

# THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF MENTONE - PARKDALE



## SAINT PATRICK - SAINT JOHN VIANNEY

### First Sunday of Advent Year A: 27th November 2022

#### ADVENT -

#### A BEGINNING AND AN END

This weekend the Church begins a new liturgical year with the first Sunday of Advent. The word Advent is from the Latin for 'arrival'. We look forward to Christmas, in which we celebrate the first arrival of God on this planet in the person of Jesus Christ.

(In the Parish of Mentone/Parkdale we are also looking forward to the arrival of a new Parish Priest, yet to be announced.)

But in Advent we direct our thoughts beyond Christmas to the second arrival of Christ at the end of time, on the last day, when he will come again – as we say in the Creed – to judge the living and the dead.

When I was very young, I remember a newspaper article about 'Doomsday', the end of the world. It quite 'spooked' me. The prospect of nuclear war was an ever-present reality. The 'Cold War' was at its height.

This atmosphere sparked a fresh speculation about the end of all things, the 'big bang' at the end of human history. Science fiction writers have been making money out of it for many generations.

Christians believe, on the authority of the Scriptures and the teaching of Holy Church, that one day, at a time and date known only to the Father, Jesus will return. He will bring about a new creation in which the work he began during his ministry on earth will be finished.

However, it will not be 'the end' as such - not like the end of a movie or the final chapter of a book. The emphasis will be rather on 'completion', in much the same sense as Jesus used the word when he breathed his last on the Cross: 'It is finished'.

He didn't mean that was the end of him. He was saying, in fact, "My work is now complete". On the third day he rose again.

Our Lord's disturbing words in the Gospels about the 'End Time' [the Parousia] may send a shiver up our spine and put the fear of God into us, but that is not their primary purpose. Jesus' words, rather, are meant to direct our attention to this life, to the present.

To assume that the apocalyptic words of Jesus refer to some 'pie in the sky' in the distant future is to be mistaken. That attitude tempts us to do nothing. Equally, to panic and indulge in feverish, fear-driven activity, is also to be mistaken.

The sacred Scriptures and the Church make it clear that all the necessary activity needed to face 'the end', either on a personal level, or in an apocalyptic sense, has already been done for us. It has been attained by Jesus Christ in his life, ministry, passion, death, and resurrection.

As the author of the Letter to the Hebrews writes, "Christ has offered one single sacrifice for sins. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying."

In a sense, what we need to do is to appreciate and value what God has done for us in Christ our Lord and Saviour. As Catholics, we demonstrate this above all by our participation in the Mass, where we join the offering of our own life with the offering of Jesus in the Eucharistic sacrifice.

And then, having offered worship – which is our primary obligation – we continue to show our appreciation in our daily activities. This doesn't mean trying to repay God's love for us. That, of course is impossible, just as it is impossible to repay our parents' love for us.

We show our thankfulness and appreciation to God by reflecting his love in our lives towards others, to all who are made in his image.

The fullest possible commitment to our heavenly Father can be expressed and achieved through our worship and in our attitudes and actions towards others.

Such an approach will enable us to face the 'end time', either in its broadest sense or applied to the completion of our own life - with *hope and expectancy and joy*. These are the three characteristics of the Advent season.

'The end' – eternal life in heaven – then, will not come to us as something unfamiliar. It be the natural and appropriate completion of a life in which we have sought to live for God and for others. For the Advent Christian the transition from one to the other will be barely perceptible.

Fr Ramsay Williams OLSC,  
Associate Priest.

**Presbytery:** 10 Rogers Street, Mentone 3194. Ph: 9583 2103

**Office:** 3 Mitchell Street, Mentone 3194. Ph: 9583 2103

• **Parish Priest:** Rev. Fr. Cameron Forbes • **Hon Associate Priest:** Rev. Fr. Ramsay Williams OLSC

• **Director of Music** Ph: 9583 2103

• **St Patrick's School:** Ph: 9583 5033 • **St John Vianney's School:** Ph: 9580 5812

**Email:** mentoneparkdaleeast@cam.org.au • **Website:** www.sspjv.org

The Catholic Parish of Mentone-Parkdale East is committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all persons; a copy of our Child Safety Policy is on the noticeboard in our churches.

# Notices for Parish Bulletin to the Parish Office by 10am Thursday

## Recently Deceased

Anthony Quinn

## Anniversaries

Jim Soulsby, Lawrence Cornelius

*May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*



## We pray for those who are sick.

Lawrie Pickett, Rohan John, Teresa Wright, Vanessa, Mary Taylor, Melissa Tonkin, Brad Castricum, Joy Websdale, Vicki Rhodes, Jim Lacey, Chris Taylor, Donald McDonald.

## Prayer / Meditation

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Each day the Church is open from 8:30 am to 6:00pm. Please choose a time (1/2 hour) to spend in Adoration. Each Friday the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration following the 9:15am Mass until 4:30pm, when Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is given.



## VOCATION VIEW

In our materialistic society, someone must stand up to speak for our spiritual heritage.

Could that be you?

**Please pray for Vocations**

### 1st Collection:

Presbytery: \$2,061.90

### 2nd Collection:

Thanksgiving: \$3,131.50

Loose Money: \$419.65

## Parish Events

Dear parishioners, Just a quick note from overseas to thank you for your very kind send-off for me last Sunday. It was a lovely gesture which I appreciated very much. Your very generous gifts will also be put to good use as I prepare for my new role. At the moment I am visiting seminaries and meeting with their staff and students to look at the various models of seminary training. My prayers and best wishes to you all, Fr Cameron



## ADVENT PROGRAM

Sessions are on **Wednesday** evenings 7:30 - 8:30pm in the Parish Centre. It's not too late to secure your spot! 9583 2103.



## PIETY STALL GIFTS



A lovely new range of family gifts for under \$10 has arrived at Mentone. St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards are now available as well as Columban Art Calendars. Open from 10:30am Sundays.

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Registrations are now open for primary school children not attending Catholic schools. Sunday 27th November 2022, Sunday 18th December 2022 or Sunday 29th January 2023. 10:30am -12:30pm in the Parish Centre. Lessons commence **February 2023**. Ring 9583 2103 or email the parish on [mentoneparkdaleeast@cam.org.au](mailto:mentoneparkdaleeast@cam.org.au)

## 3/4 December 2022

## ROSTERS

### Readers:

6:00 pm - P Mount

9:00 am - T Busuttill, G Shea (SJV)

11:00 am - K Mooney (SP)

5:00 pm - J Hughes (SP)

### Extraordinary Ministers:

6:00 pm - J Mount (SP)

9:00 am - R Tregonning (SJV)

11:00 am - A Earle (SP)

5:00 pm - C Giosis (SP)

### Extraordinary Minister of the Sick (SJV):

D Kidner

### Pilgrim Statue (SJV):

M Mindum

### Flowers (SJV)

A Berghella

### Readings next week:

Second Sunday of Advent Year A

Isaiah: 11: 1-10

Romans: 15:4-9

Matthew: 3:1-12

### NOTE:

**NO EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

In 2001, the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments introduced legislation that deals with the manner in which public and private sector organisations may record, use, store and disclose information, including health information, collected from individuals. This parish is committed to upholding and implementing the Privacy Principles set out in legislation. A copy of the Parish Policy is available by contacting the Parish Office.

# EVENTS

## WELCOME HOME!

Continuing to encourage and welcome the return to worship.

From the **27th November 2022**, the 1st Sunday of Advent, the general **dispensation** from our Sunday and Holy Day obligations is **lifted**.

“May the Lord who gathers us into his Eucharistic Body continue to deepen our desire to be with him and each other in joy and hope. As the lyrics go for a popular song with our young people, *We are one Body, one body in Christ, and we do not stand alone.*”

**Welcome back and welcome home** this Advent and Christmas! With every grace and blessing,



**Most Rev Peter A Comensoli.**

## KENSHI CANDLES

Early bird offers have been filled and stocks are running low. Final orders due by Sunday November 27th details on church noticeboards.

## CUPPA & CHAT

Don't rush home after Sunday morning Mass at Mentone, meet your fellow



parishioners in the Parish Centre with a cuppa and a chat. Would your group like to host one week? Ring the parish office for details 9583 2103.

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2022



Our parish is supporting the St Vincent de Paul Society's Christmas Appeal. Each year, our Christmas Appeal plays a vital role in enabling the good works of the Society and, with your support, we hope to achieve a strong result so we can continue serving the community.

Over the past 12 months, the Society has provided over \$11 million in material assistance, including food, clothing, furniture and financial support, to families and households in need throughout Victoria. With the current cost-of-living crisis, the assistance we provide for people experiencing hardship this Christmas will be needed more than ever.

Parishioners are encouraged to donate generously to help continue the Society's work of helping those most in need.

You can make a donation by:

\* Giving to the special collection

at all masses on Dec 10/11

\* Calling **13 18 12**

\* Online at [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au)

## Father Cameron's Farewell



Thank you to all who attended, making Fr Cameron's farewell a very memorable one. A most generous cheque of over \$5000 was handed to Father, who is now travelling to learn of seminaries overseas before taking up his position as rector of our Seminary in the new year.

Thank you to the Knights of the Southern Cross for their organisation and hospitality and to our Director of Music and Choir for providing the entertainment.



We are grateful to Fr Ramsay Williams OLS and Fr Isuru Weliwatte who are covering Masses during this interim period.

We also welcome Fr Terry Kean back to St John Vianney's this Sunday and thank also Fr Peter Mathesen for his assistance.

# First Sunday of Advent Year A: 27th November 2022

## Mass Response

Psalm Response: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, Alleluia!**  
Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.  
**Alleluia!**

### 6:00pm Vigil Mass (Saturday) St Patrick's and 9:00am (Sunday) St John Vianney's

**Entrance:** CWB II 246 Saviour of the Nations, Come  
**Mass Setting:** *Mass in Honour of St Ralph Sherwin - Ostrowski*  
**Offertory:** CWB II 232 Come, O Long Expected Jesus  
**Communion:** CWB II 252 Wake, O Wake  
**Recessional:** CWB II 621 The Voice of God

### 11:00am Choral Mass (Sunday) St Patrick's

**Entrance:** CWB II 246 Saviour of the Nations, Come  
**Mass Setting:** *Mass in Honour of St Ralph Sherwin - Ostrowski*  
**Offertory:** Motet: *Veni, Jesu* - Cherubini  
**Communion:** Motet: *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme* - J. S. Bach  
CWB II 252 Wake, O Wake  
**Recessional:** CWB II 621 The Voice of God

### 5:00 pm (Sunday) St Patrick's

**Entrance:** CWB II 246 Saviour of the Nations, Come  
**Mass Setting:** *Mass in Honour of St Ralph Sherwin - Ostrowski*  
**Offertory:** CWB II 232 Come, O Long Expected Jesus  
**Communion:** CWB II 252 Wake, O Wake  
**Recessional:** CWB II 621 The Voice of God

### WEEK DAY MORNING MASSES

(SP) St Patrick's Church; (SJV) St John Vianney's Church

<b>Monday 28th November</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Tuesday 29th November</b>	9:15 am (SP)	1st week of Advent
<b>Wednesday 30th November</b>	9:15 am (SP) 10:30 am (SJV)	Feast: St Andrew, apostle
<b>Thursday 1st December</b>	9:15 am (SP) 10:30 am (SP)	1st week of Advent <b>Ordinarate Mass</b>
<b>Friday 2nd December</b>	9:15 am (SP) 5:15 pm (SJV)	1st week of Advent Mass
<b>Saturday 3rd December</b>	9:15 am (SP)	Memorial: St Francis Xavier, priest

### WEEKEND MASSES

(Vigil) Saturday: 6:00 pm (SP)

Sunday: 9:00 am (SJV)  
Sunday: 9:30 am (SP) **Ordinarate Mass**  
Sunday: 11:00 am (SP) (Choral Mass)  
Sunday: 5:00 pm (SP)

### RECONCILIATION

After the 9:15 am Mass on Wednesday  
& Saturday mornings (SP) and 5:15 pm  
Saturday (SP)

**NOTE:**  
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SACRAMENT UNTIL  
FURTHER NOTICE**