



# KYABRAM CATHOLIC PARISH

St Augustine's - Kyabram ~ St Patrick's - Tongala

St Augustine's - Kyabram, 69 Church Street, PO Box 341, Kyabram Vic, 3620

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Parish Priest – Fr Uday Marneni ALCP/OSS

First Sunday of Advent ~ Year A

Sunday 30 November 2025



Readings for  
this week:

Isaiah 2:1-5  
Romans 13:11-14  
Matthew 24:37-44

Readings for  
next Sunday:

Isaiah 11:1-10  
Romans 15:4-9  
Matthew 3:1-12



## ADVENT

### Liturgical Jottings

#### The ORDO II

The main content of the Church's Ordo is the listing of months and day of the liturgical year. It is a 13-month Calendar starting with the First Sunday of Advent and closing with the end of December the following year. For each day it gives the name of the Season or Feast Day eg the Monday of the first week of Advent or the memorial of St Nicholas. With the day's liturgical colour, the Scripture references for the daily readings and psalms, and directions about inclusion or omission of the Gloria, Creed, Special Prefaces or Blessings and may give optional readings. It mentions anniversaries of each Cathedral's dedication and recent Bishops' deaths and current Bishops' anniversaries and any special notes or directions.

### 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.

### Advent Image

The artwork in the left column depicts Santa Sophia (Holy Wisdom or Lady Wisdom). Wisdom is an attribute of God. The image of Emmanuel, God with us! Santa Sophia is surrounded by scrolls of the prophets that foretell the coming of the Messiah and appear in the Advent lectionary. She holds an owl and a lamp. The owl is classic symbol of wisdom and the oil lamp a symbol of vigil waiting.

### Quote from Pope Leo

Dialogue is not a tactic or a tool, but a way of life — a journey of the heart that transforms everyone involved, the one who listens and the one who speaks. We walk this journey not by abandoning our own faith, but by standing firmly within it. For authentic dialogue begins not in compromise, but in conviction — in the deep roots of our own belief that give us the strength to reach out to others in love." Pope Leo XIV in the Vatican, October 28, 2025.

### On the Lighter Side

When cars had bumper bars, many decorated them with stickers and slogans. A past but relevant one for today is: "Jesus is coming, look busy!" Though a more appropriate one may be: "Jesus is coming, stay awake!"

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### PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Sick:** Shane Boyd, Milly Perry, Matt Carver, Olive McElroy, Frances Corso, Philip Bowman, Kady Mitchell-Treacy.

**Recently Deceased:**

**Anniversaries:** Phillip Barca, Julie Shaw, Allan Baker.

(Please email or contact the Parish Office to add names to our prayer list)

### **ROSTERS**

**Sunday 7 December 8.30am**

Commentator – N Watt

Lector – M Tesoro

Special Minister – M Cocks

**Saturday 13 December at 6pm**

Commentator – W Mulcahy

Lector – J Harris

Special Minister – L Moran

**Sunday 14 December 8.30am**

Commentator – B Elliott

Lector – J Chant

Special Minister – M O'Shea

### **PLATE AND ENVELOPE COLLECTION**

**Last weekend Collection: \$ 1393.65**

Thank you for your generosity and support for our Parish. May God bless you, always.

### **PARISH DETAILS**

**PARISH PRIEST**

Fr Uday Kumar Marneni ALCP/OSS

**PARISH SECRETARY**

Vicki Arnel – 0417 147 695

**PARISH PASTORAL ASSISTANT**

Mary Zobec – 0427 190 282

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 8.30am-4pm

**PRINCIPALS**

*St Augustine's College* -Tim Campbell – Phone 5851 3000

*St Patrick's Primary* - Jackie Stockdale – Phone 5859 0371

### **MASS TIMES**

**KYABRAM**

Week Day: Tuesday Rosary 4pm, Mass 4.15pm & Thursday 9.15am

Saturday: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> weekend of month: 6pm EDT (5pm EST)

Sunday: 8.30am

**TONGALA:** First Sunday of month 11.30am

**RECONCILIATION:** Second Saturday (Weekend) of month 30 mins before Mass in St Augustine's Church.

**ANOINTING MASS:** First Thursday of the month at 10am in St Augustine's Church.

### **IMPORTANT DATES FOR DIARY**

#### **DECEMBER**

- \* Anointing Mass Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 10am
- \* Monthly working bee Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am.
- \* Farewell morning tea following 8.30am Mass on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December for Maurie and Angela Finn
- \* St Patrick's graduation Mass Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 9am.
- \* Communal Reconciliation Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 6pm
- \* Children's Mass & Christmas party 13<sup>th</sup> December 6pm
- \* Missa Di Gallo at St Brendan's Shepparton 6am Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

### **ST PATRICK'S CHURCH MEETING**

Following the 11.30am liturgy on 7 December, a meeting will be held in the church to discuss a change of use proposal for the church. Interested parishioners are invited to attend.

### **ST VINNIES CHRISTMAS HAMPER FOODS**

This year St Vincent de Paul conference would be so grateful to receive any non-perishable Christmas foods (shortbread, puddings, cakes, lollies etc) to help us provide special Christmas treats to our local families in need. Our last day for collection pickup is the 13/14 December. Christmas is all about kindness to others and hampers will really will make families know they are cared about. Envelopes will be available for donations.

### **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](http://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au) to watch.

### **ANOINTING MASS**

The next anointing mass will be held on Thursday 4 December at 10am, followed by a cuppa.

### **MASS TIME TABLE**

**Weekly Masses**

Sun 30<sup>th</sup> November - 8.30am Mass

**Weekly Masses**

Tue 2<sup>th</sup> December - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Mass

Thu 4<sup>th</sup> December - 10am Anointing Mass

Sun 7<sup>th</sup> December - 8.30am Mass

**Weekly Masses**

Tue 9<sup>th</sup> December - 4pm Rosary, 4.15pm Mass

Thu 11<sup>th</sup> December – No Mass

Sat 13<sup>th</sup> December - 6pm Mass

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> December - 8.30am Mass

**Weekly Masses**

Tue 16<sup>th</sup> December - 6.30pm Misa De Gallo Mass

Thu 18<sup>th</sup> December - 6.30pm Misa De Gallo Mass

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> December - 8.30am Mass



## FAREWELL TO MAURIE AND ANGELA FINN

A farewell morning tea will follow 8.30am Mass on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December for Maurie and Angela Finn. Maurie and Angela have lived in our parish for many years and contributed generously to our parish community through many ministries. You are invited to celebrate their dedication and wish them farewell as they continue with their retirement in Yea.

## ADVENT

Advent is a special time of preparation as we await the coming of Jesus at Christmas. To help us reflect and prepare, Advent reflection and discussion sessions will be held on **Mondays—1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd December at 4:00 pm in the church**. All are warmly invited to come along and share in this time of prayer and reflection.

## CARITAS APPEAL FOR PHILIPPINES & VIETNAM

As you would know from the news, a series of catastrophic weather events have struck the Philippines and Vietnam, leaving communities devastated. Many lives have been lost, thousands of people are missing, and more than a million people evacuated with nothing. Caritas partners are providing emergency assistance. We will be having a leaving collection on Sunday 7 December. Donations can also be made at [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au) or by calling 1800 024 413.

## MEET MATTHEW

Advent begins Year A and the gospel of Matthew, to prepare come and meet Matthew, his Gospel and his Jesus. Three Wednesday evenings, 3, 10 and 17 December 2025. 7pm – 9pm via Zoom. Book before 6pm 2 December at <https://www.trybooking.com/DHRUF> Donation only. For further information call Sandra on 0429 167 879. This course is offered by the Catholic School of Evangelisation.

## MISA DE GALLO-SIMBANG GABI

Simbang Gabi, the beloved Filipino nine-day novena leading to Christmas is a time of preparation of our hearts for the coming of Christ. Rooted in a rich tradition of faith and celebration these Masses help us enter more deeply into the spirit of Advent.

Fr Uday will celebrate these masses on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 6.30pm. Please join for supper and fellowship following each Mass and bring a plate to share. Please note that there will be **no** 4.15pm mass on the Tuesdays.

## ST PATRICKS GRADUATION MASS

St Patrick's graduation Mass will be Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 9am. Congratulations to all Year 6 students as they have reached this important milestone. Please pray for them as they embark on a new chapter in their new schools.

## CHILDREN'S MASS AND CHRISTMAS PARTY

Join us for a joyful celebration Mass on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm followed by dinner and fun activities for children. Families are warmly invited to come along. RSVP to the Office 5852 1026 or Mary 0427 190 282. Come and share in the Spirit of Christmas with our parish community.

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## CHILD SAFE PARISH

We are a Child Safe Parish, we have a zero tolerance for child abuse and aim to provide a safe, supportive and welcoming environment to all visiting children, young persons and vulnerable adults. If you are concerned for any form of abuse that is immediate you should call 000; a significant risk or harm, whether or not you have formed this belief on reasonable grounds, you should immediately raise your concerns with one of our Parish Child safety officers Mary Zobec 0427 190 282 or Annette Ryan 0408 502 858.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

As we come to worship, we remember the Yorta Yorta & Bangerang People the original custodians of this land. We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with deep respect. May the Elders, past and present, be blessed and honored. May we join and build a future based on compassion, justice, faith and reconciliation.

**"The future starts today, not tomorrow." St. John Paul the Great**



Alleluia, alleluia!  
Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.  
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 24:37-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*Stay awake, you must be ready.*

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 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.

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# Breaking Open the Word

STAY AWAKE!

Happy New Year! Today we listen to the Gospel according to Matthew for the first time on this first day of the new liturgical year, Year A. Matthew writes for Jewish followers of Jesus living in the mid-80s of the first century. We shall listen to this Gospel aware that Israelite-Jewish concepts permeate its presentation of the Jewish Jesus, so different from Mark or Luke.

The language of today's Gospel is very Jewish. It is drawn from imagery of the Old Testament—typical, as we shall see, of Matthew—and from a particular style of biblical writing called 'apocalyptic'. Tempted to take our selection literally, it is better and to think of it as 'theological-poetry'. The evangelist uses a familiar Jewish literary style of writing. Its basic theme is that, despite the evil and tragedies that surround people, God will save and protect those who are faithful, especially at that definitive moment of divine judgement at the end of time.

Jesus' injunction is to 'stay awake' to this moment—not to fall asleep or become disheartened by its delay. God will definitively act against evil and vindicate the faithful. Today's Gospel is a sobering reminder. We, too, must 'stay awake' and 'stand ready' to what will unfold in the year ahead and not be dispirited by all that seems negative, fruitless and disheartening. God's presence, the God who 'will be with us' will be revealed in the figure of the 'Son of Man'. This is a recurring theme in the Gospel and throughout this new liturgical year.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.*

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.

RESP PSALM

Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9. R. cf. v. 1

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

1. 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.

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# THE SAVING WORD



2. 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.

3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray: / Peace be to your homes! / May peace reign in your walls, / in your palaces, peace! R.

4. 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.

SECOND READING

Rom 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*The time has come, our salvation is near.*

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.