



The Parish of St Matthew's North Fawkner
 Archdiocese of Melbourne, 95 William Street, North Fawkner, 3060
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3rd Sunday of Advent – December 13, 2020 Year A

The common theme of the day's Scripture readings is one of joy and encouragement. The readings urge us to make the preparations required of us as we await the rebirth of Jesus in our hearts and lives. Holy Scripture reminds us that the coming of Jesus, past, present, and future, is the reason for our rejoicing.

Life message:

We need to bear witness to Christ the Light. Our mission, as brothers and sisters of Christ and members of his Church, is to reflect Christ's Light to others, just as the moon reflects the light of the sun. It is especially important during the Advent season that we reflect Christ's sharing love and his unconditional forgiveness through our lives. There are too many people who live in darkness and poverty, and who lack real freedom because of their evil addictions and bad choices. There are others who are deafened and blinded by the cheap attractions of the world. Many others feel lonely, unwanted, rejected, and marginalized. Let us bring the true Light of Christ to illumine the lives of all these brothers and sisters during this Advent season through our sharing love, overflowing mercy, unconditional forgiveness, and humble service. We will be able to accomplish this witnessing mission of radiating Christ's Light only by repenting of our sins, asking God's pardon every day, and by renewing our lives through our daily prayers, by frequenting the Sacrament of Reconciliation, by attending and taking part in the Eucharistic celebration, by reading the Bible daily in meditative, prayerful fashion, and by performing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy where we see these are needed.

Joke of the week

Christian home: After the Baptism of his baby brother in Church one Sunday, little Johnny sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, "That priest said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, but I want to stay with you guys!" Father got the message, and they began to go to Church regularly... Needless to say, the family had a bit of catching up to do. But one day the Sunday School Teacher asked Johnny, "Now, Johnny, tell me – do you say prayers before eating?" "No ma'am," little Johnny replies, "I don't have to. My Mom is a good cook."

The sick in our parish: Teresa & Con Lamonaca, Nola, Judiel Teodoro, John Markis, Kathy Romanow, Wladyslaw Stopa, Rosa Latanzio, Leanne Branchflower, Carmela Bovezza, Giovanna Gamberale, Elda Taranto, Frank Cichello, Maurizio Pierazzi, Vanessa Borg **Recently deceased:** Eleanor Priest, Antonio Vocale, Frank Andricciola

We pray for all those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

Hilda McCabe, Paola Cutello, Kevin Ahern, Joe Infantino, Anastasio (Tom) Kalafatis
We especially pray for all the deceased whose names are on the Church pews & the Resurrection Chapel.

Confessions

Confessions are now available by appointment at the Parish on Saturday nights—before the Vigil Mass (6.30 pm). Please contact the Parish Centre on 93592369.

December for Vinnies

The "Giving tree" will be present in the church during the month of December.

Cards will be attached to the tree for gift suggestions. Parishioners will also be able to leave packages of food in bags at the foot of the tree. Donations will be forwarded to the St. Vincent de Paul conference for distribution to the needy in our community.

Envelopes will also be available for cash donations on the church pews. Envelopes can be taken home and returned at a later date.

Through our efforts we can make a difference to those in need in our local community and helps ease their pain.

Volunteers needed

- **BUS (VAN) DRIVERS:** to pick up elderly parishioners for the Saturday (Vigil) 6.00 pm and the Sunday mass (Italian) 10.30 am. Once every 3 weeks.
- **ALTAR & Sanctuary:** Flower arrangement & general cleaning (training will be provided). Once per month.
- **Church cleaning:** Vacuuming, mopping the entrance & cleaning the entrance doors. Once per month
- **Gardening:** Tidying & weeding.
- **Lectors: Reading and Special ministers** (training will be provided). Once per month.

VOLUNTEER FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE FOYER