



# SAINT FIACRE AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Parish

Admin.: Fr. Pionius Hendi, OFM.Cap.

Address: 98 Catherine Street, Leichhardt, NSW 2040

Phone: (02) 9518 0650 (Office Hour: Tue, Wed, Thu, at 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM)

Email: [fiacre@capuchinfriars.org.au](mailto:fiacre@capuchinfriars.org.au)

Website: [www.stfiacreparish.com](http://www.stfiacreparish.com)

Bring people closer to Jesus Christ and His Holy Church through Mother Mary, by proclaiming the Good News (*Mission*), forming the family of God (*Community*), and changing lives in Christ (*Renewal*).

**ST FIACRE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL:**  
Phone: (02) 9560 2225  
Email: [info@stfleichhardt.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stfleichhardt.catholic.edu.au)

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B - SUNDAY, 29 NOVEMBER 2020

IN THIS ISSUE

## Happy Advent!

Starting from this Sunday, the Catholic Church will enter the Season of Advent, four weeks of waiting for our Savior to come into the world. Therefore, let us prepare ourselves well. Hopefully, by making good preparation, we can celebrate a meaningful Christmas full of joy and blessing, together with our family and friends.

## LITURGICAL PROGRAMME FOR CHRISTMAS

### THURSDAY, 24 DECEMBER

6:30 pm - Confession

7:30 pm - Mass at St Fiacre

11:00 pm - Confession

12:00 am - Italian Mass (*midnight*)

### FRIDAY, 25 DECEMBER

8:00 am English Mass (Lilyfield)

9:30 am - English Mass

11:00 am - Italian Mass

### A PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

Blessed are you, Father, who, in your infinite love sent us your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, that we may have life, and have it in abundance.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, renew our Eucharistic communities. May they be places of encounter with the living Christ, centres of evangelisation and outreach to our community in love and mercy.

Grant us the gifts of faith, hope and love to be faithful disciples of Jesus and radiant witnesses to the people of Sydney.

Our Lady, Help of Christians. *Pray for us!*

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the New Evangelisation. *Pray for us!*

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. *Pray for us!*

### QUOTE FROM POPE FRANCIS:

*"We were not created to dream about vacations or the weekend, but to make God's dreams come true in this world. God made us capable of dreaming, so that we could embrace the beauty of life. The works of mercy are the most beautiful works in life."*

### LITURGY & DEVOTIONAL TIMETABLE

- ❖ **DAILY MASS:** Monday-Saturday, 7:00 AM, followed by the Holy Rosary after Mass
- ❖ **SUNDAY MASS:**
  - Vigil Mass (Saturday afternoon), 5:30 PM
  - English Mass, 8:00 AM (*at St Francis' church, Lilyfield*)
  - English Mass, 9:30 AM
  - Italian Mass, 11:00 AM
  - Adoration & Mass for Young Adults/Professionals, 4:00 PM
- ❖ **CONFESSION:**
  - Every Saturday 4:45 PM – 5:15 PM
  - Every Sunday 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM (during the Adoration for Young Adults/Professionals).
  - Other time, by appointment. Please contact the Parish Office.
- ❖ **BAPTISMS:** 1st & 3rd Saturday (at 11:00 AM), or 2nd & 4th Sunday (at 12:30 PM).
- ❖ **WEDDINGS:** Every Saturday, at 11:00 AM or 2:00 PM. Please contact the Parish at least six months before the wedding.
- ❖ **FUNERALS & ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** by appointment.

## READINGS ON SUNDAY



### First Sunday of Advent: HOPE

**Priest** - Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the Sunday in which we recall the hope we have in Christ.

**People** - The prophets of Israel all spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a saviour would be born, a king in the line of David. They spoke of how he would rule the world wisely and bless all nations.

**Priest** - On Christmas day the Christ of our hope was born. On Good Friday the Christ of our hope died. On Easter day the Christ of our hope rose from the dead. He then ascended into heaven. On the last day, the Christ of our hope will come again to establish his kingdom over all things on earth.

**People** - As the follower of Christ, we await his return. We light this candle to remember that as he came to us as humbly in the manger at Bethlehem and gave light to the world, so he is coming again in power to deliver his people.

**Priest** - We light this candle to remind us to be alert and to watch for his return.

#### Light the First Candle

**Priest** - Loving God, we thank you for the hope you give us. Help us prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming. Bless our worship. Help us live holy and righteous lives. We ask it in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. **Amen.**

### Entrance Antiphon *Cf. Ps 24:1-3*

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.

In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

### First reading *Is 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

**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.

### Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4*

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

### Second reading *1 Cor 1:3-9*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

**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.

### Gospel Acclamation *Ps 84:8*

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

### Gospel

*Mk 13:33-37*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

**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!'

### Communion Antiphon *Ps 84:13*

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

### WEEKLY PSALM RESPONSES

**Monday 30 November (St Andrew, Apostle):** Their message goes out through all the earth.

**Tuesday 1 December:** Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever.

**Wednesday 2 December:** I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

**Thursday 3 December (St Francis Xavier, Priest):** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Friday 4 December (St John Damascene, Priest & Doctor):** The Lord is my light and my salvation.

**Saturday 5 December:** Happy are all who long for the coming of the Lord.

### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 2 Peter 3:8-14

**Gospel:** Mark 1:1-8


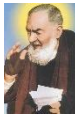








# Gospel Reflection

by Greg Sunter

**Have you thought? - Beginning Advent** The season of Advent begins this week and continues through the four Sundays of Advent and ends at Christmas Eve. The first week of Advent focuses on the return of the Lord and the following weeks focus more specifically on the anticipation of the birth of Jesus. Rather than simply commemorating an historical event, Advent is a time of preparing our hearts to 'receive' Jesus into the world each year. Advent is traditionally marked by the colour of violet – the same colour as used in Lent. In recent years, some parishes have moved to a more blue/mauve colour for Advent to try to distinguish it from the season of Lent.

**Living the Gospel - Stay Awake!** By the time the Church begins to celebrate Advent as a period of preparation towards Christmas, the stores have been filling with Christmas paraphernalia for weeks. It starts out small with a few decorations and wrapping paper and eventually takes over every retail outlet. In the midst of this excess of Christmas consumerism, it is often difficult to draw attention to the season of Advent and the need to prepare spiritually for the celebration of Christmas. It is important to stay awake, as we are cautioned in this week's gospel. Awake to what is happening around us in the world and awake to what is happening within us. happiness.'

**Gospel Focus - The Doorkeeper** The image of the doorkeeper from this week's gospel is an interesting one. It is not unusual to hear references to people being 'gatekeepers' today in relation to projects or groups working together. The role of the gatekeeper, or the doorkeeper, is to maintain a watching brief – to be alert to dangers or distractions and to ensure that everyone who is important to the process is invited to participate. Today's gospel reminds us that as believers we are to be the doorkeepers, or gatekeepers, of the Kingdom, watching for dangers and welcoming in all those who wish to enter. *Copyrights 2020 @ Liturgyhelp.com*

VARIOUS ACTIVITIES		
<p><b>SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS 2021</b></p>  <p>Our parish has already opened the registration for the Sacramental Program 2021. If you wish that your child could receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation next year, the application form is available at the foyer of the church. Please fill the form and return it to the Parish Office during office hour.</p>	<p><b>NOVEMBER MASS</b></p>  <p>The Padre Pio Prayer Group invite you and your family to participate to a Mass in memory of Families Livolsi, Marra &amp; Pietroiusti.</p> <p>Time: <b>Wednesday, 2 December, at 7:00 PM</b> Place: St Fiacre's church, Leichhardt.</p>	<p><b>RCIA CLASS IS OPEN</b></p>  <p>Our Parish has started the RCIA Program, a preparatory process for non-Catholics who are interested in joining the Catholic Church, or baptised adults who would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The preparation takes place <b>every Sunday, from 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM</b>. If you are interested, please register via the Parish Office: <a href="mailto:fiacre@capuchinfriars.org.au">fiacre@capuchinfriars.org.au</a>.</p>
<p><b>MORNING TEA FOR ALL CHURCH VOLUNTEERS AND HELPERS</b></p>  <p>All church volunteers and helpers: cleaners, florists, catechists, marshals, musicians, choirs, altar servers, readers, money counters, etc. are invited to join the Parish small gathering on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ <b>Date:</b> Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> December 2020.</li> <li>➔ <b>Time:</b> 09:30 AM – 11:00 AM.</li> <li>➔ <b>Place:</b> St Fiacre's Parish Hall.</li> </ul> <p>Contact the Parish to register: (02) 9518 0650.</p>	<p><b>BAPTISM PREPARATION EVENING</b></p>  <p>The next Baptism Preparation Evening is <b>Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020, 7:00 PM</b>, at the Hall.</p>	<p><b>MASS FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS</b></p>  <p>Bishop Richard Umbers will celebrate the Mass for Expectant Mothers on <b>Saturday, 12th December, 12:00 PM</b> at St Mary's Cathedral. Each expectant mother and her unborn child are invited to join the celebration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ Please click here to register: <a href="http://sydneycatholic.eventsair.com">sydneycatholic.eventsair.com</a>.</li> <li>➔ For more information, please go to: <a href="http://www.stmaryscathedral.org.au">www.stmaryscathedral.org.au</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>PLASTIC BOTTLES AND CANS: TEN CENT COINS</b></p>  <p>The Friars' Van, our ministry to the homeless, needs any containers that have 10c recycling written on it. The containers can be dropped in the recycling bin at St Fiacre's church nearby the sacristy, before or after Mass. Thank you!</p>	<p><b>WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK</b></p>  <p>All parishioners who undertake ministry where children or vulnerable people are involved, are required to have a valid WWC check. Please send your details to the Parish Office, i.e. your family name, date of birth, and WWC number. If you don't have one or want to renew it, please visit: <a href="http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au">www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au</a>.</p>	<p><b>CLEANING DONATIONS</b></p>  <p>Our parish needs donations in the form of cleaning supplies, such as disinfectant sprays (<i>Glen 20</i>), antibacterial wipes, and tissues. If you can help, please drop them at the sacristy before or after Mass.</p>
<p><b>NEW CATHOLIC WEEKLY</b></p>  <p>Copies of the Catholic Weekly are available at the entrance of the church, for \$2 only.</p>		

**29 Novembre – PRIMA DOMENICA DI AVVENTO - Le due venute di Cristo-** Noi annunziamo che Cristo verrà. Infatti non è unica la sua venuta, ma ve n'è una seconda, la quale sarà molto più gloriosa della precedente. La prima, infatti, ebbe il sigillo della sofferenza, l'altra porterà una corona di divina regalità. Si può affermare che quasi sempre nel nostro Signore Gesù Cristo ogni evento è duplice. Duplice è la generazione, una da Dio Padre, prima del tempo, e l'altra, la nascita umana, da una vergine nella pienezza dei tempi. Due sono anche le sue discese nella storia. Una prima volta è venuto in modo oscuro e silenzioso, come la pioggia sul vello. Una seconda volta verrà nel futuro in splendore e chiarezza davanti agli occhi di tutti. Nella sua prima venuta fu avvolto in fasce e posto in una stalla, nella seconda si vestirà di luce come di un manto. Nella prima accettò la croce senza rifiutare il disonore, nell'altra avanzerà scortato dalle schiere degli angeli e sarà pieno di gloria. Perciò non limitiamoci a meditare solo la prima venuta, ma viviamo in attesa della seconda. E poiché nella prima abbiamo acclamato: «Benedetto colui che viene nel nome del Signore» (MT 21, 9), la stessa lode proclameremo nella seconda. Così andando incontro al Signore insieme agli angeli e adorandolo canteremo: «Benedetto colui che viene nel nome del Signore». Il Salvatore verrà non per essere di nuovo giudicato, ma per farsi giudice di coloro che lo condannarono. Egli, che tacque quando subiva la condanna, ricorderà il loro operato a quei malvagi, che gli fecero subire il tormento della croce, e dirà a ciascuno di essi: Tu hai agito così, io non ho aperto bocca. Allora in un disegno di amore misericordioso venne per istruire gli uomini con dolce fermezza, ma alla fine tutti, lo vogliono o no, dovranno sottomettersi per forza al suo dominio regale. Il profeta Malachia preannuncia le due venute del Signore: «E subito entrerà nel suo tempio il Signore che voi cercate». Ecco la prima venuta. E poi riguardo alla seconda egli dice: «Ecco l'angelo dell'alleanza, che voi sospirate, ecco viene... Chi sopporterà il giorno della sua venuta? Chi resisterà al suo apparire? Egli è come il fuoco del fonditore e come la lisciva dei lavandai. Siederà per fondere e purificare». Anche Paolo parla di queste due venute scrivendo a Tito in questi termini: «E' apparsa la grazia di Dio, apportatrice di salvezza per tutti gli uomini, che ci insegna a rinnegare l'empietà e i desideri mondani e a vivere con sobrietà, giustizia e pietà in questo mondo, nell'attesa della beata speranza e della manifestazione della gloria del nostro grande Dio e salvatore Gesù Cristo». Vedi come ha parlato della prima venuta ringraziandone Dio? Della seconda invece fa capire che è quella che aspettiamo. Questa è dunque la fede che noi proclamiamo: credere in Cristo che è salito al cielo e siede alla destra Padre. Egli verrà nella gloria a giudicare i vivi e i morti. E il suo regno non avrà fine. Verrà dunque, verrà il Signore nostro Gesù Cristo dai cieli; verrà nella gloria alla fine del mondo creato, nell'ultimo giorno. Vi sarà allora la fine di questo mondo, e la nascita di un mondo nuovo.



## Launch of Lights of Christmas at St Mary's Cathedral

St Mary's Cathedral is again hosting the magnificent lights of Christmas with the event officially being launched on 10 December with the lights display commencing at 8:30pm.

The lights will be displayed each night until 11pm, concluding on Christmas Day.

### TAP & GO MACHINE



The Tap & Go machine is now available at the church entrance, and is set for \$10. If you wish to donate more, simply tap your credit card as many times you like.

It also accepts Apple Pay, Google Pay, and Pay Wave. All contributions go to the maintenance and development of the Parish, as does the Second Collection at weekend Masses (no tax-receipt). Many thanks for your generous support!

Alternatively, you can upgrade and join the *Planned Giving Programme*. Forms are available in the foyer of the church and on our Parish website:

[www.stfiacreparish.com/donate-now](http://www.stfiacreparish.com/donate-now)

### HOW TO DONATE TO ST FIACRE'S PARISH?

Please choose one of the following options:

- ➔ Set up an *Automatic Monthly Direct Debit* by contacting the Parish Office at [fiacre@capuchinfriars.org.au](mailto:fiacre@capuchinfriars.org.au). You will receive a Planned Giving number.
- ➔ Take and complete the Planned Giving registration form at the church entrance/foyer. Then, return it via the collection box at Mass, or to the Parish Office, or by email.
- ➔ Scan the QR code below with your mobile device, or visit our Parish website and click on the button "**MAKE A DONATION**". Then, choose Planned Giving option.



Can you picture yourself...  
being a foster carer?

## Can you picture yourself being a foster carer?

Family Spirit are seeking safe and stable homes for children for up to 6 months or longer.

To learn more about becoming a carer register for our next online information session on **Wednesday, 25th November 2020: 12.30pm – 1.30pm.**

To register call

**Family Spirit 131819**

[FamilySpirit.org](http://FamilySpirit.org)

✉ [connect@familyspirit.org](mailto:connect@familyspirit.org)

🕒 8am – 6pm Monday – Friday

We acknowledge that this land area traditionally belonged to the Gadigal and Wangal peoples of the Eora nation.  
We pay our respects to their elders past, present, and emerging.