

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

### Christmas Eve

6pm Vigil mass Sacred Heart, Moruya (36 Queen Street)

Special Children's mass. Children are encouraged to come dressed in Nativity costumes (Mary, Joseph, Angels, Shepherds, Wisemen)

### Christmas Day

8am: Tuross (36 Craddock Road)

10am: Sacred Heart, Moruya

**SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION:** The Second Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated on **Wednesday, 21 December at 6:00pm** in the Church. We are all encouraged to avail ourselves of this wonderful sacrament as we prepare to welcome Christ anew into our hearts this Christmas.



**SAVE THE DATE: PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY:** All Parishioners are warmly invited to attend the Parish Christmas Party on **Friday, 16 December from 6pm** at the BBQ area. Sausage sandwiches will be provided; please bring a salad and sweet to share. BYO drinks. To RSVP and for catering purposes, please place your name on the acceptance sheet which you will find in the Church foyer by 12 December. Tuross folk can email the office: [moruya@cg.org.au](mailto:moruya@cg.org.au) or phone 4474 2024 and leave your acceptance if the office is unattended.

## OTHER NOTICES

**CARITAS:** Caritas Australia are committed to upholding their mission of working together for justice and dignity for many underprivileged people around the world. To support this mission, Caritas is offering **Global Gift Christmas cards** for purchase this Advent season. There is a poster displayed with more information and order forms are available in the Church foyer. **Global Gift Christmas cards** can be ordered via the order forms, by scanning the QR code on the poster, online at [www.globalgifts.org.au](http://www.globalgifts.org.au) or by calling Caritas' Supporter Care team on 1800 024 413.

2022  
Moruya Lions  
CAROLS  
by Candlelight  
Moruya Riverside Park  
SUNDAY 18 DECEMBER 2022  
5.30 pm - The fun starts with live music  
7.00 pm - Carols by Candlelight  
9.00 pm - Fireworks and arrival of Santa  
FOOD VANS | COFFEE | DONUTS | ICE CREAM  
Bring chairs or a blanket, come early and have dinner  
PERFORMERS  
THE TWO TENORS | TRISTAN & LILLY SMYTH | THE THUGS |  
ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL | CARROLL COLLEGE |  
CHRIS & MICK MCGRATH | TONY JAGGERS |  
EUROBODALLA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA |  
SPONSORED BY MORUYA COUNTRY MARKETS  
& MORUYA LIONS CLUB

A warm invitation  
Community  
Christmas  
Day Lunch  
11.30am for 12 noon  
Red Door Hall  
next to St. Johns Church  
corner of Page & Campbell St  
Moruya  
Lunch is free. All welcome.  
small gifts for all  
for bookings leave message: 4474 0300 or come on the day

## SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA



36 Queen Street (PO Box 23) Moruya NSW 2537

Phone: 4474 2024 Email: [moruya@cg.org.au](mailto:moruya@cg.org.au)

Web: <http://cg.org.au/Moruya>

Priest: Fr Eden Langlands

Secretary: Mrs Vickie Moore

Parish Office hours: Wed and Fri 9am—2pm

**Mass Times:**

Moruya: Sat: Vigil 6:00pm Sun: 10:00am

Tue: 5:30pm, Wed, Thu & Fri: 9:15am/1st Saturday of the month 9:15am

**Reconciliation:** Sat @ Moruya: 5:15pm-5:45pm before Mass

Tuross Mass: Sun: 8am

Schools: St Mary's Moruya: 4474 2817

Carroll College Broulee: 4471 5600

Caring Group: Tuross Head: 0497 315 534 Moruya: 0431 354 993

Devotions: Daily Rosary and Saturdays 9:30am Adoration 40 mins before weekday Mass



2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- YEAR A -

December 4 & 5 2022

## Prepare the way of the Lord

“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand”

On the one hand, salvation is God's doing and we cannot earn His blessings. On the other hand, we must co-operate, because God cannot force his bounty upon us. Today's **first reading** from Isaiah emphasises that, through his Son, God does all the saving. And yet, John the Baptist in today's **gospel** summons us to play our essential part by leading lives of repentance, conversion and renewal, thus preparing the way for the Lord's second coming. We start this process by preparing for the celebration of Christmas, the Lord's first coming. All the kings who succeeded David proved to be increasingly unfaithful, bringing eventual defeat and destruction upon the nation. Because of the bad example of their leaders, the Chosen People were wavering in their loyalty to Yahweh. Isaiah in the **first reading** tried to dispel their fears, and stir up hope amongst his people by God's promise of a new Davidic King (a son of Jesse) who would establish peace and a glorious kingdom of justice on earth. His kingdom would be a return to the time of peace before sin entered the world. In the **second reading** Paul was praying for the Jewish Christians of Rome and instructing them to draw endurance and encouragement from the Old Testament books. They were to live in harmony with Gentile Christians accepting them as equals and brothers and sisters while they waited for the second coming of Jesus. In today's **gospel**, John the Baptist warned the Pharisees and Sadducees to give evidence that they meant to reform their lives so as to recognise and accept the promised Messiah. He challenged them to repentance, conversion and renewal. He told the common people who were filled with expectation that the Messiah was near, to act with justice and charity, letting their lives reflect the transformation that would occur when the Messiah would enter their lives. In the same way, as we prepare to welcome Christ at Christmas, John advises us to “prepare the way of the Lord”.



### Prayer for the Parish

*Almighty God, we pray for Your blessing upon our parish and all who share in the life and work of the parish.*

*Mother Mary, pray for us, so that God's will may be done in all things regarding our parish. Grant us the grace to provide good pastoral care, and help us to be joyful, spirit-led people of deep faith, fully equipped to assist others to encounter Christ in a deep and meaningful way. Amen*

# Liturgy

## First Reading Is 11:1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,  
a scion thrusts from his roots:  
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,  
a spirit of wisdom and insight,  
a spirit of counsel and power,  
a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.  
(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)  
He does not judge by appearances,  
he gives no verdict on hearsay,  
but judges the wretched with integrity,  
and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.

His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless,  
his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is  
the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt  
about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down  
with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a  
little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make  
friends, their young lie down together. The lion  
eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the  
cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child  
puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my  
holy mountain, for the country is filled with the  
knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea.  
That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the  
peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and  
its home will be glorious.

The Word of the Lord  
**All: Thanks be to God**

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17. R. cf. v.7

**(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,  
to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice  
and your poor in right judgement. (R.)
2. In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.  
He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to the earth's bounds. (R.)
3. For he shall save the poor when they cry  
and the needy who are helpless.  
He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor. (R.)
4. May his name be blessed for ever  
and endure like the sun.  
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,  
all nations bless his name. (R.)

**Second Reading Rom 15:4-9**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures  
was meant to teach us something about hope from the  
examples scripture gives of how people who did not

give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us  
when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant  
with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus,  
so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to  
the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each  
other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you.  
The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised  
Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out  
the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get  
the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scrip-  
ture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among  
the pagans and sing your name.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Acclamation Lk 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 Mt 3:1-12**

P: The Lord be with you

**All: And with your spirit**

P: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

**All: Glory to you O Lord**

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in  
the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message:  
'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'  
This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he  
said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with  
a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts  
and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the  
whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they  
were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed  
their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and  
Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood  
of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution  
that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the  
appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves,  
"We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you,  
God can raise children for Abraham from these stones.  
Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that  
any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut  
down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for  
repentance, but the one who follows me is more power-  
ful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he  
will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His win-  
nowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-  
floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he  
will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

The Gospel of the Lord

**All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

**Entrance Antiphon:** 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.

**Communion Antiphon:** Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

**Prayer after Communion:** Lord, we thank you for coming into our hearts in Communion. We believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. You are our life and our hope. Draw us more deeply to yourself and transform our hearts through your abiding love. May we come to know Sunday as a special day of faith, the day of our Risen Lord. May our celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday consecrate this day to you. O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, All Praise and All Thanksgiving be every moment thine.

## THE WORD AND LIFE this week ...

**1) Prepare for Christ's coming by allowing him to be reborn daily in our lives:** Advent is the time for us to make this preparation by repenting of our sins, and renewing our lives through prayer, penance, and sharing our blessings with others. Let us remember the oft repeated words of Alexander Pope: "What does it profit me if Jesus is reborn in thousands of cribs all over the world and not reborn in my heart"? He means that Jesus must be reborn in our hearts, during this season of Advent, and everyday of our lives, bringing us love, kindness, mercy, forgiveness and spirit of humble service.

**2) A call for a change of life.** John the Baptist, the stern and uncompromising preacher, challenges our superficial attempts at change, demanding that we take a deeper look. Obeying the commandments is a good start, but we must also examine our relationships with others. We must mend ruptures and frictions, face family responsibilities, work honestly and treat employees justly. Start where you are, John says: our domestic and social lives must be put in order. John's voice is sober and runs counter to the intoxicating voices around us today. He calls for rectitude and social consciousness. We must abandon our selfish thirst for consumption, and instead, be filled with the expectation of Jesus' coming. Therefore, following John's advice, let us celebrate the memory of this first advent, prepare for Jesus' new advent in our lives, and wait for his second advent at the end of the world.

**3) Prayerfully wait for the second advent of Jesus.** John's answer as to how the Jews should wait for the Messiah was: wait for the Lord with repentant hearts and reformed lives. We can start by praying from the heart. Let us remember that the Holy Mass is the most powerful of prayers because it transforms us into Eucharistic people, providing the living presence of Jesus in our hearts and his divine life in our souls. Conversion is through Jesus, whom we encounter mainly through the Holy Scripture and the sacraments. The Word and the sacraments are the principal means God uses to enliven men's souls. Daily reconcilia- tion with God as we ask and receive His pardon for our daily sins and monthly sacramental confession make us strong and enable us to receive more grace in the Eucharist. Let us read the Bible, pray the rosary daily and fast once a week all year-round, rather than just during Advent and Lent. After all, we sin all year round, so let us fast also all year round by controlling our senses. We could take some time before Mass to adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and we should practice forgiving those who offend us. Finally, let us share our love with others as selfless and humble service. *"Do small things but with great love"*. (Mother Teresa).

## NOTICES FROM THE PARISH

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** We continue to pray and extend our support to those at Banksia Village, IRT Moruya, and the sick members of our Parish: Ben Pollock, Kathleen Ebbelaar, Gerry, Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Andy McCosker, Bala Stankovich, Paul Croese, Clare Broekhuysse, Pat Morris, Julie and John Kay, Lee Maat, Kirk Dowling, Rosemary Patyus, Kay Morton, Rod McDonald, Hans Brosch, Father Giles Setter OFM, Jenny McCaskill, Annette Moore, Annette and John Nader, John Harnett, Ross Hay, Bernard Carroll, Taine Woodford, Jaijing Greenwood, Robyn Barkley and Mark Wales. Please also pray for Joy Jaensch who is in palliative care in Murray Bridge, SA.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** Congratulations to Deacon Paul Rummery who celebrated 21 years of his Ordination on 1 December. Thank you for your service Deacon Paul.

**BIRTHDAYS:** Happy Birthday to Parishioners **Graham Beer** who celebrated his birthday on 2 December and **Rhonda Zammit** and **Graham Scobie** who celebrate their Birthdays this weekend on 3 December.

**ADVENT PRAYER GROUP:** We will be meeting for prayer and discussion in the Church after 5:30pm Mass each Tuesday during **Advent** which commenced **29<sup>th</sup> November**. This is a wonderful opportunity to spiritually prepare ourselves for the Feast of Christmas.