



# THE SAVING WORD

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / C

1 DECEMBER 2024

## FIRST READING

Jer 33:14-16

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

*I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.*

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

‘In those days and at that time,

I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David,

who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.

In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence.

And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.’

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESP PSALM

Ps 24:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14. R. v. 1

**R.** To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. **R.**

2. The Lord is good and upright. / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path; / he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

3. His ways are faithfulness and love / for those who keep his covenant and will. / The Lord’s friendship is for those who revere him; / to them he reveals his covenant. **R.**

## SECOND READING

1 Thess 3:12-4:2

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

*When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.*

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the



whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

## GOSPEL

Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*Your redemption is near at hand.*

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the





# OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Advent - 1 December 2024 - Year C

### OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL PARISH HILTON

**Parish Priest:** Fr Michael Separovich  
**Address:** 82 Collick Street, Hilton, WA, 6163  
**Phone:** (08) 9314 7733  
**Email:** [sec.hilton@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:sec.hilton@perthcatholic.org.au)  
**Web:** <http://www.olmchilton.org.au/parish-bulletin/>

### OFFICE HOURS

**Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday:** 9am – 3pm  
**Thursday:** 9am – 12.30pm

### MINISTRY TEAM

**Parish Secretary:** Tereza Camacho  
**Safeguarding Officer:** Brigette Liddelow 0432 908 980  
**Avila Retirement Village Secretary:** Judy Rowlands 0448 205 283  
**OLMC Primary School Principal:** Jayson Peacock 9269 2000  
**OLMC Primary School RE:** Tracey Marsden  
**Seton Catholic College Website:**  
<http://www.seton.wa.edu.au/olmc-parish>

**REFLECTION: By Monsignor Graham Schmitzer.** Advent was a late comer to the Roman liturgy. It made it about the middle of the sixth century – Christmas having become a major solemnity. Previously the birth of our Lord was a simple memorial. Everything revolving around easter in the early Church. The earliest form of Advent had been celebrated in Spain and Gaul. In Spain which like Easter was a time for conferring of Baptism. In Gaul the period of Advent was a period of 40 days. It began after the feast of St Martin of Tours (11 November) for the season was strongly penitential in character. The primitive for a Roman Advent ran for six weeks prior to Christmas. Pope St Gregory the Great (+ 604) reduced this period to four weeks. He judged it inappropriate that Advent should have the same duration as Lent. He saw the season as liturgical rather than penitential in character. The emphasis was on joyful hope. Mind you the Roman Advent has always included a note of penance; but in the positive sense of a call to conversion and renewal of life. The readings within the Masses of the time- note the summoning of “prepare the way of the Lord” and “to cast off the works of darkness”. The very word “Adventus” comes from Roman times and referred to the coming of the emperor to his dominions. The roads were repaired so that his passage would be smooth. This is why this term was used by John the Baptist. The roads

into our hearts may have become cluttered with debris. Sin may make Christ’s entry difficult. Remember He is the most gracious guest and usually does not barge in but “stands at the door and knocks” (Cf Rev 3:20). The artist William Holman Hunt made the obvious in his famous painting “The Light of the World”. An observer questioned the absence of a handle on the door. Hunt replied that this door can only be opened from the inside. “Casting off the works of darkness” also presupposes some effort at spiritual renewal. Prayer, fasting and works of charity are always the soul’s weapons at any time of the year. Fasting will remind us that many in the world will not be gorging themselves at the Christmas feasts. The money saved as in Lent can well be given to various charities. I refer back to Hunt’s painting “The Light of the World”. The painting is steeped in symbolism. Christ holds a lantern – the light of conscience. Around his head is the halo – the light of salutation. The morning star is just visible above Christ’s head – the dawning of a new day. All this counteracts the fallen apples in the lower right corner, symbols of the original sin of the Fall. The overgrown ivy covering the door hints that our past life may have made it difficult for Christ to enter. As we begin this Holy Season may the guest at the door be welcomed in for, we who are inside have the choice to open the latch.



**OLMC PARISH CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY:** Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 6pm. If your child / children would like to be involved in this simple nativity, please email Tracey Marsden on [Tracey.Marsden@cewa.edu.au](mailto:Tracey.Marsden@cewa.edu.au).

### 2024 CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church  
 82 Collick Street, Hilton  
 08 9314 7733  
[Sec.hilton@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:Sec.hilton@perthcatholic.org.au)

#### Christmas Eve

Tuesday 24 December 2024  
 5.45pm Carols 6pm Vigil Children's Mass  
 9pm Night Mass  
 No Midnight Mass

#### Christmas Day

Wednesday 25 December 2024  
 7.30am Mass  
 9am Mass





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1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Advent - 1 December 2024 - Year C

## BULLETIN SPONSORS

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### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Meet every Monday, except for public  
holidays, between 7 and 8 pm in the  
first meeting room to the left of the  
Church. New members are always  
welcome. Please contact Ian  
(President) on 0428 121 152 for  
further information.

### BOWRA & O'DEA FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Because the little things are  
everything.  
312 South Street, Hilton  
9239 7744 or  
[www.bowraodea.com.au](http://www.bowraodea.com.au)

**MASS TIMES WEEKENDS:** Saturday  
Vigil 6pm, Sunday 7.30am & 9am.

**MASS TIMES WEEKDAYS:** Tuesday  
9am, Wednesday 9am, Thursday  
9am, Friday 9am & Saturday 9am.

**RECONCILIATION - Saturday's:**  
9.30-10am and 5.15-5.45pm or by  
appointment.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:**  
Wednesday 5.30 – 6.30pm & Friday  
9.30 – 10.30am.

### HOLY TRINITY CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP: Monday night's 7-9pm.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** To you, I lift up  
my soul, O my God. In you, I have  
trusted; let me not be put to shame.  
Nor let my enemies exult over me; and  
let none who hope in you be put to  
shame.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** The Lord  
will bestow his bounty, and our earth  
shall yield its increase.

**PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS:**  
Second Rite of Reconciliation at Mater  
Christi Parish, 340 Yangebup Road,  
Yangebup on Wednesday 11  
December 2024 at 7pm.

**2025 COLUMBAN CATHOLIC ART  
CALENDARS:** Are on sale for \$10 each  
from the Parish Office. The Columban  
Art Calendar is an iconic Catholic  
Calendar.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL:** Christmas cards  
are now on sale for \$3.50 pack of 5.

**DISABLED BAYS CHURCH PARKING:**  
Parishioners who are entitled to park  
in disabled parking bays, please  
exhibit your permit on your car  
dashboard. This diffuses  
misunderstanding by other  
parishioners who are also in search of  
disabled parking bays. Thank you for  
your corporation and pastoral concern  
for those in who have particular  
needs.

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:** Jesus you  
are the Good Shepherd who is always  
mindful of your Church. Watch over  
those who are Baptised in your name  
and grant peace and harmony to all  
families. We ask you to choose from  
the families of our Parish many priests,  
deacons, sisters and brothers who will  
gladly spend their lives making you  
known and loved.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK  
PARISHIONERS:** Christine Rhow,  
Veronica-Marie, Maria, Consiglia  
Ciavatta, Martin-Joseph, Irwin  
Beachell, Isabella Da Cunha, Damien-  
Ivan, Norma Elliott, Rudi Tassell,  
Steven, Davina, Zoe-Anne, Elisabetta  
Paddon, Edward Fortune, Kiara-Eve,  
Beatrice Fernandez, Lisa Bubb,  
Romilda Marinelli, Aaron LoCicero,  
Jacqueline Paul, Lou Collova, Christine  
Schwarten Henry, Fr Joseph Angelo, Fr  
Anibal Da Cunha, Peter Scanlan, June  
McGinnity, John Brackovich, Alison,  
Sofia, Rebecca, Fr Francis  
Sundararajan, Fr Greg Carroll, Bill  
Watkins, Daniel DiMarco, Joshua  
Oorschot, Fr John Piumatti, Fr Don  
Kettle, Mila Hogan, Mara Ravlich, Fr  
Vittorio Ricciardi, Lloyd Smith, Tegan  
Colgan, Patrick O'Brien, Archbishop  
Emeritus Barry Hickey, Fr Jean  
Fernandez, Fr Benedict Quadros, Fr  
John Hogan.

### MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday 30 November to Friday 6  
December 2024**

#### Saturday 30 November

**9am:** Holy Souls

**6pm Mass:** For the People

#### Sunday 1 December

**7.30am Mass:** Brother Stephen  
Joseph Varga LEB (RIP)

**9am Mass:** Rosa & Giuseppe Perroni  
(Anniversary), Ivo Capelinha (RIP)

#### Tuesday 3 December

**8am Mass:** Holy Souls

**10.30am Funeral Mass:** Pasquale  
(Tony) Papiccio

#### Wednesday 4 December

**9am Mass:** Holy Souls

#### Thursday 5 December

**9am Mass:** Alessia Collova  
(Intentions)

#### Friday 6 December

**9am Mass:** Holy Souls

**10.30am Holy Communion Service:**  
Hilton Park Aged Care





ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.'

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

### WELCOME AND THANK YOU

Today we welcome Fr Michael Trainor as our reflection writer. Fr Michael is senior lecturer in biblical studies with the Australian Catholic University and parish priest of Lockleys in the Archdiocese of Adelaide. His area of specialisation is the study of the New Testament and its relevance for our contemporary world, ecology and pastoral life.

We are very grateful and thank Dr Rosemary Canavan for her insightful reflections on the readings during the past liturgical year.

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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# Breaking Open the Word

## STAY AWAKE!

On this First Sunday of Advent we come into a new liturgical year with the Gospel of Luke, penned for urban Greco-Roman followers of Jesus, possibly living in Rome in the late first century of the Christian Era, around 85CE.

Today's Gospel proclamation comes from a particular literary style, called 'apocalypticism'. It is a style not to be taken literally. It is more like theological poetry intending its listener to recognise images that come from the writings and prophets of the First ('Old') Testament. Its fundamental insight is a reminder that, despite all the calamity and upheaval present in the world, God is present and liberating. Rather than being overwhelmed by global tragedies and disasters, Luke's audience is encouraged to 'stand erect ... with heads held high' and recognise that freedom and release are near. Jesus followers are to be confident in God's presence and care of them, themes that Luke will repeat throughout the year.

Sometimes we can be overwhelmed by global events. At the beginning of this new liturgical year, today's Gospel proclamation is timely. It is a reminder that a different, divine power is at work. Hence, Luke's injunction, 'Stay awake'. We need this reminder. We can forget or be lulled into a form of spiritual forgetfulness by the unimportant or ephemeral. Advent becomes this precious moment to allow ourselves to view the world with faith and confidence in the continual care of God.

**Fr Michael Trainor**



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*Merry Christmas*

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*Merry Christmas*