

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PARISH, KILMORE

Parish Administrator: Rev. Fr Andrew Choi
Pastoral Worker: Sr Yen Phung LHC

Phone: 03 5782 1084

Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri | 9.30 am – 4.30 pm
(Emails or calls outside of office hours will be attended to when we are next in the office.)

Parish Secretary: Caterina Bosevski
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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT — GAUDETE SUNDAY (YEAR A)

14 December 2025

GAUDETE SUNDAY: THE JOY OF ADVENT

The Third Sunday of Advent, traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday, brings a moment of radiant joy into the quiet and contemplative expectation that marks the Advent season. The Church's ancient invitation, *Gaudete in Domino semper*—"Rejoice in the Lord always" (Phil 4:4)—does not call us to a fleeting or superficial happiness, but to a deep, serene joy rooted in the certainty that God is near. Advent is a time of watchful waiting, of preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ in history at Bethlehem, in mystery through the sacraments, and in majesty at the end of time. Yet on this particular Sunday, the liturgy gently pulls back the veil to let us glimpse the light of salvation already dawning. The joy of the Lord is not reserved for the future; it rises within the present moment for those who open themselves to grace.

One of the most striking and beautiful signs of this joy is the rose colour—not pink!—used in the vestments and the third candle of the Advent wreath. This colour does not replace or contradict the violet that characterizes Advent, which calls us to penance, reflection, and preparation. Instead, rose serves to soften violet with the warmth of hope and consolation. It is the colour of the sky just before sunrise, the moment when night is already giving way to day. In this way, rose expresses the spiritual reality of Gaudete Sunday: joy awakened in the heart, joy as promise, joy quietly blossoming even before the fullness of Christmas arrives. It is a visible sign that God's promise is already at work, gently inviting us to open our hearts more widely to His transforming grace. In fact, true conversion is not meant to be burdensome; rather, it is the joyful opening of our lives to the God who always comes to meet us with tenderness and mercy.

The rose candle, traditionally called the Shepherds' Candle, further deepens this message. It reminds us of the humble shepherds who kept watch over their flocks on the hills of Judea and who received the astonishing announcement of the angels (Luke 2:8–14). Their simplicity and attentiveness made them ready to marvel, to listen, and to respond. In that openness, they encountered the living God. On Gaudete Sunday, we too are invited to imitate their watchfulness—eyes open, hearts awake—so that we may recognize the subtle ways Christ's light seeks to enter the darker corners of our lives. Even a small flame, trembling in the wind, becomes a sign that God's presence is able to transform history, families, communities, and individual hearts.

Ultimately, Gaudete Sunday reminds us that Christian joy is not something postponed until December 25th. It begins now, in every sincere encounter with the Lord who draws near. The rose colour stands as a gentle encouragement, inviting each of us to prepare with renewed faith, hope, and openness. To welcome Christ into our hearts is to discover that joy is already present, for Emmanuel—God with us—has come, and He continues to come into our lives with every new day.

Rev. Fr Andrew Choi

CHURCHES

ST. PATRICK'S

37 Sutherland St, Kilmore

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

Cnr The Parade & McKenzie St, Broadford

OUR LADY OF THE WAY

30 Alcantara Blvd, Wallan East

ST. MICHAEL'S

33-35 Wandong Ave, Wandong

SUNDAY MASSES

Sat (Vigil) 5 pm, Broadford
6.30 pm, Kilmore

Sun 8.45 am, Wallan
10.45 am, Kilmore

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tue, Thu-Sat 9 am, Kilmore

Wed 9 am, Wallan
(out of school term, Wednesday Mass will be at Kilmore)

CONFESSION

30 minutes prior to each Mass
& during Adoration (Thu)

DEVOTIONS

Adoration & Benediction

Thu 9.30 am, Kilmore

Divine Mercy Chaplet

15 minutes prior to
each weekday Mass, Kilmore

Rosary

after each weekday Mass, and
Sunday 8.20 am (Wallan)
10.20 am (Kilmore)

DONATE

To support our Parish
and Priests,
Scan the QR code with
your phone camera to
donate.



READINGS FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year A)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON | Phil 4: 4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.

(NO GLORIA DURING ADVENT)

FIRST READING | Isaiah 35:1-6,10

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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Ps 145(146):6-10

R: Lord, come and save us.

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)**

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)**

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)**

SECOND READING | James 5:7-10

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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Isaiah 61:1 (Luke 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL | Matthew 11:2-11

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.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON | cf. Is 35: 4

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS

(4th Sunday of Advent, 21 December)

First Reading	Isaiah 7:10-14
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 23(24):1-6
Second Reading	Romans 1:1-7
Gospel	Matthew 1:18-24

THIS WEEKEND 13 & 14 December		
Broadford (Sat, 5 pm)	Reader: E. Leahy EMHC: P. Fleming	
Kilmore (Sat, 6.30 pm)	Reader: M. Fleischmann EMHC: C. Clancy PowerPoint: P. Duff	
Wallan (Sun, 8.45 am)	Reader: J. Holt EMHC: A. Moore & C. Bannon PowerPoint: F. Thompson	
Kilmore (Sun, 10.45 am)	Reader: M. Bourne EMHC: C. Mathew PowerPoint: K. Curry	
FLOWERS: H. Clancy & P. Duff HOME COMMUNION: J. Jain CLEANERS KILMORE: TBA		

NEXT WEEKEND 21 & 22 December		
Broadford (Sat, 5 pm)	Reader: P. Kelly EMHC: A. Leahy	
Kilmore (Sat, 6.30 pm)	Reader: R. Emmanuel EMHC: M. Fleischmann PowerPoint: P. Duff	
Wallan (Sun, 8.45 am)	Reader: M. Carocci EMHC: J. Sapiano & M. Hoban PowerPoint: R. Quinn	
Kilmore (Sun, 10.45 am)	Reader: S. Ramganathan EMHC: C. Dodd PowerPoint: K. Curry	
FLOWERS: J. Dixon & M. Donovan HOME COMMUNION: M. Fleischmann CLEANERS KILMORE: L. Beaumont & C. Eid		

LET US PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

Recently Deceased

Regan Somers

Anniversaries

Odila Mauro Beria, Ivy Laver, Janice Russell, Anita Catherine Kelly, Merie Phillips, John Kavanagh, Betty Henderson, Bridget Swan, Andy Bulman, John C. Kelly, Bernie Kapelle, Desmond Kelly, Leo Sheehan, Mary Ann Rae, Fr. Eric Loorham, Maria Catenich and all anniversaries which occur at this time.

The Sick

Fr Prakash Cutinha, Fr Martino Jung, Pina D'Agostino, Theo Aitchison, Julie Ahearn, Bernadette McWhinney, Br. Doug Walsh, Joseph Vassallo, Sue Leahy, Brittney Pellicori, Dawn Westwood, and all people who are in need of our prayers.

PLEASE NOTE: Names in the sick list will remain there for 4 weeks. If you wish for that person to continue to be prayed for, please advise the parish office again. If you are submitting the name of someone other than yourself and family, please obtain their permission.

Seminarian

Ben Eid

Congratulations on the wedding of

Venusshi Dewundegge
and
Ryan Abeyratne
on Saturday 13 December.

*May your marriage be filled with
endless love, joy, and blessings for
many beautiful years ahead.*



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2025



Wednesday, 24 December	Thursday, 25 December
4.30pm, Broadford	8.45am, Wallan
6.30pm, Wallan (Family Mass)	10.45am, Kilmore
9.30pm, Kilmore	

ADVENT CONFESSION

Thu, 18 Dec | from 6.30pm - 8pm | Kilmore
Fri, 19 Dec | from 6.30pm - 8pm | Wallan
Sat, 20 Dec | from 11am - 12.30pm | Wallan
Sun, 21 Dec | from 1pm - 2.30pm | Kilmore
Tue, 23 Dec | from 6.30pm - 8pm | Kilmore
Wed, 24 Dec | from 1pm - 2.30pm | Kilmore
And, as usual, 30 minutes before each Mass

PARISH DIARY

Sat, 13th: Nuptial Mass - Venusshi Dewundegge and Ryan Abeyratne
(1pm, St. Patrick's Church)
Tue, 16th: Funeral Mass - John Dale (2pm, St. Patrick's Church)
Safeguarding Committee Meeting
(7pm, St. Patrick's Parish office meeting room)
Wed, 17th: RCIA session #10 (7.30pm, St. Patrick's Parish Centre)
Thu, 18th: Advent Confession (6.30pm - 8pm, St. Patrick's Church)
Fri, 19th: Advent Confession (6.30pm - 8pm, Our Lady of the Way Church)

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

Pauline Duff, Brian O'Dwyer,
Rosebelle Quinn, Ben Boyd,
and Laura Garland (Northern Region, Safeguarding Unit)
kilmore@cam.org.au or
Laura.Garland@cam.org.au

St. Patrick's Parish is a Child Safe Environment. All children are to be supervised by a parent/guardian at all times.

DID YOU KNOW?

THREEFOLD OF CHRIST'S ADVENT

The **threefold advent of Christ** presents itself to the Church as a single mystery expressed through three movements of divine generosity.

First, we contemplate His **historical coming (First Coming)**, when the eternal Logos entered time and embraced our fragile humanity in the quiet poverty of Bethlehem. In this humble descent, God's glory is disclosed in a new and astonishing way: a love that lowers itself so that humanity might be raised to its true dignity.

Second, we consider His **continual coming (Middle Coming)** in the present. Christ approaches us in the hiddenness of grace—through the Scriptures, in the sacraments, and within the heart that listens in faith. This interior advent calls for vigilance and receptivity, for the Lord never imposes Himself; rather, He gently awakens our freedom and draws it towards the splendour of truth.

Third, our gaze turns towards His **final coming (Second Coming)**, when the risen Lord will manifest the fullness of His Kingdom. In this definitive advent, history will reach its proper fulfilment, and the justice and mercy of God will shine without obscurity.

In contemplating these three comings, we perceive the same Lord who came, who comes, and who will come inviting the believer to live in remembrance, in attentive faith, and in hope that does not disappoint.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Mr Michael Bourne
03 5782 1579 | spkilmore.catholic.edu.au

OUR LADY OF THE WAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Mr Terry Cooney
03 8609 1784 | ourladywallan.catholic.edu.au

ASSUMPTION COLLEGE

Principal: Mr Paul Finneran
03 5783 5000 | assumption.vic.edu.au

SUNDAY ROSARY

This Sunday, the **Glorious Mysteries** of the Rosary will be prayed prior to Mass (at 8.20 am at OLW, Wallan and at 10.20 am at St. Patrick's, Kilmore).

All are welcome to spend prayerful time with Mother Mary before Mass.

MASS CANCELLATION

Wednesday 17 December 9 am Mass at Wallan has been cancelled. However, there will be 12pm Mass with Our Lady of the Way school community. All welcome!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We joyfully celebrate **Laura Doughney** and **Jessika Monro-Lewis** receiving their First Holy Communion this Sunday at 10.45 am Mass at St. Patrick's Catholic Church. Please keep them in your prayers as they receive Jesus for the first time in the Eucharist.

RECEPTION INTO FULL COMMUNION

We warmly welcome **Ashwina Jayatilake**, **Bailey Simpson**, and **Kylie Alexander** who will be received into full communion with the Catholic Church this Sunday at 10.45 am Mass at St. Patrick's Catholic Church. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue their journey of faith.

HUGE THANKS TO MR. COONEY,

THE PRINCIPAL OF OUR LADY OF THE WAY SCHOOL

One of our respected principals, Mr. Terry Cooney, will be retiring from Our Lady of the Way Catholic Primary School at the end of this academic year.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Cooney for his years of dedicated service, guidance, and commitment to the growth and success of our school community. He has been an inspiration to students, staff, and the parish community alike, and his contributions will be fondly remembered. We wish Mr. Cooney a happy and fulfilling retirement.

THE SHAMROCK - CHRISTMAS EDITION

New Christmas edition of The Shamrock is now available in the foyer of each church. It is filled with many wonderful articles and photos. Thank you to everyone who contributed, and a special word of gratitude to our editors, Marg and Gabrielle, for their outstanding work and dedication.

Your donations help us continue producing the magazine. A Parish Donation QR code is available on the front page for those who wish to support The Shamrock. Simply scan the code or visit the donation page on our parish website, select "SHAMROCK", and contribute towards future editions. Thank you for your generous support.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS APPEAL

SVDP Society once again asks for your support with the Christmas Appeal to assist the needy. You can help by taking a tag from the wishing tree and purchase a food item and place it in the box provided.

This weekend is the last weekend of SVDP Christmas Appeal. There are still many tags on the wishing tree. Without your generous support, we cannot continue to support those people who ask for help. Thank you for your charitable acts.

ROSARY @ KATE'S HOME

Next Rosary will be held on Wednesday, 17 December, at 1 pm. All welcome!
(12 Andrew Street, Kilmore)