

AEC Cathedral Parish

December 8, 2019 YR A/2
Second Sunday of Advent



Weekly Mass Times

St Mary's Cathedral

Tue-Fri : 7.30am

Sat : 6pm Mass

Sun : 10.30am & 6.00pm Masses

Sacred Heart Church

Tue-Thu : 9am

Sat : 8.00am Mass

Sun : 8.30am Mass

Lawrenny Court

Cnr Arthur and Hill

Sts, West Hobart

10.30am : Carol Service

Reconciliation

Sacred Heart Church : Sat following

8.00am Mass

St Mary's Cathedral: Sat 5-5.30pm

Rosary

Sacred Heart Church : Sat 7.30am

St Mary's Cathedral—Cnr Harrington & Patrick Streets, Hobart; Sacred Heart Church—Cross St, New Town;

Responsorial Psalm: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever. **Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Readings:Is 11:1-10: Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

Next Week's Readings : Is 35:1-6, 10; James 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

A Time To Stop and Think

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In our Gospel today we meet St John the Baptist, the greatest of the prophets, crying out in the desert "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand".

St John is the herald who prepares the way for Jesus, the long awaited Saviour. And the people flocked out into the desert to listen to St John, and many repented of their sins and were baptised by him.



Why the desert? Because the desert is a place to let go of attachments and distractions. Why repent? Because people have always let attachments to worldly things and the distractions of life turn their hearts away from God.

Jesus the Saviour is coming. The kingdom of God is very near to us, but we must repent (i.e. re-think – change our mindset) if we are to enter into that Kingdom. The advent of Jesus is a time to think what is important in my life. What is corn and what is chaff. Are the things I do and the things I am attached to bringing me closer to Jesus or are they simply distractions?

In these weeks before Christmas let us take some time to think and take stock - to be honest with God about what is good in our lives and what needs to change. It is a great time to seek the graces of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and ask Jesus to help us turn our lives back to Him.

Deacon Nick MacFarlane

The Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council invites all parishioners to a Christmas BBQ on Sunday 15th December 2019 following 10.30am Mass. Meat and drinks will be provided and you are invited to simply bring along a salad to share. Come and enjoy the festive season!



Dear Parishioners,

I am glad to announce formally that Shilpi Samida is the new Parish Secretary. She lives in Lindisfarne with her Husband, Dominic and two daughters Amelia and Aurelia. Shilpi and Dominic have now made Hobart their home and they worship at St Mary's Cathedral parish. Being devout Catholics, they educate their children in St Mary's College with faith at the centre of their lives. After completing her Masters in Human Resources Management from Edith Cowan University in Perth, Shilpi had the opportunity of working with the Coles Group, City of Rockingham WA and most recently with APM Employment services (Job Active Support). Hence, Shilpi has extensive experience in Human Resources Management and Customer Service. She is driven by her passion for people and providing service with excellence. Shilpi has had the opportunity of working and interacting with people of varied social & cultural backgrounds and has also worked and supported young adults in their employment efforts. Her desire to work for St Mary's Cathedral parish is fuelled by the fact that it is more than an employment, working as a Parish Secretary is a fulfilment of vocation enriching her family's and personal faith journey. While congratulating Shilpi upon this appointment, I wish her God's strength, wisdom and blessings to serve God's people in the time to come at St Mary's Cathedral Parish.

Fr Shammi Perera



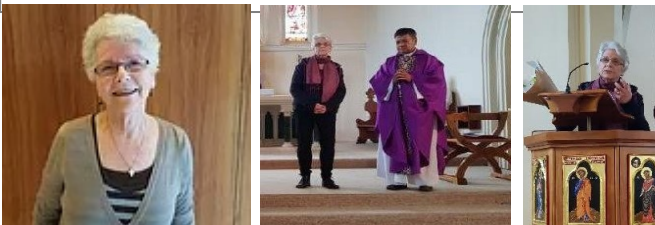
A limited number of Columban Calendars are now available from Maureen at Sacred Heart Church and from the Cathedral bookstall for \$10.

Congratulations to Fr Shammi Perera on the anniversary of his ordination to priesthood on Dec 8. Lord, bless him in a special way for the love and concern with which he ministers to all those entrusted to his care. And bless and multiply Fr Shammi's ministry so that Your Church will multiply for Your glory and for our salvation. Amen.



Pope Francis, early in his pontificate, reminded us in one of his homilies: “When transmitting faith to children, words alone are pointless. Leading by example is the primary way to transmit faith to children.” ***Eva Dunn , for the last seven years, of which the first two were as a catechist on the sacramental program, and then the last five years as the leader of the program in the parish, has been a beacon of faith, hope and love to the children of the parish by her way of life.*** We all know that what she taught all the children was certainly something more than a classroom lesson. Eva made Christ present through catechesis not only for children but also for parents. As a catechist, her dedication and untiring efforts were truly remarkable, and the most important trait we all witnessed in her was the passion and immense love she had for the role of catechist. Hence, I take this opportunity to thank Eva for her many years of ministry as a catechist at St Mary’s Cathedral Parish, and we, as one parish family, are sincerely grateful to Eva for her committed service in the Lord’s vineyard. May God bless Eva in all her future endeavours.

Fr Shammi Perera



Fr Norberto Ochua will be offering three days of the Simbang Gabi (Dawn Mass) at the Cathedral at 5am on December 22, 23, 24 kindly assisted by Deacon Steven Smith. Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Christmas tradition. It is (usually) a series of nine dawn masses on the days leading up to Christmas. This tradition was introduced by the Spanish friars to allow the farmers to hear mass before going to the fields early in the morning. The masses can start as early as 4 in the morning. Simbang Gabi is also known by its popular Spanish name, Misa de Gallo, or "Mass of the Rooster."

In the olden days, the church bells start ringing as early as three o' clock, waking people up so they can get ready for the four o'clock dawn mass. The Roman Catholic churches across the nation start to open their doors shortly before the break of dawn to welcome the faithful to the Simbang Gabi mass.



BLESSING OF NATIVITIES

Given to mark the first Sunday of Advent in Grecio Italy at the Shrine of the Nativity, Pope Francis presented his most recent Apostolic Letter ‘Admirabile Signum’ (“Enchanting Image”) on the Meaning and Importance of the Nativity Scene. A Nativity scene is a simple reminder of something astonishing: God became human to reveal the greatness of his love “by smiling and opening his arms to all,” Pope Francis said in his letter on the meaning and importance of setting up Christmas cribs. The Holy Father wrote “I wish to encourage the beautiful family tradition of preparing the nativity scene in the days before Christmas, but also the custom of setting it up in the workplace, in schools, hospitals, prisons and town squares.” He said “It is my hope that this custom will never be lost and that, wherever it has fallen into disuse, it can be rediscovered and revived.”



To assist us in giving effect to the Holy Father’s express desire to promote the worthy custom of establishing the Christmas Crib in our homes, **His Grace Archbishop Porteous will at the 10:30am Mass on Sunday December 22 bless the Cathedral’s Nativity Scene and, in what is to become an annual event, invites families to bring with them to this Mass the baby Jesus and such other figures of their choosing from their own Nativity scenes which His Grace will also bless.**



Tickets to the Archdiocese of Hobart’s Carols on the Hill event in Hobart are now available to order online. The event will be staged at the Hobart campus of Guilford Young College on Saturday, December 21 from 7pm to 9pm, with gates opening at 5.30pm. The oval is secure and can comfortably hold around 1200 people, making it an ideal venue for families with children. Entry to Carols on the Hill is free; however, attendees must order tickets through an official website. A valid email address is required to order up to a maximum of six (6) tickets. A single general admission ticket must be reserved for each & every attendee (adults & children) There are no costs involved when ordering tickets. You can choose to receive tickets by email that requires printing, or electronic tickets delivered to your smart phone or tablet. Tickets are available once you accept the event Terms & Conditions on the ticketing website. **To reserve your tickets, go to www.eventbrite.com.au and search for ‘Carols on the Hill’.** *The Carols on the Hill Community Choir are seeking voices to join them. All are welcome. Rehearsal dates are: Thursday 5, 12, 19 December. These will be held at the St Mary’s Cathedral Centre from 6-6:40pm. Please contact Ella Tobin on ella.tobin@aohtas.org.au or 0468 601 517 to register your interest.*

We welcome you to St Mary’s Cathedral Parish!
To help you become involved in our parish life and any of the various ministries of the parish, please return this slip to the Cathedral Office or place it on the collection plate at any Mass.
We will then be in touch.....with thanks.

Name

Email

Phone

Address

Ministries you may be interested in: (please circle)

greeters, lectors, choir members, musicians, childrens’ liturgy, youth ministry, cleaners, setting up for morning teas, altar servers, Eucharistic ministers, book stall attendant after Mass, office help, handyman work, gardening, organising special events/fundraising.

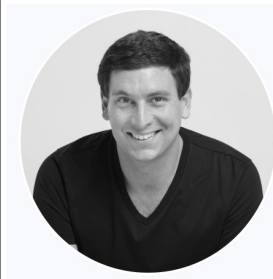


St Mary's Cathedral Parish Sacramental Program 2020 will begin with an information evening on Tuesday 25th February from 6:00 to 7:30pm in the Cathedral Centre. The program is strictly for children aged 7 and above. Parents wishing to enrol their child should contact Jo MacFarlane at macfarlane3jo@gmail.com to register interest. When registering interest, please provide child's name, birth date and school. Any queries can also be directed to the same email address.



Made for Each Other Summer School January 20-24 in Hobart

The Made for Each Other Summer School will be held from January 20-24, 2020 at St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart. It will be a unique event for young Catholics aged 18-35. The Summer School will offer a series of lectures from a well-qualified faculty, group discussions, field trips, prayer time and social occasions to create a unique experience of the beauty, goodness and truth of the Church's teaching on relationships, sexuality, marriage and the family. For more information please contact Ben Smith on 6208 6036 or ben.smith@aohas.org.au. A web page with detailed information on the event can be viewed at: bit.ly/2oCtnOU.



Our sincere thanks to Nicholas Brodie, who over the years has contributed in many ways to the parish, not the least of which is entertaining us with his informative and distinctive style of writing in countless articles for AVE.

Many may not know Nick previously taught at university for a decade, worked as a field archaeologist and is a published author with many acclaimed credits to his name, and so we are therefore doubly grateful for the time he took from his busy schedule each fortnight to contribute his professional writing talent to our community.

We wish Nick well in his future endeavours and may God bless him and keep him.

Fr Shammi Perera

The Tasmanian Medical Orchestra under the direction of Alexander Rodrigues will perform at St Mary's Cathedral on the 14th of December at 2pm.

Including Ben Mackey on Organ and Jo-Anne Kemp on Piano, the concert will include sing-along Carols while raising money for presents for children spending Christmas in Hospital, as well as the Royal Hobart Hospital Research Foundation.

Tickets at the door: \$25 and Concession \$20



Compassion Demands Solidarity

If you would ask the Desert Fathers why solitude gives birth to compassion, they would say, "Because it makes us die to our neighbour". At first this answer seems quite disturbing to a modern mind. But when we give it a closer look we can see that in order to be of service to others we have to die to them; that is, we have to give up measuring our meaning and value with the yardstick of others. To die to our neighbours means to stop judging them, to stop evaluating them, and thus to become free to be compassionate. Compassion can never coexist with judgment because judgment creates the distance, the distinction, which prevents us from really being with the other.

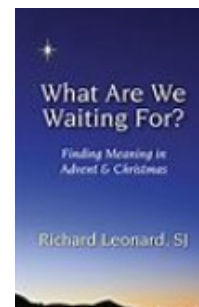
(from Advent and Christmas Wisdom from Henri J. M. Houwen)

Limited copies of Advent reflections are now available in our bookstall.

The Way—\$7

What Are We Waiting For? \$20 Finding Meaning in Advent & Christmas—by Richard Leonard, SJ

Advent & Christmas—Wisdom from Henri Nouwen \$27



Classes in "Inspiring Faith" Catechesis for children aged 8-11 years have now concluded.

In 2020, we would like to introduce a further class for 12-15 year-olds. For more information contact Jo 0407 876 913 or macfarlane3jo@gmail.com

Classes will recommence Feb 16, 2020.



Dear parents....we invite all Interested primary aged children (or younger) in our parish to a Nativity rehearsal at 10.30am in the Cathedral on Wed 24th December!

The children will then perform their enactment during the 6pm Cathedral Family Mass that evening. All welcome—costumes supplied. For info please contact Sharon Lawler on 0407437888.



Presbytery 99 Barrack St, Hobart 7000
 Administrator Fr Shammi Perera
 Assistant Priest Fr Norberto Ochoa
 Deacon Nick MacFarlane
 Pastoral Associate Sr Monica Shelverton PBVM
 Cathedral Office Manager Ms Liz Horne
 Office Hours Mon—Fri 9.00am-3.00pm
 Phone 6234 4463
 Email cathedral@aohtas.org.au
 Website www.stmaryscathedralhobart.org.au
www.facebook.com/cathedralparishhobarttasmania
(remember to 'like/follow us' to stay up to date!)



From Our Anniversary Book Catherine Kinsella, Neil Harrington, Frank Laughlin, Victor Westbrook, Elaine and Alan Hurlle, Sr. Ignatius Thorold, Matthew Bryson, Marmaduke Manley, Colleen McKeown, John Andrews, James Nolan, Eileen Lester, Giancarlo Ranalli, Margaret Wakefield, Archbishop Eric D'Arcy, Robin Brimfield, Domenico Mainella, Patrick Nally, Claire Donnelly, Lelia Lowrie, Josef Freeman, Mary Cairns, Don Morgan, Moira Orpwood, Elsie Watt, Theresa Moore, Lidia Giovanni, Veronica Gregory
May they rest in peace.



Christmas/New Year Masses

Saturday 21st Dec

8am : Sacred Heart Church
 6pm : St Mary's Cathedral

Tuesday 31st Dec

7th day in the Octave of the Nativity
 9am : Sacred Heart Church

Sunday 22nd Dec

8.30am : Sacred Heart Church
 10.30am : St Mary's Cathedral
 6pm : St Mary's Cathedral

Wednesday 1st Jan

Mary, the Holy Mother of God
 10.30am : St Mary's Cathedral

Tuesday 24th Dec

Christmas Eve
 6pm : St Mary's Cathedral (Family Vigil Mass)
 8pm : Sacred Heart Church (Family Mass)
 Midnight Mass with Service of Carols beginning 11.15pm St Mary's Cathedral

Thursday 2nd Jan

Sts Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
 9am : Sacred Heart Church

Friday 3rd Jan

Christmas Time
 9am : Sacred Heart Church

Wednesday 25th Dec

Christmas Day
 8.30am : Sacred Heart Church
 10.30am : St Mary's Cathedral
 Please note there is NO evening Mass on Christmas Day

Saturday 4th Jan

Christmas Time
 8am : Sacred Heart Church
 6pm : Vigil St Mary's Cathedral

Thursday 26th Dec

St Stephen, first martyr
 9am : Sacred Heart Church

Sunday 5th Jan

The Epiphany of the Lord
 8.30am : Sacred Heart Church
 10.30am : St Mary's Cathedral
 6pm : St Mary's Cathedral

Friday 27th Dec

St John, apostle, evangelist
 9am : Sacred Heart Church

Reconciliation :

St Mary's Cathedral : 5pm Saturdays
 Sacred Heart Church : following 8am Mass Saturdays

Saturday 28th Dec

The Holy Innocents, martyrs
 8am : Sacred Heart Church
 6pm : Vigil St Mary's Cathedral

Sunday 29th Dec

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
 8.30am : Sacred Heart Church
 10.30am : St Mary's Cathedral
 6pm : St Mary's Cathedral



Reminder : Regular Weekly Events

Fri 4.30-5.30pm : Cathedral—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction; **Sat 11am** : 2nd Floor Cathedral Centre—Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help; **Sun 9.45-10.15am** : Children's Catechesis (8-11yrs in school terms—concludes 8/12/19)



Dear parishioners,
 If any Readers or Ministers of Communion have not yet received or collected their roster for 2020 please contact Liz in the office as the roster takes effect Sunday February 9.



8/9	SHC : 8.30am Sun	SMC : 6.00pm Sat	SMC : 10.30am Sun	SMC : 6pm Sun
Greeter			Romilda Amorosa	TBA
Lector	Andrea Romero Archana Chacko Merin Chacko	Colleen Stanford, Lorraine Dooley	Sr Monica, Tad Matuszek	Cathy Sullivan, Johnnie Lennard
EMOC	Carol & Colin Brown	TBA	Anna Reussien, David Shelverton, Maria Saracino	TBA