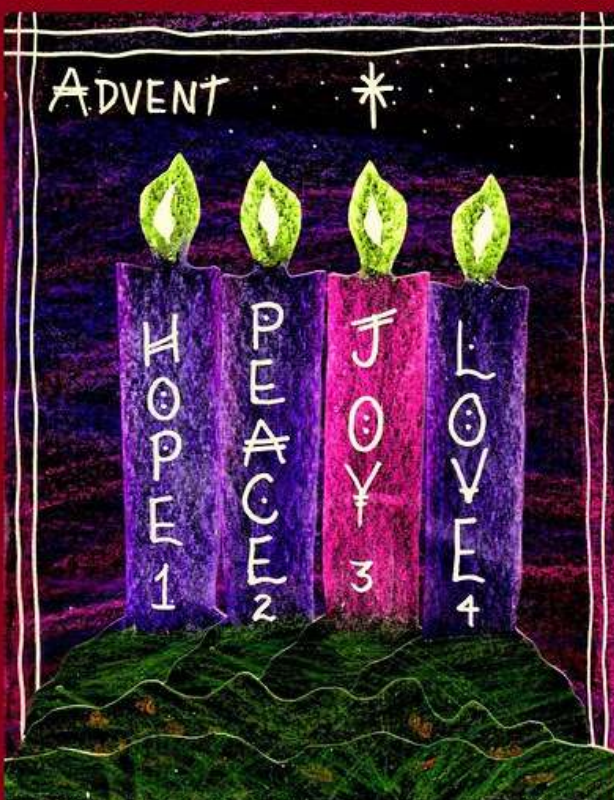
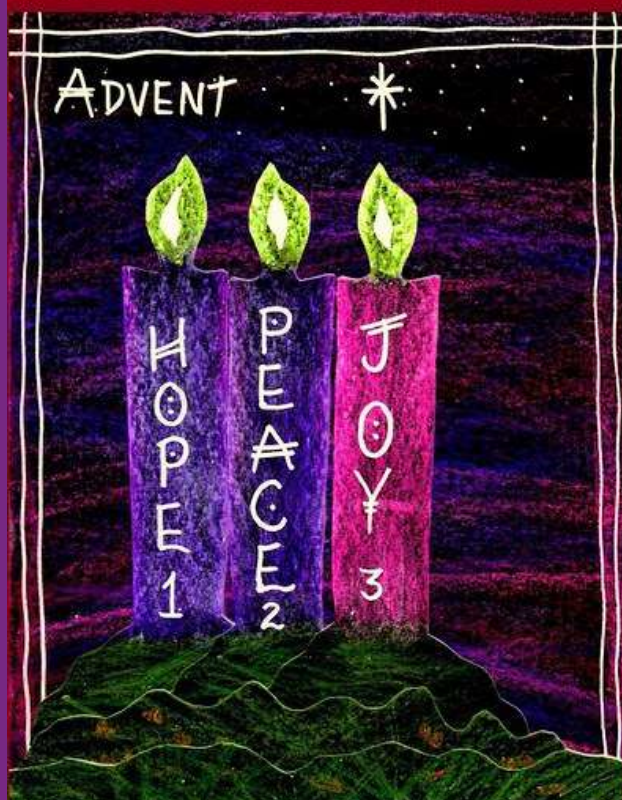
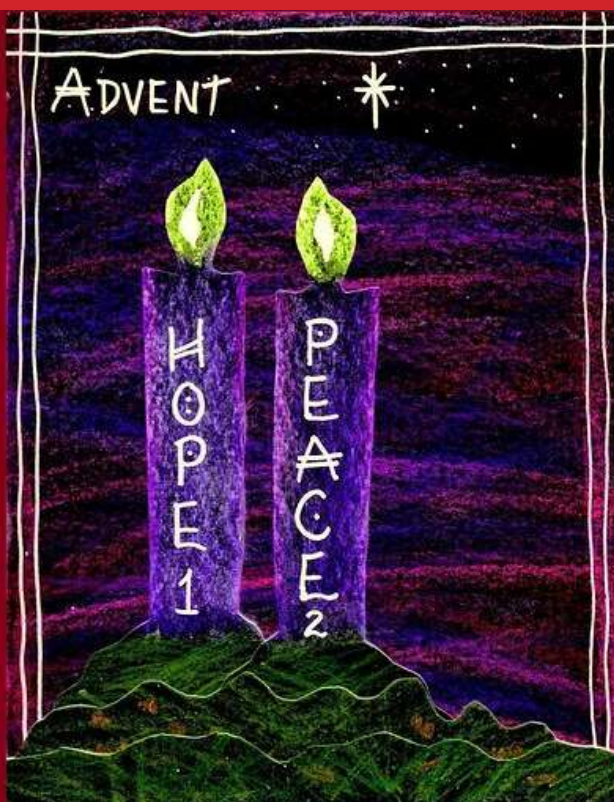
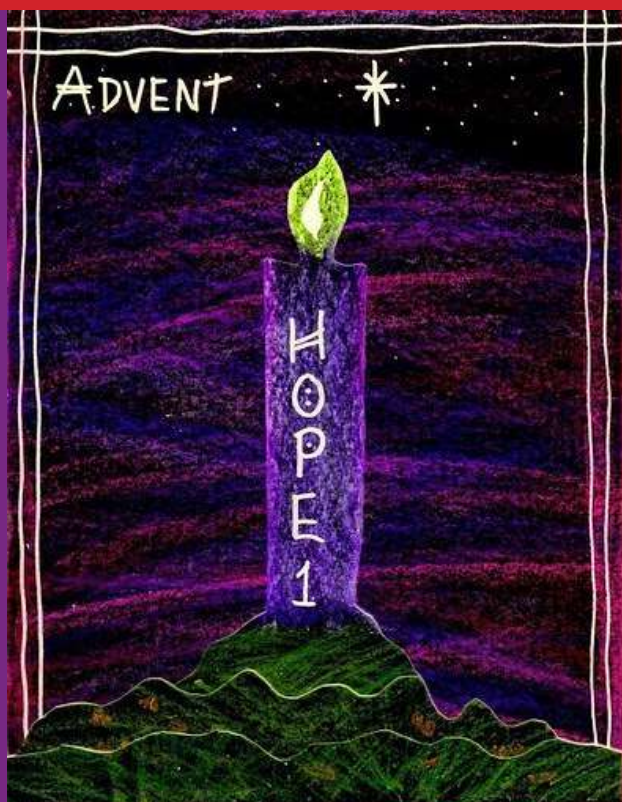




To be on earth the Heart of God



KIT @kippax



## *Time out for reflection*

### What are we waiting for?

When we speak of Advent or waiting and preparing for Christmas, we're not simply waiting for the little baby Jesus to be born. That already happened two thousand years ago. We're forever welcoming the Universal Christ, the Cosmic Christ, the Christ that is forever being born in the human soul and into history.

We must move beyond a merely sentimental understanding of Christmas as "waiting for the baby Jesus" to an adult and communal appreciation of the message of the incarnation of God in Christ.

We're called to awaken to what's already in our midst. Advent is a coming to a new consciousness of God, loving us into something new, into something more whole.

If God has already come to us, what are we waiting for?  
If God has already become incarnate in Jesus what are we waiting for?

While we wait for God, God waits for us! We can think of Advent as God waiting for us to wake up! You know, as if we're asleep in the manger, not Jesus! Jesus is alive in our midst.

What if we are in the manger and God is already awakened in our midst and we have fallen asleep, we're so unconsciously asleep that God is looking for "someone [to] get up and help bring the gifts into the world?"

Let's awaken to what God is doing in us and what God is seeking to become in us.

Taken from:  
Richard Rohr's Daily Meditation  
© 2021 | Center for Action and Contemplation

### Slow down it is Advent

Advent is meant to be slow time. Below are some tips on how you can slow life down and enter into the season of Advent with patience and peace?

- Put your phone away when you're with someone else. Stay present to those right in front of you.
- Attend weekly Adoration  
**Thursdays each week in December 7:30pm – 8:30pm**  
1 December – Reconciliation will be available during adoration  
8 December ■ 15 December ■ 22 December
- Check your to-do-list – pick one thing in your schedule that you can let go of, just for the Advent season.
- Make one evening meal family night. Put your phone away, turn the TV off, and slow down. Be together in the moment.
- Make or buy an Advent wreath to display in the centre of your home. Light the new candle each Sunday, reminding yourself that we are given this time to slowly anticipate and prepare.
- Read the daily readings, or go to daily Mass as often as possible. The liturgy gives us beautiful reminders of the reason for the Advent season, and inspires us to prepare our hearts and homes for the coming of Jesus.
- Before bed each night, write down something you are grateful for, something you could've done better, and one thing you'll aspire for tomorrow. This helps clarify your intentions, your priorities, and your heart.

Go slow during Advent and you will be ready to celebrate Christmas.

# Editor's Note



Advent - a time of waiting and expectation! The front cover highlights the season which commenced on Sunday 27 November. It is the season for slowing down, taking time out and preparing to celebrate the nativity, the mystery of the incarnation - God becoming human. This month's reflection stresses the importance of taking time away from the busyness of life so that the celebration of Christmas can be more meaningful. Adoration will be held every Thursday in Advent which is a great opportunity for quiet prayer time.

November was a full month dotted with a number of events and celebrations. The Acknowledgement of Indigenous People plaque was blessed on Thursday 3 November, there are photos on page 6. On the 12 November we held our annual remembrance mass for the people who died over the past 12 months and whose funerals we celebrated in our parish. It was a beautiful celebration and is featured on page 10.

Margaret Ohlin turned 90 on Saturday 19 November and we celebrated with mass and morning tea on Friday 18 November. Margaret shares her birthday with three other parishioners; Margaret Haverfield, (who was unable to attend the celebration), Ted Quade, and Sharon Greaves. This celebration is featured on page 8.

During the month we received the news that Fr. Michael will be taking up the position of Assistant Priest at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish Randwick in January 2023. We will farewell Michael on Sunday 18 December at the 10:00am mass followed by a Pot-Luck lunch in the parish centre.

We have one more celebration before 2022 is over. On Tuesday 27 December [yes I know 2 days after Christmas] is the Feast day of St John the Apostle. We are planning to celebrate our feast day with mass at 11:00am followed by a BBQ lunch. There is a notice on page 9.

Each month I am grateful for the contributions that parishioners send in for KIT. KIT is the parishioner's magazine and it is you who keep it alive and going. If you have thought about sending something in, please follow thought with action, we would love to receive it.

May your advent be slow so that Christmas day feels like Christmas!

*Marian*





## VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2022



**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
NATIONAL COUNCIL of AUSTRALIA Inc. *good works*

The theme for this year's Christmas Appeal is

**HELPING FAMILIES SURVIVE  
THE COST-OF-LIVING CRISIS**

The Vinnies 2022 Christmas Appeal at St John the Apostle Parish Kippax coincided with the beginning of Advent on 26 and 27 November.

There are many ways that you give the gift of hope and help make Christmas a joyful celebration for families in our community that are struggling financially and emotionally at this time of the year.



**Families like Kelly's urgently  
need your help this Christmas.**

### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

You can help in one or more of the following ways:

- Donate non-perishable food items for Christmas hampers
- Buy a gift for a child
- Deliver hampers
- Make a financial donation to our Christmas Appeal.

### FOOD GIFT CARDS

Five different food gift cards will be available after each Mass on 3 and 4 December. Each card has four non-perishable food items for you to buy. Feel free to take as many different cards as you like. We will gladly accept other non-perishable food items as well. Donations of food can be left near the Christmas tree in the church foyer or at the Parish Office by Sunday 11 December.





## GIFTS FOR CHILDREN

**GIFT CARDS FOR CHILDREN  
WILL BE HANGING ON THE CHRISTMAS TREE**

**ON THE WEEKENDS OF 26-27 NOVEMBER  
AND 3-4 DECEMBER**

Each card includes the name and age of the child and their interests to guide you when selecting a gift. Please take only one gift card so that all those wanting to buy a gift can do so. Your gift should be returned unwrapped or placed in a gift bag with the gift tag from the Christmas tree attached showing the child's name.

**PLEASE RETURN THE GIFT BY SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER**

## HAMPER DELIVERY

Hampers will be delivered on Saturday morning 17 December. Deliveries will be subject to safety procedures as followed in the past two years. If you would like to help with delivery, please contact a Vinnies member in the foyer after Mass and add your name, contact details and preferred delivery time and suburb, to the delivery sign-on sheet.

Alternatively, contact **MIKE BLYTH – 0419 818 410** or **JAMES COX – 0432 563 299** and give them your contact details and delivery time and suburb preferences.

## FINANCIAL DONATIONS

You can help needy families at Christmas by making a financial donation as you leave the Church on Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 December. Your donations help us to pay for supermarket gift cards which will be included in the hampers so that families can buy perishable items for their Christmas meals. EFTPOS facilities will be available for credit card donations.

Other options include online at [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au), by phone **13 18 12**, or here via the **QR CODE** which is linked to Vinnies Kippax Conference. Donations also can be left in an envelope for the Vinnies Christmas Appeal at the Parish Office during business hours Monday to Friday. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Receipts can be provided for cash donations. Donations will be gratefully received by members after all Masses up until Sunday 11 December.



## GIFTS OF HOPE AND JOY

This year we expect to pack and deliver at least 50 hampers to families and individuals in the suburbs of Holt, Higgins, Latham and Macgregor. About half of these are families with children. We expect to provide gifts to between 60 and 70 children.

As in previous years we will receive 10 Christmas hampers from Belconnen Rotary for delivery to local families. The Gungahlin Lions Club has donated a box of Lions Christmas cakes which will be distributed among the hampers. We are grateful to the generous support of Rotary and Lions.

We also receive donations of food, gifts and money from the parents and staff of St John the Apostle Primary School and St Francis Xavier College. Each year, our local school communities provide generous support to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal, for which we are thankful.

Your generosity brings joy and peace at Christmas for those families in our community that are struggling with cost-of-living pressures on fixed and low incomes. Your gifts provide love and hope to these families, for which they are most grateful. On their behalf, we wish you a joyful and peaceful Christmas.

*Thank You and Merry Christmas*

**CONTACT MIKE ON 0419 818 410 OR JAMES ON 0432 563 299 OR OTHER VINNIES MEMBERS FOR MORE INFORMATION**

 **Vinnies**  
good works



# Blessing of the Acknowledgement of Country PLAQUE



On Thursday the 3 November 2022, after the 9:30 mass the NATSICC acknowledgement plaque that hangs in our church foyer was blessed by Fr Kimi. The plaque was hung in the church foyer back in early July during NAIDOC week, however November was the first opportunity we had to hold a liturgy to bless it.

The Plaque is a sign of our acknowledgement of country, that the ground on which we stand and celebrate our liturgies is an ancient land. It provides a welcome statement for our first nations people and in particular a sign of welcome and respect for our Catholic indigenous brothers and sisters.

The liturgy was attended by indigenous students from St John the Apostle primary school and parishioners. The blessing included scripture readings from the book of Revelations, the Gospel of John, and appropriate prayers of intercession for reconciliation, care of creation and respect of culture.

The three young indigenous students from our St John's school participated by singing the aboriginal Our Father. They accompanied the singing with clapping sticks. They were supported by the Religious Education Coordinator, Stephanie Stewart. Following the liturgy about 25 people stayed and enjoyed a delicious morning tea.

We thank Marian and Sharon for the morning tea, (this jubilee year has been a big one for celebrations and morning teas). We also thank Stephanie for preparing the students and bringing them to the mass and blessing ceremony.

The Parish continues to be open to more and varied ways of Reconciliation Action and respect of culture provided to our first nations peoples. If you are interested in being part of these initiatives at the Parish level, please contact the parish office. More is planned for 2023.

More details of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) can be found on their website ([natsicc.org.au](https://natsicc.org.au))



Stephanie Stewart REC at St John the Apostle Primary School with indigenous students



## NOVEMBER KIT Sacrificial Giving

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose”

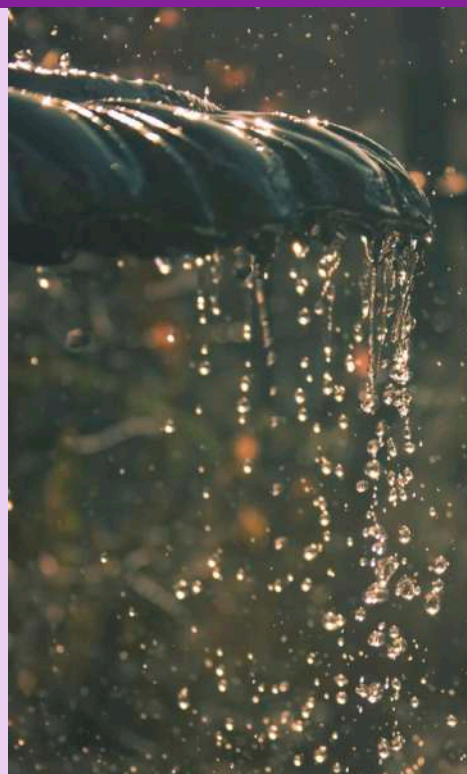
(Romans 8:18)

It has been 4 years since we last spoke to you about the financial giving in our parish. During that time our society has navigated some large obstacles, such as: smoke from bush fires, damaging hailstorms, a virus pandemic, floods, and the latter two, are still making their presence felt.

As a parish we are very fortunate to have parishioners who show a deep concern for the financial viability of our parish. During the lockdown periods in 2020 and 2021 when the collection plates were not being passed around our income dipped and some parishioners made one off donations to supplement this decrease in income. We are very grateful for their thoughtfulness and support.

We are also very fortunate with the number of parishioners who make their contributions via direct debit, ensuring there is a continual flow of money into our bank account.

In chapter four of the first letter of John, John says “We love, because God first loved us” (1 John 4:18). As faith filled people we trust in God’s providence and believe that everything we have is a gift from God. This providence isn’t of the supernatural order where God performs a miracle to provide for our material needs. But of the natural order, where God’s providence is accomplished through us. God works through us, using our actions, words, prayers, and financial contributions so that, as the body of Christ we can continue Christ’s mission.



# GIVE,

AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU:

GOOD MEASURE,  
PRESSED DOWN,  
SHAKEN TOGETHER,  
AND RUNNING OVER,  
WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU.

FOR WITH THE  
SAME MEASURE  
YOU MEASURE  
IT WILL BE MEASURED  
BACK TO YOU.

LUKE 6:38

Through Baptism we are baptised into the life of Christ and anointed to continue Jesus’ mission here on earth. The Church exists to carry on the mission of Christ. Through the sacraments and its preaching, the Church makes Christ present sacramentally in today’s world as the one who still calls to conversion, forgives sin, heals and proclaims the law of love. The Holy Spirit, who guided Jesus in his earthly ministry, continues to lead the Church in its continuation of Jesus’ vision and mission. As Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Jesus we embrace this mission through the Heart of Jesus.

If you do not currently contribute to the planned giving, we ask that you consider becoming a contributor by prayerfully discerning what God is asking of you. If you are a current giver we thank you for your dedication to the parish and your ongoing support.

**May we be God’s Heart on earth**





*Thank you*

To all who attended the mass and morning tea on Friday 18 November to celebrate my 90th birthday I offer my very sincere thanks.

Special thanks to Frs. Kimi and Michael, Marian, Sharon, Helen and Maria.

I enjoyed it all so much.  
God bless you all.

**Margaret Ohlin**





## Children of the resurrection

Jesus silenced  
the Sadducees  
in response to their  
absurd inquiry;  
for it matters not  
if seven brothers marry  
the same barren woman.

In the beautiful  
realm of heaven,  
there's no need for wedding rings;  
there the children of God  
are like the angels –  
free and immersed in love,  
rejoicing in the peace  
that permeates the hearts  
and souls of all true lovers:  
children of the resurrection.

SHANE MURTAGH

## Christmas 2022



### CHRISTMAS EVE

**Saturday 24 December**

6:00pm

9:00pm

Midnight

Carols start at 11:30pm

### CHRISTMAS DAY

**Sunday 25 December**

9:00am [one mass only]

No evening mass

### Feast of St John the Apostle

**Tuesday 27 December**

Mass 11:00am

BBQ Lunch 12 noon



**ST JOHN THE APOSTLE  
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY**

25 Blackham St, KIPPAX ACT

Ph 6254 3236

[www.stjohnkippax.org.au](http://www.stjohnkippax.org.au)



# Remembrance Day



## We remember...

Isabella Christian  
 Nicholas Moore  
 Eileen Bolydew  
 Gordon Aikman  
 Violet Duve  
 Bob Haverfield  
 Joseph Vella  
 Leone Ashcroft  
 Perlita Whitton  
 Jim Grace  
 Una Luff  
 Dorothy Murray  
 Joe Pisciotta  
 Patrick Ward  
 Gabor Toth  
 Robert Bower  
 Jacqueline Green  
 Barry Swan  
 Frederick Brice  
 John McGee  
 Jean Tierney  
 Jill McNevin  
 Joyce Smith  
 Lorreli Newton  
 Pauline Thompson





## The Presider's Chair

In the Catholic Church, the Priest's Chair is also known as the Presider's Chair or the Presidential Chair. A chair can also symbolize the person who sits there. In many homes a family member has a preferred chair and others will not sit there out of respect. In offices, in boardrooms and even at the dining room table, some seats are sacred.

At church, the presider's chair is more than a chair. It symbolizes the priest. He does not just sit there. He stands there to lead the assembly in prayer. The priest who presides at Mass stands at the chair for the opening rites, sits in the chair for the Scripture readings and may stand at the chair again for the communion prayer and concluding rites. He may also preach from the chair if he wishes.

The Priest celebrating Mass sits on the presidential chair during some parts of the Mass. Every Catholic church has a presider's chair. In a cathedral the chair is called a cathedra. It is for the Bishop or Archbishop.

The Chair of Peter presides over the chairs of the bishops, the chairs of the bishops preside over the chairs of priests in parishes, and the chairs of priests indicate their presiding over those who sit in the pews. And, of course, the throne of Christ presides over it all.



## Ambo

The ambo is still the official Catholic term for the place where the Gospel is read. The word ambo comes from a Greek word meaning 'both.' This is to symbolize the readings from both, the ambo, and the lectern. In common speech, ambos are incorrectly called pulpits, a Protestant word. There are no pulpits in the Catholic Church.

It is appropriate that this place be a stationary ambo and not simply a movable lectern. The ambo must be in keeping with the design of each church in such a way that the ordained ministers and readers may be clearly seen and heard by the faithful.

In the Roman Catholic Church, the stand from which the Gospel is read is formally called the ambo. It is normally in the form of a lectern or pulpit and located near the front of the chancel.

## Lectern

Lectern, originally a pedestal-based reading desk with a slanted top used for supporting liturgical books—such as Bibles, missals, and breviaries at religious services; later, a stand that supports a speaker's books and notes. In early Christian times, lecterns, then known as ambos, were incorporated into the structure of the sanctuary—one on the north side of the choir for reading the Epistle, the other at the south for reading the Gospel.

The rise of monasticism, with its rituals and prayer books, stimulated the demand for a mobile lectern that could be moved about the sanctuary according to need. Usually made of wood, though occasionally of metal, the lectern lent itself to elaborate decorative treatment. The desk-like structure was largely superseded in the later Middle Ages by an eagle, the back of whose outstretched wings provided support for a book; this type of lectern has maintained its popularity in ecclesiastical circles ever since.

As the Reformation tended to favour congregation-orientated services, the lectern was moved into the body of the church. The Gothic Revival stimulated the production of lecterns in the 19th century when they were often used to embellish the domestic interior. The modern secular lectern is usually a tall, narrow desk with a sloping top and a ledge to hold a dictionary, book, or other papers while its user reads or lectures from a standing position.



# Books....

Books in the hand are such a gift. Far too many to be acquired and then to be read. Careful selection can be assisted by what is going on within one's own journey. Feelings, hunch, intuition, doubts, imaginations, an eager wish to come to terms with happenings: events within and around one; plus, one's honesty to be true to one's emerging self in each and every circumstance.

A tall order!

Over a number of decades, I've been so fortunate to have come across and to have been impressed and encouraged by the ideas, wisdom, research, and genuine insights that have put words on so many of my rumblings.

Life is about change, as the now Saint John Henry Newman left us with one of his many insights:

“...but here below ...  
to live is to change,  
to be perfect is to have  
changed often.”

(‘perfect’ here is from the Greek ‘telios’: to move towards one's completeness, wholeness, potential; there's an athletic touch to its meaning.)

Here are some authors and books that could be of benefit; books which can line your shelf/shelves; books which can deepen one's appreciation of one's ever expanding gift of being here.

<b>Michael Fallon</b>	Each of his books on the contents of the OT & the NT is packed with the cultural background plus an explanation relevant for today.
<b>Richard Rohr</b>	Many books supporting one's own growth combining human & spiritual growth. Especially: 'The Divine Dance' (2016); 'The Universal Christ' (2019). All of his books recommended.
<b>Ronald Rolheiser</b>	His efforts, as with each of the others, are those more valued in the re-reading.
<b>Frank O'Loughlin</b>	All of his books; especially the three on the Eucharist.
<b>James Allison</b>	'He has an extraordinary capacity to enable us to see that theology can contribute to human flourishing.' (Review)
<b>Sebastian Moore</b>	'The Body of Christ ' (2011); 'The Contagion of Jesus ' (2007).  Top reading, among many of his efforts. These two, being books to return to.
<b>Jose A. Pagola</b>	'JESUS. An Historical Approximation'. (2007)
<b>Kahlil Gibran</b>	'The Prophet' (1926); 'Jesus, The Son of Man' (1928).
<b>John Sanford</b>	Each of his books, especially 'The Kingdom Within' (1970).
<b>Robert Johnson</b>	A noted Jungian analyst, whose insights explore the world of story & myth for contemporary insights. Very helpful in the explanation of one's own movements: 'HE'; 'SHE'; 'WE'.
<b>Morris West</b>	'A View from the Ridge' (1996).
<b>Michael Leunig</b>	'When I Talk To You' (2014).
<b>Kevin Treston</b>	Each of his books is a hard look at our needs: 'Christians who are searching to reconcile their faith with emerging insights from modern science cosmology & consciousness.' (Review).
<b>Highly Recommended currently:</b>	
<b>Kevin Treston</b>	'Telling Our Faith Stories ' (2022);
<b>Michael Fallon</b>	'Jesus as portrayed in the N.T.' (2020)



# Treasures from the Archives

## Rose Vestments in Advent

There is a sixth liturgical colour that is not often seen. Liturgical “Rose”, which is not pink but a shade of light reddish violet, is worn on two Sundays in the Church’s liturgical calendar – the Third Sunday of Advent and the Fourth Sunday of Lent.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is known as *Laetare Sunday* from the first word of the Introit (entrance) prayer of the Day – *Laetare Jerusalem* (“Rejoice, O Jerusalem”) from Isaiah 66:10. Laetare Sunday marks the middle of the Lenten season, offering a brief respite from the austerity of Lent and reminding the Faithful that the hope and salvation of the resurrection is near.

Similarly, the Third Sunday of Advent is known as *Gaudete Sunday*, again from the opening word of the Introit of the Day– *Gaudete in Domino semper* (Rejoice in the Lord always) from Philippians 4:4. Gaudete Sunday reminds the Faithful that the time of preparation (signified by purple or violet vestments) is coming to an end and the joy associated with the birth of Christ is imminent. Gaudete Sunday is also marked with flowers in the church, choral singing and a third ‘Advent’ candle of pink rather than purple.

Rose vestments are relatively rare in religious, diocesan and parish archives in Australia. It was, and still is, not unusual for a parish, for practical or financial reasons, to not have a set of rose vestments.

The 1912 edition of the Catholic Encyclopedia is available online. The entries on Laetare Sunday and Gaudete Sunday discuss the historical origins and significance of these “Rose Sundays”.

<https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/08737c.htm>

<https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/06394b.htm>

The following site has a commentary on rose vestments and links to images of historical rose vestments.

<https://www.newliturgicalmovement.org/2011/12/on-rose-vestments.html#.Y4AmeH1ByUm>



Rose chasuble, Canberra and Goulburn Diocesan Archives



Above and below: Rose chasubles, Sandhurst Diocesan Heritage Commission (Bendigo)



## Waiting

My sister and I waited and prepared. Each Monday we placed our School Bank Book, covered in green felt, into the 'bank box' on the teacher's table. Mum had added a small pocket to hold the silver shilling coin. The shillings slowly accumulated - £1 ... £2... £3, and we waited patiently.

At the beginning of grade 3 the coin changed from a shilling into a florin. "Wow!" £5 ... £10 ... and still we waited. Polishing the chrome on Dad's car gave us extra sixpences. £20 ... £25 ... £30

On the 14th of February 1966 the numbers inside the bank books 'doubled' overnight! £30 became \$60! Did this mean our waiting time shortened too?

Mum handed us silver fifty cent pieces and we smiled. Perhaps we would reach our goal by the end of the school year.

"Advent is a time of waiting and preparing ..." We were only half listening to our teacher because we could see Dad's car parked outside the school fence. He was taking us to complete something called a 'transaction'. This would be our first visit inside a bank.

The bank teller looked at us seriously and pointed to a line in the back of our bank books.

"Young ladies, please sign here." We had been practising our signatures all week for this moment.

The waiting was over.

The bicycle shop was next door.

No bus rides next year!



Maryanne Ferguson

## The butterfly

Found on a windowsill  
while yet in deep repose –  
taken gently, softly out  
before the sunshine goes.

Stretched on my open palm  
my gaze upon its beauty –  
awakened by the cooler air,  
it flies away – life's duty!

Up, up and up it goes  
through the sun-steeped air;  
then deep blue skies  
envelop it –  
while I stand gazing there!

EAMONN MURTAGH





# The Christmas Card

Henry Cole (1808 – 1882) was a prominent British civil-servant, educator, inventor and the first director of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. In the 1840s, he was instrumental in reforming the British postal system, helping to set up the Uniform Penny Post and inventing the first adhesive stamps. The tradition of sending Christmas and New Year's letters received new impetus following the introduction of the 'Penny Post'.



Henry Cole

In Victorian England, it was considered impolite not to answer mail. Christmas was a busy time in the Cole household. With unanswered mail piling up a timesaving solution was needed. Cole asked an artist friend, J.C. Horsley, to create an illustration for an idea that he had in mind. Cole took Horsley's illustration—showing a family at table celebrating the holiday flanked by images of people helping the poor—and had a thousand copies made by a London printer.

The image was printed on a piece of stiff cardboard 5 1/8 x 3 1/4 inches in size.

At the top of each was the salutation, "TO: \_\_\_\_\_" allowing Cole to personalize his responses, which included the generic greeting "A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year To You." It was the first Christmas card.

If you are sending Christmas cards this year, why not add the 'Eagle of St John' to your envelope. Just take your cards to the Kippax Post Office and ask staff to apply the special pictorial postmark commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Parish of St John the Apostle. The postmark will be available until 31 December 2022.



The first commercially produced Christmas card

## Two Thin Red Lines

It is Spring, a time  
of change and  
unpredictable weather,  
riots of colourful blooms,  
sniffles and hay fever.

I thought nothing of the  
runny nose and cough.  
Antihistamines at night  
should fix it.

It didn't.

A heavy cold then?  
The doctor gave me  
antibiotic, but a friend  
said,  
"Have you done a RATS?"

I hadn't even thought  
about it!  
I did the test and watched  
in horrified disbelief  
As those two red lines  
immediately appeared!  
(I kept going back to look,  
but they didn't go away).

I had to admit, *I had COVID.*

I had joined the club...  
A – a – a tishoo  
Cough, cough, cough...

Kathy Teys

## What a Strange Prayer

KARL RAHNER

Every year we celebrate the holy season of Advent, O God.

Every year we pray those beautiful prayers of longing and waiting, and sing those lovely songs of hope and promise.

Every year we roll up all our needs and yearnings

and faithful expectation into one word: "Come!"

And yet, what a strange prayer this is!

After all, you have already come and pitched your tent among us.

You have already shared our life with its little joys,

its long days of tedious routine, its bitter end.

Could we invite you to anything more than this with our "Come"?

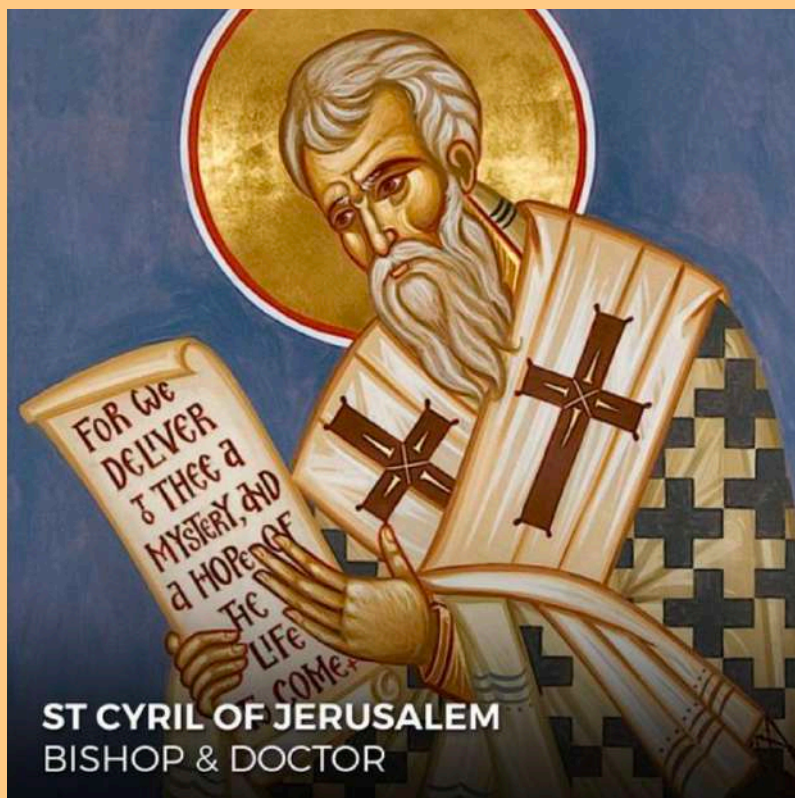
Could you approach any nearer to us than you did

when you became the "Son of Man"?

In spite of all this we still pray: "Come."



St Bede's, Braidwood. Photo by Bimbi Flor



A reading from the Catechesis of St Cyril of Jerusalem

## The Twofold Coming of Jesus Christ

We preach not one coming only of Christ, but a second, far more glorious than the first. The first revealed the meaning of his patient endurance; the second brings with it the crown of the divine kingdom.

Generally speaking, everything that concerns our Lord Jesus Christ is twofold. His birth is twofold: one, of God before time began; the other, of the Virgin in the fullness of time. His descent is twofold: one, unperceived, like the dew falling on the fleece; the other, before the eyes of all, is yet to happen.

In his first coming he was wrapped in swaddling clothes in the manger. In his second coming he is clothed with light as with a garment. In his first coming he bore the cross, despising its shame; he will come a second time in glory accompanied by the hosts of angels.

It is not enough for us, then, to be content with his first coming; we must wait in hope of his second coming. What we said at his first coming, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord', we shall repeat at his last coming. Running out with the angels to meet the Master we shall cry out in adoration, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'

submitted by Pam Connor





# November Baptisms

We welcome into the SJA Community of the Body of Christ the following children baptised during the month of November.

*Athena Micallef*

daughter of David and Telisha

*Solomon Deklin*

son of Godfrey and Lauren

*Frederik AND Noah Fischer*

sons of Brendan and Siobhan

*Benjamin Bradbury*

son of Neil and Kellie

*Chimdalua Ojinuka*

daughter of Arinze and Ujunwa



Solomon Deklin Benjamin Bradbury

## NOVEMBER Death notice



**Angelo Fallace**

25 MAY 1931 – 24 OCTOBER 2022

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon him.  
May he rest in peace.

Amen

## DECEMBER 2022

1	Thursday	Adoration – Contemplative Prayer with the Blessed Sacrament <b>Reconciliation will be available between 7:30pm – 8:30pm</b>
2	Friday	Meditation @5:15pm – Parish Library
3 & 4	Saturday Sunday	<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b> <i>Peace</i>
5	Monday	
6	Tuesday	
7	Wednesday	
8	Thursday	Adoration – Contemplative Prayer with the Blessed Sacrament 7:30pm – 8:30pm
9	Friday	Meditation @5:15pm – Parish Library Men's Group – 6:30pm Presbytery Deck
10 & 11	Saturday Sunday	<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b> <i>Joy</i>
12	Monday	
13	Tuesday	
14	Wednesday	
15	Thursday	Adoration – Contemplative Prayer with the Blessed Sacrament 7:30pm – 8:30pm
16	Friday	Meditation @5:15pm – Parish Library
17 & 18	Saturday Sunday	<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> <i>Love</i> Fr. Michael's farewell – 10:00am mass followed by Pot Luck Lunch
19	Monday	Pins & Needles @7:15pm Parish Library
20	Tuesday	Women's Breakfast @7:30am – Bean Origin Belconnen
21	Wednesday	Liturgy Meeting @7:30pm
22	Thursday	Adoration – Contemplative Prayer with the Blessed Sacrament 7:30pm – 8:30pm
23	Friday	
24	Saturday	<b>Christmas Eve – Masses 6:00pm 9:00pm Midnight</b>
25	Sunday	<b>Christmas Day – Mass 9:00am – 1 mass only</b>
26	Monday	Boxing Day – Public Holiday
27	Tuesday	<b>Feast of St John the Apostle</b> @11:00am mass followed by BBQ lunch
28	Wednesday	
29	Thursday	
30	Friday	<b>Anointing of the sick after 9:30am mass</b> Meditation @5:15pm – Parish Library
31	Saturday	New Year's Eve

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED