dowsett	M Tloczek	S Carrello
Altar Servers	C Heslop C Latif	A Flexman B Boudville	A Royal D Phoon S Ratnasing	E Lau E Lau J Pinto	J Basilio S Broderick Carlos
Special Minister	D Nicholson R Octomo L Rego J See L Sequeira M Sequeira J Stephen J Voon	C Morzenti R Margawani C A Norris R Norris C Price P Price M Woolford	C Tan J Tan S Teo S Wong B Bucat H Klass M McFarlane L McMinn	O D'Mello A Loo J Loo J Louie A Mascarenh M O' Brien C Foore J Roper	Youth Special Ministers (Only with Working With Children's Card)
Catechists	(Yrs 1 - 4)		(Yrs 1 - 4) C Italiano		
	(Yrs 5 - 6) L Sequeira		(Yrs 5 - 6) C A Norris		
Readers	C Morais G Munro	H Murray P Murray	C Plottke M Reutens	R D' Mello M Doray	D Talbot A Taylor
Piety stall	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED

Readers' Coordinator: Lilian Sequeira 9331 5552
Safeguarding Officer: Fatima Basilio
fatima.safeguarding@gmail.com

MORE CARE

Do you need help or know someone who does?

† Geraldine	9332 8795	(Visiting)
† Monica	9364 9358	(Meals)
† Caroline	9313 5452	(Transport/Meals)
† Silvia	9417 7131	(Transport)
† Juliana	9310 1747	(General-office hrs)

Rose Garden
December 2016

Section A
Sharon Vong

Section B
Craig Mdiver

Youth

YOUTH FUNDRAISING

The Youth are fundraising to raise funds to go to the "Embrace the Grace" Youth Conference in December. They are selling raffle tickets for a big hamper that was donated by Catholic Church Insurances. Tickets are \$2.00 each or three for \$5.00.

Please support our young people



Diocesan Notices

CYM HOLY HOUR

Every Wednesday Night (No Holy Hour on 7th December) 5.30pm: Mass 6.30pm: Holy Hour 7.30pm: Dinner (\$5 donation)

EMBRACE THE GRACE 2016 – "WHO AM I? We can only truly discover ourselves through the discovery of God."

The largest catholic youth conference in WA, in the surrounds of beautiful NewNorcia, there will be 5 days of dynamic speakers, music, fun activities, drama, prayer and more.

The conference engages with life's big questions and the issues of modern day living.

Who: 16 – 25 year olds

Date: Wed 07 Dec - Sun 11 Dec 2016

5:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Venue: NewNorcia Benedictine Community

If you would like to attend or help a young person attend this amazing conference no matter how small the contribution is, please contact CYM admin@cym.com.au on 9422 7912



THOUGHTS!

"Two things define you. Your patience when you have nothing, and your attitude when you have everything."

One great lesson I learned from my life There is no market for your emotions, so never advertise your feelings, just show your attitude...

Best of all **Christmas** means a spirit of love, a time when the love of God and the love of our fellow men should prevail over all hatred and bitterness, a time when our thoughts and deeds and the spirit of our lives manifest the presence of God.

Parish News

DATES-SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION AT NEIGHBOURING PARISHES

Riverton	Tuesday 13 December,	7.00pm
Canning Vale	Tuesday 13 December,	7.00pm
Willetton	Wednesday 14 December,	7.00pm
Bateman	Thursday 15 December,	7.30pm
Manning	Friday 16 December,	7.00pm
Applecross	Tuesday 20 December,	7.00pm
Langford	Tuesday 20 December,	7.30pm
Attadale	Wednesday 21 December,	7.30pm

UPDATED ALTAR SERVER REQUIREMENTS

The Perth Catholic Archdiocese is committed to providing safe and secure environments for all its members, leaders, and especially its children, young people and vulnerable individuals.

The current Archdiocese' Safeguarding requirements states that all Altar servers will need to have a Parental Consent form completed. The forms are available in the Church foyer. Please complete and hand it into the Parish office as soon as possible.

It is also a requirement that if an altar server is in the sacristy, a female adult needs to be present. It is for this reason we would ask that an altar server's mother please be present in the sacristy before and after Mass. A declaration form (valid for one year) will need to be completed by the mother and handed in to either Fr Phong or Fr Gamer. **This will be implemented from the 3rd and 4th of December.**

All altar servers and adults will now need to sign the sacristy register before Mass.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE OUTDOOR MASS NATIVITY

It is time again for us to prepare for the Children's Christmas Eve Outdoor Mass. We encourage all Primary School aged children, who would like to participate in the Nativity to register at the Church foyer.

The Children's Christmas Eve Outdoor Mass is on Saturday, 24th December at 6:30pm. The practices for the nativity will be on:

Saturday, 17 December at 2:00pm and Friday, 23 December at 10:00 am.

CHAPLETS OF THE DIVINE MERCY

This powerful, prayerful, sung devotion is held in our Church on the second Wednesday of each month. The last devotion for this year will be held on Wednesday 14th December 2016 commencing at 7.30 pm. It will be accompanied by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction and followed by the Sacrament of Anointing. Afterwards, we will wind the year up with refreshments, so please bring along a plate.

If you have not attended previously, why don't you come along and participate in this uplifting experience? All are welcome. Enquiries to George Lopez on 9310 9493 or 041 991 0039.



Parish News (continued)

DONATIONS OF HOME-MADE BISCUITS FOR THE PRISONERS

It is that time of the year again where we ask for donations of Home-Made Biscuits which will be packed into little packets and distributed to the various prisons and organisations before Christmas to bring some Christmas cheer to those receiving these little packets of goodies. Those who are interested in making these biscuits, can make them and deliver them to the Parish Meeting Room or office by Tuesday 13th December 2016. We will be packing the biscuits on **Wednesday 14th December at 10.30am**. Please bring in the biscuits before that. For any enquiries, please call Juliana on 9310 1747.



CALLING ALL SINGERS AND MUSICIANS!!

The Youth Music Ministry invites all children, teens and young adults to join our Children's Choir for the Christmas Eve Outdoor Mass. We are especially looking for male singers, but all are welcome! Rehearsals are held Mondays 5.45—6.45pm in the church, starting 21st November. To register your interest or for more information, please see the sign-up sheet in the foyer or contact Belinda on 0406 922 944 or bnomis89@hotmail.com.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS - SATURDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2016

The annual Christmas carolling at the Aged Care facilities around our parish precinct is scheduled for 10 December 2016 from 12.30pm – 4.30pm. Those parishioners interested to participate in this event please register at the foyer.

CORPUS CHRISTI CAROLS

Corpus Christi college invites you to enjoy an evening of carols and readings on Wed 7 December. Gates will open 6:45pm for a 7:15pm start. The evening will end promptly at 8:30pm. Bring a rug, picnic and healthy voices as you WILL be singing.

Come and enjoy this unique community event on the grassy knoll by our new Gymnasium (to the right of the Dean Road entrance)

Please bring a donation for the Saint Vincent de Paul Society WA Appeal.

YIDARRA ENROLMENTS 2017

We currently have vacancies in various year levels for next year. Applications can be collected from our office from 8am-4pm, Monday-Friday or alternatively you can download from our website. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the office on 9332 3011 and press #2 for administration.

YIDARRA 3 YEAR OLD PROGRAMME 2017

We currently have vacancies for our 3 Year Old Programme commencing on Thursday 2 February 2017. Two classes will be held each Thursday from 8.55pm during the Term.

Further information can be found on our website: web.yidarra.wa.edu.au under 'Communications'.

Applications can be collected from our office from 8am-4pm, Monday-Friday or alternatively you can download from our website.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the office on 9332 3011 and press #2 for administration.

Parish News (continued)

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE WITH PETRA STOPOVER, 19 TO 31 MAY 2017

Walk in the Life of Christ, a 13 day Holy Land Pilgrimage (Petra stopover) with Fr. Phong. For more information, please see the poster on the notice board and take a brochure home. Interested pilgrims, please contact Fr. Phong at the Parish Office on 9310 1747 or drop an email to faithtours@faithtours.com.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?

Are you new to the parish? If you are, please register in the book on the small table in the church foyer and introduce yourself to one of the priests after Mass.

APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSIONS

Parents of current Year 4 students (entering Year 5 2017) who are interested in joining the Corpus Christi College community for Year 7 in 2019 are invited to submit their enrolment applications. To ensure priority consideration, please complete and submit any application for Yr 7 2019 by January 31 2017.

Sibling offers will be forwarded to current families applicants mid-January 2017. Sibling students do not normally require an interview, unless specifically requested by the Principal.

Interviews for non-sibling applicants wishing to join the Corpus Christi College community for Year 7 2019 will commence late Term 1 2017.

Please telephone the College Registrar Susanne Pass on 6332 2567 should you have any further enquiries.

Limited vacancies for suitable applicants are available for Year 11 and 12 2017.

Diocesan Notices

SUMMER SCHOOL OF EVANGELISATION, NATIONAL CATHOLIC RETREAT

For over 30 years the Summer School of Evangelisation has been empowering the lives of young people all over Australia, bringing life and energy to the Church. It provides a chance to retreat for a week into the powerful experience of the Holy Spirit of God. Registration for the 2017 Perth Summer School is now open (for those aged between 16 - 35). Please visit www.summerschool.org.au or contact Mario Borg on 0411 641 245 for more information.

Finding a Place: A Christmas Reflection in Word and Music

Thursday 15 December, 7pm The Basilica of St Patrick, Fremantle

Join us for a beautiful evening of sacred music, readings and congregational carols to highlight the meaning of the Christmas gospel in our world today.

Come a little early to enjoy the organ recital from 6.30pm.

Catholic Mission presents this inaugural event to mark the beginning of the Christmas season in partnership with the Basilica of St Patrick and with the support of the University of Notre Dame and St Patrick's Primary School.

Held in support of Catholic Mission's work overseas with refugee communities and children who are affected by conflict. Tickets: Adults \$30 / Concessions \$20 / 12 and under FREE www.trybooking.com/NRVQ / Catholic Mission 9422 7933 / on the door.