

you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

■ The word of the Lord.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Lk 3:4, 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

**GOSPEL**

Lk 3:1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*All people shall see the salvation of God.*

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

Every valley will be filled in,  
every mountain and hill be laid low,  
winding ways will be straightened  
and rough roads made smooth.

And all mankind shall see the salvation  
of God.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**



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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT / C

8 DECEMBER 2024

## PREPARE A WAY FOR THE LORD

Today's Gospel places us squarely within history and competing political leadership. Luke introduces us to the ascetic and enigmatic figure of John the Baptist. There are four elements to Luke's presentation of John. He comes into Luke's Gospel within the context of imperial power, local politics and religious leadership; he proclaims a baptism 'of repentance'; his ministry reflects the liberating words of the ancient prophet, Isaiah, to prepare for the coming of the Messiah. Significantly, God's word comes to John in the wilderness. This is the symbolic place of nothingness and struggle. It's a marginal and liminal space and links to Israel's encounter with God in their forty years' wanderings.

These four aspects about John speak to us: We seek to live our contemporary discipleship with authenticity and fidelity within a world of power politics and church struggles; we, too, find ourselves at times in life's 'wilderness'—that symbol of struggle and nothingness; at the same time, we seek to honour our baptismal commitment as we desire to orient our lives towards God; we prepare ourselves, in the spirit of Isaiah, for the coming of our Messiah, Jesus.

This Sunday might become a time to invite John the Baptist to be our companion in preparing our hearts for the birth of Jesus. In the words of Isaiah, we are invited this Sunday to 'Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight'. We ready our hearts for God's coming to us in the anticipated birth of Jesus.

Fr Michael Trainor

## FIRST READING

Bar 5:1-9

A reading from the prophet Baruch.

*Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.*

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,  
put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever;  
wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you,  
put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head:

since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven,  
since the name God gives you for ever will be,  
'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.'

Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights  
and turn your eyes to the east:  
see your sons reassembled from west and east  
at the command of the Holy One, jubilant  
that God has remembered them.

Though they left you on foot,  
with enemies for an escort,  
now God brings them back to you  
like royal princes carried back in glory.  
For God has decreed the flattening  
of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills,  
the filling of the valleys to make the ground level  
so that Israel can walk in safety under the  
glory of God.  
And the forests and every fragrant tree will  
provide shade  
for Israel at the command of God;  
for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of  
his glory  
with his mercy and integrity for escort.

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 125. R. v. 3

**R. The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are filled with joy.**

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from  
bondage, / it seemed like a dream. / Then was  
our mouth filled with laughter, / on our lips  
there were songs. **R.**



2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels / the Lord worked for them!' / What marvels the Lord worked for us! / Indeed we were glad. **R.**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage / as streams in dry land. / Those who are sowing in tears / will sing when they reap. **R.**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears / carrying seed for the sowing: / they come back, they come back, full of song, / carrying their sheaves. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Phil 1:3-6, 8-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the  
Philippians.

*Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the  
day of Christ.*

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when



**NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Parish of Belmont-Redcliffe and Cloverdale  
Cnr Wright & Daly Streets, Cloverdale WA 6105

**PARISH PRIEST: REV FR MICHAEL QUYNH DO**  
T: 9277 4094 | E: [michael.do@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:michael.do@perthcatholic.org.au)

**PARISH PRESBYTERY & OFFICE**  
345 Wright Street, Cloverdale  
[www.ndparish.org.au](http://www.ndparish.org.au)  
Parish Secretary: Leonie Blake

**Parish Office Hours:**  
Tues, Wed & Fri: 9am – 12noon  
T: 9277 4094  
E: [ndparish@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ndparish@bigpond.net.au)

**MASS TIMES**

- **Sat: 6.00pm Vigil Mass**
- **Sun: 8.00am, 10.00am, 6.00pm**
- Tuesday: 5.30pm
- Wednesday: 8.45am
- Thursday - Saturday: 8.30am

**2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent YR C**

- 08Sun:** First Sunday of Advent
- 09 Mon:** Immaculate Conception
- 10 Tues:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent
- 11 Wed:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent
- 12 Thu:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent
- 13 Fri:** St Lucy
- 14 Sat:** St John of the Cross/Vigil Third Sunday of Advent YR C

**SACRAMENTS & PRAYERS**

- Reconciliation: Sat 9am-9.30am
  - Rosary: Sat 8am
  - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Fri 9am-5pm
  - Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help: Wed 6.00pm
- \*For Baptisms & Weddings\*  
Please call the Parish Office*

**PARISH FAITH FORMATION**

- **Bible Studies:** Tuesday @6pm in the Parish Centre - All welcome.
- **RCIA:** Tuesday @7.15pm.
- **Children's RE/Sacrament Prep:** Thursday @4.30pm during school terms.

**PARISH SCHOOLS**

Notre Dame Catholic Primary  
360 Daly Street, Cloverdale WA 6105  
6272 7100 | [www.nds.wa.edu.au](http://www.nds.wa.edu.au)

St Maria Goretti's Catholic School  
64 Morrison Street, Redcliffe WA 6104  
6279 2000 | [www.smg.wa.edu.au](http://www.smg.wa.edu.au)

**WELCOME TO MASS!** A very warm welcome to all, especially to new visitors. Remember to hand sanitise on entry, face masks are optional wear whilst in church. Thank you for your cooperation.

**SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT – YEAR C**

*PREPARE A WAY FOR THE LORD. The season of Advent is a time in which we prepare for the Lord's coming. We prepare for the feast of Christmas which commemorates his first coming as a child in Bethlehem. And we prepare also for his final coming in glory. We do this by heeding John the Baptist call to repentance, and by striving for 'peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'.*

**MASS COLLECTIONS**

Dear Parishioners, the COVID-19 crisis has impacted our liturgies and church celebrations. However, we still want to provide you with spiritual support, and we must continue to pay the bills. Please continue your monetary support to the Parish. Sign up to our Planned Giving program or you can use direct debit (contact Parish Office for details). Thank you.

PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS	First Collection EFT Details	Second Collection EFT Details
	<b>A/C Name:</b> Cloverdale Presbytery	<b>A/C Name:</b> Cloverdale Parish
	<b>BSB:</b> 086 006	<b>BSB:</b> 086 006
	<b>Account #:</b> 140 608 771	<b>Account #:</b> 667 172 433
	<b>Reference:</b> Name	<b>Reference:</b> Name

**LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER**

Mass	Acolyte	Commentator	Readers	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers
<b>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 6.00pm</b>	Greg Kempton		I Iwansantoso M Carino	C Nguyen I Iwansantoso	D & C Oee I Sharp D Patrick
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec 8.00am</b>	Andy Minh Nguyen	S D'Castro	C Parnham C Neville	D Panzich Sekulla C Parnham	N King
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec 10.00am</b>	Mikaele Piliae	Ranjit Ratnayake	S Bradshaw A Semaan	B Parasuraman J Jong	R Vadakkal A Benjamin
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec 6.00pm</b>	Sunil Rodrigues		S Fernandez J Fernandez	T Doan B Ryan	J Mai A Pravin Leo

**PARISH MINISTRIES CONTACTS**

<b>Parish Council Chairman:</b>	Dr George Sekulla JP	<a href="mailto:georgesekulla@hotmail.com">georgesekulla@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Safeguarding Officer:</b>	Sandra Irene	<a href="mailto:sandra.ire28@gmail.com">sandra.ire28@gmail.com</a>
<b>Safeguarding Officer:</b>	Velma Erskine	<a href="mailto:vel.erskine@cewa.edu.au">vel.erskine@cewa.edu.au</a>
<b>Sacristan:</b>	Shirley D'Castro	<a href="mailto:shirleyedwina@hotmail.com">shirleyedwina@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Acolytes:</b>	Jerome Can Truong	<a href="mailto:cantruonghuy@yahoo.com">cantruonghuy@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Bible Study &amp; RCIA:</b>	Ann Semaan	<a href="mailto:semanaana@hotmail.com">semanaana@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Children's RE &amp; Sacraments:</b>	Muriel Bijoux	<a href="mailto:mbijoux@optusnet.com.au">mbijoux@optusnet.com.au</a>
<b>Notre Dame Youth Group:</b>	Kevin Muchira	<a href="mailto:88kevinmuchira@gmail.com">88kevinmuchira@gmail.com</a>
<b>Notre Dame Care:</b>	Sandra Robinson	<a href="mailto:robinsonsandra5@gmail.com">robinsonsandra5@gmail.com</a>
<b>Parish Social Committee:</b>	Leonie Blake	<a href="mailto:ndparish@bigpond.net.au">ndparish@bigpond.net.au</a>
<b>St Vincent de Paul:</b>	John Harbinson	<a href="mailto:ndparish@bigpond.net.au">ndparish@bigpond.net.au</a>

**Parish Events**

**Masses in the Parish**

It is now coming up to Flu Season and Covid 19 is still in our community. It is your obligation to attend Mass on a Sunday. It is your right to exercise common sense. If you wish to wear a face mask while attending Mass, you are free to do so. Please hand sanitise as you are entering the church. However, if you are unwell or have a cold, please stay home until feeling better.

**Pilgrim Statues**

If you wish to have one of 'Our Lady's' statues visit your home for a week, please contact Sandra Robinson on H: 9277 2872 or M: 0405 117 138. **7<sup>th</sup> December 2024:** *Imi Martin 4 Tibbradden Circle Ascot. & C Cocking 104 Gardiner St, Belmont.*

**SVDP Christmas Appeal**

Baskets have been placed at both sides of the church for your donations of in-code non perishable food items to help make hampers, to give to those in need in the area.

**Morning Tea and Christmas Carols**

Thank you to those that attended last Wednesday, the children from Notre Dame School Choir put on a lovely performance. Thankyou to Rosemary for the catering.

**Fundraiser Breakfast**

Thank you to all that supported the Brekky Fundraiser last weekend. **\$507.00** was taken through sales and donations. Thank you to chef's for producing lovely burgers.

**Parish Christmas Raffle**

Tickets on sale after all Masses. Tickets \$3 each or 4 for \$10.00. Donations for prizes towards the raffle can be left at the parish house.

**Succulent Plants** for sale at various prices after all Masses. All proceeds for both go towards the PBF

**Baby Jesus' for Christmas**

We are after 3 Babies born September 2024 onwards to be our special guest for our Christmas Celebrations Please see Fr Quynh for more information.

**Christmas Roster**

Blank Rosters for Christmas have been placed at school side entrance of the church. Please fill in where you are available to assist. The 6pm Christmas Vigil Family Mass we invite children of school age up to 18 years inclusive to Commentate, Read, Altar Serve & Prayers of the Faithful.

**Bishop Don Sproxtion's Canonical Visit**

The Canonical Visit to the Parish was cancelled in June of this year due to Bishop Don's loss of voice. The visit will now take place **14/15<sup>th</sup> December**. We will be having Morning Tea in the Parish centre after the 8am Mass on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December. After the 10am Mass there will be an early lunch. To help with catering of lunch you are asked to bring a plate of savoury or sweet to share. All parishioners are invited to attend Morning Tea or Lunch.

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM**

There will be a Parish Mass **@ 6pm on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December** to celebrate this Feast Day.

**Around the Archdiocese**

**Safeguarding Induction Training Online Course**

Training Level 1 is for all church workers, paid or volunteers, who have not attended the course in the last 3 years. The overview provides and overview of the Safeguarding Policies & Procedures.

Email: [safeguarding@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@perthcatholic.org.au) or <https://safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au/training/>.

This is now a Self-paced online learning module that can be completed at any time. Go to the 'Training Page' on the website to check out the induction. See noticeboards for full details.

**Notre Dame Community**

**Meetings for December 2024**

**Fundraising/Social Committee:** Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December @ 7pm in the Parish Centre.

**On Sale Now- School Side Entrance**

**SVDP Christmas Cards** - \$3.00 pack of 5  
**Columban Art Calendars** - \$10.00 each

**Christmas & Simbang Gabi Flyers**

Available from both sides of the church, please take one of each home and place on fridge.

**Simbang Gabi 2024**

The 9 Nights Novena Masses in English, will commence **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December @ 8pm** in the Church with The Most Rev Timothy Costelloe SDB Archbishop of Perth celebrating the first Mass. All parishioners are invited to attend this Filipino Tradition of Masses leading up to Christmas.

**Containers for Change**

The parish has registered for the Containers for Change Scheme. Take your cans, bottles & plastics to 'TOMRA RECYCLING CENTRE' 41 - 43 Abernethy Rd Belmont (just past Wheeler St) scan the bar code and follow instructions. All monies will be paid into the 'Parish Building Fund Account'. Flyers available with all details on including the 'barcode' to scan.



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**In Our Prayers...**

**In Memoriam**

We commend to the Father's love all our faithful departed especially: *Peter Butcher, Ivy & Harry Klass, Sharon Fletcher, Sharon Sabestin, deceased members of Kim Nguyen's Family, Rosario Retamal, Ernest & Zita Xavier and all souls in Purgatory.*

**Parishioners who are unwell:**

*Deacon Al Atkinson, Oliver Daly, Ravi Ratnayake, Marjorie Williams, Allan Jones, Tina Murace, Helen Bertola (Coverley), Pam Lawson, Rob Petty & John O'Rourke.*

**Baptisms:**

**Welcome into our Catholic Faith Community:**  
*Jason & Johnson Su.*

