



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

3RD DECEMBER AND 4TH DECEMBER 2022—Year A

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. We walk on a land once occupied by the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation, who lived in this area for over 30,000 years. May we continue to love and respect the land as they have.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are respectfully advised that this publication/production may contain the words, voices, names, images and /or descriptions of people who have passed away.



ST COLUMBA'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH • LEICHHARDT NORTH

Parish Details:

📍 213 Elswick St, North Leichhardt 2040

☎ (02) 9569 2267

✉ admin@stcolumba.org.au

🌐 www.stcolumba.org.au



www.facebook.com/stcolumbasleichhardt/

Office Hours:

9:30am-2:30pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

All bulletin notices to be in by 12pm Wednesday

Please email or leave under office door and write your message clearly

Parish Priest:

Fr Peter Smith.....✉ pp@stcolumba.org.au

Parish Secretary

Vanessa Quaratiello.....✉ admin@stcolumba.org.au

Pastoral Associate

Barbara Howard.....✉ pa@stcolumba.org.au

Pastoral Council

Secretary.....✉ secretary@stcolumba.org.au

St Columba's Catholic School

Principal: Debra Galofaro.....☎ (02) 9569 1270

Weekend Mass Times:

Saturday.....5pm

Sunday.....8am and Family Mass at 10am

Weekday Services:

Friday.....9:15am

Reconciliation:

By appointment

Marriages:

By Appointment, please email

✉ admin@stcolumba.org.au to arrange.

If you would like to contribute to the Parish Planned Giving, please speak to Fr Peter. Also, a form can be emailed to you. If you would like to arrange a one off direct deposit donation, please contact the office.



Fr Peter's weekly Podcasts of the Gospel are uploaded weekly onto the St Columba's website and Facebook page

<https://scln1.podbean.com/>

From Fr Peter's Desk



THE BIRD OF HOPE

Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul,
And sings the tune without the words,
And never stops at all.
And sweetest in the gale is heard;
And sore must be the storm
That could abash the little bird
That kept so many warm.
I've heard it in the chilliest land,
And on the strangest sea;
Yet, never, in extremity,
It asked a crumb of me.
(Emily Dickinson)



ST COLUMBA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saturday 24th December

Christmas Eve Mass at 6pm

Sunday 25th December

Christmas Day Mass at 9am

Both the Christmas Eve mass and the Christmas Day mass will be held under the marquee on the school grounds

Live Masses can be found on
www.sydneycatholic.org/live-masses/

Today's Liturgy

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Isaiah 30: 19, 30

O people of Sion, behold,
The Lord will come to save the nations,
And the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
In the joy of your heart.

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1—10

He judges the poor with justice.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 71: 1-2, 708, 12-13, 17

Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Second Reading

Romans 15:4-9

Christ, the hope of all people.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 3:4,6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:

All people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

Communion Antiphon

Baruch 5:5;4:36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,

And behold the joy which come to you from God.



WE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE WHO ARE SICK INCLUDING:

Robert Lo Surdo, Margaret Downey, Frank Hodges, Silvana Cocilova, Kim Rowles, Mabel Winter, Dorothy New, Patricia O'Toole, and all those at The Marion Aged Care and Lewisham Nursing Home



We remember and pray for all our deceased Relatives and Friends Recently Deceased

Bill Leis, Dan O'Brien, Doreen Campbell

Anniversary

John McCarthy, Jessie Ritchie, Salvatore Macaluso, Marion Savage, Stephen Lott, Leo Hodges, Kathleen Hodges, Albina Francetich, Bea Guina, Barry & Helen Jones, Mary Flook, Laura Garrido Pena, Yvette Gerondeau, Annie Kent (Queenie), Gerome Chetcuti, Darryl Waters, Elio Quardascione, Sr Roma Reed & Betty Briggs

Altar Servers



NEW ALTAR SERVERS

Fr Peter would like to invite children to become altar servers for the weekend Masses. Any student who has celebrated the Sacrament of First Eucharist is welcome to join this special ministry. Training will be provided. If your child is interested in joining the altar server's roster and you would like to receive further information, please write your details on the sheet at the back of the church or contact

Barbara in the parish office on 9569 2267 or email

pa@stcolumba.org.au



2022 VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL THIS WEEKEND SAT 3RD DEC AND SUN 4TH DEC

St Vincent De Paul will be holding their annual Christmas Appeal this weekend

at St Columba's to help Aussie families who are struggling to survive with the increased cost of living. Your generosity can help provide urgent relief for a family who is doing it tough this Christmas, and give them hope for a better future. Please look out for the Vinnies envelopes this weekend, as well as the hamper lists which need to be returned no later than 10am mass on Sunday 18th Dec as this is when hampers will be distributed. We appreciate your support.

There is a limited supply of St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas cards available at the back of the church available to purchase this weekend. Sales of the cards will support the 'good works' of the St Vincent de Paul Society. Please put your donation in the box next to the cards.

BAPTISM

Congratulations and a very warm welcome to



Grace Lillian Wallington

Lachlan Eric Wallington

Charlie Ned O'Neill

Charles Michael Riddell



who will be baptised into our Christian community this weekend on Sunday 4th December

May the warmth of God's Love and the light of his Grace make your world a joyous place



VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Children, teens and adult helpers who would like to be part of the Nativity Play at the 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve. There will be two rehearsals – details to come. Please leave your details on the sheet at the back of the church or contact Barbara in the Parish Office on 9569 2267 or email pa@stcolumba.org.au



SOCIAL JUSTICE - ST COLUMBA'S

Our next Social Justice Group meeting will be held on **Wednesday 7th December at 6.30pm** in the Parish Hall. If you are interested in being part of our group, you're most welcome to attend. Please contact Fay Hair fayhair11@gmail.com if you would like to come.

SUPPORTING JRS

**Targeted Grocery items for DECEMBER
NAPPIES Size 2,4,5 & 6 & OLIVE OIL (Max 1L bottle)**

Donations can be left in the basket at the back of the church

A big thank you to everyone for your continued support. To donate money to JRS, please go to the JRS website aus.jrs.net and hit the Donate button.



THE ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

"In 1967 we were counted, in 2017 we seek to be heard. We leave base camp and start our trek across the country. We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future."

This week we continue providing information about the Uluru Statement From The Heart and the Voice to Parliament. We'll mostly use an FAQ format to present this information. The first FAQs are:

Why is Constitutional recognition through a Voice to Parliament important?

· A key feature of a Voice is that it is put in the Constitution. This would recognise the special place of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia's history, but importantly would also mean that it can't be shut down [without another referendum].

· A Voice would be an opportunity to make policies with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, rather than for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. A proposed representative group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people would advise the Government and Parliament on how a policy (like rural health) or a law (like Native Title changes for example) would practically and culturally affect Indigenous people.

What will a constitutional recognition deliver?

- It will deliver what Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have consistently asked for - to take responsibility and have input into how government programs work.

- Constitutional recognition through a Voice will give Indigenous communities a route to help inform policy and legal decisions that impact their lives. It's common sense that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people know their communities best and can provide the best feedback on what would work specifically in those communities. Giving people a say will lead to more effective results.

- Although it is not a silver bullet, constitutional recognition through a Voice has significant potential to fix some of the policy problems.

[Adapted from the From The Heart website]

COMING UP THIS WEEK

Friday 9 December – International Anti-Corruption Day

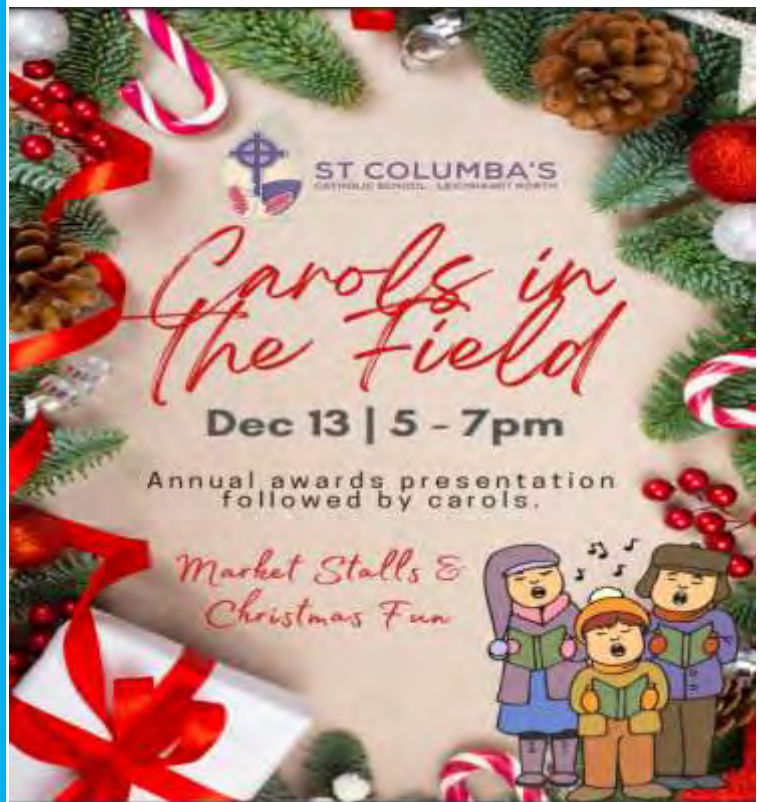
Observed since 2003 to raise awareness about the need to oppose corruption in all its forms. It's a happy coincidence that the Federal Parliament has just passed a law to set up a Federal Anti-Corruption Commission.

Saturday 10 December – Anniversary of the Adoption of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights

Proclaimed in 1948, it set out for the first time a list of fundamental human rights that must be universally protected.

Saturday 10 December – Anniversary of the Redfern Speech by Paul Keating

Considered one of the most powerful speeches in Australian history, it was a ground-breaking admission of the negative impact of white settlement on Indigenous Australians.



St Columba's Advent Peace Wreath

During Advent, we are called to be people of Peace. Take a gum leaf page from the church foyer, write a prayer for peace on the leaves, decorate, cut out and place it in the basket at the back of the church next week.

We will create an Advent Peace Wreath with the leaves.



Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP
invites you to

CHRISTMAS at the Cathedral

a festival evening at St Mary's

8 DECEMBER 2022

We invite our parish families and all people of goodwill across Sydney to come together at St Mary's Cathedral during Advent to prepare for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

4:00pm: Confessions available
5:30pm Mass

CATHEDRAL SQUARE

7:00pm: Live Entertainment
Pop-up shops
Food Stalls
Activities for the kids
8:00pm Christmas display official launch
by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP
10:30pm Cathedral and Crypt closes

Christmas at The Cathedral runs nightly from 8 Dec to 25 Dec



ST COLUMBA'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH • LEICHHARDT NORTH



TRIBAL WARRIOR CULTURAL CRUISE SATURDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2023

Parish cultural tour on the Mari Nawi (Big Canoe) learning about the traditional culture, history, and stories of one of the most beautiful harbours in the world. Hear stories of the Gadigal, Guringai, Wangal, Gammeraigal and Wallumedegal people of Sydney Harbour and learn the Aboriginal names and meanings of significant Sydney landmarks, before stepping ashore on Be-lang-le-wool (Clark Island). More details to come or please enquire at the Parish Office.

MASS VOLUNTEERS ROSTER

SAT 3RD DEC & SUN 4TH DEC 2022

HARD COPIES AVAIL IN CHURCH FOYER

| | WELCOME/SETUP | READER | READER 2 | SPECIAL MIN |
|------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 5pm | Jessica Chia | Therese McGarry | Robyn Rodwell | Therese McGarry |
| 8am | David Hair | Margaret Perry | Elizabeth Mulrennan | Margaret Perry |
| 10am | Ray Choi | Gordon Burke | Vicky Doneska | A Sapienza |

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney
Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Rocky road
for
refugees

AUSTRALIA FOR UNHCR

Christmas Fundraiser

This Christmas we have a special Rocky Road for Refugees Christmas Fundraiser for Australia for UNHCR. As well as selling our Rocky Road Christmas delights, we will also be raising funds for Australia for UNHCR with an Art Show. Local artists are giving a percentage of their art sales to Australia for UNHCR so join us for a glass of bubbly and some Christmas shopping for a good cause.

When Saturday 10 December Exhibition opening @ 5:30pm
Sunday 11 December | 9:00am until 2:00pm

Where St Columba's Parish Hall Elswick Street North
Leichhardt

Contact Therese Briggs | 0409 560 232
Mary Lou Byrne | 0419 265 791



Look

Sunday 4 December 2022
Matthew 3:1-12
2nd Sunday of Advent

In the
GOSPEL TODAY

Which way?



One traveller is going to Jesus along the straight road, and one is going along the crooked road.

Which one will get to Jesus first?

John the Baptist is the prophet sent by God to tell us all to get ready to welcome Jesus. John asks us to repent, to turn away from anything that is bad and turn towards God. Anyone who is loving and kind is turning towards God and their hearts will be ready to welcome Jesus. Make Jesus' paths straight!

Spot the difference

PREPARE THE WAY

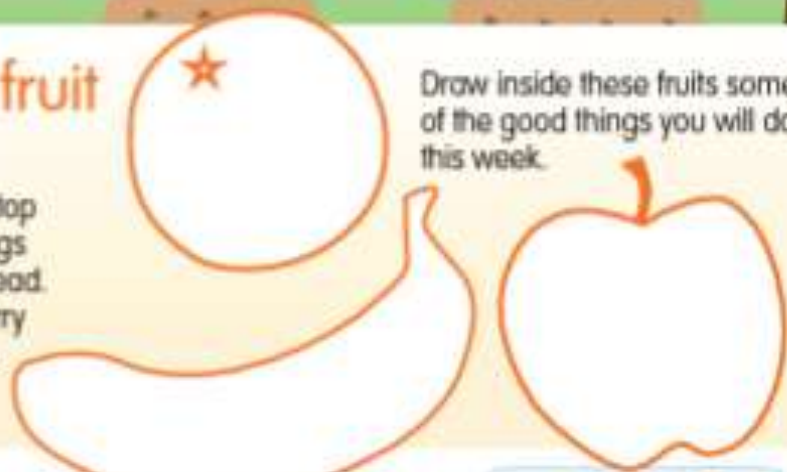
Can you spot five differences in these pictures of John the Baptist?



Good fruit

John wants everyone to stop doing bad things and do good instead. We show we are sorry and want to change by the good fruit in our lives.

Draw inside these fruits some of the good things you will do this week.



A PRAYER TO SAY

Jesus, help me to make it easy for you to come into my life. Help me to turn away from bad things and turn towards you. Amen.

Sorry

← Fill in the gaps

I want to say sorry to _____

I made the wrong choice when I _____

I forgot to _____

Draw a picture of you feeling happy.



Answers: The differences: Height, hair, buckle, staff and sleeves.

Sunday 4th December 2022
Second Sunday of Advent

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers,
the beautiful words of Isaiah prepared his people
for the promised Messiah, and the powerful witness
of John the Baptist prepared the people for the same one,
Jesus, who would baptise them in the Holy Spirit.

1. That the Church will grow in holiness this Advent, preparing
a way for the Lord who shows us how to treat each other in his friendly way.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
2. That we may be filled with the Spirit which is of God,
the spirit of wisdom and insight, of counsel and knowledge
and of reverence for the Lord.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
3. That integrity may be granted to world leaders who are in conflict,
between Russia and Ukraine and the Israelis and Palestinians
so that true peace will prevail everywhere.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
4. That on this World Bank Day, justice will shape how they work,
those with house loans be helped, young people seeking housing be guided
wisely, and the victims of natural disasters receive understanding
from their banks.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
5. That the Bishops of Oceania, gathering in Fiji in February, discerning the
fruits of the contributions of numerous thousands of Catholics made in the
past two years, will be guided by the Spirit of Wisdom.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
6. That those who have died in war and violence, in the Indonesian earthquake,
the Australia floods, and through the Covid pandemic
will enter the glorious heavenly home.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Almighty God,
let your justice flourish in our time,
your mercy sustain us in our weakness,
and the fullness of your peace embrace all people.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen