



Encounter

VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA CATHOLIC PARISH

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF
ADVENT - YEAR C**

*A living, vibrant
faith community*

Vol 13 : No 04

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

OUR VISION:

To build a faith community centred on the loving relationship of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, expressed in personal lives and communal parish activities.

OUR MISSION IS TO:

- Develop relevant and prayerful Eucharistic celebrations
- Foster the experience of a personal relationship with God
- Provide Faith Formation opportunities
- Care for each other particularly the sick, lonely, aged and disabled
- Witness to God's love for our earthly common home and all its creatures that abound

WE WILL:

- Reach out to those in need
- Be committed to Catholic Social Justice principles
- Pray and work together with Christian Churches and all people of goodwill
- Engage with young people
- Care for our environment towards a sustainable future
- Strengthen bonds with First Nation peoples

MASS TIMES

• VICTOR HARBOR

Weekend - Saturday 6.00pm;
Sunday 11.00am.

Weekdays - Tuesday, Thursday,
Friday 9.00am

• GOOLWA

Weekend - Sunday 9.00am.
Weekday - Wednesday 9.30am

RECONCILIATION

St Joan's, Victor Harbor - Saturday
11am - 11.30am, or by appointment.



FIRST READING

Micah 5:1-4

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts

or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

*I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-44

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth.

(Continued page 4)



Bulletin Board

SPECIAL INTENTIONS (These names will be removed after one month. To keep names on this list please contact Parish Office)

John Wallace, Claire Hamish, Jeffery Family, Natalie Millar, Ann Tee, Bailey Smallacombe, Charlie Nicolson, Jane Lloyd, Eileen McCoey, Len Peake, Neil Cumming, Mollie Davis, David Lee, Evelyn Liston, Ann Hannagan, Allen Odgers, Rose Munro, Geoff Munro, Andrew Nichols, John Slagter, William Ash, Eloise Ash, Gavin Schumacher, Jim Ryan, Leonie Hassan, Fr Vinh Tran, John Tregeagle, Greg Hope, Mairead Cummings, Maire Ryan, John McAuliffe, Meg Klecko, Stephen Vernon, Graham Blacket, Jo Andrews, Paul Fahey,

ANNIVERSARIES

Peter Kennelly, Jim Clingan

RECENTLY DECEASED

Bill Pick

PARISH COLLECTION 14th & 15th December

1st (Presbytery) \$820.25
2nd (Parish) \$942.85

VICTOR MORNING TEA December 29th

F. Hanna
January 5th
L. Sunman & P. Chigwidden

VICTOR MEET & GREET January Saturdays

M. Farmer & M. Tuckey
January Sundays
R. Reid & W. Baker

GOOLWA MEET & GREET

January: A. Turner
MORNING TEA
February T. Curtis, E. Bourne,
B. Hallion

ST JOHN'S MUSIC GROUP

Practice 3.00pm Wednesday.
Claire Williams 0429 008 199

HOLY FATHER'S 2024 PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER: FOR



PILGRIMS OF HOPE :
Let us pray that the coming Church Jubilee Year will strengthen us in our faith; helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY



there will be no news section of the Encounter. The Encounter Team is taking a month's break! Gael Maloney from Willunga will still send the readings and reflections on pp1 and 4 so you will have those but **please be sure to check the rosters that apply to you during January.** We will still send out the Commentator's sheets.

FROM THE ENCOUNTER TEAM

Thanks to all who have contributed items to the Encounter during the year with a special mention to Paul Kennelly who sends in a news report most weeks.
Thanks to all those who do our rosters - getting them to us in good time. Have a blessed Christmas everyone and we will see you again in February 2025!!

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

- VINNIES HAMPERS

This year 76 Christmas Hampers were distributed to three schools, a children's centre and to families. Thanks to all those who contributed goods and time to make this possible. Special thanks to the Vinnies members themselves and to Rose and Joe our co-ordinators.

- VICTORIA HOUSE AND IMMANUEL CENTRE

The practical generosity of St Joan's and St John's will allow residents of Victoria House and Immanuel Care to share gifts for Christmas. Thank you all from Margaret Chalmers and Meredith Cunningham from Victor and Pat Stone and Denise Mulvihill (from St John's).

PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENTS OF RECONCILIATION, CONFIRMATION & HOLY COMMUNION 2025

Do you know any children who want sacrament preparation? If you do please pass this notice on to them. We will commence early February 2025.

PEACE CANDLE



It reminds us of the message of the angels: **"Peace on Earth, Good Will to All."**

On the fourth Sunday of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the last week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Saviour. *This final candle, the "Angel's Candle," symbolises peace.*

The NATIVITY of the LORD (Christmas) Solemnity 25th December

Throughout Advent the Church longed ardently for the coming of our Saviour. Today she celebrates His birth with unrestrained joy. "The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." The Son of God became man to give us a share in that divine life which is eternally His in the Blessed Trinity. Christmas time begins on December 24th with the first Vespers of the feast and ends on the feast of the Baptism of Christ. White vestments reappear in our churches as a sign of joy.
Catholic Culture



THE HOLY FAMILY Feast Day 29th December



Scripture tells us practically nothing about the first years and the boyhood of the Child Jesus. All we know are the facts of the sojourn in Egypt, the return to Nazareth, and the incidents that occurred when the twelve-year-old boy accompanied his parents to Jerusalem. In her liturgy the Church hurries over this period of Christ's life. The general breakdown of the family, at the end of the past century and at the beginning of our own, prompted the popes, especially the far-sighted Leo XIII, to promote the observance of this feast with the hope that it might instil into Christian families something of the faithful love and devoted attachment that characterize the family of Nazareth.
Catholic Culture

CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS

There will be two collections at Christmas, the first to support our priests and the second to support our South Australian Catholic Charities.

MASS FOR YOU AT HOME

will continue its ministry in 2025. For 54 years, *Mass for You at Home* has been a vital link to the source and summit of the Christian life for those who are unable to attend in person, including parishioners in prisons, nursing homes and those who are sick or housebound.

Bulletin Board



RESPONSORIAL PSALM 4th SUNDAY of ADVENT – YR.C/1

*Lord, make us turn to You; let us see
Your face and we shall be saved.*

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from Your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up Your might,
O Lord, come to our help.

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.

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.



KSC NEWS The winner of the wine raffle
in Goolwa was David Huppatz.
Victor Harbor will be drawn on Sunday.
Charlie Grima has been made an official
member of the Knights. Congratulations.

CONGRATULATIONS KEVIN



Our best wishes
to Kevin Phillips
who turns 90 on
December 26th.
Many thanks

Kevin for your generous service to
Vinnies over many
years, particularly
as president.
Kevin's tip for a
long life – take up
push-bike riding!!!



AND CONGRATULATIONS TO MURIEL VAN DEN BERG



who turned
85 this week.
Wishing you many
more years of health
and happiness,
Muriel.

PRAY FOR THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE AND THE HOLY LAND



CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASSES

Christmas Eve

No Tuesday Morning Mass

Goolwa 5.00pm

Victor 7.00pm

Christmas Day

Goolwa 8.30am

Victor 10.30am

New Year's Eve - Victor Only

No Tuesday Morning Mass

Victor 6.00pm

New Year's Day - Goolwa only

Goolwa 9.30 am

CHRISTMAS ROSTER

GOOLWA

Tues 24th Dec. - 5.00pm Christmas Vigil

Commentator: Marie Riddle

R. 1 C. May R. 2 L. Healey

EMHC T. Siciliano

Wed 25th Dec. - 8.30am Christmas Day

Commentator: D. Huppatz

R. 1 E. Bourne R. 2 R. Lee

EMHC A. Turner, R. Austin, S. Muller

VICTOR HARBOR

Tues. 24th Dec. - 7.00pm Christmas Vigil

Commentator: R. Klecko

R. 1 M. Cunningham R. 2 C. Sutherland

EMHC M. Farmer, M. Libutan,
E. O'Shaughnessy

Wed. 25th Dec. - 10.30am Christmas Day

Commentator: T. Hounslow

R. 1 W. Baker R. 2 F. Hanna

EMHC M. Libutan, J. Baker

NEW YEAR'S DAY ROSTER

VICTOR HARBOR

Tues 31st December - Vigil Mass 6.00pm

Commentator: T. White

R. 1 K. Dudley R. 2 P. Clingan

EMHC M. Libutan, A. Rose

GOOLWA

Wednesday 1st Jan - 9.30 am New Year

Commentator: J. Ryan

R. 1 P. Kennelly R. 2 M. Freeborn

EMHC M. Ryan

VICTOR HARBOR MASS ROSTERS

for February- April will be arranged soon.

If you are unavailable at any time during this
period, can you please advise by the end of
December.

Call or text Carol on 0418856799

45 CLUB

The Knights of the Southern Cross thank all
participants in the 45 Club during 2024 and
congratulate the winners shown on the notice
boards as well as all the others who so
willingly contributed to helping so many
needy organisations.

THIS WEEK: 21st & 22nd December

VICTOR HARBOR Saturday 6pm

Commentator: E. O'Shaughnessy

R.1 C. Huppatz

R.2 L. Blacket

EMHC E. O'Connell

Sunday 11am

Commentator: F. Hanna

R. 1 R. Klecko

R. 2 A. Rose

EMHC L. Sunman

GOOLWA 9am

Commentator: Marie Riddle

R. 1 L. Healey

R. 2 Michael Riddle

EMHC A. Turner



NEXT WEEK: 28th & 29th December

VICTOR HARBOR Saturday 6pm

Commentator: T. White

R.1 J. Jeffery

R.2 B. Bullen

EMHC E. O'Shaughnessy

Sunday 11am

Commentator: R. Klecko

R. 1 .L. Sunman

R. 2 P. O'Brien

EMHC P. Clingan

GOOLWA 9am

Commentator: P. Kennelly

R. 1 M. Mulvihill

R. 2 A. Fawkner

EMHC S. Muller

VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA PARISH

NGARRINDJERI and
RAMINDJERI land

CATHOLIC PARISH HOUSE

32 Seaview Road (PO Box 464)
VICTOR HARBOR SA 5211
Telephone: 8552 1084 (*Please leave a message if the Office is unattended - we will get back to you asap*)
Email: catholicvhg@bigpond.com
Web: www.victorgoolwacatholic.org.au

PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

• PARISH PRIEST

Fr Vinh-Quang Tran (8552 1084;
in an emergency - 0429 098 802)
Email: Vinh2511@bigpond.com

• PARISH MANAGERS

Mr Ray Klecko (0438 364 870)
Mrs Pat Clingan (0410 593 617)
Email:
Parish_manager@bigpond.com

• PARISH NEWSLETTER

Please forward items for the newsletter to the Parish Office - 8552 1084,
catholicvhg@bigpond.com
(*All items for the newsletter by Wednesday evening*)

• PARISH TREASURER

Mr Merv Mallett (0412 103 443)
Email: parish_treasure@bigpond.com

• CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection Unit (8210 8159)
Goolwa (Cathy May 0401 584 237)
Victor Harbor (Office 8552 1084)

• CSHW SA (Safety, Health, Welfare)
Cathy May (0401 584 237)

KIDS' CORNER

"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." (Luke 1: 45)

God has a plan for each of us. It's up to us to respond. God's plan for Mary was for her to be the mother of God's Son. But God didn't make the decision for Mary. Mary could have said "no," but she didn't. Mary said "yes." In a few days, we will celebrate Jesus' birth. Jesus is the Son of God. He's also Mary's son. Being Mary's son, Jesus blessed Mary and made her special. When we pray the Hail Mary, we repeat the words of Elizabeth: "Blessed are you among women." Today, do a chore quietly and without being asked. Loving God, thank you for Mary! Amen.

(Continued from page 1)

Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL

(Luke 1: 39-45)

At our parish we call them L.O.L.s: Little Old Ladies. They're the backbone of the community. They come to meetings, bake cakes for functions, crochet for fundraising, pray for a storm, drop their money in the baskets, bringing communion to the sick, volunteer for everything. They go about their work almost invisibly, but what they accomplish is enormous. Without L.O.L.s, someone once observed, you could close the doors of most parishes.

Elizabeth was a Little Old Lady. To look at her, one might not expect much more to come from a person of her advanced years. Certainly, the contribution of new life was biologically behind her. Yet God's grace proved that assumption wrong, as often explodes our careful theories and plans. God's grace can overshadow us and bring new life from the "too old," the "too young," and every other place where we've closed a door in our minds. God may be opening a door for you right now, in the place you least expect.

GPBS eNews

BRING THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE HOME

This weekend usually is one of the busiest travel times of the year. Airports, bus terminals, train stations, and, of course, highways will be filled with people laden down with gifts, all trying to make it home for the holidays. Home with their loved ones is where people want to be, if at all possible. And so they are willing to withstand all sorts of incredible trials

PASTORAL CARE

If you need a priest for anointing prior to medical treatment or if you are ill (not necessarily life-threatening) or for last rites please contact: (08) 8552 1084 or in an emergency 0429 098 802.

and tribulations to get to where they want to go. If some breakdown and accidents are in the mix, it is guaranteed to snarl everything. But year after year people do it.

Scripture tells us little of Mary's journey to her cousin Elizabeth home. We are given only vague details telling us that it is somewhere in the hill country and that Mary hurries there because of Elizabeth's pregnancy. It probably was a gruelling trip for her to make. But Mary does it willingly to be where she is needed. And when her own pregnancy nears completion, she will take another difficult journey, this time to Bethlehem to fulfill the words of the prophets.

Mary, this "Christ-bearer," is bringing to Elizabeth the presence of the messiah for the first time. And it has a dramatic effect on her and on the baby John in her womb. Neither would ever be the same again.

With Christmas only days away, we are challenged to bring that very same presence to all whom we will touch this Christmas holiday season. Mary has become the embodiment of what we are called to be and do as Christians in our service to one another.

GPBS eNews

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(December 23 - 29)

- **Monday, 23:** Monday, 4th week Advent (Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66)
- **Tuesday, 24:** Tuesday, 4th week Advent (2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Lk 1:67-79)
- **Wednesday, 25:** The NATIVITY of the LORD (Specific Christmas readings for various times of day)
- **Thursday, 26:** St Stephen (Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22)
- **Friday, 27:** St John, (1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:2-8:)
- **Saturday, 28:** The Holy Innocents (1 Jn 1:5 - 2:2; Mt 2:13-18)
- **Sunday 29:** The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28; 1Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52)