

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C

13th December 2009

GOSPEL: Luke 3: 10-18

It is the third Sunday of Advent. As we light three candles on the Advent wreath, let us make ourselves ready to listen to the Baptist's words and so prepare for the great feast of Christmas.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Say to the anxious: be strong and fear not, our God will come to save us.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday 14th December

John of the Cross, priest, doctor

WHAT MUST WE DO?

There are ten thousand ways of looking at this world, but only one right way. The man of pleasure has his way, the man of gain his, and the man of intellect his. Poor men and rich men, governors and governed, prosperous and discontented, learned and unlearned, each has his own way of looking at the things which come before him, and each has a wrong way. **There is but one right way; it is the way in which God looks at the world.** Aim at looking at it in God's way. Aim at seeing things as God sees them. Aim at forming judgements about persons, events, ranks, fortunes, changes, objects, such as God forms. Aim at looking at this life as God looks at it. Aim at looking at the life to come, and the world unseen, as God does. Aim at 'seeing the king in his beauty.' All things that we see are but shadows to us and delusions, unless we enter into what they really mean....That a thing is true, is no reason that it should be said, but that it should be done; that it should be acted upon; that it should be made our own inwardly. Let us aim at meaning what we say, and saying what we mean; let us aim at knowing when we understand a truth, and when we do not. When we do not, let us take it on faith, and let us profess to do so. Let us receive a good will, and divine light, and spiritual strength, that it may bear fruit within us.

(J H Newman, Parochial and Plain Sermons, V, 3)

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

We have heard God's word to us today. Let us pray that this word take root in us as we pray.

That children may be respected and loved and never be the victims of exploitation in its various forms

Lord hear us.

Lord hear our prayer

That at Christmas the peoples of the earth may recognise in the Word Incarnate the light which illuminates every man, and that the nations may open their doors to Christ, the Saviour of the world

Lord hear us.

Lord hear our prayer.

That war will be no more and all people live in peace

Lord hear us.

Lord hear our prayer

That those in harm's way are protected

Lord hear us.

Lord hear our prayer

That every mother's child is loved and cared for as Christmas comes

Lord hear us. Lord hear our prayer

That those who are sick find wholeness, especially Liam O'Brien, Margaret Corrigan, Patrick Larkin, Fr Bob Leaver, Andy & Marie Carter, Catherine Flannery, Dawn Salmon, Tom Ryan, Audrey Willis, Kathy Dyball, Eileen Foley, Robert Driscoll, Russell Baude, Mat Talbot, Eileen Carroll, Lyle Jansen, Gary McLinden, Paul Trotman, Lillian Roberts, Norm & Joan McLaurin, Kevin Hynes, Vin Griffiths, Juanita Jervis, Norina Spinelli, Bishop Brennan, Nancy Gibson, Rob Deller, Mary McNamara, Ria Stumpe, James Williams, Monette Fealy, Annette Hoffman, Lionel Jansen, John McManus, Peter Cairns, Allan Dedrauth, Melva McDonald, Kristi Cassandra, Luke Heffernan, Rosel Free, Reece Valta, Yela Jankovic, Karl Grlica, Alvin Horn, Kate Cox, Patricia Hamill, Zoltan Tar, Catherine Mead, Will Carland, Maureen Fields, Patricia Barber, Ian Walters, Des O'Meara, Ben Harper, Bess Harris, Patricia Bourke, Effie Ray, Joseph Doran, Nicholas Hetherington, Sandra Varrasso and Marie Cook,

that those who are weary find strength, that those who despair find hope

Lord hear us. Lord hear our prayer

That those who are dying are prepared to meet the Lord

Lord hear us. Lord hear our prayer

We remember those who have died especially Ian Rawlings, Maureen Burke, Gerry Gibbs, Gerald Dick and Joan Wilkinson. That those who mourn find comfort

Lord hear us. Lord hear our prayer

Anniversaries:

Joyce Livsey, Carmel Hunter, Gladys McPherson, Clive O'Moor, Leo Keane and all those whose anniversaries occur now.

And Also:

Bill Livsey, Mary, Bill & Ken Kotthoff, Peter Blattman, Deceased Members of the McPherson & Matthews Families and all our dear ones deceased.

Loving God, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus. Give us what we need to turn away from sin and embrace a life of grace, peace and love so that we, too, may announce your presence to our waiting world. We pray always in Jesus' name.

AMEN

BAPTISMS

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

BENJAMIN HARRISON

RYLEY O'NEILL

EMILIE YENSCH

MOLLY ADAMS

FOR YOUR DIARY

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE

Copies of the Christmas Mass Timetable are available at the back of the church. Please take one home. If you would like to be a Special Minister at one of the Christmas Masses, please put your name on the list at the back of the church.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a special collection at all Masses next weekend, 19th and 20th December, to enable St Vincent de Paul to continue helping the poor and needy in our own city.

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY PLAY AND CAROLS

St Patrick's Parish Children's Christmas Nativity Play and carols will be held on Friday 18th December at 6.00pm sharp. Drinks, nibbles and a visit from Santa will follow. Flyer with information are at the rear of the church.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Christmas cards are available at the church door - \$6.00 per pack of ten different cards. Columban Calendars \$7.00 each.

ADVENT PRAYER - AN INVITATION

Parishioners are invited to join for Advent Prayer each Tuesday during Advent after the 10.30am Mass and 7.00-8.00pm at Mary MacKillop Centre (come to side door of St Patrick's Church nearest the Slattery Centre and we will meet you there.) There is no cost. RSVP to Sr Anne: Ph/fax 6021 7427 or email: mmckcentre@bigpond.com

CHRISTMAS TREE

Please leave toys and non perishable food under the tree for distribution by the St Vincent de Paul Society to needy families in time for Christmas.

CURSILLO

Calling all Cursillistas. Our Ultreya will be held at the Sacred Heart Hall, Mate Street North Albury, on Wednesday 16th December from 7.30pm to 9.00pm. Theme: Figure of Christ. Supper provided. Contact Kath: 0428 578 788.

TERRA SPIRITUS

Terra Spiritus is an Australian Catholic web magazine that provides a refreshing experience of Christian spirituality on the internet. Visit www.terraspiritus.com.au. A subscription to Terra Spiritus also makes an ideal Christmas gift.