

GOSPEL

Lk 3:10-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

What, then, must we do?

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do? he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / C

15 DECEMBER 2024

SHARING THE EARTH'S GOODS

This Sunday's Gospel continues with John Baptist. His voice now becomes more demanding, urging his audience to live in ways typified by generosity, kindness and justice, themes which will appear throughout the Gospel. Those whom John addresses reflect the audience of Luke's Gospel, including tax agents and soldiers, with a focus on wealth. This will be a major theme in the Gospel.

Luke intends to speak to those who have rank and influence, to bring about change and status reversal, themes that begin here in today's Gospel. John responds to his enquirers coming for baptism about how they are to live. He encourages them to share their clothing with those who have nothing and food with those who are hungry. This presumes that his audience (and Luke's Gospel audience) have possessions and food to share. They are not impoverished. When similarly asked by tax collectors—agents of Rome's imperial household—they are told not to extract taxes beyond what is due. In other words, they are not to become wealthy at the expense of others. Soldiers (again members of Luke's community) are told to act without violence and extortion, content with their pay.

All these that John addresses are invited on to a path of economic restraint and generosity. This will allow them to be ready for the coming of the one whom John prepares his audience for, and the focus of the second half of the Gospel. Today's Gospel offers us an Advent moment to reflect on our own use of Earth's goods and possessions and how we share them.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Zeph 3:14-18

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah.

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,
Israel, shout aloud!

Rejoice, exult with all your heart,
daughter of Jerusalem!

The Lord has repealed your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away.

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;
you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to
Jerusalem:

Zion, have no fear,

do not let your hands fall limp.

The Lord your God is in your midst,
a victorious warrior.

He will exult with joy over you,

he will renew you by his love;

he will dance with shouts of joy for you
as on a day of festival.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

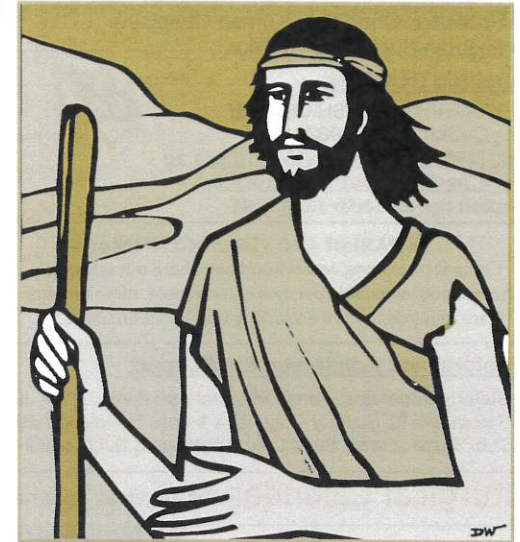
Isa 12:2-6. R. v. 6

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

1. Truly, God is my salvation, / I trust,
I shall not fear. / For the Lord is my strength,
my song, / he became my saviour. / With
joy you will draw water / from the wells of
salvation. **R.**

2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to
his name! / Make his mighty deeds known
to the peoples! / Declare the greatness of his
name. **R.**

3. Sing a psalm to the Lord / for he has done
glorious deeds, / make them known to all the
earth! / People of Zion, sing and shout for joy /
for great in your midst is the Holy One of
Israel. **R.**



SECOND READING

Phil 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians.

The Lord is near.

I want you to be happy, always happy in the
Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness.
Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the
Lord is very near. There is no need to worry;
but if there is anything you need, pray for it,
asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving,
and that peace of God, which is so much greater
than we can understand, will guard your hearts
and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

■ **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!



Est. 1887

3rd Sunday of Advent (15 Dec 2024)
St Joseph's Catholic Church, 30 Fitzgerald Street
St Thomas Aquinas' Church, 43 Bromby Street

In the Pastoral Care of the AUGUSTINIANS

- ▶ Fr Luca Park OSA Parish Priest
- ▶ Fr Marydas Arackal OSA Assistant Priest
- ▶ Fr Matteo Cho OSA (Korean Chaplain)
- ▶ Fr Brian Buckley OSA Prior

ADMINISTRATION

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE
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www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au
Postal: Box 21 South Yarra 3141



OUR PARISH AND THE AUGUSTINIANS

Commit to creating an environment where the safety of children and vulnerable persons is paramount. All volunteers are required to have a Working With Children Check.

Pastoral and Administrative Support

- ▶ Stefphy Coosnapa (Parish Pastoral Assistant) ▶ Juliet Oei (Business & Facilities Manager: Wed - Fri)
- ▶ Safeguarding: Stefphy Coosnapa ▶ Joss Honour (St Joseph's Outreach Services)
- ▶ Toni Stuart (Parish Secretary, Weddings & SJOS Volunteer Co-ordinator: Tues/Thurs/Fri)

Liturgical Calendar for the week commencing 15th December 2024

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Saturday 14th December	6.00pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 15th December 3rd Sunday of Advent	10.30am Mass	9.00am Mass
Monday 16th December 3rd Week in Advent		
Tuesday 17th December 3rd Week in Advent	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Wednesday 18th December 3rd Week in Advent	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Thursday 19th December 3rd Week in Advent	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Friday 20th December 3rd Week in Advent	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Saturday 21st December 3rd Week in Advent	9.00am Mass	



2024 CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE IN CONJUNCTION WITH SJOS

Our parish Giving Tree will be in our churches from this weekend. This year we are again collecting food gifts and money or vouchers for the food store visitors. When you place your gift or shopping voucher in the basket under the tree, please take a gift card and hang it on the tree. The gifts will be collected after each mass for distribution through the SJOS food store.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

St. Joseph's • 10.30am Mass
 Fourth Sunday of the month
 (except school holidays and long weekends)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Joseph's • Sat: 5.15pm – 5.45pm, or by appointment.

ANOIDING / HEALING MASS

(Sacrament of the Sick) First Tuesday of the month 10am at St Joseph's Church

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME

Anyone ill or housebound may contact us to request a visit for communion at home.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- ▶ **RCIA: Thursday 7pm** Parish Centre
- ▶ **Advent Reflection:** 7pm Tues 17th Dec.
- ▶ **Liturgy Committee Meeting** Thurs 19th 6pm

ST AUGUSTINE - GOD'S HUMILITY



“Observe what God became for you; acknowledge the teaching of such incalculable humility, even coming from a teacher not yet able to speak.

For your sake your Creator was lying there, a speechless infant, and didn't even call his mother by her name. You, though you were a creature, wished to be like God, and so got lost; he, though he was God, wished to be a creature like us, and so find what had been lost. (Sermon 188)

ADVENT REFLECTIONS



The last of our Advent Reflections this Tuesday 17th December 7pm in the parish centre. All are welcome.

CHOIR MEMBERS WELCOME



We invite anyone who would like to join the choir to sing at our Christmas masses to contact Stefphy at the parish office

Christmas Offering



Envelopes are available at the church doors to offer a Christmas gift to your parish clergy on the collection plate.

PARISH BAPTISMS

This weekend we welcome the family and friends of Patch Garnaut, Nava Pourdanial & Elijah Pangalos who are to be baptised, and Sofia Ransom who is to be presented to the parish community.



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Robert Huggins, Margaret Wallin, Mark Ho, June Cochrane, Ronald Seaman, Mitos Gloudemans, Anne Rigg, Ced John Netto, Julie Mahony, Paul Chong, Isabella Chong, Thomas Bedier, Luke Dennis, Sonia Guzman, Damien Ryan, Stephen Soh, Cecil D'Cruz, Joanna Howe, Christine Rodrigues, Janine Forster,



IN LOVING MEMORY



Recently Deceased

✦ Arno Fritsch

Anniversaries

- ✦ Michalina D'Andrea
- ✦ Teresa Tan
- ✦ Lorida Nonato
- ✦ Catherine Myles O'Brien
- ✦ Patrocinio Ferrer
- ✦ Chaiel Balcombe
- ✦ Kerry Quin
- ✦ Chong Mok Liew
- ✦ Connie Abrahams
- ✦ Benjamin Diaz
- ✦ Jane Carolan
- ✦ Medel Alcantara

PARISH COUNCIL DECEMBER REPORT

Our final PPC meeting of the year was an opportunity to look back on 2024 with some satisfaction. Ww were able to complete the work on the Pastoral Plan, review some successful recent events and thank Mary Greene for her work as secretary as she concludes her term on council.

THE SCRIBBLE SUMMER EDITION OUT NOW

Please take your copy of the parish seasonal newsletter today.

MASS COLLECTIONS 8/12/2024

Clergy (Augustinian Community)	
1 st Collection, CDF & bank deposits.	\$ 606.35
Church (Parish Ministries)	
2 nd Collection	\$ 273.65
Envelopes.....	\$ 110.00
Direct Debit/EFT/ CDF Pay/ Cr Cards	\$ 1000.00
Tap Point Terminals.....	\$ 524.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity</i>	

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE

CHRISTMAS EVE Tues 24TH

St Joseph's:

- 6.00pm Family Mass
- 8.30pm Carols
- 9.00pm Night Mass

St Thomas Aquinas

- 7.00pm Family Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY Wednesday 25TH

- 9.00am Mass **St Thomas Aquinas'**
- 10.30am Mass **St Joseph's**

NEW YEAR'S DAY

- 9.00am Mass **St Thomas Aquinas**
- 10.30am **St Joseph's**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 5.15 to 5.45pm at St Joseph's