



# Wodonga Catholic Parish

Including Bethanga, Dederang, Mt Beauty, Tangambalanga, Tallangatta & Coryong

Communities



## December 13th -2020 - 3rd Sunday of Advent Year B

### WODONGA PARISH CENTRE

283 Beechworth Road  
Wodonga Vic 3690:  
Phone: 02 6024 3366  
E-mail Address:  
wodonga@sandhurst.catholic.org.au  
wodongacatholicparish.com.au

### OFFICE HOURS

9:30 am - 4:00 pm  
Monday to Friday

### PRESBYTERY

55 High Street Wodonga Vic

### PARISH PRIEST

Father Junjun Amaya  
0459-356-917

### ASSISTANT PRIEST

Father Shibu  
Pezhumthottathil  
0432 591 551

### PASTORAL ASSISTANT

Sister Eileen Reardon  
0458 327 554 (Mt Beauty)

### WEEKEND MASSES

#### WODONGA

#### Sacred Heart Church

Saturday 5:00 pm.  
Sunday 8:30 am 11.00 am  
**4th Sunday of each month**  
Youth Mass 5:00 pm

#### TANGAMBALANGA

#### Our Lady Help of Christians

2nd & 4th Sunday 10:30 am

#### BETHANGA

St Francis No Masses

#### DEDERANG

#### St Joseph's

1st, 3rd, Sunday 10.30 Mass  
5th Sunday 10:30 am Liturgy  
of The Word and Communion

#### MT BEAUTY

#### St Joseph's

1st to 4th Sunday 8.30am  
5th Sunday 8.30am Liturgy of  
The Word and Communion

#### WEEKDAY MASS:

Sacred Heart Church  
Tuesday to Friday 9:15 am

#### SATURDAY

St Augustine's Church  
Saturday 9.30am

#### RECONCILIATION:

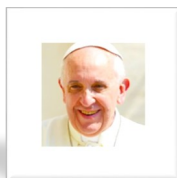
Sacred Heart Church  
Saturday 9.00am to 9.30am  
Country Churches: Before Mass

## Advent Prayer

**Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.  
Entrance Antiphon 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

## Responsorial Cantic

The Response between the readings is Mary's Cantic of Praise. It captures the joy of the day. Having a gospel passage as the responsory is unique in the Sunday cycles of readings.



## Pope Francis' Encyclical: Fratelli Tutti

Only a gaze transformed by charity can enable the dignity of others to be recognised and, as a consequence, the poor to be acknowledged and valued in their dignity, respected in their identity and culture, and thus truly integrated into society. That gaze is at the heart of the authentic spirit of politics. (187)

## Looking at the Readings:

This week we hear more beginnings: The beginning of the ministry of John the Baptist according to John the Evangelist and the words from the Prophet Isaiah that Jesus read at the beginning of his ministry (Is 61:1-2. and Luke 4:18-19).

The dual comings of the Lord are apparent in the Prophet Isaiah. John the Baptist gives a testimony that clearly points away from himself to the one who follows him: the Messiah and Lord. The Lord is very near to us then and here and now. May we greet people this Advent and Christmas with expressions that convey the message of the coming of the Lord.

In a secular or pluralistic time we hear the greeting: "Happy Holidays" or see on cards "Season's Greetings". Happy or Merry Christmas maintains its Christian origin and present belief. Perhaps we may venture deeper into our Christian tradition with words from the fruits of the Spirit contained in the Second reading today and found more fully in Galatians 5:22: love, joy, peace, patience kindness goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self control. We may "Joyful Christmas!" or "Peace and Goodness be with you this Christmas!"

## Quote for Advent:

I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. *Charles Dickens*



## A Safe Parish Is a Shared Responsibility:

Wodonga Catholic Parish Safety Officers. Our Parish safety officers are Jacinta Bartlett Ph: 0418470532 and Sonia La Motte-Schubert Ph: 60243366

Towards Healing help line 1800 816 030 (free call) Lifeline is a non-profit Organisation FREE 24-hour: Crisis Support Phone: 13 11 14



## First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord. 'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels. 'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

## Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything - hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil. May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

## Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you unknown to you the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

### Readings this week

Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
John 1:6-8, 19-28

### Readings next week:

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16  
Romans 16:25-17  
Luke 1:26-38

### Responsorial Psalm:

My soul rejoices in my God.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia,

### Prayer of the Faithful:

Lord, hear our prayer.

## Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Neil Brown, Annette Smith.

Sick Zak Oliver, Kath Twycross, Salome Ramirez, Ric Glavocih, Mary Shaddock, Ricky Ellul, John Radcliffe, parishioners who are ill, their families & Carers

December 28th marks the 10th anniversary of the death of our beloved Bishop Joe Grech.

Joseph Angelo Grech (10 December 1948 – 28 December 2010) was a Roman Catholic bishop in Australia.

Born in Balzan, Malta on 10 December 1948. After studies in the local schools, he moved to Melbourne, Australia, where he continued his studies. He was ordained a priest on 30 November 1974 in his home town, before returning to Melbourne to take up parish duties.

He became an auxiliary bishop of the Melbourne archdiocese in 1998.

On 8 March 2001, he was appointed the Bishop of Sandhurst, based in the regional Victorian city of Bendigo. He was installed on 27 April and served in that position until his death from a blood disorder on 28 December 2010.

*This year we will have Mass at Sacred Heart Church on **Monday the 28th of December – 9:15am** to remember Bishop Joe. We will also gather after this Mass for morning tea as our Parish priest Fr Junjun shares this day as his birthday. **Social distancing to be observed.***

# Christmas Tree of Remembrance



Parishioners are invited to remember deceased family members and friends, by writing a message on the cards provided and hanging them on the Christmas tree in the foyer of Sacred Heart Church.



## Liturgical Jottings

### Historical Time

Dictionaries define "Prehistoric" as the time before extant historical records. We have a few examples in sacred scripture. But more significantly we have historical events to signify, record, hand on and remember experiences and events in our relationship with God and one another. Historical time includes the call of Abraham, father of faith, Moses and the Exodus, the Prophets to Christ's Resurrection and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the church. Historical time connects us and the world with Salvation History. © 2020 Diocese of Sandhurst

## Daily Mass Books 2021 - Break Open the Word Year B - 2021 Calendars & Christmas Cards

Orders are being taken for the 2021 Daily Mass Books, Break Open the Word Year B, 2021 Calendars & Christmas Cards. To place your order please contact Cecilia McCormick on 0428 186 841

# Celebrating Mass

## Restrictions Have Eased!

We are now able to have 100 people in our church celebrating Mass.

### BOOKING IS REQUIRED:

Please book by phoning The Parish Centre 60243366.

Please wear a Mask and maintain social distancing:

Please note these Masses are being live streamed

## Weekend Mass

Saturday morning - 9:30 am -

ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH- WODONGA

Saturday - 5 pm -

SACRED HEART CHURCH-WODONGA

Sunday - 8:30 am & 10:30 -

SACRED HEART CHURCH-WODONGA

## Weekday Mass

Tuesday - Friday- 9:15 am

SACRED HEART CHURCH-WODONGA

**Can't Attend a Mass ?  
then....**

**It's time to get social**



Find us on Facebook -

<https://www.facebook.com/wodongacatholicparish/>

Morning Mass, Tuesdays to Friday—Weekend Mass,

Holy Hour - Evening Prayer, Holy Rosary and Benediction will be live streamed at Wodonga Catholic Parish Facebook Page.



For further information Phone

Fr Junjun Amaya Ph: 0459356917 or the Parish Centre: Ph: 60243366.

# PARISH FINANCES

As no volunteers have come forward to replace John and Terry in maintaining the financial records and affairs of the Parish, consideration will have to be given to contracting out the financial recording work.

It is disappointing that it has come to this after the last forty plus years of this work being done by volunteers.

There was Gerald Tanner for some thirty years and then John and Terry who transferred the financial recording to a computer system.

However, even contracting out the financial recording work will require some degree of volunteering in the form of a Finance Committee to advise and support Fr Junjun in the financial and physical operation of the Parish.

There will need to be oversight of the finance recording contract with regular reporting by the contractor, as well as items that come up regularly regarding general maintenance, operations and liaison with the agent managing 19 Church Street.

Catholic Parishes survive largely on volunteers supporting the Parish Priest, but there comes a time when a volunteer feels they can do no more and that time has come for us.

It is our Parish and it needs fresh help, so let Fr Junjun know if you can help in this area or if he comes and asks you, please listen and support him.

Thank you.

John Walpole and Terry Smith.

## Just for Giggles

What do you get if you cross a Christmas tree with an iPad



A pineapple!



Please NOTE: Booking is Essential

Please book by calling The Parish Centre 60243366.

wear a mask and maintain social distancing:

Please note these Masses will be live streamed.

## Wodonga Catholic Parish

# Christmas Mass Times - 2020

## Filipino Christmas Novena Mass

December 15th to December 23rd St Augustine's Church - 7:00 pm

## Individual Reconciliation

Sacred Heart Church Wodonga

Friday December 18th - 9:45 -10:15 am

Saturday December 19th - 9:00 -10:00 am

## Christmas Eve Mass Times

### Christmas Eve Mass:

Sacred Heart Church Wodonga

December 24<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 pm

Sacred Heart Church Wodonga

December 24<sup>th</sup> - 8:30 pm

Our Lady Help of Christians, Tangambalanga

December 24<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm

## CHRISTMAS DAY MASS TIMES

Sacred Heart Church, Wodonga - 8:30 & 10:30 am

St Joseph's Church, Mt Beauty - 8:30 am

St Joseph's Church, Dederang - 10:30 am

