

All Hallows' Five Dock



Third Sunday of Advent | Year A | Sunday 11th December

Parish Mission

We, the people of this place, live and celebrate a love of faith.

We share this faith in a spirit of service, that creates a sense of God's presence among us.

All Hallows' Parish

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Fr Sebastian Savarimuthu

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Parish Office:

Monday - Thursday
9am - 4pm

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A Reflection by Fr Richard

This third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete for a Latin verb which means "rejoice". The opening antiphon for this Sunday sets the theme of the entire celebration, JOY. "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice! The Lord is near." With the coming of the Christ, our deepest longings and yearnings will be fulfilled.

John the Baptist stands as a sign on this Gaudete Sunday. His longing for Christ keeps him full of hope amid his suffering in Prison. He points his disciples to the path to freedom, the way to lasting joy and happiness. They witness the cures, but these are not everything. Jesus adds: the poor hear good news because real evangelisation restores hope and leaves people renewed.

Jesus says to them, "Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor ..." The prophets had foretold these signs (See Isaiah 35:5 in this week's first reading). These miraculous benefits pointed to a liberation that "the Christ" would bring: not punishment of sinners (which was a great part of John the Baptist's preaching) but, before all else, a reconciliation suited to healing a world of sinners, of violent and resentful people.

On this Gaudete Sunday we find the essence of the Advent season. We are to live our lives as joyful penitents ever aware of our utter dependency on God's grace. Therefore, rejoice: Faint not nor fear, His arms are near, He changes not, and you are dear; Only believe and you shall see, That Christ is all in all to you.

With best wishes -
Fr Richard



Sacramental Life

Holy Mass:

Saturday: 8am & 5.30pm Vigil

Sunday: 8.30am, 10am and 5pm

Monday - Friday: 8am

Wednesday: Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration - 3pm

Reconciliation:

Saturday:
8:30am-9am / 4:45pm - 5:15pm
Or any time by appointment.

Sick Calls:

Any time - day/night.

Baptisms:

Every Sunday at 11am.

Weddings:

Contact the parish office.

A message from the Archdiocese of

Sydney: Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you, or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. To read the Archdiocese Child Safeguarding policy, please visit the parish website (<https://www.allhallows.org.au/safeguarding>).



Archbishops Flood Appeal



Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP has announced that Christmas at the Cathedral, which gets underway on Thursday 8 December, will be raising funds this year to provide much needed relief and recovery for the victims of the NSW floods.

Large parts of regional NSW have been hit by severe flooding since September, with thousands of people left homeless and many businesses forced to close.

Online donations are welcome for the Archbishop's Flood Appeal via the Our Faith, Our Works website here: <https://www.ourfaithourworks.org/flood-appeal/>



As Archbishop Fisher has emphasised "Christmas is very much a time when we open our hearts to those in need, inspired by the unfailing love Christ shows for each of us".

May this appeal offer comfort and hope to flood-affected communities as they start to rebuild their lives.

Participate in the Christmas Eve Children's Pageant

The annual Christmas Eve pageant is on again at All Hallows Parish - **24 December 2022.**

Children from All Hallows school and parish are warmly invited to participate as readers, singers, angels and shepherds. **There is one practice at 4pm - 5pm on Tuesday 21 December at the church.**



To participate, please complete the form at the weblink - <https://bit.ly/3UtyyKp>

If you have any questions please contact Frances Cordaro (frances.cordaro@gmail.com).

All Hallows Youth Group

ALL YEAR 5 & 6 STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO

ALL HALLOWS
YOUTH
GROUP

Sunday 11 December
5:00 – 7:00pm

JOIN US AT MASS
FOLLOWED BY DISCUSSION, PIZZA AND GAMES IN
THE PARISH HALL

All Hallows Christmas masses

Christmas Eve - 5pm Carols followed by the 5:30pm Family Mass;
Midnight Mass

Christmas Day - 8:30am and 10am Mass. There is **no** evening mass.



Please remember in your Prayers:

Gina Iacono
Sr Mary of Christ
Wayne Smith
Anne Fidler
James McCabe
John Foster
Sam Stella
Bernard Fonti
Lorenzo Bocconi

*names will remain on the list for 1 month unless notified

Recently Deceased:

Colin Fisher
Vincenzo Falcone
Raymond McHannan
Carmela Parisi
Gerardo Di Giacomo
Rocco Lo Surdo
Joe Iacono
Erin McCabe
Claudio Compagnoni
Denise Fatseas
Pasqualino Tilocca

Anniversaries:

Vincenzo Salvato
Salvatore Mazzeo
Leo Moyneur
Vitor Moyneur
Antonina Battiato
Gaetano La Cava
Antonino La Cava
Francesco La Cava
Giovanni Moschella
Lillian Cipolla

For the Souls of the Faithful Departed:

May all the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.



Parish Notices



Thank you

Fr Sebastian and Fr Richard would like to thank all those who organised and helped at the farewell morning tea for Bishop Danny Meagher and Helen Elliott. They would also like to thank all of the parishioners who generously donated plates of delicious food for the occasion. It was greatly appreciated!



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - Christmas Masses sign up sheet



If you are an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and are interested in serving at one of our Christmas Masses, please let us know by writing your name and a contact number on the sign up sheet in the gathering space.

Christmas at the Cathedral

Festivities begin at 7pm with Christmas market stalls, food, fun activities for the kids and live entertainment.



When: 7pm from the 8th - 25th December
Where: St Mary's Cathedral Forecourt.

THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY
 PROUDLY PRESENTS

A CHORAL
CHRISTMAS
 CELEBRATION 2022

FRIDAY 16 DECEMBER

A CONCERT FEATURING
 THE ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL CHOIR
 AND SINFONIA AUSTRALIS
 WITH MUSIC BY BACH, HANDEL,
 LAURIDSEN AND RUTTER, AND FAVOURITE
 CHRISTMAS CAROLS.

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 or (02) 9220 0481

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Baptisms



We welcome

Anton Elliott Martin
Jack Michael Morison

who are being baptised into our parish community of All Hallows this weekend.



"Anyone who welcomes this little child in my name welcomes Me." - Luke 9:48.

CWL - Christmas Raffle

Christmas raffle tickets on sale this weekend!

Great Prizes!

3 tickets for \$5 or 7 tickets for \$10

All proceeds and donations will go to the flood victims in the Central West region of New South Wales.

Raffle drawn after the 10am Mass

*If you wish to give a separate
 DONATION FOR THE FLOOD VICTIMS
 please place in collection box near the raffle table.*



16 Day Pilgrimage to Europe

Fr Sebastian, together with Fr Timothy Raj, is organising a 16 day pilgrimage to Europe in May 2023.

The pilgrimage will be visiting Paris, Lisieux, Lourdes, Fatima, Venice, Assisi, Lanciano, S.G. Rotondo and Rome. It departs on the 1st May, returning on the 17th May and the cost is \$8,590 per person. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact the parish office.




Children's Corner

Jesus is coming to save us


X A L E P R O S Y P A L A C E
 Y J O H N P F Q K R R I R O K
 C R B U S O W T K F E J B A I
 R Q A Z J O D F N R J B N X Y
 Z E Y Z U R C T L Q E B W O T
 N M E S S E N G E R C M W J L
 F O L E A S T A W X T K U A M
 T P Q G F J L L Y U G O E X K
 P N Z N V Q X M M A M I X H S
 J Y W U W I G I Z V Z H U B T
 I M A R G R E A T E R Y O P P
 D K I N G D O M X V K T L M X
 F O L L O W E R S T B I Q B H
 G O P H V Y O O L A M E E K R
 Q M A G A G O O D A K K P L P

Try to find these words:

- followers
- good
- greater
- John
- kingdom
- lame
- least
- leprosy
- messenger
- palace
- poor
- reject

First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p>Is 35:1-6, 10 A reading from the prophet Isaiah. God himself will come and save us.</p> <p>Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy. The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God. Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy, for those the Lord has ransomed shall return. They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended.</p>	<p>(R.) Lord, come and save us.</p> <p>1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)</p> <p>2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)</p> <p>3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)</p>	<p>Jas 5:7-10 A reading from the letter of St James. You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.</p> <p>Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.</p>
Next Week's Readings		Gospel Acclamation
<p align="center">Fourth Sunday of Advent</p> <p align="center">1st Reading: Is 7:10-14 2nd Reading: Rom 1:1-7 Gospel: Mt 1:18-24</p>		<p>Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!</p> 

Gospel

<p>Mt 11:2-11 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?</p> <p>John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.' As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'</p>	
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Historical Context - Least and Greatest

Jesus declares that the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater even than John whom he has just finishing praising as greatest of all men. It is an indication that in the kingdom, things are not as they are on earth. The blind, lame, deaf, poor and lepers that Jesus named earlier would have been seen as the very lowest of society. Their afflictions were seen as punishments from God and so it was assumed that they, or their parents, had done something to deserve this punishment. Jesus rejects this interpretation and shows these people to be the most open to responding to his message.

Living the Gospel - Gaudete!

The third Sunday of Advent was traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday. The word, gaudete, (pronounced gow-day-tay) is from Latin and means Rejoice! The name was given to this Sunday because the entrance antiphon for the day is: 'Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.' When Advent was observed as a more penitential season, this third Sunday was a break from the sombre mood and was more celebratory. The rose-coloured candle in the Advent wreath and rose-coloured vestments convey a mood of joy and celebration.

look

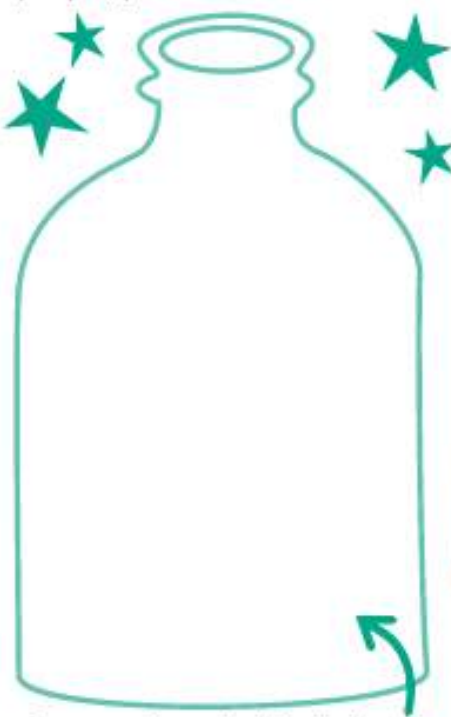
Sunday 11 December 2022
Matthew 11:2-11
3rd Sunday of Advent

In the GOSPEL TODAY

JESUS BRINGS US JOY!

Message in a bottle

We can be God's messengers. We can show everyone what God's love is like. We can help people, just like Jesus did.



Draw a picture in this bottle of you helping someone this week.

John the Baptist is God's messenger. He has been telling everyone about Jesus. Jesus is very special. He shows Jesus is special by what he does. Jesus brings life and goodness to everyone he meets.

Happy

John the Baptist believes in Jesus. He is very happy. Jesus says everyone who believes in him is happy. Draw yourself next to John with a great big smile on your face too!



Desert maze

People went into the desert looking for John. They wanted to listen to him so that they could become better people. Can you help the people through the desert maze so that they can find John?



A PRAYER TO SAY

Help me, Jesus, to make the world a better place just like you did. Help me to bring the message of God's love to the people I meet, through what I do as well as by what I say. Amen.

Miracles

Jesus helped lots of people. Answer the questions about his miracles to fill the gaps.

1. The dead have new?
2. Deaf people could?
3. Lame people were able to?
4. Those who were blind could?

		M		
	1.	I		
		R		
2.		A		
		C		
3.		L		
		E		
		4.S		

Answers: Miracles: 1. Life, 2. Hear, 3. Walk, 4. See.