



# Encounter

VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA CATHOLIC PARISH

THE NATIVITY OF  
THE LORD - YEAR B

*A living, vibrant  
faith community*

Vol 12 : No 05

## 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.



## CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS

### FIRST READING

*Isaiah 62:1-5*

God's grace brings about the conversion of his unfaithful people. With a new-found integrity they (and we) will be called by a new name, and their relationship (and ours) with God will lead to an intimacy beyond their (and our) wildest imaginings. God will rejoice in them (and us).

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Ps 88:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29*

*Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.*

### SECOND READING

*Acts 13:16-17, 22-25*

Paul introduces the Jews and non-Jewish believers in the God of Israel to the new thing that God has done for them in Jesus, whom he has raised up for them as Saviour.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

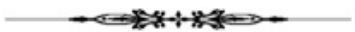
*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed: the Saviour of the world will be our king.*  
*Alleluia*

## GOSPEL

*Matthew 1:1-25*

This reading from the beginning of Matthew's Gospel reminds us of the mortality and even the sin the Son of God took on himself in becoming one of us, through his birth from the Virgin Mary, in order to save his people from their sins and restore us to God's friendship.



## CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

### FIRST READING

*Isaiah 52:7-10*

The Prophet proclaims good news to the disheartened people of Judah and Jerusalem - their God has not abandoned them, but is coming to save them. Good news to us too - God's salvation is for all peoples.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Ps 97:1-6*

*All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.*

### SECOND READING

*Hebrews 1:1-6*

God spoke his word through his prophets and in various ways.

*(Continued page 2)*

**VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA**  
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](mailto:catholicvhg@bigpond.com)  
Web: [www.victorgoolwacatholic.org.au](http://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](mailto:Vinh2511@bigpond.com)

• PARISH MANAGERS

Mr Ray Klecko (0438 364 870)  
Mrs Pat Clingan (0410 593 617)  
Email: [Parish\\_manager@bigpond.com](mailto:Parish_manager@bigpond.com)

• PARISH NEWSLETTER

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

• PARISH TREASURER

Mr Merv Mallett (0412 103 443)  
Email: [parish\\_treasure@bigpond.com](mailto: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)

*(Continued from page 1)*

Now he speaks to us through his Son, who is the radiant light of God's glory. He has veiled that glory with our humanity so that we can prepare by lives of faith for the full revelation of that glory in Heaven.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*A holy day has dawned upon us.  
Come, you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth. Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL**

**John 1:1-18**

The gospel passage encourages us to ponder reverently the mystery of the Word who was with God in the beginning, who was God, and who became man in Jesus and dwelt among us.

**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM FR VINH**

I wish you and your family a Blessed, Joyful and Safe Christmas and New Year. May 2024 bring God's blessings.

Thank you for your active participating in the parish throughout the year and for your personal care and concerns for my well being. Thank you also for your Christmas wishes and gifts that I have received.

May God continue to bless you and your family with his presence among us.

*Fr Vinh*

**CHRISTMAS QUOTES**

*"For it is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmas, when its mighty Founder was a child himself." Charles Dickens*

*"Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world." CS Lewis*

*"God never gives someone a gift they are not capable of receiving. If He gives us the gift of Christmas, it is because we all have the ability to understand and receive it."*

*Pope Francis*

*"So God throws open the door of this world — and enters as a baby. As the most vulnerable imaginable. Because He wants unimaginable intimacy with you. What religion ever had a god that wanted such intimacy with us that He came with such vulnerability to us? What God ever came so tender we could touch Him? So fragile that we could break Him? So vulnerable that His bare, beating heart could be hurt? Only the One who loves you to death."*

*Ann Voskamp*

*"I truly believe that if we keep telling the Christmas story, singing the Christmas songs, and living the Christmas spirit, we can bring joy and happiness and peace to this world."*

*Norman Vincent Peale*

*"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."*  
Isaiah 9:6



*May joy be your gift at Christmas and may faith, hope and love be your treasures in the New Year.*