

December, 2020

## Community Newsletter

No. 41/2020

### From Our Parish Priest

Peace be with you.

We have received many blessings and gone through many challenges this year.

At Christmas, we are called to experience, in a new way, God's love for us and the whole of His creation. The birth of our Lord 2,000 years ago in Bethlehem invites us to newness of life. In this season, we celebrate anew our hope, faith, joy and peace. These are the gifts that can only be given by God. Therefore, we have the cause to celebrate and rejoice.

Again, by His birth, Christ makes manifest the promise of our salvation.

Friends, let the joy of this Christmas season embrace our hearts and souls so that we are transformed to become instruments of divine love and mercy. Loving others as we love ourselves and loving God above all things.

With deep gratitude for all you have done and participated in to grace St Joseph's Parish. I hold you in my hearts and in my prayers during this Holy season, commending all of you to God's peace and protection.

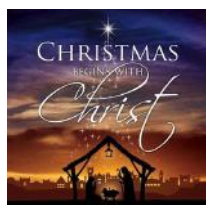
I wish you and your loved ones a holy and joyous Christmas season.

Fr. Michael M Kyumu

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### ***Congratulations!***

We congratulate Fr Michael Odiwa (Hectorville Parish) on his appointment as Bishop in the Kenyan Diocese of Homa Bay. A date for his ordination and installation have yet to be set but Fr Odiwa said he expected he would remain in Adelaide until late January.



### From our Pastoral Associate

Advent themes include Prayer, Hope, Joy and Love. These themes can be attributed to our year living with COVID.

We pray people will not die and that our loved ones will not be affected by COVID, and that a vaccine will be found soon.

We hope our loved ones will be with us to share our Christmas.

The joy we have that our state has no active cases at the moment.

The love we have shown each other and response to our advent giving.

As a parish we have done extremely well with all the changes and challenges that have come with COVID. We have endeavoured to keep our parishioners as safe as possible when they have been in our church and we will continue to do so to the best of our ability. Sometimes the requirements and requests have been extremely challenging and difficult for us to either understand and adhere to, but they have helped to keep us all safe.

Whilst Covid was at its peak, Mass was still available to our parishioners either being present at Mass or watching on Zoom.

In the last few months Fr. Michael has been able to go into our schools and celebrate school Masses which he was not able to do previously. Our Ministers to the sick have also returned to the Nursing homes to give Holy Communion to the residents.

Shauna Thomas, our RCIA candidate was received into our church, at a later time than normal.

Since we have been allowed to recommence having baptisms, we are having Baptisms every second week and we are booked until March next year.

We can count our blessings, that in a year like no other our parish has experienced many happy and memorable moments of community and joy.

I would like to thank each and every one of you, for your assistance, when we have asked for it, being flexible about how our church is structured with all the tape blocking some pews and your good wishes.

I wish each one of you a blessed Christmas and New Year.

God bless  
Clare Thewlis



### *Our Parish Vision*

*To be a people of God working together to build a caring, faith-filled community.*



## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Wow, what a change in our circumstances that have unfolded recently. In some ways I cannot believe we are approaching the end of the year.

A great big thanks to all who were able to support the official opening of the Parish library with the wine and cheese evening. The timing was perfect to get this wonderful community event in before the lockdown. Those in attendance witnessed excitement, energy, and enthusiasm in the welcome to a great gathering space and all it has to offer. Congratulations to Marguerita, Mary, Margaret, and Di for ensuring a fun filled evening and encouraging all to leave with something good to read. The photos below capture some of the evening.

PPC exec met last week to draft the final part of the strategic plan: **Leadership, Stewardship and Ministry**, after some fine tuning we hope to welcome wider parish community engagement with the plan early next year, as we continue to develop this planning ready to inform actions for 2021.

In preparation for 2021 the PPC are looking at calendar dates and if you have a consideration please let us know.

Thank you to the PPC who have been generous in what they have contributed this year. Also, the parish team who have worked tirelessly to ensure the smooth running of our Parish during difficult times and made all the necessary responses to keep us all as safe as possible. A special thank you to Fr Peter for his ongoing support and Fr Michael for his leadership.

My thoughts and prayers are with you all and I hope you and your families stay well and have a blessed Christmas.



May God fill your heart with Love, Joy and Peace this Christmas Season and throughout the New Year.

Christina Jonas  
Chair of the Brighton PPC

## Photos of the official opening of the Parish library– Wine and cheese evening





## PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL REPORT

In my final report last year I forecast some "big challenges and some rewards" in the coming year and hoped that we would be "just about on budget." The first part was correct, the rest a bit off the mark.

The Tutti Arts project, which had occupied a lot of our time and effort, was occupied in March and officially opened in the middle of the year. Because they were set back in their fundraising efforts by COVID-19, they approached us requesting an extension of their contract from 5 to 7 years. This contract was signed by the Archbishop and parish recently.

Unfortunately, our occupation of the old buildings has been much more expensive than we budgeted for. Plant and Services had been run down and extensive electrical, communication and plumbing work had to be done.

On a pleasing note, the relocation of groups into the buildings has been well received and the outdoor area has been converted into a very attractive garden and recreation space.



COVID-19 has damaged our budget too. With the closure of the church and limited attendances, combined with restricted employment, our planned giving and loose coin collections, on which the parish depends [and the first collection], have suffered. Quite a few people moved from envelope giving to electronic giving and that has been a blessing, but the old plate offering has suffered badly. We have benefited from the Job Keeper for some of our wages and we haven't had to contribute to the Diocesan Co-responsibility Fund.

The building proposal for Mens' Fellowship, lodged with Holdfast Bay Council some weeks ago, has been challenged by some neighbours concerned at the amount of traffic. It is hoped that this project will be wrapped up soon and the men able to relocate and settle in.

So far we haven't been able to let out the ground floor offices but have now resumed contact with an agent. We are hopeful that the parish will be able to purchase a housing unit offered by deceased parishioners at a favourable price. This will be income generating. The matter of a presbytery for the parish priest is being investigated and on-going.

During the year we farewelled Les Sobieray, Leon Welsby and only latterly Brian Burns. We welcomed Peter Whelan and Mandy Bosson and retained Paul Anglely and me. Fr Michael attends as President and Parish Priest, Jenny McCabe as Business Manager and we were pleased to have Christina Jonas, as Parish Pastoral Council Chair present at meetings. I would like to thank all members for their input and dedication. It has been a tough year. I would particularly wish to thank Jenny McCabe for her output and tenacity. She started the year operating remotely from Port Douglas !! We are fortunate to have great people on our staff.

If you or someone (female or male) you know is or might be interested in joining the Finance Council you could contact Jenny or Fr Michael at the Parish Office, or me on 8295 6966 to discuss the role. We do need more members.

On behalf of the Finance Council I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and every blessing for the coming year.

John Sullivan  
Chairman



## Men's Fellowship News

The Men's Fellowship Group still meets in the temporary 'shed' space every Tuesday and Friday from 11 am to about 2 pm for some good fellowship and the usual refreshments and a convivial glass or two.

The plans for the new premises have just been approved and we hope to be moving soon.

In the mean time there is no lack of discussion and thoughts on how things should proceed in 2021!





### Mercy Associate

Mandy Bosson has recently become a Mercy Associate and, together with two others, will form a new Mercy Associate group which will meet online. The group of three potential Associates started meeting online for formation once per month back in 2018, when Zoom was still relatively unheard of!



Meeting online for formation was the only option available for Mandy, who lives in Brighton, Anne, who lives in Melbourne and Natalia, who lives in St Petersburg, Russia. The conversations during formation were rich and interesting given the different church and cultural contexts; from exploring Catherine McAuley's life and ministry to discussing what it means to live out the charism of Mercy today. Communities of Mercy can develop deep relationships, even in the online space.

Catherine McAuley's words – *"It began with 2, Sister Doyle and I"* – reveal the small beginnings of what has now become an international association of Sisters of Mercy. Inspired by her pioneering spirit, the Mercy Associates movement too continues to grow and adapt to new challenges, including how to enable membership for people living in places where there are no existing groups.

Mandy and Natalia made their commitments together as Mercy Associates in a very special online Commitment Ceremony on 26<sup>th</sup> November. Along with Mandy and Natalia, invited guests included Sr Marietta Green and Sr Mary Mutlow. (Together with Sr Marie Ralph and Sr Pat Philips, they had been a great inspiration to Mandy on her spiritual journey with the Mercy family). This wonderful ceremony was a moving event for all involved, and of course particularly for Mandy and Natalia.

Mandy's journey continues, as she forms part of a faith community which seeks to follow in Catherine McAuley's footsteps. The story of the new online Mercy Associates group is unusual and owes much to the willingness of all to venture into the unknown, just as Catherine did when she opened the House of Mercy in 1827. As the Mercy Associates move forward, it is hoped that more people will join the small emerging group, and that the possibilities offered by online formation and meetings will provide new ways for people to connect with Mercy.

To find out more about becoming a Mercy Associate go to <https://institute.mercy.org.au/become-involved/become-a-mercy-associate/>

### Knights of the Southern Cross

Brighton, Marion, Hallett Cove and Glenelg Branch



We had eleven members at our monthly meeting last week with a further four members attending on ZOOM. We are getting better at ZOOMing LIVE whilst the meeting is in session. With the aid of a surround sound microphone each member could hear clearly on their laptops, what was said by all members around the meeting tables, at COVID distancing.

Next hurdle to climb will be for those at the meeting to be able to hear those at home.

We Knights are still fundraising via **45 Club** which is still in operation, plus **collecting empty bottles and cans** (Refer Parish Bulletin for collection), which means we can continue even during the pandemic, our commitment we have traditionally placed upon ourselves, to support financially the Vinnies Conferences of Brighton, Marion, Hallett Cove and Glenelg. Provision for Christmas Hampers support was added this month.

With the Abortion Bill and Euthanasia Bill before State Parliament, we have continued to lobby our local politicians re the sanctity of EVERY human life from conception to natural death.

We remember in our Prayers, Mary Schutze, wife of David Schutze (a Knight of over 50 years) and for those who are sick in our Parish, especially Ida Schar who is now in remission again.

**State History of the Knights in South Australia** – will be coming out in book form. This project is well under way with the support of two of our Branch members, Andy Tamassy and Tony Schar.

### Interestingly, when we look around:

Work has been reduced = Smog has reduced  
Cars are off the road/ aircraft grounded = Cleaner air  
Shipping and fishing reduced = Increase in fish in ocean

I should have done that = No rush, there's always tomorrow

Fuels cheaper = At least it was

Holidays reduced = Don't spend as much

Now SA tourism = Once its tasted..... like more of it  
Can't move around much = Care and concern for Neighbour increased

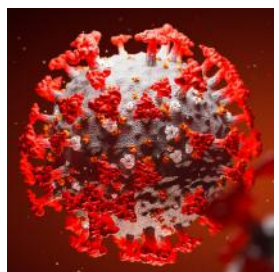
This looks like the Plenary we haven't had yet.

Stop Look Listen or  
See Judge Act

We now need the Holy Spirit to lead us from a new base, a cleaner more caring base.

Pat Hodgson

PS Our Branch is running a Sausage Sizzle at Brighton 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 11:30 am at the Activity Centre. We can spill out onto the new lawned area west of Centre. Attendance by booking only accepted as restrictions on numbers due to COVID must be applied.





# Heartfelt THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

## A special 'Thank you' to our volunteers

Brighton parish is blessed with over two hundred and seventy volunteers who range in age from ten to well into their eighties. Their dedication and commitment as volunteers ensure our parish is a living, vibrant and caring community.

Many of our volunteers serve the wider community reaching out to the vulnerable, the needy, the sick, the housebound and the bereaved. A large number serve within our parish. They ensure our liturgical and sacramental celebrations go ahead, they develop and maintain our grounds and facilities and serve on committees supporting the parish team and steering the parish vision.

Much of what they do is unseen and often unknown. Their initiatives and hard work can also breathe new life and connectedness into our community by creating new and exciting places for us to gather and celebrate together.

As a parish we wish to thank all our volunteers for their time, their efforts, their skills and above all their big hearts. They truly are the heartbeat of our parish and the gift of their service ensures our parish lives on!



## The Power of Prayer:

A message from Ireland.

"A big thank you, to all the Brighton parishioners, who have been praying for me, Aoibhinn Delaney, since I was born. I am 9 years old now, and I walked by myself without any aids, for the first time last Friday xx."

Shortly after this wonderful occasion, I received word from my cousin that Aoibhinn was again, rushed to Dublin from Kilkenny at 3am for emergency surgery, about 2½ hours drive. She is now recovering at home. Many thanks for your ongoing prayerful support for her.

Gen Traynor.



## Congratulations

A big Congratulations to Bob Mattingly "Young Bob" on his 90th Birthday





### **MEMORIAL MASS**

On 4<sup>th</sup> of November a Memorial Mass was celebrated in the Columbarium Garden.

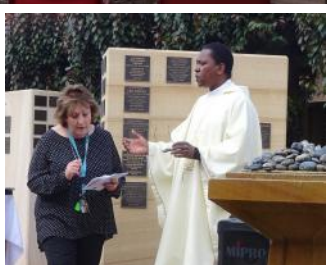
Families and friends of relatives who had died this year were invited to attend. There were 50 people who joined Father Michael Kyumu and the Bereavement team in the celebration. It was a cool evening in the garden and such an appropriate venue.

A candle for each family was lit, was blessed, and put on the altar during Mass. Afterwards each family was given the candle as a memorial.

Following the Mass the families moved through the Columbarium with Father as he blessed the plaques of those who were remembered there.

Refreshments were served in the Activity Centre where everyone was able to join with the team and families.

The Brighton Bereavement team has been assisting families to prepare liturgy for funeral services for many years. We have always been warmly welcomed during a most difficult time. Our role is to assist in preparation of the Liturgy, to liaise with the Priests, funeral directors and relevant participants. We attend the Service to enable families to absorb this significant event which is remembered forever. We are also available to assist people to prepare a funeral liturgy at any time.



### **EAST TIMOR SEMINARIAN SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME**

The ET Sponsorship Programme Committee is pleased to inform our communities that, despite the reduced attendance at parish mass and reduced fund raising opportunities during this Covid year we have been able to maintain a healthy finance bank balance that enabled us to support 13 seminarians in each of the three Seminaries in East Timor. That is a total of 39 Seminarians.

In addition, we have also benefited from a much more favourable exchange rate for the Australian Dollar which meant that our commitment for 2020 sponsorship did not drain our finances as much as we had originally feared. This means that after the transfer of \$10277 to East Timor we have a balance at the end of November of \$11454. This will place our programme in a solid position to maintain a similar level of sponsorship in 2021.

We have also been pleased to watch the progress through the sponsorship programme of candidates especially Filipe Moniz who has now been ordained Deacon in Dili and Carlos Roben who has been continuing his seminarian studies in Rome and has now been ordained Deacon.

We had the pleasure of hosting Carlos and Filipe during their visit to our communities in October 2012. We remember them for their enthusiasm and vision for their future and that of their East Timor communities. We invite our Parish communities to continue to donate to the sponsorship programme to maintain the financial support for the seminarians who progress through their studies in the Minor, Propaedeutic, and Major Seminaries in Dili to ultimately serve their communities as priests or any other chosen field of service.

The Brighton, Hallett Cove, St Anns and Glenelg Parishes sponsorship programme committee wish our communities a Blessed and safe Christmas and happy, healthy and safe New Year 2021.

Alex Priadko

Chair – East Timor Seminarian Programme



*Christmas is joy, religious joy,  
an inner joy of light and  
peace.*  
**Pope Francis**



## Christ the King School News

We have had a wonderful year at Christ the King School. There have been so many memorable moments where the children have been offered opportunities to flourish and to grow.

Our school is founded by the Sisters of the Order of Saint Benedict, 'Listen and attend with the ear of your heart.'

The theme of listening has filtered through our school year and our theme has been listen with the ear of your heart. With our listening hearts, there has been much to be grateful for.

To watch the children at Christ the King School grow, develop and change has been a great joy.

On Tuesday evening we farewelled the Year 6 students who have been the leaders in our school and truly represent the values of Christ the King School.

From the staff and the children at Christ the King School, we wish everyone a Happy and Holy Christmas.



## PARISH LIBRARY

Thank you for the wonderful support from our parishioners and friends for our new parish library during this difficult year. We have accumulated a great selection of books, DVD'S, puzzles which are available to borrow.

We look forward to welcoming parishioners and friends to call in for a chat and a cuppa.

Mah-jong is proving very popular on Friday mornings, led ably by our very enthusiastic teacher Erica Korotcoff. Next year we plan to introduce scrabble and Rummikub.

In February we will launch our new year activities with a Crazy Whist Card evening.

The library will reopen on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January and continue as usual on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9.30 to 12pm.

We wish you all a peaceful, blessed Christmas



## *Congratulations!*

**Congratulations** to Deacon Tim Grauel on his 5th Anniversary of Ordination to the Diaconate

*May the blessings of the Lord be upon you as you follow in His way.  
May you find joy and peace as He inspires you each day.*

*May God bless you today and always as you do  
His work in your special calling as a **DEACON**.*

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## Used Stamps wanted

Mary MacKillop Today recycles used postage stamps to: give disabled children an education in Papua New Guinea, train poor women to learn life-skills in Peru and bring vital health care to poor communities in Timor-Leste. Since 2001, we have raised over \$378,000 from the sale of used postage stamps. Cut them from the envelopes, leaving a generous margin around the edge, and drop them into the parish office. Pat will forward them to the mission.





## McAuley Community School News

As the year like no other draws to a close, McAuley Community School remains committed to our involvement in the community. On Remembrance Day our school leaders visited residents at Townsend House to hand out seeded paper poppies that had been made from recycled paper by our Reception and 1/2 learners.



After attending a workshop earlier in the year our Young Environmental leaders worked on their action plan to reduce the amount of waste in our school by participating in a KESAB audit and creating posters to place on all the bins to ensure our waste was going to the right bin. They also constructed bee hotels at the workshop which have been put up around the school grounds. Weeding and caring for the Brighton sand dunes has continued as part of our commitment to care for our local environment.



As part of our parish celebrations for the Season of Creation, Jasper Lagana and Leo Garcia, who are both school leaders, represented our school at a special ceremony when Fr Michael blessed a newly planted tree in the garden that has been revamped outside the Activity Centre. It was wonderful to have Sr Marietta present at the blessing as the tree will be a living memorial recognising over one hundred years of Mercy education on that site.

The Mini Vinnies team are busy co-ordinating our Christmas Toy Drive for Vinnies which we are anticipating will be just as successful as all our other drives this year. Learners will be invited to place their gifts under our tree of giving in the chapel as they reflect on the true meaning of Christmas.

We celebrated the coming of the Season of Advent at a whole school Mass with Fr Michael.



Reception learners had the beautiful cribs they had created at home blessed by Fr Michael at the end of the Mass. All members of the community will have another opportunity to have their nativity cribs blessed at our End of Year Mass.

As we say goodbye to 2020 we hope and pray that all in our parish have a safe and blessed Christmas as we look forward to 2021 when we can all be together again as one.

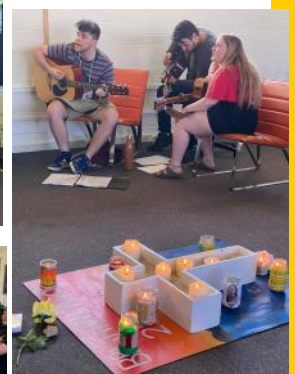
## Antioch News

On the 10th of October we had our annual Outreach weekend, except this year due to Covid-19 we had to do things a little differently. Rather than a full three day event, this year we had a single day where we had three talks done by the wonderful Ellen Wauchope, Nicholas Malycha, and Hannah Blake. Ellen talked about what it is to be a christian in a christian community. She talked about growing up in Port Pirie and how having her family in the clergy impacted her school life. Nick spoke about how life is a gift, and that we should be grateful for that gift that God has given us.

Hannah spoke about the theme of God's call. She pondered what God's purpose was for her life, and how she could be the best person that she can be. The day was full of fun, games, deep conversations, and lots of songs with the help of Ben Ellul on the guitar. We had 18 team members and one new recruit turn out for the amazing day. It was run by Damian Ruiz with the tremendous help of our lovely supports.

After a long year with Beth Loveday and Damo holding down the fort all throughout Covid-19, it was time for a change in leadership. Normally at Antioch we changeover our leaders in June, but with Covid-19 pushing everything back, we had to delay this process. On the 1st of November, we bid adieu to Beth and Damo, and welcomed our new leaders Kate and Hannah.

Merry Christmas,  
Kate Henderson - Brighton Antioch







On behalf of Caritas Australia, I would like to sincerely thank you for supporting **Project Compassion 2020**. It is only with the generous support of parishes and communities across Australia that Caritas is able to work with our worldwide partners to help change lives, and so bring hope, to the world's poorest children, women and men.

This year, COVID-19 caused a significant downturn in donations. However, the Australian Catholic community donated over \$7.97 million nation-wide, and the Archdiocese of Adelaide contributed \$419,815.00 million towards that figure. Your Parish was an essential part of this achievement.



Caritas Australia is encouraging Australians to buy a Christmas gift with meaning and help create life-long change for some of the world's poorest communities through its Global Gifts campaign.

Last year Caritas Australia reached more than 3.6 million people worldwide, including Australia, through long-term development and emergency programs.

Caritas Australia chief Kirsty Robertson said the proceeds from Global Gifts go to the charity's work with the "poor and vulnerable, many of whom are separated from their families at this holy time in an effort to find employment or because of natural or man-made crises".

"When you send a Global Gift to a loved one, you're not only helping out somebody in need, but you're also spreading a Christmas message of hope for the future," Ms Robertson said.

The Caritas Australia Global Gift cards are an opportunity to bring the gifts of education, food and protection to families struggling with poverty, disability and the COVID-19 pandemic.

They can be purchased for as little as \$15 and come in both printed and e-card version.

Details: [www.globalgifts.org.au](http://www.globalgifts.org.au) or call 1800 024 413.

**Speaking™**  
made easy  
developing confident women

### SPEAKING MADE EASY

is a Ladies' Group

meeting in St Joseph's Activity Centre at 11.00am on a Monday twice-monthly.

If you want to improve your speaking ability, self confidence, reading at Mass (for example) or looking for a new interest in 2021

call Maureen on 0408 628 899 for further information.

**Heart of Life**  
Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation

296 Glenferrie Road, Malvern, Victoria 3144, Australia

Tel 03 9890 1101 Email [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne)

Web [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne)

**Are you a Spiritual Leader?** – The Spiritual Leaders Program is a one-year, part-time program held on Friday mornings (and some Friday afternoons). It is suitable for people in outreach ministries and various positions of leadership within their faith community, such as priests, ministers, members of religious Orders, lay ecclesial ministers, community and spiritual leaders, chaplains, pastoral carers, and those in health and education. The program, which commences in Feb 2021, focuses on personal integration of the theory and practice of a contemplative, discerning approach to pastoral ministry. Previous participants have commented that this Program has been transformational in terms of their personal spirituality and their leadership skills. The Program may be available online via Zoom, face-to-face, or a combination of both. Closing date of 30 November 2020 extended as places are still available. Apply to Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation in Malvern, VIC. Fee-Help is available to qualifying participants. Brochure and application form at [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne) or tel 03 9890 1101.



### Scholarship applications now open

For information please contact Rita Micale on **8400 4210**

A Co-Ed ELC and R-Year 12 Catholic College for Boys in the Edmund Rice Tradition





## **Christmas Masses at Brighton**

**Christmas Eve:  
7.30pm & 10pm**

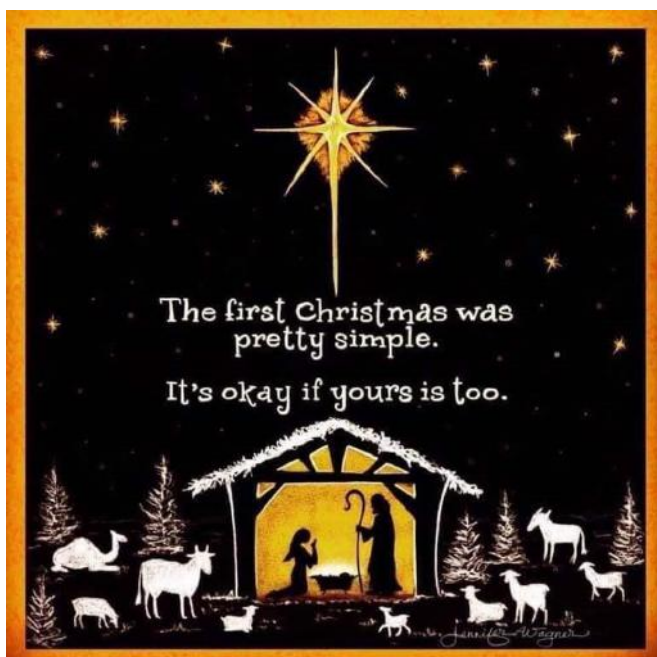
**Christmas Day:  
8.30am & 10am**

**Entry via ticket only – get your free  
tickets from the parish office or at  
weekend Masses**

**Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at Sacred  
Heart College 7pm  
Bookings essential through  
trybooking**

**[https://www.trybooking.com/  
BMUOM](https://www.trybooking.com/BMUOM)**

**Advent Penitential Liturgy &**



## **Reconciliation**

Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> Dec, 10am at Brighton or  
Wed 23rd Dec, 7pm at Hallett Cove  
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## **Christmas Closures**

The Parish office will be closed from  
Friday 25th December to reopen on  
Monday 4th January.

The weekday Masses on  
Tuesday 29th Dec and  
Wednesday 30th Dec have been  
cancelled.

## **New Years Day Mass**

There **will be** Mass at midday at  
Brighton on New Years Day  
( Friday 1st January, 2021)  
All welcome.



Gratitude and generosity coexist within us. We cannot nurture one without building up the other. Each quality shapes our mindset about and our posture toward being in this world. Resentment and selfishness grow in an environment of fear, unfreedom, and the perception that there is not enough—of anything—for everyone. Gratitude and generosity grow in an environment of faith and freedom. These virtues are honest responses to a world that brims over with God's love for us.

Hope is coming; love is coming. A shining realm of peace and wholeness is, truly, coming. We have a season in which to give our faith a workout, in which to exercise our hope muscles. Some years make that exercise more difficult than others. But it's Advent now, and, as people of faith, we are called upon to exercise our hope.