



Encounter

VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA CATHOLIC PARISH

Third Sunday of Advent -
Year B

*A living, vibrant
faith community*

Vol 9 : No 03

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

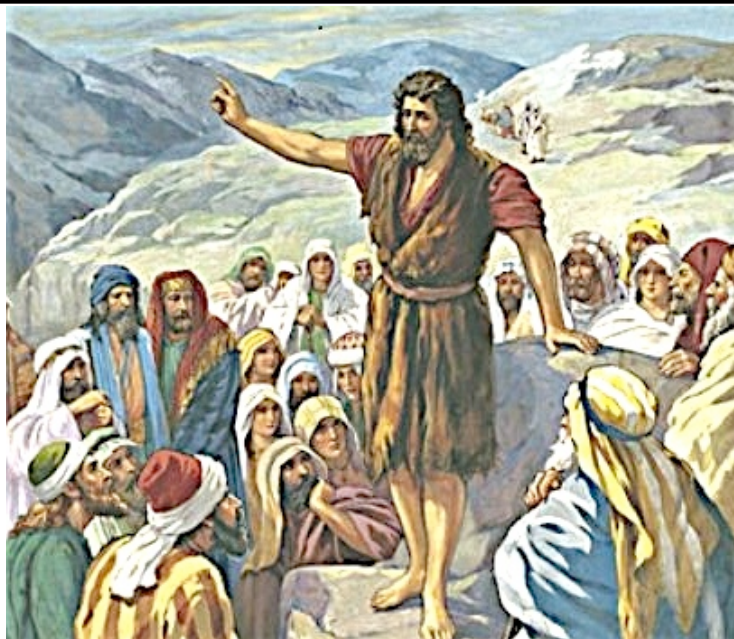
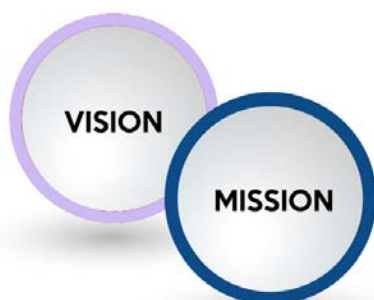
Our vision is to build a faith community, centred on the loving relationship of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, expressed in personal lives and in communal Parish activities.

IT IS OUR MISSION TO:

- Endeavour to develop relevant and prayerful Eucharistic celebrations.
- Foster the experience of a personal relationship with God.
- Provide faith formation opportunities for parishioners.
- Care for each other and the environment, particularly the sick, lonely, aged and disabled within our Parish.
- Care for our environment towards a sustainable future.

WE WILL:

- Reach out to those in need in the local community.
- Be committed to Catholic Social Justice principles.
- Pray and work together with Christian Churches and all people of goodwill.
- Protect and engage with young people in our local area.
- Strengthen bonds with indigenous people in our region.



FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

‘I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels.

‘For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.’

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lk 1:46-50, 53-54

My soul rejoices in my God.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what

God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Isa 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 1:6-8, 19-28

A man came, sent by God. His name was John.

He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

(Continued page 4)



Bulletin Board

THE HOLY FATHER'S 2020 PRAYER

INTENTIONS: DECEMBER

Prayer intention for evangelisation-

For a life of prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer .



EXPLORING THE GOSPEL WITH

LECTIO DIVINA is held each Sunday night at 5pm in the Annex.

CONTEMPLATIVE LIVING COMMUNITY

We meet for Lectio Divina (Scripture Reflection) and meditation on Monday afternoons at 4.30pm. Please contact Anne Weygood for details. 0429 653 844

CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMUNITY

Groups meet fortnightly on Mondays 2.00-4.00pm. Phone Rob & Jocelyne Randabel Williamson 0402 341 071

ST JOAN'S MORNING TEA AFTER 11AM

MASS is now CANCELLED until further notice.

SAFETY OFFICER

A vacancy currently exists on the Finance Committee for a **Safety Officer**. This is a **voluntary role**, which is well supported by the OHS Manager for the Adelaide Archdiocese. The Safety Officer is a person who is familiar with the church facilities and is the "eyes and ears" of the church in relation to ensuring safety. The role involves Membership of the Finance meetings. Risk Management and Hazard Identification as necessary. Annual site inspections and reporting.

For further information, please contact Helen Taylor 0448 473 310.

No Nativity this year because the Three Wise Men face a travel ban

The Shepherds are on JobSeeker

The Inn is shut due to strict Covid-lockdown
Santa won't be working because he cannot

safely distance from his reindeers

As for Rudolph with that red nose!

He should be isolating and going for a Covid test!!



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO:

Patrine Harris December 15th

Clare Williams December 18th

David Taggart December 18th

SPECIAL INTENTIONS (These names will be removed after one month. To keep names on this list please contact Parish Office)

Barbara Bond, John Wallace, Margaret Langtry, Brian Smallacombe, Bailey Smallacombe, Russell Crichton, Bill Longworth, Daniel Holliday, Mark & Lola Kelly, Claire Hamish, Joan Pillion, Angelo Fantasia, Jane Lloyd, West Family, Kathleen Tiltman, Joseph Barry Kearsley, Lyn McCabe, Emily McCarthy, Josephine Proctor, Chloe Randabel, Charlie Nicolson, Miriam Kaye, Bill Sloan, Ella Sajn, Brenna Schneideman, Peter Harris, Rhiannon Healey, Bette Higgins, Shane Johnson, Barry Wilks, Kevin O'Shaughnessy

ANNIVERSARIES

Jim Clingan, William Yates.

PARISH COLLECTION 5th & 6th December

(Presbytery) \$811.90
2nd (Parish) \$1,084.10

VICTOR ALTAR ROSTER

12th & 19th December

M. Davis & F. Harris

MORNING TEA

No morning tea until further notice

VICTOR MEET & GREET

December Saturdays

M. Farmer & D. McLaughlin

December Sundays

W. & J. Baker

ST JOAN'S CHOIR:

Practice time is 10.30am each Friday

GOOLWA MEET & GREET

December

K. & A. Fawkner

ST JOHN'S MUSIC GROUP

Practice time 2.00pm Wednesday.

Call Claire Williams 0429 008 199.

NEW COVID RESTRICTIONS AS OF MONDAY 14TH DECEMBER

St Joan's capacity— Church - 68 people

Annex— 70 people Porch 12 people

St John's Church - 176 people

K S C REPORT DECEMBER. We would like to thank all in the parish who have supported our raffles etc. in the past year. Your support has helped us to donate to organisations such as Vinnies, Hutt St. Centre, Mary Potter Hospice, and the Flying Doctor. Our Christmas wine raffle has sold out, and will be drawn after the 9 am Mass at Goolwa today. Again a successful BBQ was held last Sunday, and in January we will be doing more to cater for our holiday numbers. Well done to Peter and Sue Butler who won \$150 in the big draw of the 45 club and Tony Siciliano who took second prize of \$50. So to all in our great parish have a happy, holy, and safe Christmas.

December anniversaries : Phil Burns.

Goolwa News. The Christmas Day luncheon for those who may be by themselves on the day is on again this year. A flyer on the notice board gives full details.

Morning coffee will be held after Mass next Sunday. Bring your own mug, or recycled cups available.

Monday Dec 14th at 2 pm. A video will be taken of readings and Christmas carols and read and sung by members of our community and the Lutheran group. The service is expected to be only 20 mins, but it would be nice if people from our church could come to add some atmosphere to the function. The video will soon appear on the internet.

Sunday December 20th. An evening with our Lutheran friends to celebrate Christmas from 6 pm. Carols from a CD will be played and later a BBQ will be put on by the Knights. We worship together so let's celebrate this great time of Christmas together. Please bring own plate of food and drinks (not to be shared). Not a late night - you could be home by 8 PM ! We do hope for your support.





RESPONSORIAL PSALM

3rd Sunday of Advent Yr. B

My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on His servant in her nothing-
ness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.
The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy His name!
His mercy is from age to age
on those who fear Him.
He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, His servant,
remembering His mercy.

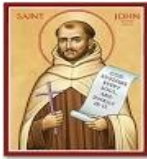


SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS (1542-1591)

Feast Day 14th December

Born into a poor family in Spain, St John, unable to afford learning a trade, became a lay brother to the Carmelite friars. His skills were recognised and he was ordained a priest. St Teresa of Avila persuaded him to help her in the reform of the Carmelite order. He was the first prior of the Discalced (meaning "barefoot") Carmelites. He had a great devotion to Our Lord's Passion. He died of a cruel disease, embracing the crucifix. St. John was a great contemplative and spiritual writer. He was proclaimed Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius XI on August 24, 1926.

Catholic Culture



BOOKINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND MASSES

Due to the rapid change of Covid-19 regulations, you can now book to attend **next weekend Mass** by requesting your attendance after this weekend's Mass. This is **NOT** a guaranteed seat. The sheets will be in the porches of both Churches. If you miss out then you can book during the week through Pat Clingan on 0410 593 617 or Ray Klecko on 0438 364 870 (Victor Harbor) - Paul Kennelly on 0402 852 825 or John Dunthorne on 0437 515 144 (Goolwa). We are only doing the bookings one week in advance. We will inform you about Christmas Masses later.

Please follow the Encounter and the Parish web page

THE ADVENT WREATH

The third candle of Advent – JOY

The third candle is pink and symbolises joy. It is called the **"Shepherd's Candle,"** and is pink because rose is a liturgical colour for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is *Gaudete Sunday* or *Let us rejoice Sunday* and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.



JOY

Joy is essential to the spiritual life. Whatever we may think of or say about God, when we are not joyful, our thoughts and words cannot bear fruit. Jesus reveals to us God's love so the His joy may become ours and that our joy may become complete. Joy is the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved and that nothing-sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war or even death-can take that love away.

Joy is not the same as happiness. We can be unhappy about many things, but joy can still be there because it come from the knowledge of God's love for us...Joy doesn't simply happen to us. We have to choose joy and keep choosing it every day. It is a choice based on the knowledge that we belong to God and have found in God our refuge and our safety and that nothing, not even death can take God away from us.
Henri Nouwen Spiritual Writer

ST VINCENT de PAUL HAMPERS

Victor/Goolwa Vinnies sincerely thank all parishioners for their generous food donations over the last few weeks. The hampers will be much appreciated by our special Companion families. If anyone can spare some time on **Tuesday 15th and Thursday morning 17th (half an hour or so) after 9am Mass** for packing the hampers, it would be much appreciated by John, Wendy, Rose and our Hamper Team. **Thank you!**



This Week : 12th & 13th Dec

VICTOR HARBOR 6.00pm

Commentator: E. O'Shaughnessy

R.1 C. Sutherland
R.2 B. Bullen
E.M. E. O'Connell
C.R. J. Murray

VICTOR HARBOR 11.00am

Commentator: F. Hanna

R1. T. Hounslow
R2 J. Randabel-Williamson
E.M P. Clingan
C.R. L. Sunman, P. Clingan

GOOLWA Sunday 9am

Commentator: Marie Riddle

R1 J. McMahon
R2 M. Mulvihill
E.M. A. Turner



Next Week : 19th & 20th Dec

VICTOR HARBOR 6.00pm

Commentator: J. Ryan

R.1 M. Farmer
R.2 L. Blacket
E.M. S. Duong
C.R. M. Tuckey

VICTOR HARBOR 11.00am

Commentator: P. O'Brien

R1. P. Chigwidden
R2 W. Baker
E.M M. Cunningham
C.R. P. Chigwidden, M. Taylor

GOOLWA Sunday 9am

Commentator: M. O'Halloran

R1 Marie Riddle
R2 Michael Riddle
E.M. C. Williams

MASS TIMES

- **Victor Harbor** - Weekends - Saturday 6.00pm; Sunday 11.00am. Weekdays - Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9.00am
- **Goolwa** - Weekend - Sunday 9.00am. Weekday - Wednesday 9.30am

COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

(Effective as at 1 December)

- Attendance for Mass is capped at 100 people, whilst maintaining 1:4 sqm.
- Funerals are capped at 150 people, whilst maintaining 1:2 sqm.
- Weddings are capped at 150 people, whilst maintaining 1:2 sqm.
- No beverage or food consumption (ie cup of tea after Mass)
- Singing as a congregation is to be avoided.
- There should be no physical contact outside one's family or household group. There should be no shaking of hands or holding hands during the Mass.
- Every gathering must record contact details - either with the QR code for smart phones, or the handwritten log - both located at the entrance to the Church.
- Hand sanitizer is to be available at church entrance
- Sick and high risk/vulnerable people are encouraged not to attend.
- The obligation for Sunday Mass for the laity HAS NOT BEEN RE-INVOKED at this stage.

VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA CATHOLIC PARISH HOUSE

32 Seaview Road (PO Box 464)
VICTOR HARBOR SA 5211
Telephone: 8552 1084 (Please leave a message if the Office is unattended - we will get back to you asap)
Email: catholicvhg@bigpond.com
Web: www.victorgoolwacatholic.org.au

PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

• PARISH PRIEST

Fr Vinh-Quang Tran (8552 1084;
in an emergency - 0429 098 802)
Email: Vinh2511@bigpond.com

• PARISH MANAGERS

Mr Ray Klecko (0438 364 870)
Mrs Pat Clingan (0410 593 617)
Email: Parish_manager@bigpond.com

• PARISH NEWSLETTER

Please forward items for the newsletter to the Parish Office - ph 8552 1084 or catholicvhg@bigpond.com (All items for the newsletter by Wednesday evening)

(Continued from page 1)

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:
Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you - unknown to you - the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

DID YOU KNOW?

- In the early years, there was rivalry between the disciples of John the Baptist and of Jesus. This gospel makes it clear that John does not see himself as a rival to Jesus but as a witness to him. It is Jesus who is the one sent from God.
- The quote from Isaiah comes from a section of his Book which is addressed to the people in Exile in Babylon in the sixth century BC. It is designed to bring comfort and promises that, when the paths are made straight, the Lord will be revealed.
- Bethany, as mentioned in this gospel text, is not the same town which was home to Mary, Martha and Lazarus. They lived close to

Jerusalem but the Bethany mentioned here lies on the east bank of the Jordan River.

EXPLORING THE WORD

In contrast to last week's text on John the Baptist, this one comes from the last of the written gospels. The Gospel of John was penned at the very end of the first century. One common characteristic, however, is clear: the Baptist is again presented as the forerunner. John the Baptist rejects all messianic or quasi-messianic titles. He throws human expectation into chaos. He claims for himself only the role of the 'voice' of Isaiah 40, but the evangelist presents him as the most reliable of witnesses, 'Sent by God ... to speak for the light'. The only other person in John's Gospel to come from God is Jesus himself. Before an audience of the leaders of the religion of Israel, John witnesses with an authority and a truthfulness that has its source in God.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(14 - 20 December)

- **Monday, 14:** St John of the Cross (Is 61L:1-2, 10-11; 1 Thess 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28)
- **Tuesday, 15:** Tuesday, 3rd week Advent (Zeph 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32)
- **Wednesday, 16:** Wednesday, 3rd week Advent (Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-25; Lk 7:19-23)
- **Thursday, 17:** Thursday, 3rd week Advent (Gen 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17)
- **Friday, 18:** Friday, 3rd week Advent (Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-24)
- **Saturday, 19:** Saturday, 3rd week Advent (Judges 13:2-7, 24-25; Lk 1:5-25)
- **Sunday 20:** Fourth Sunday of Advent (2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38)

PASTORAL CARE

If you need a Priest for anointing of the sick or last rites contact: Noarlunga/Seaford (8382 1717), Willunga (0488 287 552), Victor Harbor/Goolwa (8552 1084), Kangaroo Island (0418 819 078).