Dear brothers and sisters,

John the Baptist is central to the middle Sundays of Advent. His call: 'Prepare the way of the Lord', is the message of Advent. We do well to listen to John's announcement of salvation and his invitation to a change of heart, mind and ways of acting.

Our First Reading (Bar 5:1-9) is a message of consolation and joy. Baruch echoes Isaiah (40-66) foreseeing the joyous return of the exiles to Jerusalem. Those who were taken from the city as prisoners and hostages will return like princes, carried on litters by their former captors. The way will be smoothed by the flattening of hills and other obstacles, the desert will be transformed into a paradise to make the journey a delight. Baruch wrote after the exile and so his prophesy looks to the messiah who will bring peace and joy to the people who come home to God.

Today's Gospel (Lk 3:1-6) has John the Baptist announcing the imminent arrival of the messianic era. John is 'the voice' foretold by Isaiah (40:3), the one who cries in the wilderness inviting people to change. What is characteristic of Luke's Gospel is that he locates the message of John in contemporary history. So, he names all the rulers from the Emperor down to the High Priests in Jerusalem. So, John proclaims a salvation which Jesus brings about. This happens in the real time and in the world in which we live not in some alternative spiritual realm. What John sees is not the return of the dispersed Israelites, but the 'way of the Lord'. John summons everyone to a change of heart so that we may come home to God and our own true humanity.

The Second Reading (Phil 1:3-6, 8-11) is surprisingly personal. Paul tells the Philippians 'God knows how much I miss you all'. Paul is not just teaching a crowd but caring for people he knows and loves. He tells them that Christian community is an on-going work that God is bringing to completion. So, we need to cooperate with the Spirit by 'improving our knowledge' and 'deepening our perception'. In this way we will be able to 'recognise what is best'. In the ever-changing circumstances of human life and knowledge, we discern what leads to God, what takes us away from God; what gives us joy, what leaves us in sadness. Advent is a time of listening and responding to the call of the Holy Spirit in our lives today.—*Blessings, Greg*

2nd Rite of Reconciliation for Advent Wednesday 15th December at 7pm Infant Jesus Church

Prepare yourself for the Christmas season by joining your parish family for this communal Rite of Reconciliation as we come



together to listen and reflect on the Word of God; to express our sorrow for the times we have failed and to praise our God, whose forgiveness is unfailing.

LETTERBOX DROP FOR CHRISTMAS

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness shall not overcome it."

Bring the light of Christ to your neighbours by inviting them to our Christmas liturgies, where they will hear the message of hope that is the Christmas story.



Be part of our parish letterbox drop and take some fliers to deliver to the streets around you. Please cross off the streets you will deliver to from the list of our parish streets in the foyer. <u>Please do not</u> <u>deliver to streets outside our parish boundaries</u> (only streets in our parish are listed). This is one easy way to be the missionary disciples we are called to be, as well as a good excuse to go for a walk!

Is this for YOU?

More collectors are needed for our parish. Women and men 16 years and older are eligible. Collecting the



money for the upkeep of the church and priests is a ministry of service. Please register your interest by contacting the parish office on 9276 8500 or email to Billie at

secretary@infantjesusparish.org.au

For more information a brief meeting will be held Monday, 13th of December at 7.00pm in the parish hall. Come along and join us in this important work!



SVDP Morley/Dianella Conference 2021 Christmas Appeal this weekend

The annual Christmas appeal to help the poor, disadvantaged and homeless within our community will be held at all Masses over the weekend of the 4th and 5th December.

In the past, the Parishioners of the Infant Jesus Parish have been very generous towards contributing to this important cause. We trust that you can continue to assist.

At the conclusion of each Mass, members of the conference will be in the foyer to collect your donation. If you wish to donate through your credit/ debit card, envelopes will be distributed in the pews and can be completed and placed in baskets or posted to the Society in Canning Vale.

Remember with your assistance, we can help a family or individual to have a better Christmas by putting enough food on the table at this important time of the year.—Lou Daily, President Morley/Dianella



Holy Hour of Grace Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary Wednesday 8th December 12 noon -1pm in the Church

All are invited to an hour of Grace in honour of this great Feast day.



From Church piety stall or Parish office LIONS CHRISTMAS CAKES — Small 1kg \$13, large 1.5kg \$17

> 2022 COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR -\$8 each

VINNIE'S CHRISTMAS CARDS Five in a pack for only \$3 available now.



Catholic Mission's 2021 Christmas Reflection on Modern Slavery will be a live-streamed YouTube event from 7pm to 8.30pm (AWST) on Friday December 10. A recording will be available for those who wish to view it at a more convenient time. Students from 10 Catholic colleges will be involved in the

readings, music, artwork and keynote address. These young & passionate voices will provide us with a beautiful & thought provoking experience during



this Advent Season. For more information on how to attend the event online or in person, scan the QR code or email Francis at

tas director.cm@perthcatholic.org.au



PILGRIM STATUE This week in the home of Mrs Fan Chung—22 Bramwell Rd, Noranda. Ph: 9276 9451

PARISH PRAYER CONCERNS

Recently Deceased: Glen McGuinness, Maxine Brackenreg and Francesca Scriva;

Deceased: Bernard Teo and Doug Bolton;

Anniversaries: Francesca Panaiia, Giocondo Colantonio, John Stitt, Angelo Ree Barcelo, Kay Gumley, Jim Butler, Nicola and Angela Scioli and Joe Furfaro;

The Sick of the Parish: Sarah McPherson and all the sick who are in need of our prayers.

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths"



POPE FRANCIS'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTIONS 2021

Month of December Catechists

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

CALENDAR OF SAINTS 07 Dec: St Ambrose, bishop, doctor 08 Dec: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed



Expressions of Interest for Enrolments at Infant Jesus School

The family is the first and most important influence in the development of religious faith in the child. Parents who enrol children at our school are asking us to share with them the responsibility of bringing up their children as Christians under the guidance of the teachings of the Catholic Church. The school supports parents in this important role. Infant Jesus School welcomes expressions of interest for enrolments in all year levels from Pre-Kindergarten to Year Six. Please contact Infant Jesus School (Cheryl) on 9276 1769 or visit the website www.infantjesus.wa.edu.au for information regarding an enrolment pack. #ExpectGreatThings

In Our Church

Morning Mass: Mon-Fri: 7am & 9am , Sat and Public Holidays: 8.30am Sunday Masses: 6pm (Saturday), 7.30am, 9.30am, 11.30am (Italian), 6pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday 9.30 - 10.30am Eucharistic Prayer: Friday 6.30 - 7.30pm

Parish Bank Account Details

<u>First Collection EFT Details</u> Account Name: Carmelite BSB: 066 132 Account Number: 0080 0015 Reference: Your name Second Collection EFT DetailsAccount Name: Infant Jesus Parish MorleyBSB: 086 006Account Number: 66860 6029Reference: PG-Your name

Our Parish Team

Parish Priest: Fr. Greg Burke - pp@infantjesusparish.org.au Assistant Priests: Fr. John Pallippadan— ap@infantjesusparish.org.au and Fr. Tadgh Tierney - tadgh_t@yahoo.com.au Infant Jesus Primary School: Principal Clare Moffat - info@infantjesus.wa.edu.au Parish Secretary: Billie Dewitt - secretary@infantjesusparish.org.au Reception: Theresa Choo - enquiries@infantjesusparish.org.au PREP Coordinator: Sue Goodwin - prep@infantjesusparish.org.au Sacramental Coordinator: Theresa Choo - sacramental@infantjesusparish.org.au Parish Account Officer: Darren Parnell - accounts@infantjesusparish.org.au	Admin Assistant: Carol Smith - enquiries@infantjesusparish.org.au Parish Safeguarding Officers: Julie Lambert— julielambert@bigpond.com Columbarium Committee: Andrew Davini - columbarium@infantjesusparish.org.au Parish Inclusion Coordinator: Sue Baile - 0497 163 387 PARISH OFFICE: 47 Wellington Road, Morley 9276 8500 Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9.30am -12.30pm Facebook: infantjesusparish.org.au
Maintenance Manager: Andrew Davini - maintenance@infantjesusparish.org.au	web. www.inianijesuspansin.org.au

WHAT IS LECTIO IN INFANT JESUS PARISH?

LECTIO DIVINA is the ancient practice of studying the Sacred Scriptures which comes down to us from the early monasteries.



LECTIO DIVINA

Reading the Scripture Reflecting on the Meaning Responding through Prayer Resting in God Responding in Action

It is designed to enable us to listen deeply and learn more about Jesus through reflection on the gospel for

the coming weekend, and it helps us to develop our personal prayer life. It also gives us the time and opportunity to articulate and share our faith with one another and experience community.

On Wednesday mornings after the 9am Mass, a group of parishioners meet for Lectio Divina in the parish library (10am to about 11:30am).

After a welcoming cup of tea and a short chat we have a calming period of silence. We then enter a period of reflection and the gospel for the following weekend is read slowly three times, each time by a different person, as we listen deeply and imagine ourselves present in the gospel situation listening to Jesus's words personally to us.

Participants may speak a word or phrase particularly meaningful to them, but no discussion takes place during the readings while resting quietly in the presence of God. After a time of reflection, the meditation phase is brought to a close followed by a period of group sharing about the gospel and reading some guiding commentaries by various bible scholars.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE OR ATTEND WITHOUT ANY COMMITMENT OR PARTICIPATION.

