

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUSTRALIA DAY PRAYER

O God, powerful and gentle,
you love this southern land
and all its peoples, old and new.
As the Cross shines in our heavens
so may Christ bring light to our nation.
As the waves encircle our shores
so may your mercy enfold us all.
May God who formed our southern land
be for us a rock of strength.
May God who rules our southern seas
keep us safe in every storm.
May God who made our southern skies
turn our darkness into light. Amen.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Jonah 3:1-5. 10

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least.

God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour. And God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

This is the word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ Teach me your ways, O Lord.

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)

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R)

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)

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 7:29-31

Brothers: our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

This is the word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!
The kingdom of God is near:
believe the Good News!
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1:14-20

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.





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**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B
23rd / 24th January, 2021**

South Land of the Holy Spirit

The Beatitudes are at the beginning of the 'Sermon on the Mount'. This sermon provides a picture of a society where the usual expectations of how people relate to each other are overturned.

Australia is a place to which people have been attracted by a vision of a different future, a future where human beings could relate to each other differently to the old order in their society of origin.

De Quiros, the Portuguese explorer of the 16th Century, set out on a quest for 'Terra Australia del Espiritu Santo', South Land of the Holy Spirit.

I am convinced that 'Australia' is a work of the Holy Spirit. One of whose most distinctive works at Pentecost was the breaking down of ethnic and language barriers between people.

Australia is a place where that Pentecostal impulse is creating a new society. Have we responded to the Holy Spirit perfectly? No. Treatment of the earliest inhabitants of this land was shameful, and is not yet fully remedied as the Lord of the Sermon on the Mount desires.

But, we could pause for a moment and thank God

For our land abounding in nature's gifts of beauty rich and rare.

For the divine Spirit of Pentecost attracting us to follow Jesus in this South Land of the Holy Spirit.

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PRAYING FOR...

All those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

ANNIVERSARIES: Mon 18 Jan to Sun 24 Jan 2021

Irene Barron, Margherita Crivellaro, Margherita Lizza, Anthony Gannan, Elizabeth McNeil, Chris Quinn, Giovanni Di Donato



ANNIVERSARIES: Mon 25 Jan to Sun 31 Jan 2021

Jadwiga Godsmark, Giovanni (John) Cecchin, Mary Williams, Teresa Abraham, Giuseppe Pilotto, Frederick Bravington (40days)

AND ALL THOSE WHO ARE SICK Peter Thomas, Wilma Neville, Ruby Samtoy, Fame Pelgrim, Elsie Johnson, Barbara Kenny, Anne Jayawardena, Lea Hartley, Cosimo Petracca, Giuseppina Zarro, Catherine Turner, Patricia Quinn, David Merton, Michael Byrne, Bev McNamara, Anthony McNamara, Victoria Lewis, Nicole Moore, Peter Fairhurst, Hans Whitaker, Edward Osborne, Allida Serafin, Clive Geach.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY- FERNTREE GULLY
CONFERENCE UPDATE AND THANK YOU - 2021**

Once again, we thank parishioners for their generous donations over the Christmas period. The following is an update from our previous notice.

Cash donations from the parish and primary school totalled \$8,485 and the Knox City Council grant was \$4,000. Our members packed and delivered 65 hampers with a total cost of \$12,000. Each hamper contained Christmas non-perishable food, plus two \$50 Woolworth cards as well as your gift cards for the children in that family. We sincerely thank Fr Thomas and everyone who supported us in so many ways.

We are always delighted to welcome people to join us as we continue to support those in need. May God's blessings be upon you and may you be blessed for who you are.

- SVDP Ferntree Gully Conference



**DON BOSCO RETREAT CENTRE
LYSTERFIELD - Positions Vacant**

Three part-time casual positions available

- Cook / kitchen coordinator (12 – 24 hours per week)
- Part-time casual cleaner (12 – 24 hours per week)
- Part-time casual gardener (approx. 6 hours per week).

Please check website for further details

www.donboscoretreats.org.au/careers

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST SCHOOL NEWS school will be resuming on Thursday 28th January, 2021. There will be a Staff Commissioning Mass on Thursday 4th February at 9.15am.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER Our first meeting for 2021 will be **Tuesday 4th February at 10.15 am** in the Parish Hall. We wish everyone a happy and holy Christmas and every blessing for 2020.

FRIENDSHIP GATHERING is held on Thursdays between 10am and 12.30pm in the Parish Hall. Ladies and Gentlemen welcome anytime to have a cuppa and a chat.

ROSTERS: Mon 24th JAN to Sun 31st JANUARY, 2021

Flowers	Marg H & Judy G
Linen	Jean B
Welcomers	6pm: Help Needed Please 9am: Help Needed Please 11am: Help Needed Please
Lectors	6pm: Rosina L 9am: Caroline Q 11am: Peggy Spencer
Counters	
Gardening	Tom Noonan & Chris Markwick