



THE SAVING WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT / B

24 DECEMBER 2023

FIRST READING

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

A reading from the second book of Samuel
The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 88: 2-5, 27, 29. R. cf. v. 2

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; / through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. / Of this I am sure, that your love lasts



for ever; / that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **R.**

2. 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one; / I have sworn to David my servant: / I will establish your dynasty for ever / and set up your throne through all ages.' **R.**

3. He will say to me: 'You are my father, / my God, the rock who saves me.' / I will keep my love for him always; / for him my covenant shall endure. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 16:25-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

■ The word of the Lord.



OUR LADY of MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN

4th Sunday Advent - 24 December 2023 - Year B

PARISH INFORMATION

Address: 82 Collick Street, Hilton, WA, 6163
Phone: (08) 9314 7733
Email: sec.hilton@perthcatholic.org.au
Website: <http://www.olmchilton.org.au/parish-bulletin/>

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

24 December - 4th Sunday Advent

Saturday 6pm Mass for Yagoda Milos (Intentions)



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

Sunday 9am Mass for Andrew De Sousa (RIP) + Pat Cresp (RIP)
11am Baptism of Rafael Alexander Fernandes

Sunday 24 December - CHRISTMAS EVE

7pm Vigil Mass for Vitoria Susovic (RIP)
9pm Night Mass for Mass for the People + Tonko & Kata Siketa (RIP)

Monday 25 December - CHRISTMAS DAY

9am Mass for Mass for the People + Francesco Garcia Jnr (RIP Birthday) + Nina & Angelo Bertone (RIP) + Martina & Felipe Nadela (RIP Anniversary)

7-9pm Holy Trinity Prayer Group Resumes 5-2-24

Tuesday 26 December – St Stephen

9am Mass for Yagoda Milos (Intentions) + Kruno Skatulja (RIP) + Milojka Gavranich (RIP Anniversary)

Wednesday 27 December – St John

9am Mass for Yagoda Milos (Intentions)
5.30 – 6.30pm Eucharistic Adoration



Thursday 28 December – The Holy Innocents

9am Mass for Ester Enerlan (RIP Birthday)
9am-4pm Church Open for Prayers



Friday 29 December – St Thomas Becket

9am Mass for Sacred Heart of Jesus & Immaculate Heart of Mary Honour
9.30 – 10.30am Eucharistic Adoration
10.30am Mass at Hilton Park Aged Care



Saturday 30 December

9am Mass for Edward, Jason & Rebecca De Sousa (Intentions)

31 December – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Saturday 6pm Mass for Joe & Leonor (Intentions)

Sunday 7.30am Mass for Andrew De Sousa (RIP) + Deceased Members Urbano Family

Sunday 9am Mass for Antonio & Cecilia Coelho (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, 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

31 December – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

1st: Gen 15:1-6, 21:1-3

2nd: Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Gospel: Lk 2:22-40



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and His name will be called Emmanuel.

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.



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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".



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@iinet.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. 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: Little Black Ant. I saw the funniest thing the other day. Our home just like other homes know of a plague of ants from time to time. I went to make a cuppa and I opened the clear plastic sugar container. I saw a single small black ant tide along the white sugar and hide itself





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along the side of the plastic container and then become totally motionless. The impression it had made was that if it didn't move, then I would not notice it was there. But you see it couldn't burrow so it was pretty much on top of the sugar anyway. I saw my little friend and I laughed. If ants had any power of reason and how on earth did this little being think that I would not see it. Its black form standing out in sharp contrast to its surrounds. I picked it up with a sugar loaded teaspoon and I put it outside to take its chances with the elements. It occurred to me that we are so often like that ant. We think that God doesn't see us. We sometimes think we are too insignificant for God to pay attention to us. After all who are we? Just average people who go about our lives falling down and getting up again. We don't see ourselves as anything spectacular not in anyway. And yet we are as oblivious to God as my little black friend in the white sugar was to me. There is no escaping His eyes of love. Sometimes you and I do something we are ashamed of, and we hope He doesn't see us. We forget His eye of compassion and seeks us out and wants nothing more than to pick us up and lift us out of our misery. We think perhaps because we don't talk to Him as much as we ought to that He hasn't got used to hearing from us and that now we are off His radar and of course He doesn't see us. We forget that He comes to the clear plastic container of our life, lifts the lid and hopes today that we might just crawl across to Him. there is something else really, if we do let Him into our lives, if we do talk to Him asking Him things, be on familiar terms with Him as He wants us to be then He will become the black ant in our lives, and we will always notice Him even when He is still and seeing Him there at every turn will make all the difference. I wonder when you'll see Him this week. I wonder where He will see you.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL – THANK YOU:

On behalf of all the Families and individuals who benefited from your efforts in assisting with the delivery of Christmas Hampers and Presents this year, we wish to thank each and every one of you, for your time and effort. We applaud the generosity of the staff, students, and parents of both Seton College and OLMC Primary School for their donation of close to 70 Christmas Hampers. A special thank you to the students who put together those amazing packages for us! A big thank you to the Parishioners of the St



Mary Star of the Sea, Cottesloe, and Corpus Christi, Mosman Park Churches for the 88 Household parcels of presents, containing 193 individually picked and dedicated presents for each family member, an amazing effort. From all the members and I of the Hilton Conference, God bless you all, and have a very Merry and Holy Christmas. **Ian Digney, President, SVDP Hilton Conference.**

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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<p>AUSTRALIAN LEADING LOCK SERVICE Mark Berkovic 0408 404 048 PO Box 4573, Myaree BC, 6960 mls@dammot.com.au</p>	<p>AVILA COURT RETIREMENT VILLAGE Low cost *rental unit accommodation. For more information contact: Judy 0448 205 283 * Conditions apply</p>	<p>UNITED PEST CONTROL 48 Motril Avenue, Coogee. PO Box 7141, Spearwood, 6163 9418 1095 or 0433 995 688</p>

<p>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.</p> 	<p>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.</p>
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WEEK 4 23-24 Dec 4 Sunday Advent	COMMENTATOR	READERS	ACOLTYE
Sat 6pm	Volunteer	Katie Hughes	Enrico D'Alessandro
Sun 7.30am	Diane Richards	Matthew Chiwariro	Gerry Miller
Sun 9am	Franca Kalat	Elizabeth Sabella	Gerald Farrell
CHRISTMAS 24 December	COMMENTATOR	READERS	ACOLTYE
7pm Mass	Loretta Masnada	Michael Muller	Joe De Ornelas Frank Cooper
9pm Mass	Franca Kalat	Toni Kalat	Simon Overton
9am Mass	Vicky Rafala	Jason Rozario	Gerry Miller
WEEK 1 30-31 Dec The Holy Family	COMMENTATOR	READER	ACOLTYE
Sat 6pm	Martha Kalat	Susie Poleschtschuk	Joe De Ornelas
Sun 7.30am	Michael Muller	Matthew Chiwariro	Gerry Miller
Sun 9am	Bridget Chamberlain	Franca Kalat	Ken Hla



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 ACCLAMATION

Lk 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 1:26-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

You will conceive and bear a son.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word

THE ANNUNCIATION

On the eve of Christmas, today's Gospel reminds us of how the birth of Jesus is possible. Luke's narrative describes God sending the Angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee. It is a familiar story to us, yet nothing of it is in our realm of experience.

This event is reported in a series of stories paralleling the annunciation and birth accounts of John the Baptist and Jesus. The narrative will present John as herald of the arrival of Jesus as Messiah when the time of his public ministry arrives, fulfilling God's promise.

Rightly this is an account of God's activity via Gabriel announcing first to Zechariah and then to Mary. Here is a moment bathed in God's grace. God's incarnation will occur in a natural human manner, born of a woman. Yet take a focus on Mary and imagine again the appearance of an angel. No surprise that she might be perplexed (Luke 1:29). Yet Mary responds, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." (v. 38).

Mary also hears of her cousin Elisabeth's fortunate conception and sets off to see her. Their meeting, the centrepiece of the double annunciations and births, reveals these two women in embrace, together they usher in the birth of the Son of God. Today, the focus is on Mary's embrace of her mission but she is part of a larger story, God's story. Mary is a courageous woman who in the face of an impossible challenge steps forward in faith.

Dr Rosemary Canavan