



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SANDHURST

# ST JOSEPH'S ✠ ST MONICA'S SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL

CLUSTER OF PARISHES

[www.bendigocathedralcluster.com.au](http://www.bendigocathedralcluster.com.au)

We gather, pray, and celebrate on the traditional land  
of the Dja Dja Wurrung people.

## SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Our parishes are committed to child safety. All children and young people who come to our parishes have a right to feel and be safe. The welfare of the children and young people in our care will always be our first priority and we have a zero tolerance of child abuse.

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B : 17TH DECEMBER 2023 - GAUDETE SUNDAY

**Bishop:** Most Rev. Dr Shane Mackinlay DD  
**Parish Administrator:** Very Rev. Dr. Brian Boyle ADM, EV

**Assistant Priest:**  
Rev. Fr Denib Josette "DJ" Suguitan

**Parish Office:** 66 Short Street, Bendigo 3550  
**Phone:** 03 5443 4400  
**Email:** [bendigo@cdos.org.au](mailto:bendigo@cdos.org.au)

**Website:** [www.bendigocathedralcluster.com.au](http://www.bendigocathedralcluster.com.au)

**Child Safety Officers:**  
**Cathedral:** Joan Freeman 0409 434 369  
**St Monica's:** Terry Quinn 0499 536 167  
**St Joseph's:** Bob Lawrence 0444 533 419

**Cathedral Sacristan :** Mr Andrew Howe

**Organist/Director of Music:** Paul Taylor  
**Organist:** Thomas Heywood  
**Organ Scholar:** Hugo Hess  
**Cantors:** Anne Begg, Joanne Bonazza, Brendan Egan,  
Sarah Gould.

**Cathedral Choir Membership Enquiries:**  
**Email:** [paul.taylor@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:paul.taylor@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)

**Parish Secretaries:** Chris Quinn, Maree Ellis

**Pastoral Associate:** St Joseph's Q/H, St Monica's K/F  
Mr Andrew Howe



*The Prophet Isaiah as depicted by Michelangelo  
in the Sistine Chapel*

## Sacrament of Reconciliation for Advent

Cathedral Cluster parishioners are invited to the reconciliation service @ St Kilian's @ 7.30pm  
on Tuesday, 19th December.

## MASSES FOR CATHEDRAL CLUSTER AFTER CHRISTMAS

Please be advised that there will be no public Masses in our Cathedral Cluster churches Tues 26th - Thurs 28th  
December inclusive.

There will be Masses on the 29th December; 8am Cathedral, 9.30am Kangaroo Flat .



## APPEAL FOR UKRAINE 2023 ADVENT

The war in Ukraine with all its suffering and displacement drags on. Last Advent (2022) we held an appeal for Ukraine which met with a generous response. The funds raised and distributed have all been accounted for. To assist our brothers and sisters in Ukraine again this Advent we will have a leaving collection in our Cluster of Churches on weekend of December 16th/17th (3rd Sunday of Advent).

As you are able, please support the appeal.

**CELEBRATING THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - GAUDETE SUNDAY –**  
**Welcome to Soprano Soloist, Merlyn Quaife, AM at 11am Mass**

The Sacred Heart Cathedral community welcomes distinguished Soprano soloist,  
Merlyn Quaife, to the 11am Mass today.

**EUCHARIST ADORATION AND PRAYER**  
**PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS**

During the Advent season, in preparation for our celebration of the Saviour's birth, we will have an hour of prayer and reflection in Sacred Heart Cathedral each Thursday evening in December. There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and opportunity for personal and communal prayer.

**Thursday evenings 5.15pm - 6.15pm - 21st in Sacred Heart Cathedral.**

**SANDHURST DIOCESE 2023 ADVENT LEAFLETS**

'The Way of Trust and Love' is the theme for the 2023 Sandhurst Diocese Advent leaflets, with Scripture readings, and passages from the writings of Pope Francis and St Therese of Lisieux, in honour of the Jubilee Year of St Therese of Lisieux, highlighting the simple way of trust and love St Therese implemented in her life leading to her Sainthood. Now available online at the Sandhurst Diocese website [www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au](http://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au) or printed copies from your parish on request.

**AUSLAN SANTA:**

The pilot program from last year has expanded to selected Westfield Shopping Centres in most states of Australia for 2023. Deaf and hard-of-hearing children and their families will be able to communicate in their own language with an Auslan-fluent Santa. This initiative, being able to talk to Santa, has been welcomed by the Deaf community. Children in regional Victoria will need to travel to NSW or suburbs in Melbourne to have this magical experience.

Mary Pianta. Disability Contact Coordinator.

**ADVENT 2023 – PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS**  
**WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY BRUCE DOWNES**

“You don't become who you hope to become, you only become what you do!”

You are invited to Prepare for Christmas this Advent (starting 3<sup>rd</sup> December) with a new Daily Devotional series. Each day, you will receive a short inspirational video from Bruce Downes, known as The Catholic Guy, full of inspiration, real-life stories and practical ways to become all that God has created you to be!

Register now or for more information: <https://BruceDownes.org/Advent>

Email: [info@brucedownes.org](mailto:info@brucedownes.org)

**2024 RITE OF ELECTION AND RCIA RETREAT DATES**

The 2024 Rite of Election Date is 18 Feb 2024 at 2pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Bendigo.

The 2024 RCIA Retreat is scheduled for 17 Mar 2024 in Kyabram.

**CATHEDRAL CHOIR SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS (2024)**

The Cathedral Choir is looking to recruit new members in all voice parts (soprano, alto, tenor and bass) and scholarships to the value of \$1,200 per year are available for successful applicants from Catholic schools in the Bendigo region. The famous saying: “those that sing, pray twice” is attributed to St Augustine of Hippo (c. 354-430), a famous Father of the Church who is honoured in the Cathedral's daily Mass chapel and rear stained glass window. Promoting and supporting the choir's membership is a powerful way to help choristers and congregations enter into the spirit and mystery of the Church's liturgy and prayer. Auditions will be held on **Sunday 28 January 2024** after the 11am Mass in the Cathedral Choir Room.

Enquiries: [paul.taylor@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:paul.taylor@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)

## WHAT DO YOU DO WITH YOUR SOFT PLASTICS?

The Cluster's "Care for Creation Group" has listened to Pope Francis' call to action to protect our environment by launching an initiative to deposit soft plastics in a receptacle at St Joseph's church in Quarry Hill.

The group identified that many people are having difficulty in transporting their soft plastics out to the various transfer stations across the City of Greater Bendigo, so the group managed to obtain receptacles for people from Sacred Heart, St Monica's and St Joseph's to deposit their **soft plastics only**.

One of those receptacles is now in place in the courtyard at St Joseph's church in Quarry Hill.

The soft plastics will then be transported by a volunteer to a transfer station.

This is a trial only and it would be appreciated if people ensure that only **soft plastics** are placed in the receptacle.

**Soft plastic: Use the "scrunch test" – if you can scrunch the soft plastic into a ball it can go in the St Joseph's receptacle**

Then come along to our next meeting: Bring your ideas on how to care for creation and heed the Pope's call to action.

Learn about our native wildlife and how to protect them in this changing climate. Find out what is happening to those soft plastics that you are depositing. Learn alternatives to using plastic.

Next meeting is on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 11am at St Joseph's.

For further information phone Vyonne McLelland-Howe on 0408 414 036

	CATHEDRAL— 24TH DECEMBER 2023			ST MONICA'S— 23rd/24TH DEC 2023		ST JOSEPH'S 23RD DEC
	8.30AM	11.00AM	6PM	SAT 6PM	SUNDAY 9AM	SAT 6PM
<b>COMMENTATOR</b>				Volunteer Please	D McMahon	V Murray
<b>READER 1</b>	M O'Brien	N Novabos	N Nowers	C Britten	J Merkel	M Pianta
<b>READER 2</b>	Y Laventure	J Russell	N Nowers			
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER</b>	<b>J Parker</b>	<b>A Wood</b>	Volunteer	L Waddington	J Ritchie	C Williams
	K Dullard	N Crowle				
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	M Lomas	Whitehouse	Volunteer	B & M Cockerall	Volunteer Please	
<b>ALTAR SOCIETY</b>	Dec 23rd Team 1 (Names on roster)			Dec 23rd/24th M Evans, C Britten		

### PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL IN OUR PARISHES WHO ARE SICK OR UNDERGOING MEDICAL PROCEDURES AND TREATMENTS

Pam Wright, Tess Dockter, Gary Muller, Carmel Moon, Mary Mooney, Roma O'Shannessy, Gerald Kavanagh, Glenda Waddington, Mathew Craine, John Mangan, Bruno Zausa, Hall Family, Matthew Turner, Theresa Cain, Judy Gaffee, Maureen O'Keefe, Elaine Kelly, Rose Capicchiano, Audrey Drechsler, John Whelan, Kath Munari, April Twyford, Ben Castles, Kay Ross, Audrey Hope, Brendan Drechsler, Pat Fitzpatrick, Pat Bonham, Bob Hayden, Lauren Horton, Malcolm Connolly, Lyn Wright, Keith Riley.

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

#### ANNIVERSARIES OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Fr Bill Harney, Fr Arthur Owens, Elaine Francis, John Cullis, Eva Rodda, Vincent Carmine Stilo, Augustine Egan, Margaret Meade — Jeremiah Harris, Teresa Mendonca, Tom Carey, Michael James O'Sullivan, Freda Connolly, Maurice Moloney, Judy DeArango, Anthony Norman, Leanne Ketterer, Roy Dickson, Pauline Blampied — Robert McGarity, Clarice Taylor, Phillip Leader, Annie Bennett, Jessie Drechsler, John Waddington, Tom Hogan, Terrence Gallagher, Edmund Flood, Frances Pentland.

## READINGS OF THE DAY

### **FIRST READING**

**Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11**

#### **A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,

he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels.

'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

My Soul rejoices in my God

### **SECOND READING**

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

#### **A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians**

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Isaiah 61:1 (Lk 4:18)**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;

he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

### **GOSPEL**

**John 1:6-8. 19-28**

#### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked, 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not,' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

#### **NEXT SUNDAYS READINGS:**

**1st Reading: 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16**

**2nd Reading: Rom 16:25-27**

**Gospel: Luke 1:26-38**

### **MUSIC FOR CATHEDRAL (CATHOLIC WORSHIP BOOK II)**

Entrance - CWB 244

Lord, Have Mercy/Kyrie - 8.30am/6pm CWB 34, 11am Missa Emmanuel

Gosp. Acclamation - CWB 42

Prep. Of Gifts - 8.30am/6pm - CWB 245 Prepare the way. 11am Rejoice, rejoice greatly.

Holy Holy/Mem. Accl./Amen - 8.30am/6pm - CWB 66a-c / 11am Missa Emmanuel

Lamb of God - 8.30am/6pm - CWB 73/11am Missa Emmanuel

Communion - I receive the living God, and my heart is full of joy. Recessional - CWB 238