

St. Theresa's Parish Community Newsletter

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"Do Small Things Well"

St. Theresa's Primary School - 93119070
16 Drummartin St., Albion 3020
Principal: Rob Macklin

Mother of God Primary School - 93631734
Blanche St., Ardeer 3022
Principal: Assunta Iacovino

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Inaugurating a New Humanity

John proclaimed that the reign of God was 'at hand' as he immersed and plunged followers into the waters of the Jordan River. (His nickname was John the Immerser, or 'baptiser' in the Greek.) He used flowing water to symbolise the washing away of the past for those who repented so that they could be totally focused on the 'at hand' person who would inaugurate God's kingdom.

In this passage, John does not identify the 'Someone'! But he realised that this 'Someone' would have divine power to affect the future by immersing, baptising, his followers with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

At this stage of Advent, we should be like John's disciples, filled with a sense of anticipation, looking forward to the *coming towards us* ('Advent' in Latin) of the One who can flood our minds and bodies with the Holy Spirit and can immerse our hearts in Divine Fire.

We could pause for a moment to thank God that, even though we are unworthy to carry His sandals, there is One who is coming towards us wanting to transform us with Divine Power.



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

RECONCILIATION (individual confession) Saturday 20th December

11.00am Mother of God
12noon St Theresa's

Christmas Eve Wednesday, 24th December

6.00pm	Mother of God	<i>Family Mass</i>
8.00pm	St Theresa's	<i>Youth Christmas Play</i>
Midnight	St Theresa's	<i>Live Carols From 11.30pm</i>
Midnight	Mother of God (Polish)	

Christmas Day Thursday, 25th December

10.15am Mother of God (Polish)
10.30am St Theresa's

St Theresa's Parish is committed to the safety of children, young people and vulnerable adults



CHRISTMAS CAROLS PRACTICE

To make our Christmas Day 10.30am Mass even more joyful, Michelle is organising Carols. A choir practice will be held on Wednesday 17th Dec at 7.00pm in St Theresa's Church. Contact Michelle - 0417 010 630 🎵 All are invited to come along and sing!

PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Join us for a joyful celebration of the season! 📍 **Venue:** Deer Park Club, 780 Ballarat Rd, Deer Park, on Tuesday, 16th Dec., 🕒 12.00pm. Please RSVP to Mary Azzopardi or Ann-Maree. Let's come together in festive spirit—everyone is welcome!

IN HOLY STILLNESS – ADVENT REFLECTION GROUP

Parishioners are invited to join our Advent Reflection Group, meeting on Saturday 13 & 20 December, 10.30am in the Presbytery. The resource, In Holy Stillness is available for purchase.

CHRISTMAS EVE YOUTH PERFORMANCE

Is your child interested in being part of our joyful Christmas performance during the 8.00pm Christmas Eve Mass at St Theresa's Church? 📞 Contact Carmen – 0421 796 522 to register.

MASSES THIS WEEK

ST THERESA'S

Drummartin St, Albion
8.30am Wednesday
8.30am *Friday Reconciliation*
9.00am Friday
8.30am *Sunday Reconciliation*
9.00am Sunday
10.30am Sunday

MOTHER OF GOD

Blanche St, Ardeer
10.00am Wednesday (Polish)
9.00am Thursday
6.00pm Friday (Polish)
5.00pm *Saturday Reconciliation*
5.30pm Saturday
10.15am Sunday (Polish)

QUEEN OF HEAVEN

Holt St, Ardeer

CLOSED

RECONCILIATION

(Individual Confession)
Other times by Appointment

HOLY ROSARY

Before regular Wednesday & Friday Masses each week

BENEDICTION

First Friday of the month at St Theresa's Church

CUPPA AFTER MASS

Join us today after each Mass for a cuppa and a chat?

CONGRATULATIONS To Sophie Miller & Olivia Hord on their baptism as we welcome them into our faith community.

CHRISTMAS FOOD DONATIONS

Over the next two weeks, we invite parishioners to contribute Christmas foods such as puddings, shortbread, and other festive treats. 🍽️ A donation basket will be placed at the back of the Church. Thank you for your kindness and support!

COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR 2026

Available at each church, the Columban Calendar will **Cost \$11**, and make a beautiful and meaningful gift for Christmas.

LEGION OF MARY

Last meeting for the year, Tuesday 16/12, 10.30am. Will recommence 20th Jan 2026.

COLLECTIONS RECEIVED

Thanksgiving \$993 Loose Money \$267 Presbytery \$776

COUNTERS 14th December

Team 5: J Giang, M Hua, M Azzopardi

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 8 Dec
St Lucy, 13 December

READINGS Today

Isaiah 11.1-10
Psalm 72.
1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (R. see 7)
Romans 15.4-9
Matthew 3.1-12

Next Week

Isaiah 35.1-6a, 10
Psalm 146
6c-7, 8-9a, 9b-10 (R. 35.4)
James 5.7-10
Matthew 11.2-11

