



Sacred Heart Parish

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cabraparish/>

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B - 3rd December 2023

Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37

Stay awake!

We, Christians, believe that history is moving in a straight line, in a definite direction towards its definite goal. In other words, history's goal is the final coming of God's kingdom which Jesus Christ has set in motion and are bringing to its completion at his return in glory. Being already initiated into that kingdom, we are called to actively look forward to that final coming of Christ.

The season of Advent, which we enter today, marking the beginning of another new Liturgical Year, may serve as a checking-point each year along our spiritual journey. It beckons us to relive Israel's long period of hope and waiting for the Messiah, prior to Jesus' first coming at Bethlehem that we may prepare well for his final coming in glory. (You're not surprised that the liturgy of this Sunday and those from now on till 17th December, are not devoted to preparations for Christmas, but to the expectation of the last day and the judgement it will bring.)

This final coming of Christ will take its definite form at the end of our life-journey or at history's end. It is certain as it is unknown as Jesus emphatically and repeatedly warns us in today's Gospel: "*Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come... If he comes suddenly, he must not find you asleep. What I say to you, then, I say to all: stay awake!*". (Mark 13: 33-37)

Our active vigilance and anticipation of this return – which is though not as imminent as early Christians believed - should underpin our growth in spiritual alertness and moral dispositions proper to a redeemed people. Spiritual lethargy, human waywardness and fast lanes of worldly ambitions may not get us well-prepared when Christ happens to be at our gates.

In that spirit, St Paul in the Second Reading rightly reminds the Corinthians and all of us that as we bring to light and make fruitful all the gifts of the Spirit already given to us, we bear witness to the saving action of God, who is faithful. Then, it is God who "will keep [us] steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ..." (1 Cor 1:3-9)

Together with 18 brothers and sisters who are joyfully welcome into the Order of Catechumens among us this weekend, we are called to discern and encounter the in-breaking of God in various moments of our personal life and our human world here and now. Let's make a fresh start in our relationship with God and with one another. Let's begin living in such a way that God's abundant gifts through Christ may bear fruit in daily life; that if Christ came tonight, we would be ready and well-prepared for his arrival.

"Blessed will we be if we can say when he comes: '*Welcome Lord. After all these years of watching and making ready. It's good to see you face to face!*' And blessed will we be if Jesus can say to each of us: '*Welcome, dearest friend. After all these years of watching you prepare, it's good to see you face to face!*'" (M. Link)

Fr. Remy Son Lam Bui



Parish Priest:
Fr Remy Son-Lam Bui

Assistant Priest:
Fr Roberto Keryakos

Parish office hours:
Tuesday-Friday
9.30am to 4.30pm

Parish Secretary:
Quyen Le Phan
Accountant:
Mary Pankiw (Fridays)

Weekday Mass Times:
English:
7.00am
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri
6.30pm Wed
9.00am Sat

Vietnamese:
6.30pm Tues & Thurs
7.00am Wed

Weekend Masses
English:
Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm

Sunday: 8.30am;
10.00am; 6.00pm

Polish: Sun 11.30am

Vietnamese:
Saturday Vigil:
7.30pm: (Chaplain)
Sunday:
7.00am; 7.30 pm
4.00pm (Chaplain)

Exposition:
Saturdays: 8.00am

Reconciliation:
Wed: 6.00pm
Sat: 8.10am - 8.50am
5.30pm - 5.50pm

Convent/Pastoral Care
Sisters of Our Lady
of the Southern Cross
Phone: 9723-3704

S.V.D.P Phone: 9823-1222

Sacred Heart Catholic
Primary School
Principal: David Parawa
Phone: 9724 1560

Baptism/Wedding
Please contact parish
office

2024 Year of Prayer



The Holy
**Father wants a
year in
preparation
for the 2025
Jubilee that
will help**

"stimulate prayer with simplicity and in accordance with Christ's heart."

Pope Francis has announced that the year 2024, in preparation for the Jubilee 2025, will be dedicated to prayer.

"I wanted next year, in preparation for the 2025 Jubilee, to be entirely dedicated to prayer. Next year will be dedicated to prayer," he told them.

The Pope said that "guides" will be published, "which will help rediscover the centrality of prayer."

I recommend them to you: they will be a good read, which stimulate prayer with simplicity and in accordance with Christ's heart.

The Holy Father called for a daily renewal of the "joy and commitment" of "being men and women of prayer."

Prayer that comes from the heart, not like parrots. No. From the heart. May the words that are spoken come from the heart.

<https://aleteia.org/2023/11/12/2024-will-be-year-of-prayer-says-pope/>

The Four Advent Candles



As a Christian tradition, the wreath holds the four Advent candles. The candles represent Jesus coming as the light in darkness. One candle is lit each Sunday until all four candles are lit. As Christmas draws nearer, each candle brings a little more light into the darkness. Sometimes a white candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to symbolize that Jesus is with us. This can be referred to as the "Christ candle."

Each of the candles lit before Christmas represent an aspect of preparation during the season of Advent:

The First Week of Advent: December 3, 2023

Candle Name: the Prophecy Candle

The First Week of Advent Represents: Hope

Candle Colour: **Purple**

Purple is the primary colour associated with Advent. Within the Catholic Church it symbolizes penance, preparation, and sacrifice. During the first week of Advent we remember the Old Testament prophets who foretold of Jesus' coming with hope and anticipation.

WHAT'S ON AT OUR PARISH

Welcome back Fr Roberto - Monday Mass resumes 4 December 2023

Welcome back Fr Roberto! Hope you had a refreshing annual leave. We are looking forward to having you with us again. He will celebrate Monday 7am Mass each week, starting from 4 December 2023. You're all welcome to this and other weekday Masses.

RCIA 2023 - 2024: Into the Order of Catechumens

We celebrate the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens for the following 18 sisters and brothers on this first Sunday of Advent (10am & 7.30pm Mass). These adults have been on a journey among us with a view to receiving the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist) at the coming Easter. Also we welcome Howard NGUYEN, a baptized catholic who is to complete other sacraments for full initiation:

English speaking Group: Melissa SAT; Van Thu NGUYEN; Monica LAY; Ka Man LE; Hoang Kim Dung (Ruby) NGUYEN; Sushan NEAV; Kevin PAN; Victor (Gia Cuong) PHAM; Andrew DUONG; Roy TAN; Cindy LUU (and Howard NGUYEN)

Vietnamese speaking Group: LÊ, Thị Oanh Kiều; VÕ, Thị Cẩm Tú; NGUYỄN, Thị Thanh Tâm; PHẠM, Thị Thùy; NGUYỄN, Xuân Sơn; NGUYỄN, Thanh Quân; TRẦN, Đạt Khương

The Rite today marks the end of the period of Enquiry / Evangelization and the beginning of the second period along their RCIA Journey: The Catechumenate. This will be a time of more formal learning and guidance, practice of prayer and worship and involvement in parish life. We, as members of The Catholic Family, together with Godparents / Sponsors, are called to welcome these

catechumens liturgically for the first time; to journey with them in prayerful support; to give witness to their growth and assist them in their formation as we learn ourselves to live out our Christian calling each day.

Advent Prayer Group 2023

Please join us every Thursday from 10.00am-11.00am in MacKillop room.

Mary Puskas is leading the group. The booklets are provided by the parish.

Baptism – Congratulations

Welcome to God's family through Baptism: **Minh Anh (Therese) Nguyen, Lily (Mary) Nguyen, Andrew (Dominic) Vuong**

Mass Intentions:

Recently Deceased: Giuse, Maria, Agata Tran thi Hoang, Phero Khanh,

R.I.P & Anniversaries: Maria Le Thi Thanh, Phaolo Chu Quang Canh, Anna Maria, Anna Thai, Anna, Phero, Matta, Roco, Sione Kulu, Sisilia Kulu, Catarina, Giuse, Tran Van Tach,

Other Intentions: For the sick, the conversion of hearts, 10x thanksgiving to God, Mary & St Joseph, 7x personal intention, 6x peace in a family, peace in the world, many other intentions during November will offer by the priests.

SACRED HEART
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
CABRAMATTA

OFFICE: 9724 1660
EMAIL: info@shcabramatta.catholic.edu.au
WEBSITE: shcabramatta.syd.catholic.edu.au

ENROLLING NOW
FOR 2024
YEARS K-6

- We have limited vacancies from Kindergarten to Year 6 for the start of 2024.
- At Sacred Heart we strive for academic excellence and have high expectations for all our students.
- We are a **NEWMAN Selective School** offering a Gifted Education Program from K-6 including Mathematics Extension.
- We offer a range of extra-curricular opportunities in the areas of Music, Creative Arts and Sport.
- Enrol your child in our nurturing faith-filled community that cares for their well-being.

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School is an accredited Newman Selective Gifted Education School

The Catholic Weekly is available at the piety store each Sunday for \$2.00

In this week's edition

- Laudate Deo: Sydney students embrace sacred music (p2-3)
- Divisive euthanasia scheme begins in dark day for NSW: Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP (p4&22)

- Knights of the Holy Sepulchre welcome new member (p7)

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down – at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind.

You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind.

No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4

(R.) Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation: Psalm 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is

like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!



*Stay awake!
You never
know when
the Lord will
come.*

Mark 13:33-37

Chúa Nhật Tuần I Mùa Vọng Năm B

BÀI ĐỌC I: Is 63, 16b-17; 64, 1. 3b-8

Trích sách Tiên tri Isaia.

Lạy Chúa, Chúa là Cha và là Đấng Cứu Chuộc chúng con: danh Chúa đã có từ muôn đời. Lạy Chúa, tại sao Chúa để chúng con đi lạc xa đường Chúa, và làm cho tâm hồn chúng con trở nên chai đá, không còn biết kính sợ Chúa nữa? Vì các tôi tớ Chúa, các chi tộc thừa hưởng gia nghiệp Chúa, xin hãy đoái nhìn lại.

Xin Chúa băng qua các tầng trời mà ngự xuống: các núi đồi rung chuyển trước tôn nhan Chúa. Chúa đã ngự xuống và các núi đồi rung chuyển trước tôn nhan Chúa. Đó là việc từ xưa đến nay chưa từng có ai nghe thấy; lạy Chúa, không tai nào nghe thấy không mắt nào nhìn thấy một chúa nào khác ngoài Chúa đã dành những hồng ân cho những ai trông đợi Chúa. Chúa đã đón tiếp kẻ hân hoan thi hành công lý, và nhớ đến Chúa khi đi trong đường lối Chúa.

Này Chúa thịnh nộ, vì chúng con đã phạm tội. Chúng con đã luôn luôn ở trong tình trạng tội lỗi, thì làm sao sẽ được cứu rỗi? Tất cả chúng con đều đầy vết nhơ, và công nghiệp chúng con đều như chiếc áo dơ bẩn.

Và không còn ai kêu cầu thánh danh Chúa, không còn ai tỉnh thức để bám lấy Chúa. Chúa đã ẩn nấp không cho chúng con nhìn thấy nữa, và Chúa đã phó mặc chúng con cho quyền lực tội lỗi. Tuy nhiên, lạy Chúa, Chúa là Cha chúng con, chúng

con là đất sét, còn Chúa là người thợ gốm, tất cả chúng con đều do tay Chúa làm nên.

ĐÁP CA: Tv 79, 2ac và 3b. 15-16. 18-19

Đáp: *Lạy Chúa là Thiên Chúa chúng con, xin cho chúng con được phục hồi, xin tỏ thiên nhan hiền từ Chúa ra, hầu cho chúng con được ơn cứu sống.*

BÀI ĐỌC II: 1 Cr 1, 3-9

Trích thư thứ nhất của Thánh Phaolô Tông đồ gửi tín hữu Côrintô.

Anh em thân mến, chúc cho anh em đầy ân sủng và bình an của Thiên Chúa là Cha chúng ta, và của Đức Giêsu Kitô.

Tôi hằng cảm tạ Chúa thay cho anh em, vì ơn đã ban cho anh em trong Chúa Giêsu Kitô. Vì chưng, trong Ngài, anh em được tràn đầy mọi ơn: ơn ngôn ngữ và ơn hiểu biết, đúng như Chúa Kitô đã minh chứng nơi anh em, khiến anh em không còn thiếu ơn nào nữa trong khi mong chờ Đức Giêsu Kitô, Chúa chúng ta, tỏ mình ra. Cũng chính Ngài sẽ ban cho anh em bền vững đến cùng, không có gì đáng trách trong ngày Đức Giêsu Kitô, Chúa chúng ta, ngự đến. Thiên Chúa là Đấng Trung Tín, đã kêu mời anh em hiệp nhất với Con của Người, là Đức Giêsu Kitô, Chúa chúng ta.

ALLELUIA: Tv 84, 8

Alleluia, alleluia! - Lạy Chúa, xin tỏ lòng từ bi Chúa cho chúng con, và ban ơn cứu rỗi cho chúng con. - Alleluia

PHÚC ÂM: Mc 13, 33-37

Tin Mừng Chúa Giêsu Kitô theo Thánh Marcô.

Khi ấy, Chúa Giêsu phán cùng các môn đệ rằng: "Các con hãy coi chừng, hãy tỉnh thức và cầu nguyện, vì các con không biết lúc đó là lúc nào. Ví như người đi phương xa, để nhà cửa lại, trao quyền hành cho các đầy tớ, mỗi người một việc, và căn dặn người giữ cửa lo tỉnh thức. Vậy các con hãy tỉnh thức, vì các con không biết lúc nào chủ nhà trở về, hoặc là chiều tối, hoặc là nửa đêm, hoặc là lúc gà gáy, hay ban sáng, kẻo khi ông trở về thình lình, bắt gặp các con đang ngủ. Điều Ta bảo cho các con, thì Ta bảo cho tất cả mọi người là: Hãy tỉnh thức!"

A message
from the Archdiocese of Sydney:

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org.

You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

