



# ST LUKE'S PARISH

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First Sunday of Advent, Year C

2 December 2018

## First Reading Jer 33:14-16

*I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.*

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: ‘In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.’

## Responsorial Psalm Ps 24:4-5. 8-9. 10.

### 14. R. v.1

*(R.) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.*

1. Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. (R.)
2. The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)
3. His ways are faithfulness and love for those who keep his covenant and will. The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him; to them he reveals his covenant. (R.)

## Second Reading 1 Thes 3:12-4:2

*When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.*

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his

saints. Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

## Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

## Gospel Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

*Your redemption is near at hand.*

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’



## Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Sometimes our own lives, the life of the Church, the life of societies and nations cry out for Our Lord Jesus Christ to come again right now and rescue us right now. In some instances we can become conscious of Jesus' saving, transforming power in a particular situation. But, for the whole of humanity across the millennia, we do not know the day or the hour when death and all its warriors such as disease and violence, will be absolutely vanquished by Christ in glory. This can lead to a type of pain which finds solace in all those things which dull the spirit. Our Lord gives examples: debauchery, drunkenness. Today he might have added 'living in the virtual world'. Rather, Our Lord wants us to live in the real world on high alert. In the meantime each one of us can be a signal of what is to come. Each time we exhaust ourselves heroically loving someone whom others might abandon, each time we take a risk because we cry out against injustice, and in a myriad other ways, we signal that the Kingdom is already being established on earth. We could pause for a moment to pray for the strength to be on high alert for the opportunities to translate the legacy of Jesus into our own time and place, thus giving reasons to each other for our faith and hope that Christ has come, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

HYMNS	
407	Praise to You, O Christ, Our Saviour
199	Bread of Life, Hope of the World
402	I Have Loved You
404	Christ, Be Our Light

## Christmas Mass Times



### Christmas Eve

Monday 24 December,  
5pm.  
Followed by light refreshments.

### Christmas Day

Tuesday 25 December,  
8am.

## NOTICES



### *A Daily Devotional for Advent*

Lord, as Advent begins, help me to put my eyes on You. Help me to open my ears to Your voice.

Help me to open my heart to Your glorious presence. May I be attentive to You in every way You desire to come to me.

Jesus, I trust in You.

*Advent and Christmas Reflections*



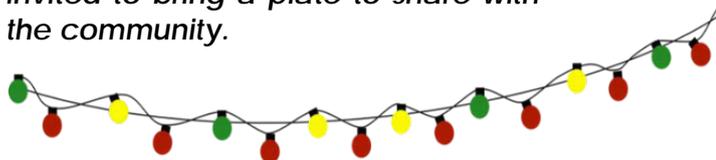
### Advent Morning Prayers

Morning Prayer will be held in St Luke's Church each Wednesday morning at 9am throughout the Advent season, beginning Wednesday 5 December. All are welcome to attend.

### St Luke's Parish Morning Tea

Beginning **Sunday 2 December**, there will be a morning tea every first Sunday of the month after the 8am Mass in St Luke's Green.

*All parishioners are welcome and invited to bring a plate to share with the community.*



### The Lights of Christmas at St Stephen's Cathedral

This Christmas we invite the people of Brisbane to gather on the Cathedral lawn to celebrate the season of peace, joy and goodwill, with an extraordinary light and sound show.

**7:30pm until midnight every night from  
Wednesday 12 December until Christmas Eve.**

*If you have an item you would like considered for the newsletter please contact the Parish Office.*

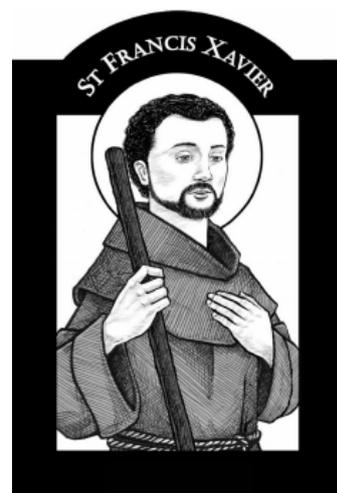
### THE CATHOLIC LEADER

Available from the churches this weekend for \$2

This week's edition includes:

- ❖ Damaging bushfire across Central Queensland pulls community together during times of need
- ❖ A poor man's plea prompts a professional to rethink priesthood
- ❖ Pastoral carers graduate and commissioned to service the archdiocese
- ❖ New report find that busy parents stuck on their smartphones are ignoring young people's problems

### SAINT OF THE WEEK



St Francis Xavier was born in Spain in 1506 and studied at the University of Paris. He met St Ignatius of Loyola and joined his group of disciples who would found a new religious order; the Jesuits. Preaching in foreign missions became a fundamental aim of the Jesuits and in 1541, he sailed to Goa in India. He worked and lived with the poor people in every place he visited; from India and Ceylon to Japan and the Malay peninsula. During his ten years as a missionary, he is believed to have converted many thousands to Christianity. He is recognised as the patron saint of foreign missions.