



Encounter

VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA CATHOLIC PARISH

THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT - YEAR B

*A living, vibrant
faith community*

Vol 12 : No 03

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

OUR VISION:

To build a faith community
centred on the loving relationship
of Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
expressed in personal lives and
communal parish activities.

OUR MISSION IS TO:

- Develop relevant and prayerful Eucharistic celebrations
- Foster the experience of a personal relationship with God
- Provide Faith Formation opportunities
- Care for each other particularly the sick, lonely, aged and disabled
- Witness to God's love for our earthly common home and all its creatures that abound

WE WILL:

- Reach out to those in need
- Be committed to Catholic Social Justice principles
- Pray and work together with Christian Churches and all people of goodwill
- Engage with young people
- Care for our environment towards a sustainable future
- Strengthen bonds with First Nation peoples

MASS TIMES

- **VICTOR HARBOR**
Weekend - Saturday 6.00pm;
Sunday 11.00am.
Weekdays - Tuesday, Thursday,
Friday 9.00am
- **GOOLWA**
Weekend - Sunday 9.00am.
Weekday - Wednesday 9.30am

RECONCILIATION

St Joan's, Victor Harbor - Saturday
11am - 11.30am, or by appointment.



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

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

John Wallace, Claire Hamish, Jeffery Family, Natalie Millar, Bailey Smallacombe, Ann Tee, Charlie Nicolson, Jane Lloyd, Eileen McCoey, Len Peake, Neil Cumming, Dave Rivers, Clancy Retallick, Ann Hannagan, Mollie Davis, Cath Howard, Keith Fawcner, Trudi McNamara, Elizabeth Nance, Allen Odgers, Jan Henderson, Jesse Walker, J. Millar, Rose Munro, Bill Woodhead, Andrew Nichols, John Slagter, Patricia Harris

ANNIVERSARIES

Jim Clingan

HOLY FATHER'S 2023 PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER :

FOR PERSONS WITH

DISABILITIES: We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.



MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS

The future of humanity depends on what people choose now, Pope Francis said in his message to global leaders at the COP28 World Climate Action Summit in Dubai. "Are we working for a culture of life or a culture of death?" he asked in his message. "To all of you I make this heartfelt appeal: Let us choose life! Let us choose the future! CNS

GOSPEL REFLECTION GROUP

A new name for our Sunday evening group (previously Lectio Divina) which more clearly reflects its purpose of reflection and sharing of the Gospel of the day. This group recently organised a Retreat in Sevenhill for its members.

You are welcome to join this group each Sunday at 5.00 in the Annex.

Phone Carol Sutherland on 0418 856 799 for more information or just turn up

PARISH COLLECTION 9th & 10th December

1st (Presbytery) \$1087.40
2nd (Parish) \$1204.20

VICTOR ALTAR ROSTER 22nd December

W. & J. Baker, F. Hanna
29th December & 5th January
M. Farmer & C. Pearsons

VICTOR MORNING TEA 17th December

A. Temme & M. Chalmers
24th & 31st December
F. Hanna & L. McCallum

VICTOR MEET & GREET December Saturdays

M. Farmer & M. Tuckey
December Sundays
M. Cunningham, F. Harris

GOOLWA MEET & GREET December J. McInnes

GOOLWA MORNING TEA

December A. Turner, S. Lee, R. Lee, T. Siciliano

ST JOHN'S MUSIC GROUP

Practice 3.00pm Wednesday.
Claire Williams 0429 008 199

NEW MASS ROSTER – JANUARY – EASTER 2024 VICTOR HARBOR

I am currently preparing the new rosters for Victor Harbor Masses. If you would like to be added into one of these important ministries, or if you are unavailable any time during the next roster period, please let me know by 16th December.

Carol Sutherland. 0418 856 799

MUWERANG MOSAIC PROJECT



If you get a chance have a look at the new mural set on the concrete barricade along the Inman Riverbank opposite the Council Chambers and

Library. The barricade was erected after a cave-in along the river.

Leonie McCallum and Cedric Varcoe approached the Council about putting an Aboriginal mural designed by Cedric and Mike Tye along the barricade. After three years of hard work from 50 volunteers the mural is completed. Make sure you don't miss it. (Muwerang is the Aboriginal name for the area local to the mural.)

THE THIRD CANDLE OF ADVENT SYMBOLISES JOY



As we continue to approach Christmas Day, our joy grows more and more. The third candle takes us back to the joyful anticipation of the shepherds who journeyed to see Jesus in Bethlehem, even before the wise men. On this third Sunday of

Advent, which the Church calls "Gaudete Sunday," meaning rejoice or praise, we light the third candle and rejoice like the shepherds. For this reason, the third candle of Advent is called the "Shepherd's Candle," and its color is pink, the liturgical color for joy.

KNIGHTS GOOLWA CHRISTMAS PARTY

A merry crowd enjoyed a delicious meal and good company last Sunday evening at the Christmas Party in Goolwa put on by the Knights to thank us all for our support. Over the year approximately \$4,500 was raised and donated to various groups.



Thanks to Tony Siciliano for a delicious barbecue with the ladies presenting a variety of salads and apple crumble dessert.

Mike O'Halloran hosted the night as Paul Kennelly was unwell.

We wish Paul a speedy recovery.

VATICAN NATIVITY SCENE 800th Anniversary



The Vatican unveiled its annual Nativity scene on December 9th, paying special tribute to the origins of the beloved tradition on its

800th anniversary. The scene in St Peter's Square depicts not only Mary and Joseph standing beside the manger, but also St Francis of Assisi, who organised the first Nativity scene in a cave in the Italian village of Greccio on Christmas Eve in 1223. A nativity scene is donated each year from a region of Italy. CAN

VINNIES CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

A huge thank you to all who donated goods or participated in any way in the packing and distribution of the Christmas hampers and toy bags to our less fortunate companions on the South Coast. In total 76 hampers were distributed.



Bulletin Board



RESPONSORIAL PSALM THIRD 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 nothingness;
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 PETER CANISIUS (1521 – 1597) Feast Day 21st December



Peter Canisius, was born at Nijmegen, Holland. A remarkable Jesuit, he almost single-handedly re-evangelized Central Europe, founded dozens of colleges, contributed to the rebirth of Catholicism by his prodigious writings, and laid the groundwork for the Catholic Reformation north of the Alps. St. Peter Canisius was the eighth professed member of the Society of Jesus. He organized the Jesuits into a compact unit which became a leading force in the Counter-Reformation. He was in contact with all the Catholic leaders in Germany, and was the confidante of three popes. He died at Fribourg, Switzerland, and was canonized and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1925. *Catholic Culture.*

THE SOUTHERN CROSS CHRISTMAS EDITION

Once again the Christmas edition will be inserted in *The Advertiser* this Saturday, December 16th

PRAY FOR THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE



CHRISTMAS WEEKEND MASS TIMES and ROSTERS

GOOLWA

Sun 24th Dec. - 5.00pm Christmas Vigil

Commentator: A. Fawcner

R. 1 M. Mulvihill **R. 2** R. Lee

EMHC J. Ryan, M. Ryan, T. Siciliano

Mon 25th Dec. - 8.30am Christmas Day

Commentator: D. Huppertz

R. 1 E. Bourne **R. 2** L. Healey

EMHC C. May

VICTOR HARBOR

Sun 24th Dec. - 7.00pm Christmas Vigil

Commentator: F. Hanna

R. 1 W. Baker **R. 2** K. Proctor

EMHC M. Farmer, M. Libutan, J. Baker

Mon 25th Dec. - 10.30am Christmas Day

Commentator:

R. 1 T. Hounslow **R. 2** K. Dudley

EMHC E. O'Connell, M. Libutan

NEW YEAR'S DAY VICTOR HARBOR

Mon 1st January - 10.00am

Commentator: R. Klecko

R. 1 K. Dudley **R. 2**

EMHC M. Libutan

CATHOLIC CHARITES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

A Leaving Collection at Christmas Masses will be taken up for Catholic Charities, which provides much-needed funds to Hutt St Centre, Centacare Catholic Family Services, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Our Lady of La Vang and St Patrick's special schools. These agencies play a significant role in bringing hope to people in need here in South Australia. Your donations, regardless of their size, will make a profound difference in the lives of those who rely on the support of Catholic Charities.

JOY TO THE WORLD

"These things I have spoken to you,
that my joy may be in you, and that
your joy may be full"
(John 15:11; 17:13, 24-26).

THIS WEEK 16th & 17th DECEMBER

VICTOR HARBOR Saturday 6pm

Commentator: L. Blacket

R.1 B. Bullen

R.2 C. Huppertz

EMHC M. Farmer

Sunday 11am

Commentator: F. Hanna

R. 1 A. Willis

R. 2 T. Hounslow

EMHC A. Rose

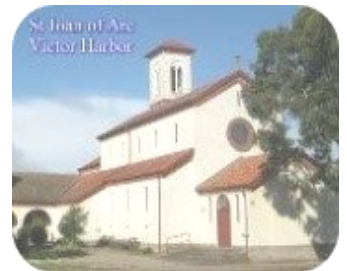
GOOLWA 9.00am

Commentator: V. Scriver

R. 1 E. Bourne

R. 2 C. May

EMHC T. Siciliano



NEXT WEEK 23rd & 24th DECEMBER

VICTOR HARBOR Saturday 6pm

Commentator: E. O'Shaughnessy

R.1 M. Mulvihill

R.2 J. Ryan

EMHC J. Jeffery

Sunday 11am

Commentator: R. Klecko

R. 1 A. Rose

R. 2 L. Sunman

EMHC M. Taylor

GOOLWA 9.00am

Commentator: M. O'Halloran

R. 1 P. Kennelly

R. 2 M. Freeborn

EMHC S. Muller

VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA

NGARRINDJERI and
RAMINDJERI land

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 - 8552 1084, catholicvhg@bigpond.com
(All items for the newsletter by Wednesday evening)

• PARISH TREASURER

Mr Merv Mallett (0412 103 443)
Email: parish_treasure@bigpond.com

• CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection Unit (8210 8159)
Goolwa (Cathy May 0401 584 237)
Victor Harbor (Office 8552 1084)

• CSHW SA (Safety, Health, Welfare)
Cathy May (0401 584 237)

COMPLIANCE WITH COVID-19 REGULATIONS

(Current from 14/12/23)

- If you have tested positive for COVID-19, please stay home and do not attend church services until you have fully recovered.
- Sick and high risk/vulnerable people are requested to stay home.
- Hand sanitiser is available at church entrances.
- Communion is given only in hands. Precious Blood will not be distributed.
- Collection plates are to be passed around with minimum contact.

(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.

APPEARANCE ISN'T EVERYTHING

There once was a man, his name was John, sent by God to point out the way to the Life-Light. He came to show everyone where to look, who to believe in. John was not himself the Light; he was there to show the way to the Light. (John 1: 6 - 8)

Anyone who has ever gone on a job interview knows that two elements can be the determining factors to getting hired or not. The first is the resume. It needs to follow certain clear guidelines that include length (no more than two pages), appearance (perfect), and content (highlights, not an autobiography). Of course, it has to be honest and accurate or it may come back to haunt you. Done right, it will get you in the door where the second factor comes into play, the interview.

In the interview everything needs to fall into place from appearance (conservative suits, no dangling jewellery), to eye contact, to modulated responses. After that all you can do is wait and hope you did a

good job of selling yourself.

Isaiah presents himself as anointed by God and speaks with joy, which Paul tells us we should always do. John the Baptist, however, doesn't care how people respond to his appearance. It is his message that is important. He proclaims with joy that the Messiah is coming and coming soon.

But John is not the cause for joy. Everyone will have to wait, even if it is just for a little while. And that is the meaning and message of Advent. We wait because the Messiah will change so much. Our joyful waiting, says Paul, should be prayerful because God has chosen us. We need to get ready.

GPBS eNews

KIDS' CORNER

Rejoice always

There are so many reasons to rejoice this time of year! We get to spend time with people we love, and we can enjoy special surprises and gifts. But sometimes we're disappointed. Maybe someone you love can't be with you at Christmas. Maybe you can't have the gift you most wish for. Before you go to bed tonight, can you find three things to thank God for? One thing might be having someone who loves you. Or having enough food to eat or a safe place to sleep. What else will you think of tonight? There is always a reason to rejoice! GPBS eNews

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(18 - 24 December)

- **Monday, 18:** Monday, 3rd week Advent (Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-24)
- **Tuesday, 19:** Tuesday, 3rd week Advent (Judges 13:2-7, 24-25; Lk 1:5-25)
- **Wednesday, 20:** Wednesday, 3rd week Advent (Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38)
- **Thursday, 21:** Thursday, 3rd week Advent (Song 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45)
- **Friday, 22:** Friday, 3rd week Advent (1 Sam 1:24-28; Lk 1:56-56)
- **Saturday, 23:** Saturday, 3rd week Advent (Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66)
- **Sunday 24:** 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 prior to medical treatment or if you are ill (not necessarily life-threatening) or for last rites please contact: (08) 8552 1084 or in an emergency 0429 098 802.