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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YR C

**27TH & 28TH NOVEMBER
2021**

THE WEARING OF FACE MASKS
AT ALL CHURCH SERVICES IS MANDATORY.

We understand the inconvenience that masks may pose, but the health of our parishioners and the wider community is our highest concern. We sincerely thank you for understanding, and for playing your part in keeping our community safe.

**PLEASE PRACTISE SOCIAL DISTANCING
BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS.**

As per government regulations,
please observe the 2 square metre rule.



UPDATES TO WEEKEND MASS TIMES

**PLEASE NOTE THAT FROM THIS WEEKEND (27TH & 28TH NOVEMBER)
MASSES ARE BACK TO PRE COVID-19 TIMES:**

SATURDAY VIGIL 6PM

SUNDAY 7.30AM & 9.30AM

(5PM & 8.30AM MASSES ARE CANCELLED)

- ♦ Those people who were registered for the 5pm Mass are encouraged to attend the 6pm Mass.
- ♦ Those people who were registered for the 8.30am Mass are encouraged to attend either the 7.30am or 9.30am Mass.



Please keep in your prayers the children in our
Parish Community preparing for the
Sacrament of Confirmation.

May their families be great models of faith for them
during this important time.



Please visit our website or
Facebook page for any updates.

Website:

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Office Hours:
9am - 3.30pm
(Tuesday, Thursday & Friday)

PARISH TEAM:

Fr Christopher Antwi-Boasiako -
Parish Priest

Christopher.Antwi-Boasiako@parracatholic.org
Mobile: 0415 505 594

Mrs Marie Cottey - Parish Secretary
- mc@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Sue Weekes - Office Support
- sw@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Joanne Hocking - Sacrament
Support

SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH:

Corpus Christi Primary - ph 4726 2200
(Principal - Mrs Sarah O'Rourke)

Xavier College - ph 4777 0900
(Principal - Mr Michael Pate)

Parish News

Sacrament of Reconciliation

(First Rite with visiting priests)

TUESDAY 14TH DECEMBER

7PM – 8PM

(There will be no Mass on that evening)

Christmas Masses

*Masses continue to be celebrated under
Covid-19 Restrictions.*

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES ARE:

Christmas Eve at 6pm.

In the school grounds

(Please bring your own chair)

**8.30pm, Midnight Mass &
Christmas Morning at 9.30am**

In the church

*Please note that Registration is **NOT** required
for any of the Christmas Masses*

Bishop's Christmas Appeal

No mother or child should be homeless and without support at Christmas.

CatholicCare's Houses to Homes provides hope for vulnerable women and children facing abuse and hardship.

Your kind donation today will help change the lives of homeless young women, who like Mary, seek a safe haven to raise their newborn child.

Please give generously via the Bishop's Christmas Appeal giving envelopes or you can donate online at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

Thank you for your heartfelt prayers and support.

Corpus Christi Primary School Mass

Thursday 2nd December

9.10am

**Could the person who has
Planned Giving envelope number 077
please contact the Parish Office.**

**Thank You dear parishioners for your
ongoing financial support to the parish.
Your generosity is helping with the ongoing
running expenses of our parish.**

Planned Giving...

Could you please contact Marie at the Parish Office if you are:

- ◇ contributing to the Planned Giving Program via the envelope system and would like to change to credit card or direct debit;
- ◇ or if you would like to join the Planned Giving Program.

Your gift to Planned Giving does help cover the running of your parish and also contributes towards outreach in our parish community and beyond.

Break Open the Word for Readers

For any readers who would like a copy of Break Open the Word for Year C, they are now available in the Sacristy. The cost \$24 per copy. Envelopes for payment are also available in the Sacristy.

Let us Offer Gifts of Prayer:

Recently Deceased:

Deacon Owen Rogers, Rosemary Hall, Judy Baytch

And for those who are sick:

Peter Sinnett, Eleanor Albertyn,

Esther Rodgers, Kevin & Mary O'Connor, Pauline Rugg



Ministry Roster for Christmas

The lists for the ministry rosters for Christmas are now in the foyer. If you are able to assist in volunteering in the ministries of Acolyte, Reader, Commentator, Altar Server and Data Operator for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses, please put your name on the relevant list.

Vinnies Christmas Hamper



This year the Cranebrook conference will be making Christmas hampers for distribution to the Cranebrook community.

Both Corpus Christi Primary and Xavier College have agreed to help the conference with donations of various food items that can be used for the hampers.

We would like to ask the parishioners of Corpus Christi if they could also assist by donating food items over the next few weeks, until the first weekend in December.

The items we are generally in need of are traditional Christmas items such as *tin hams, Christmas puddings, custard and other special Christmas treats.*

The hampers will be distributed on Saturday the 11th December and if any parishioners can help with the delivery if they could contact Greg Hall on 0407484020.

Thank you for your continuing support of the conference
Cranebrook Conference.

Weekday Masses

Tuesday & Wednesday at 6pm

Thursday & Friday at 9.10am

Parish Office Hours

**The Parish Office is now open from
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 9am – 3.30pm.**

The Living Word

The First Sunday of Advent - Year C

28th November 2021

First Reading

Jer 33:14-16

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah
I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

‘In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.

In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence.

And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-5. 8-9. 10. 14. R. v.1

(R.) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**

The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

His ways are faithfulness and love for those who keep his covenant and will. The Lord’s friendship is for those who revere him;

to them he reveals his covenant. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Thes 3:12 – 4:2

A reading from first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 21:25-28. 34-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Your redemption is near at hand.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’



FIRST SUNDAY
OF
Advent

Have you thought? – Waiting, waiting...

I’m not a big fan of waiting! Anticipation is pretty good; getting prepared and getting ready are OK, too. But when it comes down to being all dressed up and ready to go, I’m just hopeless at waiting. If Advent is a time of pointless waiting for Christmas then we’ve somehow missed the message. Rather than just waiting, Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation. But it’s not just about anticipating Christmas. That’s part of it, sure. However, Advent is about reminding ourselves that we have a job to do: preparing for the reign of God – in our lives and in our world.

Different View – We’re doomed!

Fundamentalists love readings like this week’s apocalyptic gospel passage. Full of portent and urgency, it inspires the sort of thinking that says, ‘Repent now, because you could be dead tomorrow!’ It is easy to look at a passage like this and apply it to the conditions of the world today: everything’s going to rack and ruin; it’s just as the Bible foretold; the end of the world is just around the corner. But we have to remember that this was written nearly 2,000 years ago! Yes, there is still urgency! Yes, there is still need for change! But we still have time to get it right.



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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

The Coming of our Saviour

Sometimes our own lives, the life of the Church, the life of societies and nations cry out for Our Lord Jesus Christ to come again right now and rescue us right now.

In some instances we can become conscious of Jesus' saving, transforming power in a particular situation. But, for the whole of humanity across the millennia, we do not know the day or the hour when death and all its warriors such as disease and violence, will be absolutely vanquished by Christ in glory.

This can lead to a type of pain which finds solace in all those things which dull the spirit. Our Lord gives examples: debauchery, drunkenness. Today he might have added 'living in the virtual world'. Rather, Our Lord wants us to live in the real world on high alert.

In the meantime each one of us can be a signal of what is to come. Each time we exhaust ourselves heroically loving someone whom others might abandon, each time we take a risk because we cry out against injustice, and in a myriad other ways, we signal that the Kingdom is already being established on earth.

We could pause for a moment to pray for the strength to be on high alert for the opportunities to translate the legacy of Jesus into our own time and place, thus giving reasons to each other for our faith and hope that Christ *has* come, Christ *is* risen, Christ *will* come again.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The readings of the First Sunday of Advent set the stages for our reflections on the entire season. They contain a number of promises, all pointing to peace and fulfilment. Each reading depicts a dimension of suffering that was often brought on by the people themselves. The promises are assurances that the end of their suffering was in sight. The promises reveal a loving and provident, a merciful and forgiving God. These are promises full of hope.

The coming of the Lord is clearly a time of expectation, not of fear and trembling. Although the earlier tradition about the Day of the Lord included punishment of the wicked, the focus here is on redemption. The time of expectation may be preceded by apocalyptic signs in the heavens and dismay on earth, but this cosmic shift will bring fulfilment, not destruction. The love and providence, the mercy and forgiveness of God will be made manifest.

What is expected of those who receive the promise? An Advent way of life exhorts us to 'wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ'. This way of life is both simple and profound. It does not necessarily require unusual behaviour on our part, but it calls us to live the usual unusually well. It affects the everyday events of life; it directs the way we interact with people; it informs the attitudes that colour our judgments and motivations. It is as ordinary as the birth of a child; it is as extraordinary as the revelation of God.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for November

Universal intention -



People who suffer from depression

We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.



REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

Questions for Adolescents

- * When you read this gospel passage, what thoughts and emotions does it evoke?
- * What was the gospel writer trying to convey to his readers by including this passage about the future?
- * What is the message for a modern audience?
- * Why is Advent the beginning of the liturgical year?
- * What is an image or symbol for you of waiting and/or preparation?

Questions for Adults

- * What is your immediate reaction to this gospel passage?
- * What problems might lie in reading this passage with a literal interpretation?
- * What must it have been like for the early Christians to be expecting the imminent end of time?
- * How does the concept of being a people of Hope sit with this passage?
- * How can you make the most of this season of Advent?

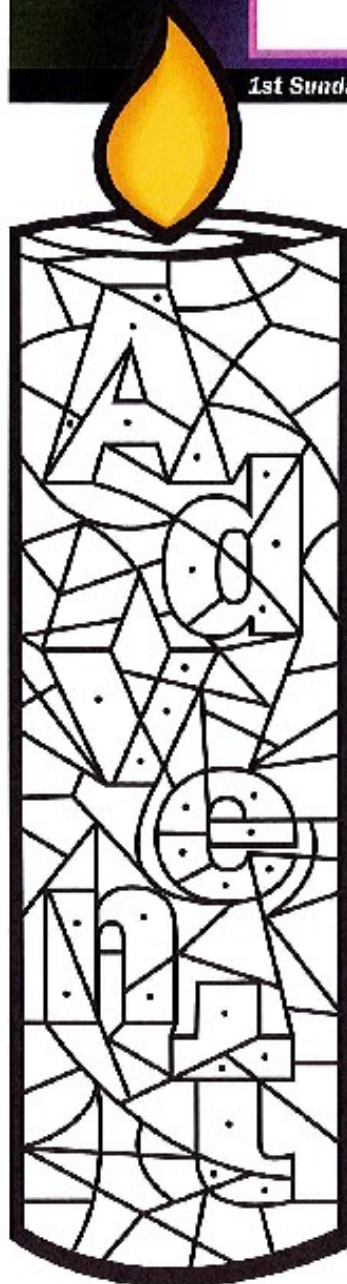
This is an opportunity for parents to discuss today's Gospel with your children. The following questions and worksheet are a beginning point to assist with the discussion.

- * What are some things that you look forward to?
- * How do you prepare for them?
- * How much do you look forward to Christmas?
- * Over the next four weeks how can we prepare for Christmas?
- * Jesus asks us to watch out in Advent so that we can prepare for his coming. How can we 'watch out'?



We are preparing for Jesus

1st Sunday of Advent, Year C



Colour the shapes that contain dots purple.

Fill the other shapes with different colours.



During Advent we can prepare for the arrival of Jesus by helping others. Write down some of the ways you can help family, friends and people in need during Advent.

I can help my family by

I can help my friends by

I can help those in need by

Find the opposite of each word, then rearrange the circled letters to complete the sentence below.



MAN	()	—	—	—	—
UNDER	—	—	()	—	—
OPEN	—	—	()	—	—
SAD	—	—	—	()	—
ALWAYS	()	—	—	—	—

“the Son of Man will be seen, coming in a cloud with great _____ and glory.”


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who support our parish throughout the year.
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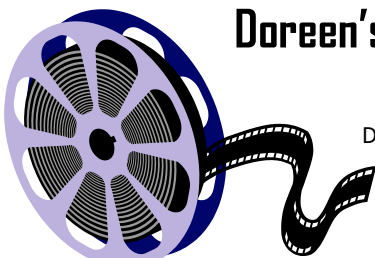
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Solutions

1st Sunday of Advent, Year C

Find the opposite of each word, then rearrange the circled letters to complete the sentence below.



MAN	<u>W</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>N</u>
UNDER	<u>O</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>R</u>	
OPEN	<u>C</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>E</u>
SAD	<u>H</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>Y</u>
ALWAYS	<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>R</u>

“the Son of Man will be seen, coming in a cloud with great POWER and glory.”