

# West Tamar Catholic Parish



## MASS TIMES

### Riverside:

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

### Beaconsfield:

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

### Glengarry:

11.00am  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>  
Sundays of the Month

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

## First Sunday of Advent Year A, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

*Oh that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.*

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down – at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) **Cantor:** Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

**All:** Repeat

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne. O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help. (R.)
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)
3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. (R.)

### SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

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

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord will bestow his bounty,  
and our earth shall yield its increase.

### GOSPEL

Mark 13:33-37

*Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ**



# First 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 the sprinkling of this water remind all of us gathered here of our first sharing in the grace of baptism. During this time of Advent may we prepare for the Lord's coming with open hearts and minds. May this wreath be a symbol to us of this time of prayerful watching and waiting for the coming of the Lord.

*The first candle is lit.*

Lord Jesus, your coming was proclaimed by the prophets of old. The Prophet Isaiah called the Chosen People and today calls all people 'to walk in the light of the Lord.'

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

Lord Jesus, we believe you come among us now. St Paul urges us to be people of the light and to let our armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

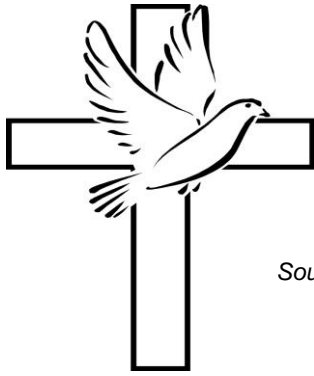
**Cantor:** Come, Lord Jesus      **All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

Lord Jesus, you will come again in glory. You ask us to 'stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour we do not expect.'

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

Grant your faithful, we pray, Almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that gathered at your right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom, 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**



## Be vigilant, be alert, be "watchmen"

The season of Advent is a time for rousing our minds and hearts for the Lord's coming. As his servants, we watch for his will - continually seeking him. We watch for his word and his power - that he may act now to save and to deliver. And we watch for his visitation - he will surely come again! Servants of the Lord rouse yourselves! Be vigilant, be alert, be "watchmen" for the Lord pointing the way for his coming.

Source: [https://www.dailyscripture.net/daily-meditation/?ds\\_year=2020&date=nov29](https://www.dailyscripture.net/daily-meditation/?ds_year=2020&date=nov29)

Fr Martin Aye Ngwe



## 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.





3 St Francis Xavier  
8 The Immaculate Conception

**December - Feast Days this Week:**  
4 St John Damascene

6 St Nicholas  
9 St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin

7 St Ambrose

### Saint Francis Xavier's Story



Jesus asked, "What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" (Matthew 16:26a). The words were repeated to a young teacher of philosophy who had a highly promising career in academics, with success and a life of prestige and honour before him.

Francis Xavier, 24 at the time, and living and teaching in Paris, did not heed these words at once. They came from a good friend, Ignatius of Loyola, whose tireless persuasion finally won the young man to Christ. Francis then made the spiritual exercises under the direction of Ignatius, and in 1534, joined his little community, the infant Society of Jesus. Together at Montmartre they vowed poverty, chastity, obedience, and apostolic service according to the directions of the pope.

From Venice, where he was ordained a priest in 1537, Xavier went on to Lisbon and from there sailed to the East Indies, landing at Goa, on the west coast of India. For the next 10 years he labored to bring the faith to such widely scattered peoples as the Hindus, the Malayans, and the Japanese. He spent much of that time in India, and served as provincial of the newly established Jesuit province of India.

Wherever he went, Xavier lived with the poorest people, sharing their food and rough accommodations. He spent countless hours ministering to the sick and the poor, particularly to lepers. Very often he had no time to sleep or even to say his breviary but, as we know from his letters, he was filled always with joy.

Xavier went through the islands of Malaysia, then up to Japan. He learned enough Japanese to preach to simple folk, to instruct, and to baptize, and to establish missions for those who were to follow him. From Japan he had dreams of going to China, but this plan was never realized. Before reaching the mainland, he died. His remains are enshrined in the Church of Good Jesus in Goa.

### Reminders

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Parish Pastoral Council 7.30pm

## *West Tamar Parish Christmas Mass Times*



**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

6.00pm St Francis, Riverside

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

9.00am St Francis, Riverside  
11.00am St Canice, Glengarry

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> 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, 24<sup>th</sup> 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!



### Carols in the courtyard is back!

This is a free event and wonderful opportunity to celebrate the End of the Year as we enter the Christmas Season as a school community. All students, including Early Learning will be performing.

Date: Thursday 7 December, 2023

Time: 6pm (arrive from 5.30pm)

Where: St Anthony's Catholic School Courtyard

Feel free to bring your own drinks, nibbles and picnic rugs.

The Coffee Van will also be available. We look forward to seeing you there! ☺

## Carols in the Courtyard

Come one, come all, to this festive time  
Where carols are sung in perfect rhyme  
Gather your loved ones, friends and kin  
For a night of merriment, let the fun begin!



# Vinnies Christmas Appeal



St Vincent de Paul Society  
*good works*

## ADVICE ON HOW TO DONATE:

- A reply paid envelope is on your seat – please fill out and return to your Vinnies Member
- Scan the QR Code on the poster provided
- Alternatively, return your envelope and enclosed donation by post
- You can donate online at <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-kindness-tas>
- Your call to donate would be welcome by phoning us on 13 18 12
- Gifts (including the gift of new, unwrapped toys) can be made in any of our Vinnies Stores statewide
- Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible

## 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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:***

Joy Marshall, Kate Bloomfield, Shirley Oliver, John Juhasz, Edna Sturzaker, Nancy Groves, Ewa Grygencza, George Moolenschot and Beatrice McGuinness.

### ***We offer prays 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 9<sup>th</sup> Dec**

**Sun 10<sup>th</sup> Dec**

### **Readers**

R Symons

A Cunningham

### **Commentators**

M Murphy

J Perry

### **Servers**

A Linnemans

Meb

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

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

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

**Cenacle within Mass:** every 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:westtamar@aohtas.org.au)

[Beaconsfield & Glengarry](mailto:Beaconsfield & Glengarry)  
[topend190@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:jason.perry@catholic.tas.edu.au)

### **Reconciliation**

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

### **Archdiocesan website:**

[www.hobart.catholic.org.au](http://www.hobart.catholic.org.au)

### **Secular Franciscan Order**

Margaret Cherry Tel 0457 575 770