



Sacred Heart Parish (Canonically Erected 1868) Roman Catholic Diocese of Armidale

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JUBILEE YEAR 2025 - "PILGRIMS OF HOPE"

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A - 30 NOVEMBER 2025



"May we prepare our hearts and homes for the coming of the Saviour with love and humility."
- St. Benedict

Entrance Antiphon: To You, I lift up my soul, O my God. In You, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in You be put to shame.

First Reading Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that He may teach us His ways so that we may walk in His paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9

R: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**

2. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name. There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David. **R.**

3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray: 'Peace be to your homes! May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!' **R.**

4. For love of my brethren and friends I say: 'Peace

upon you!' For love of the house of the Lord I will ask for your good. **R.**

Second Reading Romans 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under the cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us Your mercy and love, and grant us Your salvation. **Alleluia!**

Gospel Matthew 24:37-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to His disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon: The Lord will bestow His bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon, 1 December & Fri, 5 December - 8am to 1pm

Tues, 2 December - 8am to 12pm

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CLERGY AND THE PARISH

1st Collection: Presbytery (for support of priest)

BSB 082105 Account No. 001023550

Account Name: Sacred Heart Presbytery Inverell Savings Ac.

2nd Collection: Church upkeep, maintenance, expenses

BSB 082105 Account No. 001013072

Account Name: Sacred Heart Parish Inverell

For those on the Planned Giving Program could you please quote your surname and envelope number for the reference.

If you wish to join the planned giving program, please contact the parish office.

PARISH FINANCES

Thank you to all who contribute to the collections, either electronically or in person, and those who have increased their contribution.

Here is a 3 month comparison of Parish expenses against income from the Second Collection. (1 Sept—30 Nov). This provides a wider view of our finances.

Income v. Expenses

Was a deficit of \$8,751.12

This calculates as (\$729.26) per week which could be met by an increase of approximately \$6 per capita

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

We pray for: Repose of the souls of all those whose death anniversary occurs at this time, especially Kevin Dickens; Repose of all souls in Purgatory.

the Recently Deceased: Florence Kennedy, Guiseppina Fenu, Coralee Stewart

the sick: Margaret Wales, Jennifer Wheeler, Francis McPhee, Christina O'Brien, Chris Perceval, Sue O'Brien, Julie Daley, Pat Gurr, Christopher Pay, Lara Bentley, Elizabeth Albany, Rebecca Lane, Brian Barker, and all the sick members of our parish.

Please contact the Parish Office to add or remove names to/from the Sick List.

Visits to the Homebound and the Sick: Please contact Fr Paul at email frpandler@armidale.catholic.org.au on call 02 6722 1103.

PARISH NOTICES & EVENTS

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Sunday Morning Tea: Sun 14 Dec 2025, after Mass

Sunday Sausage Sizzle: Sun TBA 2025, after Mass

Pastoral Council: Wed 10 Dec 2025, 5.00pm

Liturgic Committee: Sat 17 Jan 2026, 9.00am

Finance Committee: Wed 17 Dec 2025, 4.00pm

Altar Society Roster For December: Shirley Kenny, Margaret Moroney, Anne Dale, Robyn Johnson and Melissa Newham

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - HOPE CANDLE

The first candle of Advent symbolises Hope and is called the "Prophet's Candle" as it represents the anticipation of the arrival of the Messiah over thousands of years, which was made clear by the prophets.

PARISH CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

The parish will be holding a Christmas Raffle with tickets going on sale from this weekend. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Tickets can be purchased before and after each Mass, and during normal parish office hours. The raffle will be drawn after Mass on Sunday 21 December. Details of the prizes are to follow, but we acknowledge the generosity of the following individuals and businesses who have donated the prizes: June Turner, Sarah Turner, Welcome Back Fabric Barn, Sugar Addiction, Top to Toe Beauty Salon, Inverell Newsagency, JD's Footwear, D & G Jewellery Inverell, Ditton's Pharmacy, Lennon's Butchery, and an anonymous donor.

2026 CALENDARS

A generous parishioner has donated some **Divine Mercy calendars** which are FREE to take from the table near the sacristy. The **Columban Art calendars** are there also, on sale for \$10.

THE MIGRANT JUBILEE CROSS

As part of the 2025 Jubilee Year, the Australian Bishops commissioned this cross to be a symbol of faith, hope and unity among all people of Australia. The cross is made by a local artist, John Kerklaan of St Brigid's, Quirindi. It is made of Australian timber and a piece of a pew from our Armidale Cathedral. The cross contains the following relics, fragments of:

- The Holy Crib of Our Lord
- The veil of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- The cloak of St Joseph
- A piece of the cedar coffin of St Mary Mackillop

The cross will be with us from mid-morning of 3 Dec to mid-morning of Dec 4. The church will be open until 6pm on 3 Dec and open at 7am on 4 Dec so that parishioners may visit and pray before the relics.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL

Two staff members and 10 of our Yr 10 students will be attending ACYF in Melbourne this weekend. Please pray for their safe travelling and that their faith will be deepened through this experience.

If you are using a Sunday Missal:

- * Proper of Mass, Pg 132
- * Preface I of Advent, Pg 27
- * Eucharistic Prayer No. 1, Pg 61
- * Daily Missal uses Year Two, Pg 4 (weekday Mass)