

THE SAVING WORD

MATTHEW

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

30 NOVEMBER 2025

FIRST READING

Isa 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

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.

RESP PSALM

Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9. R. cf. v. 1

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

Rom 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The time has come, our salvation is near.

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 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.



The Parishes Of St Mary's Merredin and St Joseph's Kellerberrin

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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A/2

30 NOVEMBER 2025

Merredin celebrations during the week:

Monday: No Mass
Tuesday: 9.00am Mass
Wednesday: 9.00 am Mass
Thursday: 9.00 am Mass
Friday: 9.00 am Mass
Saturday: 6.30pm
Sunday: 10.30am

Kellerberrin: Sunday 8:00 am Mass

****Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick available on request****
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Friday at St Mary's Church, Merredin from 2.30pm to 3.30pm.

Sat. Holy Half Hour-Rosary
6:00 to 6:30 pm

Reconciliation : 6pm Saturday

CHURCH ROSTER: 29/30 NOVEMBER 2025

Saturday 6.30pm Sunday 10.30 am
Readers: P. Riethmuller G. Dizon
Collection:
Offertory: Volunteers Volunteers
Church Cleaners:
Sacristy P. Riethmuller
Altar Servers: C. Joseph Volunteers

6/7 DECEMBER 2025

Saturday 6:30pm Sunday 10:30 am
H. Giles L. Jefferies
Volunteers Volunteers
Busy Bee
H. Giles
C. Joseph Volunteers

Special Ministers: T. Cutri; T. Glass, Y. Gray; P. Jackson; J. Jefferys; L. Jefferys; D. Pettit; P. Riethmuller.

Merredin Churches Fraternal invites you to

A Silhouette of Christmas

Presented by the Seventh-Day Adventist Church



2025 Community Carols
SUNDAY, 7 DECEMBER at 7.30pm
BYO chair and picnic rug to the town centre.
Sausage sizzle from 6pm-7.30pm

TOGETHER in CHRIST!

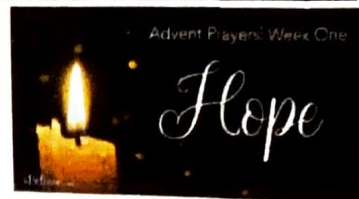


RECONCILIATION: Saturday 6:00pm – 6:20 pm
or on request prior to Sunday mass
Saturday - 6:00pm Angelus then the Rosary

PARISH NOTICES

Feast days for the week

Mon 1 St Alexander Briant
Wed 3 St Francis Xavier
Thu 4 St John Damascene
Fri 5 St John Almond, St Birinus
Sat 6 St Nicholas



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Halle Crees, Annabel Johnston, Jessica Nguyen and Tessa O'Neil on receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time this weekend.

PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Sunday 30th November

The Kellerberrin Annual General Meeting will be held after the 8.00am Mass on the 30th November

Recently Deceased

Please pray for Angela Biondy who passed away last week.



LIFELINK APPEAL

Thank you for your generous donations towards the Archbishop's Christmas Appeal for LifeLink.

LifeLink
Catholic Caring Agencies

Donation envelopes are available in the foyer.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER DONATIONS

We invite all parishioners, family, friends, neighbours and community members to donate to the Christmas Hampers this year. This year the Church of Christ are responsible for the co-ordination of this event on behalf of the **Merredin Churches' Fraternal**. Suggested items include: canned food (eg Ham/meat, vegetables, fruit), lollies, biscuits, fruit mince pies, fruit cake, Christmas (and other puddings) UHT milk, long life custard, long life fruit juice, cool drinks and cordial. Packets/tins may include jelly, tea, coffee, milo, pasta, sauces etc. Other food stuffs are welcome.



Food items must be non perishable and in code and can be left in the foyer of the Church.

Monetary donations are welcome.

Again, thank you for your generous support of the needy in our community this Christmas.

Packing of hampers will begin at 9.00am on Wednesday 10 December at the Church of Christ, 17 Throssell Road. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

First Sunday of Advent - Prophecy Candle

On the first Sunday of Advent, the first purple candle is lit. This candle is typically called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, primarily Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ: Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14)

Please Note: Planned Giving Direct Debit - CDF/NAB Parish Account details for anyone wanting to support the parish through Direct Debit are as follows;

1st Collection (Fr Philip) – BSB 086 006 Acc. 73115 8848 The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Perth
2nd Collection Merredin Parish Contribution – BSB 086 006 Acc. 84040 9343 The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Perth CDF
St Mary's Parish
2nd Collection Kellerberrin Parish Contribution – BSB 086 006 Acc. 75189 3225 The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Perth
CDF St Joseph's Parish

(Please include your name on direct debit deposits—eg 2nd Coll-Smith) Thank you for your generosity and support.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 24:37-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Stay awake, you must be ready.

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 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.

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Breaking Open the Word

STAY AWAKE!

Happy New Year! Today we listen to the Gospel according to Matthew for the first time on this first day of the new liturgical year, Year A. Matthew writes for Jewish followers of Jesus living in the mid-80s of the first century. We shall listen to this Gospel aware that Israelite-Jewish concepts permeate its presentation of the Jewish Jesus, so different from Mark or Luke.

The language of today's Gospel is very Jewish. It is drawn from imagery of the Old Testament—typical, as we shall see, of Matthew—and from a particular style of biblical writing called 'apocalyptic'. Tempted to take our selection literally, it is better and to think of it as 'theological-poetry'. The evangelist uses a familiar Jewish literary style of writing. Its basic theme is that, despite the evil and tragedies that surround people, God will save and protect those who are faithful, especially at that definitive moment of divine judgement at the end of time.

Jesus' injunction is to 'stay awake' to this moment—not to fall asleep or become disheartened by its delay. God will definitively act against evil and vindicate the faithful. Today's Gospel is a sobering reminder. We, too, must 'stay awake' and 'stand ready' to what will unfold in the year ahead and not be dispirited by all that seems negative, fruitless and disheartening. God's presence, the God who 'will be with us' will be revealed in the figure of the 'Son of Man'. This is a recurring theme in the Gospel and throughout this new liturgical year.

Fr Michael Trainor