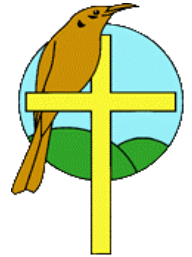




Mooroolbark Catholic Parish

St Peter Julian Eymard
Church

St Richard's
Church



How Do We Discover the Presence of God in Every Day?

Number 45

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

11th December, 2011

Parish Priest

Fr. Joseph Lu Xin

Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Veronica McLindon

Parish Secretary

Mrs. Adriana De Leo

Parish Office

234 Hull Road (PO Box 2)

Mooroolbark 3138

Telephone 9723 4275 Fax 9725 4377

<http://www.spje.org.au/>

Mooroolbark@cam.org.au

Parish Hall

Leveda Allison - Hall Manager Ph: 9739 6669

SPJE Parish School

Reay Road, Mooroolbark 3138

Telephone 9725 0595 Fax 9723 9255

School Principal – Mr. James Daly

<http://www.spjemooroolbark.catholic.edu.au>

St. Richard's Church

19 Cherylne Cres, Kilsyth 3137 Mel Ref 52 C6

St. Richard's Parish School

672 Mt. Dandenong Rd.

Kilsyth, 3137

Telephone 9728 4378 Fax 9728 6272

School Principal - Ms. Maureen Stella

<http://www.srkilsyth.catholic.edu.au>

Catholic College

Mount Lilydale Mercy College

Anderson St., Lilydale 3140

Telephone 9735 4022 Fax 9735 0266

<http://www.mlmlilydale.catholic.edu.au>

Mass Times @ SPJE

Tues, Wed, & Fri: 9.15 am

Saturday No morning Mass 6.00pm (vigil)

Sunday: 10.30am

Mass Times @ St. Richard's

Thurs: 9.15am (Rosary after 9.15am mass)

Sunday: 9.00 am

Reconciliation: Saturday 5.15 p.m.

or by arrangement with Priest.

Sacraments (Baptism, weddings, catechetics)

Ring Parish Office 9723 4275

Christian Meditation: Every Tuesday at 7.30pm in the
Convent Meeting Room.

"Choose To Witness"

It's interesting during this Advent period to reflect upon the images that our society associates with Christmas.

Gifts and trees, lights and feast- like meals. Friends catching up and families sharing presents and laughter. Chocolates and alcohol. Angels and wise Kings. Elves and reindeer, Santa and spending money. These are all images of comfort. These images are at stark odds with the facts and circumstances of the very first Christmas.

I'm sure there was no comfort for Mary or Joseph in having to journey far from home. How comfortable do you think the heavily pregnant Mary would have been travelling by foot or riding on a donkey? The hardship and misery of being homeless. The desperation of having a new born with no family support and not even

appropriate clothing to dress your child in. The alienation of being a refugee as they fled to Egypt to escape their son being murdered. The message of Christ's adult life and of his teaching is no more comfortable. To bring the Christmas story, to life in our contemporary world, we are challenged to experience

discomfort as we question our attitudes and action towards others. Is our life centred on 'welcoming in' or on 'settling in'. The Christmas story is one of discomfort and challenge but it is also one of endurance and of service. As such, it remains a beautiful story. It's

beauty comes not from the quaintness of our images, but from the unfathomable and enduring love and the bright promise of hope that emanate from the story of a family rejoicing in new life despite their poor circumstances. One version of St Francis' Prayer has these words: "Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort than to be comforted" and that, I think, is the true message of the Christmas story.



Weekday masses

Tues, Wed, Thur & Fri 9.15am

Readings for next week

**2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16;
Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38**

Prayers For The Sick

We pray for parishioners and friends who are ill, especially **Nell Collins, Rosina Gajewski, Liza Chan, Diane Cox, Verna Harnetty, Maryann Tilley, Angelo La Morticella, Rachel Binning, James Harbour, Hazel Kempton, John Russo & Francis McMahon.**

Remembrance Diary

We remember those who have died recently and all those whose anniversary occur about this time:

Tony Bucciarelli, Sheliah Ann Eddy, Edilberto Pangilinan, Beverley Marilyn Canete, Susan Chadwick, Lorraine Lunghusen, Margaret Galea, Frank D'Orival, Thelma Dight, Rudi Franz, Tony Franz, Vladimir Klepac, Alfrea Anderson, George Bell, George Hewerdine, Tanya Suhur, David Tatnell, Anne Harding, Colin Riley, Mary Wallace, Joy Blake.

ROSTERS

Counters

12th December Paul Redfern & Rupert Hubbard
19th December Margaret Fay, Robyn Morrison & Deidre Findlay

Flowers

26th December NO FLOWERS DURING ADVENT

Cleaners (SPJE)

12th December Di Nardo & Dwyer Family
19th December Larrine Roberts & Anne Mitchell
Robinson

Cleaners (St Rich)

12th December Rose Lawrence & Rachel
Nicholson
19th December Deepa Emmanuel & Family

**(Please collect church key from parish office
Monday - Friday 9am - 4pm)**

Ministers of Eucharist Co-ordinators for December

6.00 pm George Nantes
9.00 am Brenda & Jim Corrigan
10.30am **Volunteer Required**

Readers & Commentators 17th & 18th December

Sat. 6.00 pm Brian Harman & Julia Zammit
Sun. 9.00 am Peter Nanscawen & Salus Correia
Sun. 10.30 am Patrick Mioni & Frances Corker

LAST WEEK'S THANKSGIVING

Weekly pledge amount: \$3952
Actual Received: \$3155
Average Weekly Giving for the last 6 months \$3455

ROSARY

Rosary will resume in February 2012.

PARISH CALENDAR UPCOMING EVENTS

10/11 Third Sunday of Advent
Tue 13th Advent Penitential Service
Thur 15th End of Year Mass for St Richard's
School 9.15 am.

17/18 Fourth Sunday of Advent
Tue 20th End of Year Mass for SPJE
School 2.00pm School Oval.

24th Dec Christmas Masses
SPJE Oval 6.00pm
St Richard's Oval 6.00pm
SPJE 8.30pm
SPJE Midnight

25th Dec St Richard's 9.00am
SPJE 10.30am

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Have you ever wondered why our newsletters are printed in different colours...?? They are printed to signify the seasons of the church calendar year. eg. Advent is Violet.

Veronica's Farewell

Please save this date Sunday 29th
January 2012.

2011 ADVENT PARISH PROJECT

"Brigidine Asylum Seeker Resettlement Program"

Thank You so much for including this important work of the Church in your Advent giving. Thank you for the many cards and gifts as well as the \$645.75 that we have raised so far. This will go towards the resettlement of those who have or will be granted temporary and permanent visas. If you have not already done so ...

You will find that donation envelopes are placed in the church throughout the Advent Season. You

might wish to make one donation or give each week to this project. Please remember to place your contribution in the envelopes provided and place them on the collection plate.

Thank you.

WEEK 3 LAST WEEK to send a Christmas greeting

But what can I do?

WRITE A MESSAGE OF HOPE to detainees telling them you welcome them to this country and that we are working to change our Government's

policies. Cards are provided in the church foyer.

OR

You might like to look at the range of **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

These can be found on the Social Justice Board in the foyer or look at the following web site.

volunteer_admin@asrc.org.au

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE



Come along on Tuesday evening the 13th December at 7.30pm at SPJE church for a very special liturgy that invites us to reflect on

our lives and God's forgiving love. Our parish has a history of gathering together during Advent as a community to celebrate our God who calls us to restore broken relationships with ourselves and each other.

CHRISTMAS MASS on the OVAL 6.00pm 24thDec



Calling all children who whose families are coming to this Mass. Girls and boys we would

love you to come dressed as angels, shepherds & royal people. If you would like to do a reading or take up the collection, distribute song books etc can you contact Veronica McLindon at the Parish House 9723 4275. Looking forward to seeing you at this celebration of this beautiful feast.

CHRISTMAS CD

Joe Fernandez our Parish Accountant has supplied the parish with a lovely Christmas CD. If you wish to purchase a CD the cost is \$10.



All sales of CD's will now be sent to the Phillipino Family.

SVDP New Facility

You may have noticed the new portable classroom in the Convent area. This is the new St. Vincent de Paul facility that will be used as a meeting room and storage facility for our food hampers. It was a necessary move due to ever increasing regulations. To those who have made extra donations towards furniture, power, heating, etc., we sincerely thank you for your kindness. We hope to be operating out of the facility in time for our Christmas Hampers.

Christmas

Don't forget we have Columban Calendars and Christmas Cards available in the church foyer after each Mass. Our Christmas tree with gift tags will be erected soon so please remember the needy at this time of year. There are tags for children's presents or for money for food for the hampers. Thank you again for your help.

FRIDAY NIGHT MUSIC IN THE WYREENA CONSERVATORY CAFE

December 16 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

"ENTITY"

Location: Wyreena Community Arts Centre,

13-23 Hull Road Croydon - **Bookings 9294 5590**

Please see church notice board for more information.

2012 Sacramental Preparation Program

St Peter Julian Eymard and St Richard Parish Church offers a Catechetical Program for primary aged children who have not received the sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation. Classes take place every Thursday afternoon between 4.00 pm – 5.00 pm at St Peter Julian Eymard school beginning on Thursday, 16th February 2012. Enrolments are now being taken. If you wish to enquire or enroll your child please ring Veronica McLindon at the Parish House on 9723 4275.



are very popular this year so you will need to get in early. Just \$6-00 a pack of ten.

And do not forget the Columban Calendars. They are a must in any home and all monies raised go to support the Missions and SVDP. Just \$8-00 a calendar.

Calendars and Cards will be on sale after each Weekend Mass.

Thank you for your support throughout the year and thank you for helping us make Christmas a little more special for those not as fortunate as ourselves.

2011 CHRISTMAS FAIR

Thank you to the parishioners of SPJE and St. Richard's Parish.

Notwithstanding the dismal weather, Community Spirit was very evident last Saturday at this year's Christmas Fair.

A big thank you to all who attended and supported the "Fair". We still made a profit although not as good as last year.

A big thank you to the "Stall Holders" and their "Helpers" - A big thank you to the helpers on the Friday "Set Up" and the Saturday "Pack Up" in the pouring rain.

A very big thank you to the tireless committee members who have toiled all year.

Full "Wrap Up" and detailed reports with next week's "Bulletin"

Mac Hoogenboom, President.

SVDP CHRISTMAS TREE (& CARDS)

A special thank you to everyone who took a tag off our Christmas tree this year to help with our hampers for the needy. We do need the gifts back by **THIS** weekend because we are packing the hampers for deliver next week. If you forgot to bring them just drop them off in the foyer of the Church or at the Parish House during the week. But we do need them back **URGENTLY**.

Due to an unprecedented demand we sold out of Christmas Cards last weekend but we have arranged for another supply to be on sale this weekend and, hopefully, up to Christmas. They

INVITATION TO "La Storia Di Natale" (The Story of Christmas)

St Peter Julian School Italian & Performing Arts Department together with Mr James Daly, Principal & Staff have much pleasure in inviting our parish community to this performance.

Wednesday 14th December - 10am and 1pm in the Parish Hall.

Morning & Afternoon tea will be served after each performance.

Pre-school children are welcome to accompany their adults at the 10am performance.

1.00pm performance is directed to elderly people and we ask that young children are not brought to this session.

We look forward to seeing parents, grandparents, relatives, friends and members of the Parish Community to this event.

