



# ST FRANCIS XAVIER LURNEA SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C 5TH & 6TH DECEMBER 2015

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand.  
We walk on a land once occupied by the Darug Clan, the Cabrogal,  
a sub group of the Gandangara tribe who lived in this area for over 30,000 years.  
May we continue to love and respect the land as they have.

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Sacramental Co-Ordinator**  
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**Office Hours:**  
Tuesday to Friday  
9.30am - 5.30pm  
*Bulletin notices to be in by Thurs. 12pm.  
(Please type/print your message clearly).*

**St Francis Xavier Catholic School**  
School Principal Mrs Fran Bonanno  
School No. 9607-3130  
School Fax. 9608-2650  
Web Site: www.stfxlurnea.catholic.edu.au

**St Catherine of Siena Catholic School**  
School Principal Mr David Parawa  
School No. 9607-3888  
School Fax. 9607-6405  
Web Site: www.stcosprestons.catholic.edu.au

**Weekend Mass Times:**  
Saturday Vigil.....5.00pm  
Sunday.....8.00am, 9.30am &  
.....6.00pm

**Weekday Mass Times:**  
(See bulletin for changes)

**Reconciliation:**  
Saturday.....4.00pm - 4.30pm

**Baptisms:** By Appointment  
1st & 3rd Sundays of the month at 11.00am

**Marriages:** By Appointment

**St Vincent De Paul** 9823 1222

**Care Group**  
Anne Hobbs: 9601 - 7061



## *Reflection* 2nd Sunday of Advent.

The advent of God's coming with its promise of fulfilment happens within world history.

The first reading locates

God's act of restoration in the city of Jerusalem. The gospel situates the ministry of John within a particular period of world history. They point us to historical experience as the place and the time of restoration, of incarnation, of redemption.

They show us that God works within everyday life, in conventional places, during regular time. In fact, from a human point of view, the extraordinary events of salvation took place within what was quite ordinary.

John proclaims the kind of transformation that results in a change of heart. Reversals characterise such transformation: the robe of mourning is replaced by the splendour of glory; tears are turned into rejoicing; those led away by enemies are brought back by God; valleys are filled, mountains are levelled, winding roads are made straight;

even nature offers itself as shelter for the people of God. Those who are shamed and discarded are made glorious; those who suffer are comforted; the oppressed are freed; all of life's obstacles are removed; the way to God is made straight; the natural world enjoys peace and harmony.

The transformation or repentance of heart takes place within human life, within relationships of justice between people and with the earth, in right living, in genuine unselfish love.

It produces the fruits of righteousness of which Paul speaks. Advent is the time to prepare ourselves for this.

Dianne Bergant

### Weekday Mass Times

**Monday** - No Mass  
**Tuesday** - 9:00am Mass  
- 6:00pm SFX Year 6 Graduation Mass  
**Wednesday** - 9:00am Mass  
**Thursday** - 9:00am SCOS End of Year Mass, Prestons  
- 9:00am Communion Service in Church  
**Friday** - 9:00am Mass  
- 6:00pm SCOS Year 6 Graduation Mass in School Hall at Prestons

## **Carnival in the Park 29th November**

A sincere thank you to all who volunteered their time last Sunday to make our Carnival in the Park a great success. All our volunteers worked tirelessly in the scorching heat. Without our volunteers no occasion could have been possible.

We have come to the close of St Francis Xavier Parish's Golden Jubilee year. It has brought a great sense of Community and Spirit amongst our Parishioners. May this spirit continue amongst us for many more celebrations.

*"Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to the whole creation." Mark 16:15*

### **Golden Jubilee Raffle**

As a part of our Golden Jubilee back in the first half of the year the parish held a raffle.

The children from our schools, St Francis Xavier and St Catherine of Siena, were given an incentive of who could sell the most raffle books would win a \$200 Westfield Gift Voucher.

We are proud to announce the winners.

SFX School - Catherine Dien Vy Pham  
STCOS School - Joshua Iacona

*Congratulations and thank you for your support.*

### **Piety Store - Volunteers Required**

Please give your time - 15 minutes prior Mass and re-open for 15 minutes after the Mass. If you would like to assist us for one Mass per Month at your chosen Mass, this would be greatly appreciated.

The Piety Store is CLOSED during Mass.  
Please contact the parish office if you would like to lend a hand! Thank You.

### **The Birth of Our Lord draws near.....**

#### **Carols by Candlelight**

Free Carols by Candlelight in the grounds of the Liverpool Catholic Club on **Sunday 6th December**, program starts at 6.45pm, carols 7.30pm.

Also live nativity scene and a pen with nursery animals for the kids. Fireworks display to conclude the evening. All Welcome.

#### **Carols with the Choirs**

An evening of communal carol singing with the soloists and choirs of the parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and a live band.  
Saturday, 12th December at 7:00pm in the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.  
Cnr Humphries & Cabramatta Rds, Mt Pritchard.  
Come join in the fun and spirit of Christmas.

### **Christmas Mass Times**

#### **Reconciliation**

Tuesday 15th December  
To be advised

#### **Christmas Vigil**

Thursday 24th December  
at 7.00pm

#### **Christmas Day**

Friday 25th December  
Midnight Mass 12.00am  
Morning Mass 8.00am &  
9.30am  
No Evening Mass



#### **New Years Day Mass**

9.00am Only

### **Christmas Eve 7.00pm Family Mass**

Calling all Angels, Shepherds and Wise Men.  
Practice for the Christmas Eve Family Mass will be held in the Church Sunday 13 December and Sunday 20 December immediately after the 9.30 Mass.

### **Christmas Masses Roster**

There is a sign on sheet for Altar Servers, Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for Christmas Masses in the Sacristy. If you would like to be a part of any Mass at Christmas please put your name down.

### **Dressing of the Christmas Tree**

On the **17th December at 6pm** we invite families of the parish to come dress the Christmas tree in the Church. This evening allows the children to express themselves in decorating the Tree.

All Welcome.

### **Craft Group**

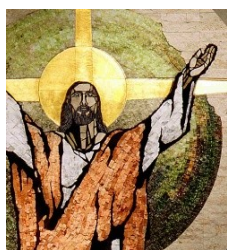
The Craft Group will be holding their annual Christmas Stall on **Sat. 5th Dec. after 5pm Mass** and on **Sun. 6th Dec. after the 8am and 9.30am morning Masses**. All crafts were hand made by our very talented Craft Group.  
Come along and do a little Christmas Shopping.

### **St. Vincent de Paul - Christmas Appeal**

Envelopes have been placed on the Christmas Tree.  
Your support and generosity are very much appreciated.

### **Christmas Memorial Service**

**Monday 7 December at 7pm - North Chapel at Forest Lawn Memorial Park Cemetery and Crematorium** (Camden Valley Way, Leppington).  
Light supper provided. RSVP (02) 4648 2226 or oranpark@dow.org.au or 9606 5822.



*May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.*

**Recently Deceased**

Ofelia Y. Salvador

**Anniversaries**

M. R. Varghese  
Eileen Michael

**Deceased**

Pascoal Fernandes  
Bella Fernandes

**We pray for those who are sick, especially:**

Fr Bill Davis	Saulius David Balsys
Pat Lord	John Bell
Margaret McKenna	Baby Nguyen
Lauren Channon	Kelvin Huitt
Noah Rewa	Bruno Inangeri
Joseph Fakhoury	Vincent Alvaro
Patricia Kearns	Gwen Beehag
Dominic Mullen	Sylvia Baron
Mavis Freeburn	Illuminada Ortanez
Leonardo Salvador	Joyce Mifsud

**Please note:** Names will be removed after 2 months, unless office is notified.

**Updated Rosters can be collected from the Sacristy.**

***Second Sunday of Advent - Year C - 5th & 6th December 2015***

	<b>SATURDAY 5pm</b>	<b>8am</b>	<b>SUNDAY 9.30am</b>		<b>6pm</b>
<b>Reader Psalm</b>	Victor Tran Jacqueline Scully	Estelle Standley	Angie Clarkson Manulele Minute	Tracie Richardson	
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Agnelo Andrade Rosa Andrade Jean Brendish Mary Grace Francisco Garry Lejarde Volunteer Minister	Carol Campanella Karen Misquitta Volunteer Minister Volunteer Minister	Charlie Casha Jacinta Lemalu Janice Tran Volunteer Minister Volunteer Minister Volunteer Minister	Therese Doan Judith Paglia Mark Flanagan Mary Grace Isidoro	
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Jonathon Giso Julian Giso Kiara Liu Darren Liu	Anthony Bui	Luca Abel Lawrence Abel Alanna Alam Alyssa Alam	Liam Flanagan Ethan Mendez	
<b>Acolytes</b>	Graeme Freeburn	Martin Ryan	Tony Keir	Phil Coleman	
<b>Altar Society</b>	Judith Paglia, Patsy Cham & Charlie Casha				
<b>Counters</b>	Doreen & Catherine Coleman				
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	Rosetta Zaccagnini, Tracie Richardson, Rochelle Hanania & Jasna Sosic				

***Third Sunday of Advent - Year C - 12th & 13th December 2015***

	<b>SATURDAY 5pm</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>SUNDAY 9.30am</b>		<b>6.00pm</b>
<b>Reader Psalm</b>	Domenic Acitelli Christina Acitelli	Arnel Isidoro	Jacinta Lemalu Charlotte Hon	Frank Agostino	
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Katrina Calabrese Vince Calabrese Tony Crescini Aida Crescini Volunteer Minister Volunteer Minister	Jane Colley Antoinette Moussallem Volunteer Minister Volunteer Minister	Alfia Busa Angie Clarkson Bev Strauss Lia Newhouse Melinda Melham Jane Scott	Tracie Richardson Greg Richardson Kristina Williams Volunteer Minister	
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Lucas Tran Aidan Andrade Christina Acitelli	Anthony Bui	Heather Scott Fridurik Nickel Ina Nickel Karl Nickel	Jordan Varghese Kirsten Bilog	
<b>Acolytes</b>	John Nickel	Joe Mancini	Tony Keir	Annette Flanagan	
<b>Altar Society</b>	Souad Dagher & Marlein Abou Fram				
<b>Counters</b>	Stephen & Therese Puskas & Cathy Crick				
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	Renee Lauric & April Stewart				



## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C

### FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Baruch

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'.

Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them.

Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory.

For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

The word of the Lord.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**RESPONSE: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'  
What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. **(R.)**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing:  
they come back, they come back, full of song,  
carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**

### SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work

in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes.

God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

The word of the word.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

**Alleluia!**

### GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness;  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

Every valley will be filled in,  
every mountain and hill be laid low,  
winding ways will be straightened  
and rough roads made smooth.

And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

The Gospel of the Lord.



The scripture quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, 1966, 1967 and 1968, Darton, Longman and Todd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and are used by permission of the publisher. The English translation of the Psalms Responses, Alleluia Verses, Gospel Verses and Lenten Gospel Acclamations from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL. All rights reserved.

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