

West Tamar Catholic Parish



MASS TIMES

Riverside:

6.00pm Saturday
9.00am Sunday
5.00pm Tues & Wed
6.00pm Friday

Beaconsfield:

11:00am
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays of the Month
1st Sunday of the month Anointing of sick

Glengarry:

11.00am
2nd & 4th
Sundays of the Month

Additional Masses: 7.30am Thurs: Carmelite Monastery, 7 Cambridge St Launceston

Third Sunday of Advent Year B, 17th December 2023

FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11

I exult for joy in the Lord.

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.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Cantor: My soul rejoices in my God.

All: Repeat

1. My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour. He looks on his servant in her nothingness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **(R.)**
2. The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name! His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him. **(R.)**
3. He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty. He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;

he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.

Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

GOSPEL

John 1:6-8. 19-28

There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.

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.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

Third Sunday of Advent

Every Advent serves as the introduction to the new liturgical year, even though it is celebrated in the closing weeks of the calendar year. Within the four weeks of the Advent season itself, the Church's liturgy draws attention to different facets of the one reality of how God's plan **has been revealed** in Christ, **is now revealed** in every Mass we celebrate, and that Christ **will be revealed** in his glory, when he comes again at a time we do not know.

For each Sunday of Advent we take our focus for the wreath from our Advent traditions. Like the people of the Old Testament we live in hope for the fullness of the revelation of Christ the Messiah when he comes in glory to judge the living and the dead.

Blessing of the wreath:

Priest: May this sprinkling of the waters of baptism remind us of our first sharing in grace that we may prepare for the Lord's coming among us today and be ready for his second coming.

The third candle is lit.

Lord Jesus, your coming was foretold by the prophet Isaiah who cried with joy for God clothes us in the garments of salvation. As a joyful, hope-filled Servant Community may our hearts be filled with gratitude for the many gifts God has given us.

Cantor: Come, Lord Jesus **All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

Lord Jesus, you come among us now as the light of the world. St Paul urges us to be happy at all times and to pray constantly. May the joy of the Lord be in our hearts as we journey together, listening to what the Spirit is saying to the Church of Australia.

Cantor: Come, Lord Jesus **All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

Lord Jesus, you sent John the Baptist to be a witness for the light. Like John the Baptist may we be witnesses to the power of Jesus open to Conversion and Renewal in the Church of Australia.

Cantor: Come, Lord Jesus **All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

O God, who see how your people Faithfully await the feast of the Lord's nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your son, Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen



Do we point others to Jesus Christ - the one true Lord and Saviour of the world?

John was the greatest of the prophets, yet he lived as a humble and faithful servant of God. He pointed others to Jesus, the true Messiah, and the Saviour of the world. The Christian church from the earliest of times has given John many titles which signify his mission: *Witness of the Lord, Trumpet of Heaven, Herald of Christ, Voice of the Word, Precursor of Truth, Friend of the Bridegroom, Crown of the Prophets, Forerunner of the Redeemer, Preparer of Salvation, Light of the Martyrs, and Servant of the Word.* Do we point others to Jesus Christ by the example and witness of our lives?

Source: https://www.dailyscripture.net/daily-meditation/?ds_year=2020&date=dec13

Fr Martin Aye Ngwe



Please keep
Fr Martin
in your prayers

A Prayer for Healing for Sick Family and Friends

Lord Jesus, thank you that you love us. I know that you hate what this illness is doing to my loved one. I ask, in the name of Jesus, that you would heal this disease, that you would have compassion and bring healing from all sickness. Help me trust in You. In Jesus' Name, Amen!

iBelieve.com

Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the malice and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.



December - Feast Days this Week:

21 St Peter Canisius

23 St John of Kanty

Saint Peter Canisius' Story



The energetic life of Peter Canisius should demolish any stereotypes we may have of the life of a saint as dull or routine. Peter lived his 76 years at a pace which must be considered heroic, even in our time of rapid change. A man blessed with many talents, Peter is an excellent example of the scriptural man who develops his talents for the sake of the Lord's work.

Peter was one of the most important figures in the Catholic Reformation in Germany. He played such a key role that he has often been called the "second apostle of Germany," in that his life parallels the earlier work of Boniface.

Although Peter once accused himself of idleness in his youth, he could not have been idle too long, for at the age of 19 he received a master's degree from the university at Cologne. Soon afterwards he met Peter Faber, the first disciple of Ignatius of Loyola, who influenced Peter so much that he joined the recently formed Society of Jesus.

At this early age Peter had already taken up a practice he continued throughout his life—a process of study, reflection, prayer, and writing. After his ordination in 1546, he became widely known for his editions of the writings of St. Cyril of Alexandria and St. Leo the Great. Besides this reflective literary bent, Peter had a zeal for the apostolate. He could often be found visiting the sick or imprisoned, even when his assigned duties in other areas were more than enough to keep most people fully occupied.

In 1547, Peter attended several sessions of the Council of Trent, whose decrees he was later assigned to implement. After a brief teaching assignment at the Jesuit college at Messina, Peter was entrusted with the mission to Germany—from that point on his life's work. He taught in several universities and was instrumental in establishing many colleges and seminaries. He wrote a catechism that explained the Catholic faith in a way that common people could understand—a great need of that age.

Renowned as a popular preacher, Peter packed churches with those eager to hear his eloquent proclamation of the gospel. He had great diplomatic ability, often serving as a reconciler between disputing factions. In his letters—filling eight volumes—one finds words of wisdom and counsel to people in all walks of life. At times he wrote unprecedented letters of criticism to leaders of the Church—yet always in the context of a loving, sympathetic concern.

At 70, Peter suffered a paralytic seizure, but he continued to preach and write with the aid of a secretary, until his death in his hometown of Nijmegen, Netherlands, on December 21, 1597.

West Tamar Parish Christmas Mass Times



Saturday 23rd December	6.00pm	St Francis, Riverside
Sunday 24th December	9.00am	St Francis, Riverside
	11.00am	St Canice, Glengarry
	6.00pm	St Francis, Riverside
Monday 25th December	9.00am	St Francis, Riverside
	11.00am	St Francis Xavier, Beaconsfield

Calling all Angels & Shepherds
St Francis Church, Riverside, Christmas Eve

NATIVITY PLAY

Once again we are calling all children, grandchildren, nephews, nieces and kids next door to take part in the Nativity Play at the Christmas Eve Mass on Saturday, 24th December.

For those who are interested, please meet in the Church hall after Saturday nights Mass or Sunday morning Mass (depending on which you attend).

Further dates and times will be organized from there.

All children are welcome to take part in our Christmas play.

Those wishing to participate, but cannot make Mass this weekend please contact:

Angela Lincoln 0437 100 413 as soon as possible.

Looking forward to seeing you!



Reminders

Friday 22nd December will be the last 12 Hour Adoration this year.
Adoration will resume Friday 2nd February

Parish Office

The Parish Office will close Thursday 21st December 2023 at 1.30pm
and
will reopen Tuesday 23rd January 2024 at 9.00am



New Years Day Mass

**Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Monday 1st January**

We will be having Mass on this day at **5.00pm**
All welcome.



West Tamar January Mass Times

Riverside weekend Masses will be as normal with Fr Ted on Saturday night and Fr Ed on Sunday morning

NO Masses for Glengarry or Beaconsfield.

NO week day Masses for January

Christmas and Thanksgiving Dinner

All staff, Parish Finance Committee members, Pastoral Council members and volunteers (Ministers, Servers, Greeters, readers, musicians etc) are invited to a Christmas and Thanksgiving dinner to be held on **Thursday 21st December at 6.30pm.**

Please come to the Riverside Hall and enjoy the delights of Fr Martin's cooking.

RSVP sheets are in the Narthex of each church.

Looking forward to seeing everyone there! BYO all drinks. Partners welcome.



Parishioners Christmas Gathering

All parishioners are invited to a Christmas gathering be held on **Saturday 23rd December at 7.00pm after Mass.**

Please bring a plate of finger food to share

Looking forward to seeing everyone there! BYO all drinks.



We offer prayers for family and friends whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Bill Groves, Bert Fleming, Sr Marlene Binns SSJ, Brian Simmons, Fr Peter McGrath, Sandra Murray, Ian Trevor Sinnamon, Antonio Furfaro, Fortunato Talusan, Ken Williams, Molly Boland, Dorothea Veldhuis and Norbert Rossler.

We offer prayers for family and friends who are unwell:

Denis Owens, Irene La Palombara, Ngoc Thu Duong, Quoc An Phan, Joan Worth, Barry Symons, Tina La Palombara, Noelene Bye, Eleanor Cameron, Fr Martin Aye Ngwe, Fr Phil McCormack, Alida Moolenschot, Stephanie Rossler, Elena Bertoia, Karen Gee, Alex Lyall, Louis Rossler, Janine, Warwick Eldridge, Mora Bligh, Andrea and Grey, Samantha Holloway, Tony & Teresa Bidgood, Paul McInerney, Adelynde, Henry Phyo, William Gordon, Lyn Elliott, Neil, Patricia & John McInerney, Fr Tom Chapman, Ray Porter, Andre A, Anthony A, Thea van Borkulo, Maureen Bamping, Sophie and Scott Bailey, Marina Aye, Geoff Jones, Lucius U, Ron Willis, Guy M, Gerard Mackrell, Irene Bingham, Andrew, James, Matthew J, Roger Orr, Claire, N MacLaine, Max Jamieson and

all patients in St Vincent's, St Luke's & General Hospitals

We offer prayers for our whole Parish community

Please let the Parish Office know if you have recovered.

Next Week's Roster

Sat 23rd Dec

Sun 24th Dec

Readers

M Murphy

E Curak

Commentators

R Symons

G McLachlan

Servers

A Linnemans

P Bertoia

Rosary: Every Monday 5.00 – 5.30pm St Francis, Riverside

Holy Hour: every 1st Friday of the month. 6.00pm Mass, Devotion to the Sacred Heart and Benediction

Anointing of the sick: every 1st Friday of the month during 6.00pm Mass at St Francis Church, Riverside.

Cenacle within Mass: every 1st Saturday of the month, St Francis Church, Riverside 11.00am.

12 Hour Adoration: Every Friday from 7am-7pm. Concludes at 6.00pm with Mass, Rosary and Benediction.

Mass at the Carmelite Monastery: Monday - Sunday at 7.30am

The Carmel Shop: 7 Cambridge Street, West Launceston is open on Wednesdays between 11.00am- 4.00pm.

Enquiries: Helen 6344 6382 or email: carmelshop@yahoo.com

St Francis of Assisi Church

399 West Tamar Hwy, Riverside

St Francis Xavier Church

190 Weld Street, Beaconsfield

St Canice Church

33 Glengarry Road, Glengarry

Parish Priest

Fr Martin Aye Ngwe

The Presbytery, 399 West Tamar Hwy, Riverside, 7250

Parish Secretary &

Safe Community Co-Ord

Jenelle Gillies

Tues & Thurs 9am – 1.30pm

Friday 9am – 11.30am

Tel 6327 3971

westtamar@aohtas.org.au

Beaconsfield & Glengarry

topend190@gmail.com

St Anthony's School

Jason Perry: Principal

382a West Tamar Rd, Riverside, 7250

Tel 6327 3618

jason.perry@catholic.tas.edu.au

Reconciliation

Riverside: Sat 5:15 pm - 5:45 pm

Archdiocesan website:

www.hobart.catholic.org.au

Secular Franciscan Order

Margaret Cherry Tel 0457 575 770