



THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / B

17 DECEMBER 2023

FIRST READING

Isa 61:1-2, 10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I exult for joy in the Lord.

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 nations.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lk 1:46-50, 53-54

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

1. My soul glorifies the Lord,/ my spirit
rejoices in God, my Saviour./ He looks on his
servant in her nothingness;/ henceforth all
ages will call me blessed. **R.**

2. The Almighty works marvels for me./ Holy
his name!/ His mercy is from age to age,/ on
those who fear him. **R.**

3. He fills the starving with good things,/
sends the rich away empty./ He protects Israel,
his servant,/ remembering his mercy. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Thess 5:16-24

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

May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Isa 61:1; Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

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



OUR LADY of MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN

3rd Sunday Advent - 17 December 2023 - Year B

PARISH INFORMATION

Address: 82 Collick Street, Hilton, WA, 6163

Phone: (08) 9314 7733

Email: sec.hilton@perthcatholic.org.au

Website: www.olmchilton.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 9am – 3pm

Thursday: 9am – 12.30pm

PARISH MINISTRY TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Separovich

Parish Secretary: Tereza Camacho

Safeguarding Officer: Brigette Liddelow - 0432 908 980

Avila Retirement Village Secretary: Judy Rowlands – 0448 205 283

OLMC Primary School RE: TBC

OLMC Primary School Principal: Jayson Peacock - 9269 2000

Seton Catholic College Website: <http://www.seton.wa.edu.au/olmc-parish>

MASS INTENTIONS

3rd Sunday Advent, 17 December

Saturday 6pm Mass for Luigina D’Alessandro (RIP & Birthday)

Sunday 7.30am Mass for Andrew De Sousa (RIP) + Gloria Basile (Ann)

Sunday 9am Mass for Dianne De Olival & Maria Jose Da Silva (RIP) + Holy Spirit Thanksgiving for Gift of Life

Monday 18 December

7-9pm NO Holy Trinity Prayer Group **Until 5-2-24**

Tuesday 19 December

9am Mass for Yagoda Milos (Intentions) + Yaka Bacich (Ann) + Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday 20 December

9.15am Funeral Mass for Ivan Lyon

5.30 – 6.30pm Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday 21 December – St Peter Canisius

9am Mass for Yagoda Milos (Intentions) + Donald Zuvella (Ann) + Winnie Novak (Ann)

9am-4pm Church Open for Prayers

Friday 22 December

9am Mass for Yagoda Milos (Intentions) + Michael & Doris Hall (50th Wedding Anniversary) + Zulmira Correia (1st Ann) + Spiro Novak (Ann)

9.30 – 10.30am Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday 23 December

NO 9am Mass

4th Sunday Advent, 24 December

Saturday 6pm Mass for Yagoda Milos (Intentions)

Sunday 7.30am Mass for Hermando Aguir (RIP) & Deceased Family Members

Sunday 9am Mass for Andrew De Sousa (RIP)

11am Baptism of Rafael Alexander Fernandes

CHRISTMAS EVE

7pm Vigil Mass for Vitoria Susovic (RIP)

9.30pm Night Mass for Tonko & Kata Siketa (RIP)



WELCOME TO OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL PARISH

If you are a new parishioner, we extend a warm welcome to our Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and ask that you introduce yourself to Fr Michael.



PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS

Christine Rhow, Veronica, Maria, Consiglia Ciavatta, Irwin Beachell, Isabella Da Cunha, Martin, Norma Elliott, Rudi Tassell, Steven, Davina, Elisabetta Paddon, Dermot McKernon, Edward Fortune, Zdenka Mravincic, Beatrice Fernandez, Lisa Bubb, Romilda Marinelli, Aaron LoCicero, Jacqueline Paul, Lou Collova, Edward Forster, Anne & Justine Tonti, Greenville Paul, Christine Schwarten Henry, Fr Joseph Angelo, Fr Augustine, Fr Anibal Da Cunha, Fr Wayne Davis, Peter Scanlan ...



2024 SACRAMENT DATES

TBC



RECONCILIATION

Saturday
9.30-10am and 5.15-5.45pm
Or by appointment.



NEXT WEEK’S READINGS

4th Sunday Advent, 24 December

1st: 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

2nd: Rom 16:25-27

Gospel: Lk 1:26-38



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

UNITY PRAYER: My Adorable Jesus, May our feet journey together. May our hands gather in unity. May our hearts beat in unison. May our souls be in harmony. May our thoughts be as one. May our ears listen to the silence together. May our glances profoundly penetrate each other. May our lips pray together to gain mercy from the Eternal Father. Amen.



OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN INSERT

3rd Sunday Advent - 17 December 2023 - Year B



2023 HOLY FATHER MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTIONS: DECEMBER - For persons with disabilities. “We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their active participation”.



PASTORAL LETTER TO PERTH ARCHDIOCESE FROM BY THE MOST REVEREND TIMOTHY COSTELLOE SBD, ARCHBISHOP OF PERTH: In the church porch area are pamphlet copies of a Pastoral Letter to the Clergy and Faithful of the Archdiocese of Perth **concerning the Traditional Latin Mass – Traditionis Custodes** dated **Monday 4 December 2023**. Please take a copy to read and be updated with changes following the First Assembly of the Synod. Please keep our Archdiocese and all members of the Synod in your prayers.



SECOND RITE of RECONCILIATION:
◆ St Vincent’s Parish, 114 Parmelia Avenue, Parmelia. **Tuesday 19 December-23 at 7pm.** ◆ St Teresa of Calcutta Parish, 739 Eighty Road, Baldivis. **Thursday 21 December 2023 at 7pm.** Please prepare your hearts for The Nativity of The Lord by attending Reconciliation.



2023 ADVENT APPEAL FOR UKRAINE: During advent 2022, Australian dioceses took a special collection for the people of Ukraine. Hundreds of thousands of dollars was raised to support people in the war-torn nation through the work of **Mudra Sprava (Wise Action)**, a Patriarchal Charitable Foundation in Ukraine. At the Bishops Conference’s November 2023 meeting, bishops were asked to again consider if an appeal could be taken for the people of Ukraine during advent. Funds will again be directed to **Mudra Sprava** via the Eparchy of Sts Peter and Paul. You can make a Bank Deposit to **Account Name:** Trustees of UCC in Au, **BSB:** 704-235, **Account Number:**



00007183. If a receipt is required, please email office@catholicukes.org.au with Your Name, Date Deposit was made and Contact Details – Postal address or Email Address. Thanking you for your kindness and compassion.

CHRISTMAS DAY 9AM MASS – Message from Antonietta Skelton:



Please contact me, if you would like to have your child / children involved in the 9am Christmas Mass. Children aged 7 onwards, can participate. They will mime actions that apply to the hymns as well as sing and use musical instruments. All costumes and props are provided. Children will need to come to the church for BOTH of the 2 rehearsal sessions as follows: **Saturday 23 December from 10.30am to 12.30am. Sunday 24 December from 12 to 2pm. CHILDREN ARE TO BRING A WATER BOTTLE WITH THEM.** Please contact Antonietta Skelton on 0428 821 534 or afskelton@inet.net.au for more information.

OLMC HOSPITALITY: The OLMC Hospitality Team are looking for more members to join their team. If you are interested, please speak to the Hospitality Team after Sunday 9am Mass for more information.



WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK: Parishioners, please be advised, the Authority will be Auditing our records of Working With Children. We are reminded again that all volunteers and those in active ministries in the parish must hold a current Working With Children Card. This is mandatory. If you have let your Working With Children Check lapse, please make immediate arrangements to have it renewed so to enable yourself to continue serving the parish community. Forms can be obtained from the local post office or from the parish office. Please remember when filling out the form to use only black ink pen. Again, I wish to add that the Authority has power to impose severe fines and possible imprisonment for non-compliance.



CHURCH SACRAMENTAL RECORDS: Parishioners, the Parish Office is currently completing its sacramental records. We are in particular need of assistance in sourcing to the names of the children who received First Eucharist here in the Parish prior to 2013.



OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN INSERT

3rd Sunday Advent - 17 December 2023 - Year B

Recipients of the Sacrament Eucharist Parents, Grandparents, Catechists past and present (PREP) if you have retained a copy of your First Holy Communion Year Booklet. Yes. It might be the need to check the "Treasure Box in which you have stored many items of personal memorabilia. It would be greatly appreciated if the Parish Office may sight it and make reference to it. I sincerely thank Mr Jayson Peacock and his Staff from our Parish School for the assistance they have already availed to us in this Canonical instruction. Thank You. **Fr Michael.**

REFLECTION: There is a story told and you might have heard it if a particular pastor in a particular congregation, God love him. This man had been on the road for many years. He knew the seasons of failure and the seasons of success. He knew the weariness of all mankind. If there was a story of misery that man not only heard it but that man had been part of it. As he got older all the memories of that got a lot sharper. This was a man who did not always get it right and he knew it! On this particular Sunday, there he was again giving the Good News to his flock and suddenly he found himself overcome with a great sense of unworthiness and being the man, he was he said so to his flock. Just then the Lord appeared to him and began to place a crown upon his head. Still even more he was so aware of his sinfulness and of his unworthiness, that he drew back, and he tried to shun the crown that the Lord was offering him. As he did so, he noticed that the crown was not exactly clean as it had thumb prints all over it. Yes, he thought, I want that crown. I know what those thumb prints are and so he stepped forward. As the Lord placed the crown on his head those thumb prints turned into jewels. You and I have thumb prints all over us haven't we? You too and myself we have not always got it right and even as we are reflecting this we are in the grip of these very things. So here's what we should do. Close your eyes and see the Lord standing in front of you. He has a crown, the crown of your life in his hands. Can you identify what the thumb prints are? Tell them (the thumb prints) about them if you can see them, then whisper to him "I accept from your hands the life that I have lived. I claim it with all my mistakes." The Lord now places the crown on your head, watch what He does with it. And then bow your head with gratitude. And you know what? He has just bowed His head in gratitude to you.



2023 CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church
82 Collick Street, Hilton
08 9314 7733



4th Sunday Advent

Saturday 23-12-23 **6pm Mass**
Sunday 24-12-23 **7.30am & 9am Mass**

Christmas Eve

Sunday 24-12-23
6.45pm Carols **7pm Vigil Mass**
8.45pm Carols **9pm Night Mass**
No Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

Monday 25 December
8.45am Carols **9am Children's Mass**

FIRST COLLECTION DIRECT DEBIT INFORMATION

Supports the Archdiocesan Priests

Ac Name: Hilton Park Presbytery Account
BSB: 086 006
Ac Number: 928 370 105
Reference: Parishioner Name

SECOND COLLECTION DIRECT DEBIT INFORMATION

Supports the Parish

Ac Name: The RC AB of Perth Hilton Church
(Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish)
BSB: 086 006
Ac Number: 695 605 996
Reference: Parishioner Name



OUR LADY of MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN

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OUR LADY of MT CARMEL NOVENA: God our Father, prompted by Your Spirit the order of Carmel has from the beginning dedicated itself to the Mother of Your Son. As she unites her prayers with ours, look with favour upon us and bless our families, keep each of us from harm And bring us to the joy of heaven. We ask this through Jesus the Lord. **Amen.**



PRAYER FOR PEACE and JUSTICE: God of peace and justice, who change the hardened heart and break the power of violence, we entrust to you the people of Ukraine and all peoples' who suffer from injustice. Protect them all in this time of peril. Let them know not death but life, not slavery but freedom. You are the Father of all; we are brothers and sisters. Give us the strength to live that truth in love, choosing peace not war. Through Christ our Lord. Amen. Our Mother, Queen of Peace, Pray for us. **Amen.**

WEEK 3 16-17 Dec 3 Sunday Advent	COMMENTATOR	READERS	ACOLYTE
Sat 6pm	Loretta Masnada	Carmel Collova	Gerald Farrell
Sun 7.30am	Mark Ryan	Maureen Cooper	Frank Cooper
Sun 9am	Toni Kalat	Jason Rozario	Joe De Ornelas
WEEK 4 23-24 Dec 4 Sunday Advent	COMMENTATOR	READERS	ACOLYTE
Sat 6pm	Volunteer	Katie Hughes	Enrico D'Alessandro
Sun 7.30am	Diane Richards	Volunteer	Gerry Miller
Sun 9am	Franca Kalat	Elizabeth Sabella	Gerald Farrell



PRAYER TO OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS: Lord, you place deep in our hearts the love of Mary, help of Christians. Through her prayers grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our Citizens. Under her protection may Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Wednesday 5.30 – 6.30pm
Friday 9.30 – 10.30am
Come Visit Jesus
For One Hour
Jesus is Waiting for You





GOSPEL

Jn 1:6-8,19-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.

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.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word

SHEER JOY

What brings joy to you? What makes your heart sing? Joy is infectious. Joy rings out today from the beginning of our prayer with the Entrance Antiphon "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." (Phil 4:4-5). Isaiah proclaims, "I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God" (Isa 61:10). The psalm, drawn from the Magnificat in Luke, invites us to respond: "My soul rejoices in my God" (Luke 1:46), and we hear "My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my saviour" (vv. 46-47). Paul's final exhortation from his First Letter to the Thessalonians begins "Rejoice always" (1 Thess 5:16). What is the cause of all this rejoicing? It is the story of the Good News unfolding from the prophet Isaiah, becoming flesh through Mary's faithful response; it is God's gift of God's son, Jesus, born among us who has been raised. We draw near to the celebration of Jesus' birth but we live in the light of resurrection, so we have reason to rejoice.

Today's Gospel reveals the witness to the coming of Jesus, "a man sent from God" (John 1:6). We hear emphatic repetition of the truth with both "witness" and "light" repeated three times. John is the voice in the wilderness confirming "the one who is coming after" (1:27).

Today our hearts lift with joy amid all that might distress us. We are faithful believers in God's saving grace. Take a moment to hear: "Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks to God" (1 Thess 5:16-17).

Dr Rosemary Canavan