



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C

SUNDAY 5 DECEMBER 2021

**REFLECTION By Sr Veronica Lawson rsm**

Since the beginning of his pontificate, Pope Francis has called us to look into our hearts and to bring the compassion and mercy of God to our troubled planetary home. Care of our common home and of all that inhabits our planet is both a gospel imperative and an urgent call to the whole human community. Our courageous pope gives extraordinary leadership in this respect. Like Luke, author of the third gospel, Pope Francis recognises that the message is for the whole world and not simply for the Church community. Luke situates his gospel drama on a national and international stage and in relation to global events. He wants to insist that religion is no private affair and that the story of the movement around Jesus of Nazareth is no ordinary, everyday story. It is, rather, a story with momentous political and religious significance. His references to Herod Antipas and to Pilate foreshadow the imminent fate of John and the eventual fate of Jesus. Luke is strong on dramatic impact and less concerned about the facts. He situates events in the “pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas”, implying that there were two high priests at the same time.

In fact, Caiaphas succeeded his father-in-law Annas as high priest, even if the influence of the latter persisted into Caiaphas’ pontificate. Luke presents John the son of Zechariah as a prophet in the long line of prophets that culminates in the appearance of Jesus of Nazareth on the global stage. Jesus is the one who truly brings the salvation of our God. It is worth noting that prophecy in Luke is not reserved to the male characters. With the shift from private to public space in Luke 3, however, women prophets who featured prominently in the earlier chapters (Elizabeth, Mary, and Anna) now disappear from the narrative. Luke 3:1-6 contains some of Luke’s favourite themes: prophecy and its fulfilment; the word of God; reversal of expectations; conversion or repentance; proclaiming the good news; forgiveness of sins; salvation. As in Israel’s past, the wilderness or desert is the locus of God’s revelation. The prophet John calls on the people of the region around the Jordan River to turn their hearts and their lives around, to accept “a baptism of *metanoia*/conversion for the forgiveness of sins’. We listen to the Isaiah citation that follows (“Prepare the way...”) against the backdrop of the first reading from the prophet Baruch. While we might critique the violent metaphorical language that speaks of God’s salvation in terms of filling the valleys and levelling the hills, we yearn for a time when “all flesh”, human and other-than-human, will see the salvation of God. God’s way involves putting on the “cloak of integrity” or the “robe of righteousness” and allowing God to provide an escort of mercy and right relationship. If we take seriously the call to live the gospel, we shall surely search for ways to heal the broken relationships within our ailing planet.

On Saturday 4 December 2021, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli ordained five new priests for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The ordinations were originally scheduled for September, but due to the extended period of lockdown they were forced to hold off a while longer.

Now that life in Melbourne is returning in strides to a “new normal”, it’s time to meet the five ordinands:

Alexander Chow,  
Hoang Dinh,  
Jaycee Napoles,  
Joseph Nguyen  
Samuel Pearson.

All of them experienced, at some point in their life, a ‘stirring of the heart’ they recognised as a call to the priesthood.

All of the five newly ordained have requested the prayers of the community as they begin their service for God’s church in this unique and powerful way.



**PRAYER OVER THE ADVENT WREATH**

We light the second candle, which is often named the Prophets’ Candle as the prophets prepared the way for the future coming of the Messiah.

- V. Lord Jesus, your coming was proclaimed by the prophet Baruch when he proclaimed that God will show your splendour.  
R. Come, Lord Jesus.  
V. Lord Jesus, you will bring us to the perfect goodness for the glory and praise of God.  
R. Come, Lord Jesus  
V. Lord Jesus, you call us to repentance and to prepare the way for you so that all humankind shall see the salvation of God.  
R. Come, Lord Jesus.

**Please read and pray over the Sunday readings.**

**PRAYER**

Let us pray:  
Almighty and merciful God,  
May no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son,  
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

Adapted from Pastoral Liturgy, Angela McCarthy

TODAY’S LITURGY—YEAR C

Entrance Hymn CWBII 242 v1,2,3,7

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O come, Immanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear. Refrain

O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
who ordered all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show  
and teach us in its ways to go. Refrain

O come, O come, great Lord of might,  
who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times did give the law  
in cloud and majesty and awe. Refrain

O come, O King of nations, bind  
in one the hearts of all mankind.  
Bid all our sad divisions cease  
and be yourself our King of Peace. Refrain

Text: Veni, veni, Emmanuel from the Great 'O Antiphons' c.12th Century.  
Vv.1,3,5,6 trans. John Mason Neale.

Entrance Antiphon

O people of Sion, behold,  
the Lord will come to save the nations,  
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard  
in the joy of your heart.

1st Reading Bar 5:1-9

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,  
put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever,  
wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you,  
put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head:  
since God means to show your splendour to every nation  
under heaven,  
since the name God gives you for ever will be,  
'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'.  
Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights  
and turn your eyes to the east:  
see your sons reassembled from west and east  
at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has  
remembered them.  
Though they left you on foot,  
with enemies for an escort,  
now God brings them back to you  
like royal princes carried back in glory.  
For God has decreed the flattening  
of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills,  
the filling of the valleys to make the ground level  
so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God.  
And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade  
for Israel at the command of God;  
for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory  
with his mercy and integrity for escort.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 125

Response: The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,  
it seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs. (R.)

- 2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels  
the Lord worked for them!'  
What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad. (R.)
- 3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. (R.)
- 4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing:  
they come back, they come back, full of song,  
carrying their sheaves. (R.)

2nd Reading Phil 1:3-6. 8-11

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering  
how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day  
you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that  
the One who began this good work in you will see that it is  
finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how  
much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My  
prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and  
more and never stop improving your knowledge and  
deepening your perception so that you can always recognise  
what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless,  
and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the  
perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the  
glory and praise of God.

Gospel Acclamation Mark 11:9.10

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:  
all people shall see the salvation of God.  
Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar’s reign, when  
Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch  
of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands  
of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene,  
during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of  
God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness.  
He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a  
baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is  
written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness;  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.  
Every valley will be filled in,  
every mountain and hill be laid low,  
winding ways will be straightened  
and rough roads made smooth.  
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

READER’S ROSTER  
Weekend Masses 11 & 12 December

- Saturday 6.00pm - Ashley D'Monte & Sr Betty
- Sunday 8:00am - Peter August
- 9:30am - Karlene Treyvaud & Jacqueline
- 11:00am - Rosa Gonzalez & Mayce Mirza
- 6:30pm - Vanessa Sammy & Martina Chin



## THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;

He descended into hell;  
on the third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the God the Father  
Almighty;

from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Holy Catholic Church,  
the communion of Saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.  
Amen.

## MUSIC AT THE CATHEDRAL

**Sunday 11.00am Mass**

**Organist:** Dion Henman  
Cathedral Choir Tenors & Basses

Entrance Hymn	Come, O come Emmanuel CWBII v 1,2,3,7
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 125 (126) Response: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy. CWB 177 Noel Ansell (11.00am plainsong)
Gospel Acclamation	<b>Alleluia, alleluia!</b> Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. <b>Alleluia!</b> CWBII 43
The Lord's Prayer	CWB 14a & 15
The fraction (Agnus Dei)	Missa Secunda - Hassler
Communion	Ave Verum - Saint Saens
Recessional / Communion Hymn	CWBII 252 v1, 2 Wake, O wake! The night is dying
Postlude/ Recessional 9.30am & 11.00am	Wachet auf BWV645 by J.S. Bach

## COMMUNION /RECESSIONAL HYMN CWBII 239 v1,2,5

Hark, a herald voice is calling:  
"Christ is near," it seems to say.  
"cast away the dreams of darkness,  
waken, children of the day!"

Wakened by the solemn warning,  
let the earth-bound soul arise;  
Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling,  
shines upon the morning skies.

Honour, glory, virtue, merit,  
to the Father and the Son,  
with the coeternal Spirit,  
while unending ages run.

Test: *Vox clara ecce intonate* Latin probably 9<sup>th</sup> century tr. Edward Caswall.

## PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH

### TO THE FATHER

Heavenly Father,  
St Joseph set aside his  
own plans to embrace  
your dream for us.

You invited his help in  
caring for Jesus your Son,  
our Saviour, and the  
Revealer of your wonderful love.

Enable us to live by your loving plan and to reflect to  
the world the light of Christ.

St Joseph, man of dreams and trusting steward,  
pray for us .



Image: Saint Joseph and the Christ by Bartolomé Esteban Murillo (1617–1682)

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Monday 6 December - St Nicholas  
Tuesday 7 December - St Ambrose (Memorial)  
Wednesday 8 December  
- The Immaculate Conception of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)  
Thursday 9 December - St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin  
Saturday 11 December - St Damasus

## Launch of Jo Dirks New Poems Death shall have no Dominion

Event – Poems of Jo Dirks, sung by Merlyn Quaife  
to music by Anthony Halliday

When - Thursday, 9 December, 7 pm

Where - Loreto – Mandeville Hall,  
10 Mandeville Crescent , Toorak  
Books and refreshments available afterwards

St Patrick's Cathedral & Cathedral Brass present

# FESTIVE MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS

**WED 15 DEC, 7-8PM**

Gabrieli, Bach, Handel, Mendelssohn and other Christmas favourites

**Brett Kelly**  
Conductor

**Anthony Halliday**  
Organist

Full program details, bookings & enquiries:  
[www.trybooking.com/BVJPD](http://www.trybooking.com/BVJPD)

Experience spiritual & sacred time & space.

St Patrick's Cathedral  
1 Cathedral Pl, East Melbourne VIC 3002  
Corner of Cathedral Place and Gisborne St

Children under 15 free  
Tickets \$25 available at the door



## Archbishop

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli

## Dean of

**St Patrick's Cathedral**

Very Rev Werner Utri

## Transitional Deacon

Rev. Alexander Chow

## Priest in Residence

Rev Zaher Mhanna

*Chaplain: St Vincent's Hospital*

## Sacristans

Clarence Westwood

Patrick Mirabella

Nadhun Buthpiyiya

## Music & Cathedral Choir

Philip Matthias

*Director*

## Cathedral Organist

Dion Henman

## Cathedral Singers

Christopher Mason

*Director*

Thomas Grubb

*Organist*

## Child Protection Officer

Julie Allan

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## SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE

We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community.

The Cathedral Statement of Commitment and Reporting Process are on display at the entrance of the Cathedral and all Diocesan Policies are available on the website or at the parish office.

<https://www.cam.org.au/Professional-Standards/Statements>

## ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL FOR MASSES.

We welcome back all parishioners to all regular masses at the Cathedral.

Adhering to Government regulations, all people wishing to attend Mass will need to be double vaccinated and use the QR Code provided on entry. If you are not able to QR Code you can manually write your name, contact number and indication of vaccination. There are now no restrictions on the number of fully vaccinated people that can attend Mass.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available after Mass, Monday to Friday following 1pm Mass and Saturday following 8.00am Mass.

### MASS TIME TABLE

Monday to Friday: 7.00am and 1.00pm

Saturday 8.00am and 6.00pm. (Vigil)

Sunday 8.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am and 6.30pm.

(11.00am televised on C31. and live streamed on CAM)

Link: [www.youtube.com/user/archmelb](http://www.youtube.com/user/archmelb)

Sunday 4.00pm Mass for the Unknown Vaccination Status  
(Strictly limit of only 50 can attend this Mass)

## INTERCESSORY PRAYER

We pray for the sick and for all who have asked for our prayers.

We pray for all who have died recently, especially John Hili and those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Elizabeth George, Jennifer Dybala, Dionisio Reyes, Robert John Roberts, Rosina and Joe Cincotta and Lawrence Ahern.

May they be welcomed into the eternal peace of God's kingdom.

**EXTRAORDINARY FORM LATIN  
MASS AND HOLY HOUR HELD  
EACH WEEK IN THE CATHEDRAL.  
ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL  
FURTHER NOTICE.**