

*St. Mary MacKillop  
Church  
Keilor Downs*



*St. Paul's  
Church  
Kealba*

**PARISH OF ST MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Year B - 2nd & 3rd December, 2017



The word **ADVENT** means 'arrival' or 'coming.' The season of **ADVENT** is the beginning of the Church's liturgical year.

In this season, the Church celebrates the three-fold coming of Christ; **as a human person in history; as someone always present with us in mystery; and as one who, as judge at the end of time, will come in majesty.**


Advent is a season of paradox: it is a time of both **penance** and **joy!** The season of **NEW-ness** and **Re-NEW-all** 'Christ's Mass' does indeed celebrate the beginning of a **NEW** era for mankind, of a **NEW** meaning of life for each of us.

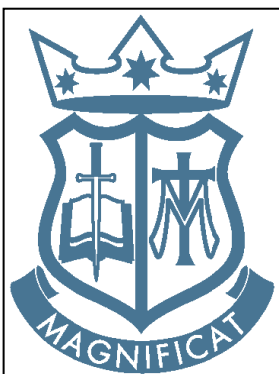
**ADVENT** is a four week season of preparation for Christmas when Christ's coming in history is remembered; and as a season when that first coming directs the mind and heart to await **CHRIST'S SECOND COMING** at the end of time. It is a waiting spent in preparation and reflection.

Our prayer this season **Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!**

**MASS TIMES**

<u>St Paul's</u>	
Wednesday	9.30am
Thursday	9.30am
Saturday	5:00 pm (Latin)
	6:30 pm
Sunday	8:00am (Maltese)
	10:00am
Reconciliation	
Saturday	6:00pm
<u>St Mary MacKillop</u>	
Monday	9.30am
Tuesday	9.30am
7.00pm—8.00pm	Holy Hour
Friday	9.30am
Saturday	5:00pm
Sunday	9:00am
	11:00am
	5:30pm
Reconciliation	
Saturday	4pm—4.50pm

<b>Entrance Antiphon:</b> To you, my God, I lift my soul, I trust in you; let me never come to shame. Do not let my enemies laugh at me. No one who waits for you is ever put to shame.	<b>2nd Reading:</b> 1 Corinthians 1:3-9	our offering and sustain us with your promise of eternal life.
<b>1st Reading:</b> Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1,3-8 Psalms 79:2-3,15-16,18-19	<b>Gospel Acclamation:</b> Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!	<b>Communion Antiphon:</b> The Lord will shower his gifts, and our land will yield its fruit.
<b>Responsorial Psalm:</b> Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.	<b>Gospel:</b> Mark 13:33-37	<b>After Communion:</b> Father, may our communion teach us to love heaven. May its promise and hope guide our way on earth.
	<b>Before Communion:</b> Father, from all you give us we present this bread and wine. As we serve you now, accept	

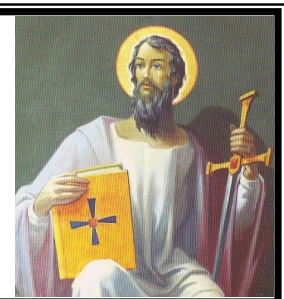


**ST. MARY  
MACKILLOP**

*'God is all  
goodness and love.'*

**ST. PAUL**

*'The revelation we  
looked for,  
Christ Jesus our Lord.'*



**Parish Priest:** Rev. Monsignor Charles Portelli **In Residence:** Rev Gerard Johnson

**Faith Development:** Mr Joseph Zahra—St Paul's

**St Mary MacKillop Church & Parish Office (both Churches):**

152 Odessa Avenue, Keilor Downs, Victoria 3038

**Office Hours:** Mon—Fri 9am—1.30pm

**Office Staff:** Joseph Camenzuli & Melinda Xerri

**Phone:** 9364 0440 **Fax:** 9364 6913

**Email:** mgrcep@stma.com.au  
reception@stma.com.au

**St Paul's Church & Presbytery:**

230 Sunshine Avenue, Kealba, Victoria 3021

**Phone:** 9366 4040 **Fax:** 9364 2706

**Website:** www.stmaryoftheassumption.org.au



## CHOIR PRACTICE

First rehearsal for Christmas practice will be held on MONDAY, 4TH DECEMBER AT 6.45pm.  
All Christmas music folders and an accompanying CD will be issued at the practice.



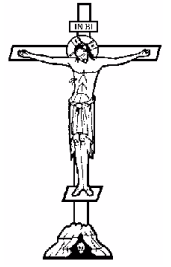
## In Remembrance...

### Recently Deceased:

Kira James & Iolanda Pirota.

### Anniversaries:

Peter Zammit Jnr,  
Rita & Fred Pirota,  
Juza & George Spiteri,  
Annie Mallia,  
Louis Zarb,  
Louis Pirota,  
Gregorio & Maria Ragusa, Giuseppe & Maria Ragusa, Giovanni Lazzaro, Erna Hermsdorf, Vincenzo Grazia Decorrado, Maria Iljas, Guseppi & Teresa Commisso, Dominic Tung, Dominic Phong, Joseph Ky, Carmel Pirota, Thomas Chenzina, Joseph Zammit, Lucas & Guisepe Marchio, Mary & Roger Buhagiar, Francis, Victoria, Joseph & Mary Aguis, Bishop Joe Grech, Ilario & Rafaela Nuciforo, Maria & Angelo Lanteri, Josephine Ormiston, Alessandro & Carmela Nuciforo.



*We pray for all those who are sick especially, Joan, Peterson, Peter & Imalda.*

## LOVE IN ACTION

We were walking back to the van. Between us we supported an old man as he struggled to walk. He was weak and cold and we were taking him to the St Vincent de Paul hostel. It was all part of being a volunteer with Night Patrol. As we reached the van the old man stopped and looked me in the eye. 'Why do you do this?' he asked. I was caught by surprise. 'To help you,' I stuttered. 'You help me, but why do you do this?'" the man repeated. 'We don't want to see you out here in the cold,' my co-worker piped up. 'You do good, so someone else will believe in good,' announced the old man. Then he began to mutter incoherently.

Later, as I walked home in the early hours of the morning, I thought about the old man's question. Why do I do this? Why do I spend one night of my week to be with people who have no food or shelter? I thought of my friends who came with me. I thought of the prayer we had prayed under our special tree before we set out on the night's rounds. 'When you do this for the least...you do it for me.' I remembered the look on the faces of the men who ate the simple sandwiches we gave them.

This food was their lifeline.

In a way, being there for them allowed me to be touched by the power and mystery of God's goodness; the same goodness of which the old man had spoken so eloquently. (Vic)

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## THE LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary is one of the largest apostolic organisations of lay people in the Catholic Church with approximately 10 million active members. Legion of Mary members have been gathering for their weekly meeting at Mary MacKillop for the last 20 years. Then during the week the members are required to do 2 hours of substantial assigned apostolic tasks with a colleague or staff member. Work includes religious education, taking Our Lady's statue home to home, door to door evangelisation, soup kitchen, taking Rosary Home residents shopping.

For further information phone Juneanne 9366 7516.

## STATUE OF OUR LADY

If any parishioners would like to have the Statue of Our Lady in their home, please contact Josephine on 9449 7106.



## SVDP Christmas Hamper Appeal 2017

On behalf of the St Vincent de Paul Society, the Keilor Downs Conference is seeking your generous support once again this year for our annual Christmas Hamper Appeal. With more families continuing to face difficult times, we are asking that together we can make a difference within our community this Christmas. We are appealing for items such as non-perishable Christmas foods and drinks as well as toys for children and gifts / gift vouchers for both teenagers and adults. Please leave any donated goods either in the church foyer or at the parish office anytime up until Wednesday December 13<sup>th</sup>. We kindly ask that you do not wrap the toys, gifts, food, etc. Please ensure that all food and drink items are not past their expiry date and that they have not been opened.

**Donation envelopes will also be available at all masses during the weekend of December 2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

On behalf of the families, we would like to say 'THANK YOU' for your continued support and hope that together we can bring nourishment, peace and prosperity to those who might otherwise not recognise the joy of this Christmas season.

## URGENTLY REQUIRED ST MARY MACKILLOP COUNTERS, READERS & SPECIAL MINISTERS

~ We need MORE help ~

If you are available to help with these vital ministries please contact the Parish Office on 9364 0440.

All Counters, Readers and Special Ministers will be on a rostered basis.

## CLEANERS REQUIRED



Cleaner for St Mary MacKillop Church **urgently needed**. If you are available for approximately 1 hour on a Friday morning (after Mass) to assist with the cleaning of the church, please contact the Parish Office on 9364 0440. Cleaners will be on a rostered basis. Light cleaning i.e. dusting, vacuuming and mopping/buffing only.



**St Mary of the Assumption Parish**  
invites our Senior Citizens to

**Mass and Anointing of the Sick**  
at 11.00a.m. on **Thursday, 7th December**  
to be held at St. Paul's Church

Followed by **Christmas Lunch**  
in St. Paul's School Hall.

To assist us with catering, please advise numbers wishing to attend to the Parish Office on 9364 0440 or fill in your details on the Clipboard in the foyer of the Church. If anyone is able to bring a plate, it would be greatly appreciated.

**R.S.V.P. by Friday 1st December**

*The St Mary of the Assumption Morning Prayer Group Would like to invite you and friends to our Thanksgiving Mass on Thursday 7th December Worship - Commences At 7.30pm - 8.00 pm Mass and afterwards Supper and Fellowship At St Mary MacKillop Church 152 Odessa Ave, Keilor Downs Sadly this day will also be our prayer ministry, break up day for the year. Enquiries ring: Teresa 0411 233 625*

**PARISH CHOIRS**

Parishioners are invited to join the Choirs at all masses to praise the Lord in song. If you would like to be involved in this vital Ministry, please contact :-

**St Mary MacKillop Choir: Rosanna 0425 751 230**  
**St Paul's Choir: Hung 0402 171 733**

## PRAYER GROUPS

MONDAY MORNING	THURSDAY MORNING
Following 9.30am Mass 10am Fellowship 10.30am - 11.30am Devotions	<b>ST MARY MACKILLOP MORNING PRAYER GROUP</b>  Thanksgiving Mass <b>Thursday 7th December</b>  Please refer main notice.  Enquiries: Teresa 0411 233 625
Join us in praying the <b>Divine Mercy Chaplet</b> 10am-10.30am	

TUESDAY EVENING
<b>SAMOAN DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP</b> Samoan Divine Mercy Prayer Group - at St Pauls Church every Tuesday at 6pm and the 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at 3pm. Info: Deacon David 0451240713


WEDNESDAY EVENING
<b>ST PAUL'S CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP</b> We have NO prayer meeting Wednesday evening.  Please join us together with all groups for a Thanksgiving Mass at St Mary MacKillop Church, Thursday 7.30pm.  All very welcome to attend .  For more information call Doris: 9367 4126

THURSDAY EVENING
<b>ST MARY MACKILLOP EVENING PRAYER GROUP</b> <b>Thursday, 7th December</b> 7.30pm <b>Thanksgiving Mass</b> All Prayer Groups and Parishioners Welcome to Attend, to thank the Lord Jesus for the blessings of the year. Christmas Supper afterwards. <b>We will take a break and return on February 8th, 2018.</b> Enquiries: Christina 0431 955 975

<b>LEGION OF MARY</b> Wednesday 7.00pm in the Parish Meeting Room All Welcome
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**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
**EVERY TUESDAY 7:00pm-8:00pm**  
St Mary MacKillop Church

*"Will you not stay with me one hour with me ?"*



### ST. PAUL'S ROSTER WEEKEND 9TH & 10TH DEC

**SAT 9TH DECEMBER 6.30PM**  
R Greg Moore  
**Special Ministers**  
Q. Diaz.

**SUN 10TH DECEMBER 10AM**  
R Jean Falcoa  
**Special Ministers**  
J. Mamo, C. Pirotta.

### St Mary MacKillop Cleaning

**FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER**  
Mary Formosa  
Margo Harley  
Pauline Portelli  
Mary Xuereb

### Counting Team

**COUNTING TEAM NO. 7:**  
Joe Sammut  
John Fenech  
Josephine Lowe  
Anna Attard  
Liz Di'Cianni  
John Dykun

### ST. MARY MACKILLOP ROSTER WEEKEND 9TH & 10TH DEC

**SAT 9TH DECEMBER 5PM**  
R Antonia Camilleri  
**Special Ministers**  
Michael Vytilingam, Joe Sammut, Marcella Fandino.

**SUN 10TH DECEMBER 9AM**  
R Joan Peterson  
**Special Ministers**  
Joe Falvo, Wayne Harrison, Kathy Lindsay.

**SUN 10TH DECEMBER 11AM**  
R Jenny Saunders  
**Special Ministers**  
Doris Briffa, Helen Sorokowski, Glen D'Souza.

**SUN 10TH DECEMBER 5.30PM**  
R Brian Lobo  
**Special Ministers**  
Frank Lee, Georgina Sant, Kimberley D'Cruz.

Music Group Rehearsals	This Week in the Parish ....
<b>ST MARY MACKILLOP GROUP</b> Monday, 4th Dec-6.45pm	<b>Monday, 4th December</b> 10.30am Prayer Group
<b>ST PAUL'S MUSIC GROUP</b> To be advised	<b>Tuesday, 5th December</b> 7.00pm Eucharistic Adoration - St. Mary MacKillop 6.00pm Samoan Prayer Group - St. Paul's Church
Feast Days	<b>Wednesday, 6th December</b> 7.00pm Legion of Mary
<b>Monday, 4th December</b> St. John Damascene	<b>Thursday, 7th December</b> 7.30pm Thanksgiving Mass
<b>Wednesday, 6th December</b> St. Nicholas	<b>Friday, 8th December</b> 4.45pm Children of Mary
<b>Thursday, 7th December</b> St. Ambrose	
<b>Friday, 8th December</b> The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
<b>Saturday, 9th December</b> St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin	

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## Entrance:

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh.  
Awake and harken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every soul from sin:  
make straight the way of God within,  
Prepare we in our hearts a home,  
where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
our refuge and our sure reward;  
Shine forth, and let thy light restore  
Our souls to heavenly grace once more.

All praise, eternal Son to thee  
whose advent set thy people free,  
whom with the Father we adore,  
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

## Responsorial Psalm:

Let us see your kindness Lord,  
Grant us your salvation.  
Let us see your kindness Lord,  
Grant us your salvation.

## Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia  
Come, let us praise the Lord  
The word that is salvation  
Come listen,  
To the healing word of God. Alleluia...

## Offertory:

Joyful in hope, your people pray.  
Joyful in hope, we're on our way.

Though the road may not be clear,  
We believe, Lord, you are near,  
In the smile and open heart of a friend.

Joyful in hope, your people pray.  
Joyful in hope, we're on our way.  
There's sunshine after rain;  
There's laughter after pain;  
And I am with you always,  
So rise again.

Mary, so open to the Lord,  
When you answered, "Yes,"  
Our hope was restored.  
Though you couldn't understand,  
In trust you took his hand.  
So, joyful in hope, we live again.

## Communion:

Wake, O wake, and sleep no longer,  
For he who calls you is no stranger;  
Awake, God's own Jerusalem!  
Hear, the midnight bells are chiming  
The signal for his royal coming:  
Let voice to voice announce his name!  
We feel his footsteps near,  
The Bridegroom at the door Alleluia!  
The lamps will shine with light divine  
As Christ the Saviour comes to reign.

Zion hears the sound of singing;  
Her heart is thrilled with sudden longing;  
She stirs, and wakes, and stands prepared.  
Christ, her friend, and lord, and lover,  
Her star and sun and strong redeemer  
At last his mighty voice is heard.  
The Son of God has come

To make us his home:  
Sing Hosanna!  
The fight is won, the feast begun;  
We fix our eyes on Christ alone.

Glory, glory, sing the angels,  
While music sounds from strings and cymbals;  
All humankind, with songs arise!  
Twelve the gates into the city,  
Each one a pearl of shining beauty:  
The streets of gold ring out with praise.  
All creatures round the throne  
Adore the holy One with rejoicing.  
Amen be sung by every tongue  
To crown their welcome to the King.

## Recessional:





Refrain:  
Come, come, Emmanuel!  
Son of God, appear.  
Heaven and earth, rejoice!  
Salvation is drawing near.  
Salvation is drawing near.

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear. Refrain.

O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
Who ordered all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go. Refrain.

O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem;  
From ev'ry foe deliver them  
That trust your mighty pow'r to save,  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. Refrain.

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