

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B

7th December 2008

THEME: Mark 1: 1-8

On this second Sunday of Advent we hear St John the Baptist calling us to repent and to prepare a way for the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday 8th December	Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary
Saturday 13th December	Lucy, virgin, martyr

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

Here in St Mark's Gospel, St John the Baptist is presented as deflecting attention away from himself toward Jesus, whose ministry was about to begin. "He is coming after me but he is greater than I," witnesses St John. His Witness invites a similar declaration from each of us. Our Ministry, for the sake of the Gospel by our lives and our words, should redirect the attention and adulation of others from ourselves to God. Mediators and ministers of the message we may be, **but we are not the message**. Therefore, it devolves upon those whose privilege it is to live and teach the good news to be sure not to get in the way of its truth. Nor should we, God's heralds, offer negative witness by sending mixed messages or contradictory ones where our words are not borne out in actions.

Whoever preaches right faith and good works prepares...a road for the Lord to come into the hearer's heart so that this gracious power might penetrate and the light of truth illuminate them. Thus may we make straight paths for God.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Grant spiritual comfort and healing to the sick, especially:

Vin Griffiths, Bruce Tate, Juanita Jervois, Norina Spinelli, Bishop Brennan, Nancy Gibson, Anne Ferguson, Lionel West, John Hunt, Francesca Morton, Rob Deller, Mary McNamara, Ria Stumpe, James Williams, Joan Sullivan, Mary Cooper, Wendy Murphy, Stan Sawaski, Monette Fealy, Annette Hoffman, Lionel Jansen, John McManus, Peter Cairns, Allan Dedrauth, Marjory Stott, Gerri Boldrini, Melda McDonald, Kristi Cassandra, Luke Heffernan, Rosel Free, Reece Valta, Yela Jankovic, Karl Grlica, Alvin Horn, Kate Cox, Patricia Hamill, Maureen Pidutti, Zoltan Tar, Catherine Mead, Charles Francis, Will Carland, Maureen Fields, Patricia Barber, Ian Walters, Des O'Meara, Ben Harper, Gregory Cummins, Bess Harris, Nicholas Hetherington, Joseph Doran, Effie Ray, Sandra Varrasso, Patricia Bourke, Bob Woods and Marie Cook.

Grant eternal life to:

Jack Hannan, Ethel French, Leo Brooks, John Mikulski, Lucy Wright, Rita Boadle and all our dear ones deceased.

Anniversaries:

Malcolm Nicholson, Brian Esler, Clive O'Moore, Gladys McPherson, Florrie & George Spurway, Cecilia Grlica, Samuel Skaric, Georg Grlica and all our loved ones whose anniversaries occur now.

And Also:

Roy Poy, Lorraine Hill, Bill Livsey, Mary & Bill Kotthoff, Eileen, Gus, Kerry, Patrick, Bonnie & Patricia Roche, Noel & Peter Rothe, Philip Smith, Victor Bruce, Lil Munk, Frank Kelly, Henry Wynter, John Dallinger, Sr Helen Shortall RSM, Sr Monica Esler, Dan Moore, Alice Plunkett, Clare Flynn & the Flynn Family and all our dear ones deceased.

LORD HEAR US

BAPTISMS

Last weekend we welcomed into God's church the following newly baptised:

**ISABELLA FRASER
ELLA VEY
SAMUEL ROGERS
ISAIAH ROBERTSON
TAHLIA GORDON**

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY

Mass will be held at 7.00am and 6.00pm in St Patrick's Church on Monday 8th December to celebrate the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary.

ST PATRICK'S PARISH CHILDREN'S TRADITIONAL NATIVITY PLAY AND CAROLS NIGHT

Friday 19th December 6.00-7.30pm. Nativity play by the children, youth group and young adults leading the carols, visit from Santa, drinks and nibbles. Coffee, tea, soft drink provided. Please don't miss this opportunity to put Christ back into Christmas for your family and yourselves!

*There's *always* room at the Inn, so if any more children would like to be in the play, please ring Anna on 6023 3838 and we'll get you into a costume! No speaking required by cast, so no need to be shy.

Please bring a finger food plate to share.

ALBURY-WODONGA BIBLE FEST '09

Children's Program: Monday 5th January-Saturday 10th January, 10.00am-12.00pm at West Albury Public School (511 Mott Street).

Fun based activities for school-aged children with music, drama, games & more

Family Lunches: Monday 5th January 12.15pm at Westside Community Centre (16 Mulga Place, West Albury) and Tuesday 6th January, 12.30pm at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church (402 Wagga Road Lavington).

Teens Program: Monday 5th-Tuesday 6th & Thursday 8th-Saturday 10th January, 4.30pm-6.30pm at Westside Community Centre

(16 Mulga Place West Albury). A new program for teenagers. Time to hang out, chat, play sport, learn from the Bible...

Youth Event: Tuesday 6th January, 6.00pm at David Street Skate Park Albury. BBQ for teenagers & young adults.

For more information: Damian & Juanita 0428 573 812, bpbrowser11@hotmail.com or Rowan & Lisa 6023 3140.

ST PATRICK'S PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of St Patrick's Parish Council will be held this Thursday 11th December 2008 at 7.30pm in the presbytery. The new parish councillors have been invited to attend.

YOUTH GROUP(12-17YRS)

St Patrick's Youth Group will meet this Sunday 7th December after the 5.30pm Mass in the hall. If you like meeting new people, eating junk food and getting to know your faith better, then youth group is for you. Contact Fr Lee: 6041 2588 or Miriam: 0400 419 981.

CHRISTMAS EVE, MIDNIGHT MASS

Practice will be held on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm in St Patrick's Church for any singers interested in singing at Midnight Mass. Come along to enjoy singing. Elaine Buchhorn on 6025 8624.

CHRISTMAS TREE

The St Vincent de Paul Society would be grateful for donations of toys and non perishable food items which may be left under the Christmas Tree in the front of the church for distribution by the Society to people in need.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CARDS & CALENDARS

Cards \$6.00 per pack of 10

Calendars \$7.00 each.

Please place money in the "Paper Money" Box.

SANCTUARY & FLOWER ROSTER FOR 2009

Volunteers are needed for the St Patrick's Church Altar Roster. This requires about one hour of your time once a week for two weeks of the year to dust the church and arrange flowers. Usually done on a Friday afternoon it is a great way to meet people, or get a group together to help your parish church. Please phone Nan Brandt on 6021 5060 or the Parish Secretary on 6041 2588 if you can help.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP, 18-35 YRS

St Patrick's holds a weekly discussion group for 18-35 year olds on Wednesday nights at 7.00pm in the upper room of St Patrick's hall. For more information, contact Miriam Kirley on 0400 419 981 or email mizmim@gmail.com , John Burton 0400 574 958 or Marcus Shaw 0418 463 952.