

ALSTONVOICE

Newsletter of Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Parish, Alstonville
and St Patrick's Church Wardell

8 December 2013—Year C



St Vincent de Paul Society *good works* Our Lady of the Rosary Conference Celebrates 35 Years of Service to the Alstonville Community

It is Christmas time again. For us oldies it is amazing how quickly it comes around! Also our Conference is getting on as well. It is 35 years since our establishment in 1978 on 8 December.

There are many people in our society who come to us for assistance for a wide range of reasons. Because of who we are we can support them. We are not hidebound by rules, thanks to the financial support we receive from the Community and our Centres. Our aim is not to just support people but if at all possible to give people a "hand up" with a view to seeing them flourish in the community.

To give you some idea of what the SVdP Society does in the Lismore Diocese, in the short period from November 2012 to January 2013 we provided \$466,234 in assistance; in NSW only Sydney Archdiocese and Maitland/Newcastle Diocese provided more. The Lismore Central Council also contributed \$15,317 to pay for electricity bills and \$250,589 for food assistance. For

the whole of NSW in the same period we also distributed \$840,000 in EAPA vouchers, provided by the State Government, to help pay for electricity. Power bills are a major concern for those "friends in need" that we visit. In Alstonville, for the four months to 31 October this year we have provided \$3,881 towards meeting electricity bills and \$11,400 for food and food vouchers.

But it is not just about providing money to those in need because the needs are sometimes more than that. The money helps but the yeast we provide with the money, often our mere presence with a supportive ear and supportive words, go a long way to help our needy.

So we look to your generosity to help us in our work. We are always grateful for the support you give us because it is so generous.

A happy and Holy Christmas and a fruitful and peaceful New Year to all our Parishioners.

The Advent Wreath

Response:

Come and lead us to share your gift of peace.

Lord Jesus, you are the Saviour of Israel, Emmanuel the God who is with us.

Response

Lord Jesus, you are the one who fulfilled the promise of Micah, that out of Bethlehem of Judah, the least of the clans of Israel would be from the one who is to rule over Israel.

Response

Lord Jesus, you are the one who leads the faithful remnant of Israel to the fulfilment of the promise.

Response

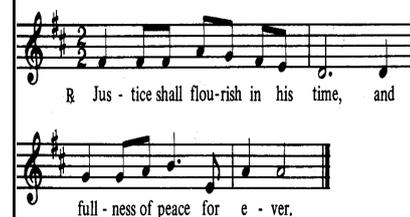


We acknowledge the Bundjalung peoples as traditional custodians of the land on which Our Lady of the Rosary Church, St Joseph's School and St. Patrick's Church Wardell stand.

2nd Sunday of Advent



Responsorial Psalm



O God give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement.

Response

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails: He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds.

Response

For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless.

He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor.

Response

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

Praise God who called you out of the darkness and into light.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

St Patrick's Church Wardell

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

LITURGY

Saturday—6.00 pm

Sunday—8.30 am

Tuesday—Friday 8.00 am

St. Patrick's Wardell

5.30 pm Sunday

Reconciliation (Alstonville)
Saturday 5.20 pm—5.40 pm



Calendar

2013

Our Lady of the Rosary

15 Dec Children's Liturgy
Presentation to Parish

2014

5 Jun Sacrament of Confirmation



MONTHLY PARISH MORNING TEA

Next Sunday after the
8.30a.m. Mass

Hosted by the
Children's Liturgy Leaders

**Parishioners and visitors
are invited to take the opportunity
to meet for a chat, and particularly to
meet and welcome visitors
and new parishioners.**

ACCOMMODATION Wanted

A young Catholic woman from Coffs Harbour is moving at the end of January to take up a Ministry traineeship at Xavier Catholic College in Skennars Head. She needs to find low cost housing (Trainees receive a very low income). If anyone has/or knows of someone who has a granny flat or self-contained 'apartment' under their house I would love to hear from you. Please call Kate Nestor 0407068230.

Expressions of Interest for Music Tuition Part-Scholarship

The Music Liturgy Committee are looking for expressions of interest from junior musicians interested in receiving tuition to help them learn to play at our parish Masses and Liturgies. A commitment to the Parish Music Liturgy is required and previous keyboard/organ/piano experience is an advantage. For more information please contact Fr. Max.

Please pray for Lorna Scanlan and John Cork recently deceased, and all deceased relatives and friends of parishioners.



Prayers are asked for the sick and aged:

Edna Anderson, Gwen Archibald, Harold Armstrong, Barry Baker, Stephen Bartlett, Craig Bolton, Chiara Browne, Rebecca Byrne, Melinda Cahill, Cathy Campbell, Bob & Rose Craig, Julie Curtin, Leila Donnelly, Sheila Egan, Gemma Ellis, Bill Elliott, Iris Everson, David Farrand, Elsie Farrell, Marj Farrelly, John Fava, Elanora Fiore, Jack Flanagan, Jo Flatley, Diane Fletcher, Thomas Giamelli, Alex Goodrich, Kath Goodwin, Allan & Bev Griffin, Charlee Ellen Hobbs, Betty Hogan, Jennifer Hogan, Max Hogan, Sr. Anne Hughes, Chris Jeffrey, Mia Johnson, Stephen Johnson, Laurette Knight, Lynne Knight, Gladys Laverty, Joel Lumsden, Norma Lynch (mother of Margaret Gill), Carmel Maher, Andrew McIntyre, Marie McLean, Bob McLelland, Greg McMahan, Bob Miller, Beryl Moffatt, Brodie Munro, Reece Munro, Jan Niland (sister of Suzanne O'Keefe), Katie Normoyle, Alma O'Connor, Lucy O'Connor, Edith Paff, Kevin Parry, Jaye Payne, Margaret Pratt, Coy Rugers, Tom Rummery, Michael Ryan, Mary and Frank Shortis, Grant Smith, David Solomon, Ruby Stark, Cathie Stevenson, Ashruf Tabib, Jenny Taylor, Chris Tyler, Wendy Tyler, Angela Vidler, Coral Verhoeven, Bridget Wall, Nancy Walsh, Margaret Webb, Jan Weaver (sister of Rex Farrell), Robert White, Sharon Wilks, Michelle Williamson and Kath Yeadon.

Parishioners are invited to pray the Rosary at 7.50 am each Sunday and following the 8.00 am Mass every Thursday.



Children's Liturgy of the Word

This week the two groups will be joined together as they journey through Advent. If there are any Children's Liturgy Leaders who are available to help with crowd control, you will be most welcome!



Welcome into
the Christian
Community
Thomas Jay

Walsh who will be
baptised in Our Lady of
the Rosary Church this
Sunday.



Liturgy of the Word for Children

8.30 a.m. Mass

*"Listen children to God's Word
open up your hearts now.
The Spirit brings God's message
here, listen to God's Word"*

Singers/Musicians

Musicians and singers are asked to collect the new Music Roster which is available from the Sacristy. The roster goes to 25 May 2014.

More Pope Francis Tweets

Sometimes we know what we have to do, but we lack the courage to do it. Let us learn from Mary how to make decisions, trusting in the Lord.



New Parishioners are very welcome. We invite you to write your names in the books at the church entrance.
You will be contacted to see if you would like a visit from a member of the parish.

MINISTRY ROSTERS & LITURGY TIMES ALSTONVILLE				
December 2013 MINISTRY	Saturday 7 December 6.00 pm	Sunday 8 December 8.30 am	Saturday 14 December 6.00 pm	Sunday 15 December 8.30 am
WELCOMERS	Youth Group	Ann O'Neill	Trish Bartlett Pat MacRae	Max & Val Lewis
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL	Youth Group	Len Loker	Debbie McMahon	Adrienne Bucknole
MINISTERS OF THE WORD	Youth Group	Peter Cassidy (M) John Reilly	John Sheedy (M) Kay Burgess	Len Loker (M) Nicholas Simon
PREPARATION OF GIFTS	Youth Group	Barry & Denise Robinson Family	Dirou Family	Criss Family
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	Youth Group	Bev Crethar Louise Doust	Kate Nestor Sonya Lovett	Ann O'Neill John Rixon
ALTAR SERVERS	Jack Oates Matthew Oates Lillian King Luke Oates Olivia Voss	Vaughan Sandral James Boyce Sarai Sandral Charlotte Voss Ruby Parker	Harry Leslie Tomas Leslie Patrick Hart Lara Leslie Olivia Mosse	Brandon Quigley Jess Gibson Georgia Tibbey Imogen Boyce Patrick Thompson
COMMUNION TO THE SICK		John Molloy Beryl Moye Warren Madge Anne Drew		Sara Santander Julie Schmidt Louise Doust Ann O'Neill Margaret Loong
COUNTING COLLECTIONS		Peter & Rosanne Squire Lawrie Waring		Margaret Goulding Jim Cochran Don & Helen Flangan
MUSIC	Youth Group	Ros McElligott Group	Catherine Kopp Group	Jacinta Crane Group
CHILDREN'S LITURGY				
8 December: Karen & John Freebody Tanya Pagotto & Jacinta Oates				



Father Mac's Heavenly Puddings

Phone: 02 6628 5474

Fax: 02 6628 3077

Available at the church entrance

email: fathermc@nor.com.au

website: www.fathermac.org.au

A Father Mac's Pudding is a great gift for your, friends or for a needy family.

Father Mac's Heavenly Puddings requests volunteers to assist with the Lismore Square Christmas Promotions on **Monday 16 December**. Please phone Bev on 6628 5474 if you can assist.

Christmas Masses

Alstonville

- ☛ Christmas Eve 5.00 pm Children's Mass (McCarthy Hall)
- ☛ Christmas Eve 7.00 pm Christmas Vigil (Church)
- ☛ Christmas Day 8.30 am (Church)

Wardell

- ☛ Christmas Eve 5.30 pm

WARDELL Oct 2013 MINISTRY	Sunday December 2nd Sunday of Advent	Sunday 15 December 3rd Sunday of Advent
SACRISTAN	Jill Tabib	Jo Flatley
READERS	Joanne Wunsch Ian Wunsch	Selina Carney Sr. Judy Quirk
OFFERTORY GIFTS	Campbell Kenyon Damian Jarzynski	Leanne & Victoria Pippo
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER	Selina Carney	Joanne Wunsch
CHURCH CLEANERS	Larelle & Brian	Larelle & Brian



St Joseph's School News

Dear Parishioners,

At last week's Assembly I spoke to the students about making mistakes..... how we can be a good example to others even when things aren't going

your way.

How to Win at Being a Loser!

Expect mistakes. They are how we learn. Nobody's perfect! There will be mistakes but that is no reason to give up.

Review your failures and mistakes so you can learn from them. Then next time you will have a better chance at success. Use positive affirmations. Talk optimistically and positively to yourself (I CAN do this)

Don't dwell on the past. If things don't work out the way you planned then think about next time (not last time). Try and try again.

This resilience or stamina is not only reflected in our dealing with others but in our have-a-go attitude in learning. Too many of our students don't conquer something first time so they shut down. By the time they gear up again the learning time is over. They did not make the most of that time. Do that a few times and you start to fall behind in lessons, not quite moving at the speed you could.

When we talk of resilience it is not just on the playground!

Therese Seymour, Principal



DIOCESAN INVESTMENT FUND

PAYS 3.4% AT CALL

INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND

Deposits at branch: Bruno Ivan, Freeborn House,
Suites 4-8, 92A Main Street Alstonville.

Provides low interest loans for churches, schools,

The Second Sunday Of Advent

Every age has its dreamers, men and women who can cut through the realities of everyday life and envisage a different world: like Martin Luther King:

I have a dream today. I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, and the rough places will be made plains, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

And when this happens, and when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all God's children, black and white, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing the words of that old Negro spiritual, "Free at last! Thank God almighty, we are free at last!"

Today's readings present two more dreamers, Isaiah and John the Baptist. Both focus our attention on a third, Jesus of Nazareth.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 11:1-10

Christians have traditionally applied this text from Isaiah to Jesus and this is why it finds a place in the liturgy of the second Sunday of Advent.

Only a dreamer could imagine a world where wolves lived with lambs and lion cubs and calves shared their food. The reign of God that Isaiah dreams about is so rich in justice, peace and harmony that even the animal kingdom is affected.

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

The psalm extols the role of the king in Israelite history. Each new king brought Israel closer to the 'King of Kings', the promised Messiah.

The opening verse is a sincere appeal that God will give the king wisdom and justice. The remaining verses enlarge on the first verse.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 15:4-9

The world of harmony and peace that Isaiah could only dream about has become possible, says Paul, because of our commitment to Jesus. Writing to a church beset with divisions, Paul encourages his readers to harmony with one another. As Christ accepts us, so we should accept others and not resort to carping criticism.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 3:1-12

It would be very easy to read John the Baptist's words as addressed only to the Pharisees and Sadducees. Matthew recorded the words because they applied also to the leaders of the church of his time and to the church leaders of every age.

John the Baptist is calling for a radical change of direction. Instead of relying on 'we have Abraham for our father', John demands that the leaders practice what they preach. Instead of relying on 'we have the Holy Spirit' maybe the church in Australia needs to examine its structures and conduct to bring its practice into the same field as its preaching. The young especially are quick to notice when theory and practice do not square.

John the Baptist is a commanding figure: appearing in the wilderness, asking for repentance, a man of distinctive appearance, to say the least. He is not afraid to say what he thinks, and his message is merciless: 'brood of vipers ... axe laid to the roots of the trees ... cut down and thrown of the fire.'



Thought for the Week
from our
Social Justice Committee

WHY DO PEOPLE FLEE?

People flee persecution for many reasons. Some have been persecuted for their religious beliefs or political opinions. Others have been targeted because of their ethnic group or trade union activities. Some are persecuted because they uphold the democratic principles of truthful and responsible independent journalism. War, civil unrest and persecution in source countries are major influencers on people movements around the globe, and far more influential than the deterrent policies of any one destination country.

UNHCR 2013 report. Asylum levels and trends in industrialised countries, 2012

Top source countries	Asylum claims lodged in 2012
Afghanistan	36,635
Syria Arab Rep.	24,755
Serbia (and Kosovo)	24,340
China	24,109
Pakistan	23,229

(Source Asylum levels and trends in industrialised countries—2012 (UNHCR 2013))

Parish Information

Parish Priest	Fr Max Gow Phone 66283047 Fax 66283077 Email alstcc@nor.com.au www.alstonvillecatholicchurch.org.au
Presbytery Address	9 Perry Street Alstonville 2477 P.O. Box 102
Pastoral Associate Alstonville	Sr Anne Hughes rsm Phone 02 6628 6428 23 Maple Drive Alstonville 2477 Email: anniehughes@bigpond.com
Pastoral Associate Wardell	Sr Larelle Laverty Phone 02 6683 4642 Email: larelle@bigpond.com 50 Richmond Street Wardell
Parish Office Secretary	Mrs Tanya Pagotto
Finance Officer	Mrs Margaret Goulding
Maintenance	Mr John Wardrop
Pastoral Council	
Chairperson	Mrs Helen Niven
Secretary	Mrs Susan Felsch Phone 6683 4336
Finance Council	
Chairperson	Mr John Dwyer
Secretary	Mrs Margaret Goulding
St. Joseph's School	11 Perry Street Alstonville 2477
Principal	Mrs Therese Seymour Phone 66281009 / Fax 66281508 Email sjalst@lism.catholic.edu.au Web: www.alstplism.catholic.edu.au