First Sunday of Advent

30 November 2025



First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5
Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14
Gospel Reading: Matthew 24:37-44

Readings: Sunday 30 November 2025

Readings: Sunday 7 December 2025

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10
Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9
Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:1-12

This First Sunday of Advent encourages us to think of the Lord's coming at the end of time (GIRM 93). The season will close with the birth of the child Jesus, however it opens with the widest of visions. We are called to remain awake, ready for the coming of Christ, a time of fulfilment and completion of all creation.

Lectors and Special Ministers – could you please ensure that you tick your name off the Liturgy Roster (situated on the table in the Narthex) on your arrival. This will help to make the Sacristan's (especially at the 10.30am Mass) job easier, if they know you have arrived.

Our next Children's Liturgy Session is Sunday December 7, 2025 at the 10.30am Mass. If you would like to join the Children's Liturgy Team in leading the children once a month, please contact the parish office on 9398 2964. We would love to hear from you. No experience necessary.



"Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on which day your Lord will come." Matthew 24:42

One of the key themes of the advent season is readiness. If God were to ask at this moment, could you provide an accounting of how you have used the personal and financial gifts that God has entrusted to you?



Christmas/New Year Timetable:

Monday Dec 22 No public Mass Tuesday Dec 23 No public Mass Wednesday Dec 24 - Christmas Eve 6pm & 8.30pm Thursday Dec 25 – Christmas Day 9am No public Mass Friday Dec 26 Saturday Dec 27 one Mass only at 6pm Sunday Dec 28 one Mass only at 9.30am Mon Dec 29 to Wed Dec 31 No public Mass Thursday Jan 1 – New Year's Day 9.15am



Compulsory 'Group Training Session' for all Parish Volunteers Regarding Child Safeguarding Standards will be held in the Church on:

Sunday 7 December, 2025 after the 10.30am Mass.

This will be the last session for this year. Therefore, if you are a parish volunteer and have not yet done the compulsory training, please attend this session which takes approximately one hour. If you prefer to do it on line yourself, you will need to provide the parish office with a copy of your certificate showing you have done your online training.

The training sessions will provide all parish volunteers with foundational knowledge and a clear understanding of their duty of care and expectations in relation to safeguarding children young people and vulnerable persons from all forms of abuse and harm. This will be required every three years for all volunteers.

Prayer Service at Port Phillip Village:

Port Phillip Retirement Village in Altona has an ecumenical Prayer Service on the second Tuesday of each month at 2p.m. The next Prayer Service will be held on the 9 December, 2025. Friends and family are welcome.

Liturgy Roster - 7 December, 2025

	Lectors	Special Ministers
6.00pm	Stephanie Tulilo	Mairead Kirk
8.30am	Cath Cuthbert	Brian Dalton
10.30am	Anna Watson	Paul Bugeja
Linen Roster	Counting this week:	Counting next week:
December	Team 2 – 30.11.2025	Team 3: 07.12.2025
Carmen	Leticia Mauricio	Shaun Crosbie
Inguanez	Raquel Arquesa Conee Manguiat	Margaret Bond John Shaw

Christmas Carols in the Park - An annual event organized by Altona/Laverton Council of

Churches. Family Friendly – All Welcome – Free Entry! Come and experience His Presence. December 7th 2025 at 6pm.

Logan Reserve Altona, Cnr Pier & Queen Streets, Altona. In case of wet weather this event will be held at The Salvation Army Hobsons Bay, 108 Queen Street Altona.

<u>Christian Meditation</u> takes place every Thursday evening at 7pm. If you would like to be part of this group, please phone Lucy at the Parish Office on 93982964. **MARANATHA!**

<u>Australian Catholics Summer Edition</u> - grab your free copy from the Narthex.

Red November: Pray for persecuted Christians - Aid to the Church in Need invites all Catholics to remember, pray for and support persecuted Christians throughout Red November. Please pray especially for our brothers and sisters in Nigeria, Sudan and the Middle East, where Christians are facing grave danger right now. Watch the official video and download your Red Rosary prayer card by visiting www.rednovember.org

St. Mary MacKillops Daily thoughts

"Love one another, each one always, in good or bad, not minding how things seem".



Recently Deceased:

Monsignor Frank Marriott

Anniversaries & Remembrances:

George & Loreta Calleja; Joan Grioli; Kevin Woof; Doma & Ivan Lesic; Frank & Zana Cetinic; Senko Srhoj; Ivan Boroje; Claudia Teixeira; Charles, Frank & Inez Micallef; Joseph, Carmen & Charles Falzon; Rose Camilleri; Giuseppina Meilak; Aldo Bordignon

Prayers for the Sick:

Genna Angelowitch; Maura McCabe; Trish Aitken: Anne Playnsek

<u>Volunteers required</u> to help set up the Christmas Tree in the Narthex and our Crib on Saturday 29th November, 2026. If you can help, please turn up at 4pm. Thank you.

2026 Fees for our 3 student priests at the Seminary in Timor Leste:

If you would like to contribute to the 2026 seminary fees for Eusebio Madeira, Tarcisio Abi, and Amorino Amaral (their photographs and biographies are on the wall outside the parish office) please place your donation in an envelope marked **TIMOR** and put your envelope in a Sunday collection basket.

Or, if you prefer, you are welcome to give your envelope to Father Deonildo, or to me.

The current exchange rate means we will need about \$1,200 (Australian) per student for the 2026 academic year in Timor Leste.

As it was earlier this year, our donation will be hand delivered (in January) to the Rector of the Seminary in Dili. Thank you for your kind assistance.

Archpriest Michael

ADVENT 2025 with The Catholic Guy Bruce

<u>Downes -</u> Jesus is Coming - Time to Get Ready. Experience the life-changing love of Christ and be strengthened in your faith journey this Advent alongside many people from around the world with The Catholic Guy, Bruce Downes.

- * Inspiring and transforming talks
- * Opportunities to pray and reflect
- * Practical strategies for impactful living
- * Life-changing encounter with Christ

To help you go deeper in your prayer life and spiritual journey, you are invited to attend the Advent Mission Event Retreat online available from 29 November with unlimited streaming until the end of Advent. To find out more and register, go to: https://TheCatholicGuy.com/missionevent Register now on the website or for more information, email: info@brucedownes.org



MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH





Child Safety: The Catholic Parish of Altona is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

Privacy Principles: Commonwealth and Victorian Governments introduced legislation which deals with the manner in which public and private sector organisations may record, store and disclose information including health information collected from individuals. The Catholic Parish of Altona is committed to upholding and implementing the Privacy Principles set out in the legislation.

First Collection: (Loose cash) For the support of the Archbishop, sick and retired priests and our Parish Priest.



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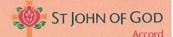
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