

Looking at the Readings

The first Sunday of Advent somewhat resembles the last Sunday in Ordinary Time. Both focus on the second or final coming of Christ. Although the first reading from the Book of the Prophet of Isaiah carries both the Coming of the Messiah among us and the Day of the Messiah when judgments are dispensed and everlasting peace reigns. Both Sundays contain the same Responsorial Psalm and Response. "Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord." Ps 121 (122) v1.

The Gospel of this Sunday is apocalyptic in its tone and message about the return of the Master. We know that he will return, we know what we ought to in this present life, but we do not know the time: the century, the year, the month, the day or the hour. We need to be attentive waiters. Advent is a season of waiting. Here in Australia, students are waiting for their exam results and reports, perhaps a job, children waiting for the school breakups and for Christmas, adults waiting for the annual break or holidays and the elderly waiting for visitors. Attentive waiting during advent is an attitude of preparing for the coming of Christ at Christmas and greeting him in faith. We stand ready – not looking busy – but being aware of people around us and aware of our own shortcomings and believing in the mercy, peace and love of God.



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Fr. Des Welladsen

Resident/ Supply Priest from 10th Sept to 11th Dec

Parish Priest: Fr. Novelito Lim

Email: nlim@stmarysechuca.org.au

Mobile: 0450 185 021

Admin Officers: Joy Padilla/Marianne Kelly

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9am - 1pm

St Mary's Parish Centre

224-230 Anstruther Street, Echuca

Ph: (03) 5482 1127

Email: admin@stmarysechuca.org.au

Website: www.stmarysechuca.org.au

Facebook: St Mary's Parish Echuca

Community Coordinator: Julie Moyle

E: pcc@stmarysechuca.org.au

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Child Safety Officer: Mel Slattery

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Visitation Ministry Coordinator: Kath Quinn

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Communications and Events Coordinators:

Communications—Hannah Jurolan and Paul Tape

E: hcjurolan@gmail.com

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PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekday Masses: 1st - 5th December

Tuesday: 7.30pm Parish Christmas Reconciliation

Wednesday: No Mass or Liturgy

Friday: 11.30am Adoration

12.00pm 1st Friday Mass

29th & 30th November - Weekend Masses

Saturday: 6.00pm Mass

Sunday: 9.30am Mass

Reconciliation: Ring Fr Des for an appointment 0429143093

Baptism: Every Second weekend of the Month

Weddings: By Appointment with the Parish Priest

Sophia Sisters: Every Monday 1:30pm (Parish Centre)

Men's Group: Every Saturday 9am (Parish Centre)

Playgroup: Every Friday 9am (Parish Centre)

Children's Liturgy: G'day Sunday

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Yorta Yorta Nation. This land is sacred, this land is gift, this land is thousands of years old. We acknowledge the immense beauty of this land and the dreams of the Yorta-Yorta People. We pay our respects to elders past and present and acknowledge the lessons the Yorta-Yorta people teach us about care, respect and justice for mother earth.

If you wish to assist in "further supporting the Parish" we offer different ways of giving... direct debit, credit card or planned giving envelopes. Please ring the office for more details.

PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:

St Mary's Echuca: BSB Number: 083-543

Account Number: 45-782-9206

Child Safety: Through our policies and practices, we protect the right of children to feel safe and to be safe. We promote the well-being and inclusion of all children. For more information, contact the parish office and look for the Child Safety Officer Mel Slattery.

PARISH CALENDAR

September, October, November: Fr Novie is on Sabbatical

2nd December: 7.30pm Reconciliation for Christmas
3rd December: 5.00pm Bereavement Meeting and Dinner at the Royal
5th December: 9.00am Mary's Makers Break Up *11.30am Adoration 12.00pm First Friday Mass
6th December: Paint & Play, a creative and meaningful workshop, perfect for the Christmas season.
10th December: 12.00pm Anointing Mass

Christmas Hamper Raffle Fellow Parishioners
 It's Christmas hampers time again!
 We are asking all Parish families to donate an item for the hampers.
 Non-perishable goods, such as wine, chocolates, gourmet goodies, home décor, books or vouchers would be great.
 If you're not able to purchase goods, you might like to make a donation for us to purchase something on your behalf.
 The raffle will be drawn at the Parish Christmas party on 14th December, after 9.30am Mass.
 Raffle tickets will be available for sale at both Masses from 29th -30th November - \$2 each or 3 for \$5.
 For any queries, please contact Julie Moyle on 0409 826 336 or Margaret Hart on 0419 506 254.
 Thanks so much for your support.

St Mary's Primary School Echuca



F.I.R.E. Carriers at St Mary's Primary School

The F.I.R.E. (Friends Igniting Reconciliation through Education) Carrier program is an important initiative promoting respect, fairness and inclusion for Aboriginal people. While this is everyone's responsibility, the role of a F.I.R.E. Carrier is to embrace this commitment and to serve as a model for others. Twenty-two applications were received from Years 4 & 5 learners and were of an exceptional standard where each applicant addressed three questions:

- Why would you like to be a F.I.R.E. Carrier?
- What skills do you bring to this position?
- What do you hope to achieve by becoming a F.I.R.E. Carrier?

The successful applicants were commissioned on Tuesday 25th November. Michael Chisholm, CESL Aboriginal Education Lead along with his Team member, Tanika officiated the ceremony.

We congratulate each of these candidates and are confident that they will each fulfil their role to a high standard. This high number of applicants is testament to our current Year 6 F.I.R.E. Carriers who have modelled their important role throughout their leadership journey.

Mons. Marriott Funeral Mass Livestream

The Funeral Mass for Mons. Frank Marriott will be livestreamed from Sacred Heart Cathedral on Wednesday, 3 December, at 1:00 pm. Go to www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au to watch.

Calling All Volunteers! 📢

Our AGM and Parish Christmas Party is coming soon! Let's celebrate together as one parish family — and we need your help to make it special!
 No special talent required — just your time, smile, and willingness to help. 🙌
 Whether it's setting up, helping with games, food, or decorations, every hand counts!
 📞 Contact our Events Team at 0467 900 382 to join in!

CASH FOR A CAUSE 2025

Second Draw on the 23rd, the winners were - Carol Purdon, Margaret Summers and Lorraine Fraser. Congratulations.

St Mary's Parish ECHUCA
 Growing in faith together

YOU ARE INVITED

AGM & Christmas Party

Let us come together to celebrate the blessings of the year and the joy of Christmas as one parish community.

GAMES, RAFFLE, JUMPING CASTLE, SANTA VISIT and more.

Please bring a plate to share and enjoy a joyful time of fellowship, fun, and festive spirit.
 We look forward to celebrating this special season with you and your family.
 Coffee and tea provided. BYO drinks.

SUNDAY
 14 DECEMBER 2025
 10:30 AM
 ST. MARY'S PARISH HALL

No mass or liturgy on the 3rd of December
5th December
Adoration at 11.30am and
1st Friday Mass 12.00pm

Parish Reconciliation for Christmas
2nd December: 7.30pm



November Mass Intentions.

Praying for the eternal rest of the faithful departed: Heather McKibbin, Colin Byatt, Magno Alcancia, Roseanne Taylor, McDonald & Turner families, Annie Pineo, Nola Brown, Douglas Pineo, Phyllis Pineo, Nell Barry, Pat Shanahan, Enid & Tom Dodd, John, Michael, Nell & Jim Stapleton, Noel, Mervyn & Trevor Bennett, Heather O'Neill, Janet Whelan, Bev & Max Arnold, Yvonne Dobell, Kaye, Jo & all Wild Orchid friends, Hart & Muirhead families, John Hetherington, Kath & Tom Roberts, Mary Roberts, Molly & Wal Monti, Madge Roberts, Kate & Harry Arnold, Kevin & Brian Arnold, Tom Arnold, members of the Brown & Foley families, Tom & Olive Costello, Vin, Leo, Pauline Costello, Tom & Molly McMannus, Ken Marwood, Marwood family, Sutton family, all the Millar family, Hynam family, Bathgate family, Moylan family, Tywan family, Simon Ryan, Ced Summers, Summers family, Sutton family, Murphy family, Tyndall, Roberts, Lucas Families, members of the Osso and Tracey families, Salvacion, Lucia, Enimisio, Restito, Pemia, Berlino, Anisia, Regan, Jack & Mary Banko, James (Mick) Oliver, Graeme Banko, Max Jacobs, Woolnough Family, David Taylor, Maureen Taylor, Roseanne Taylor, Fernand Dotarot, Mangie Empaynado, Julie Feriz, Magno Alcancia, Epefania Baligasa, Sotena Deston, Rufino Catarata, Frank Mira, Walsh family, Russell Roberts, Kath & George Ogilvie, Trevor Ogilvie, Tony Tyndall, Lyle Fraser, Chris Fraser, Steven Ferres, Neil & Kathleen Vagg, Patricia Vagg, Marie Vagg, Dorothy Vagg, Lance Vagg, Bill Vagg, Tom & Mollie Henderson, Inucencio Villaruz, Alberta Villaruz, Alejandro Villaruz, Constancio Villaruz, Faustina Tuballa, Anges Hipwell, Raymond Wells, Victoria Villaruz, Maria Villaruz, Vecenta Villaruz, Jenny Pingos, Angel Bajana.



ROSTERS THIS WEEK

29th & 30th November 2025

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Christine Sebire, Peter Phillips, Carol Purdon

9.30am: Barb Green, Lauren Gould, Cecilia Merrigan

Ministers of the Eucharist:

6.00pm: Bob Cooper, Kim Wallace

9.30am: Kay Westblade, Catherine Linder

Prayers of the Faithful: Rose Quinn

St Anne's Church Cleaners: 29th

Loretta Holman, Mary Byrne

Setting up the Church: 29th Rose Quinn

Setting up the Church: 30th Julie Moyle

Baptism Preparation: Mary Byrne

Counters: 2nd Eileen Pineo, Lois Williams

Hospital Visiting: 1st Noela Boyer

Gardening: Doug Black & Ray Lewis

ROSTERS NEXT WEEK

6th & 7th December 2025

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Tania Dixon, Natasha Tauro, Ruth Phillips

9.30am: Julie Moyle, Jarrod O'Brien, Anne Marie Cairns

Ministers of the Eucharist:

6.00pm: Tertius Meth, Allan Chettiar

9.30am: Trish Marchetti, Matt Butler

Prayers of the Faithful: Mary Atkins

St Anne's Church Cleaners: 6th

Lauren Gould, Prue Galea

Setting up the Church: 6th Christine Sebire

Setting up the Church: 7th Kate Bruty

Baptism Preparation: Sarah Byrne

Counters: 9th Brendan, Andrew, Peter

Hospital Visiting: 8th Karla Chisholm

Gardening: Jim & Prue Galea, Rose Quinn

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

Sick: David Baker, Bruno Barbera, Monica Beckwith, Dan Carey, Howard Clark Jnr, Pat Davey, Chloris Dignan, Caroline Farley, Fred Molluso, Murray Perrett, Meredith Ryan (Maddick), Bruce Haines, Maureen McKenner, Lenny Reid, Alistair Corman, Frank Slattery, Elizabeth Kyne (Weekly), Patricia Vogeale, Meaghan Broom (Byrne), Maurice O'Connor, Antonia Molluso, June Williams, Carmel Murphy, Judy Clark, Judy Cooling (Dwyer), Dominga Cabantac

Anniversaries: Eileen Kirchhofer, Giffie O'Brien, John Dodd.

Recently Deceased: Ian Phillips, Kevin (Jack) Oliver, Rose Galea (Jim's Mother)

***If you have an addition to our overall prayer list or require someone to be removed from our sick list please email admin.*

First Reading*Isaiah 2:1-5***A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills.

All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles.

Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9*

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say:

'Let us go to God's house.'

And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name.

There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David. **R.**

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:

'Peace be to your homes!

May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!' **R.**

For love of my brethren and friends

I say: 'Peace upon you!'

For love of the house of the Lord

I will ask for your good. **R.**

**Next week: 2nd Sunday of Advent, Year A
6th & 7th December 2025**

1st Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Responsorial Psalm: 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

2nd Reading: Romans 15:4-9

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Second Reading*Romans 13:11-14***A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon - let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*Ps 84:8*

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Gospel*Matthew 24:37-44***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.