**1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—YEAR B**
30th November 2014

**First Reading:** Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1-8

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia!

**Gospel:** Mark 13:33-37

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**WORDS OF WISDOM**

“Think of the Father as a spring of life begetting the Son like a river and the Holy Ghost like a sea, for the spring and the river and sea are all one nature. Think of the Father as a root, and of the Son as a branch, and the Spirit as a fruit, for the substance in these three is one. The Father is a sun with the Son as rays and the Holy Ghost as heat.”

*St John Damascus on charity, love and peace*

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**MASS TIMES & SERVICES THIS WEEK**

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<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Mass</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Church open for quiet reflection &amp; prayer</td>
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<td>Mass</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Church open for quiet reflection &amp; prayer</td>
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<td>Mass</td>
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- Every first Wednesday of the month Mass will be at Woodend Community Aged Care at 11.00am
- The Cellgroup meets on Sunday 3pm—4.30 each week for bible study, prayer and warm fellowship, all are welcome. **Where:** 247 Central Rd, Tylden. **Contact:** Simone Liebergreen 54248459, David Mercer.
COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND
This service is available to sick, elderly and housebound members of our parish community and there are many special ministers of the Eucharist who would deem it an honour to provide this service to such people. If you know of any parishioners who would like someone to call for this purpose contact the office on 5427 2690 and we will make the necessary arrangements.

WE PRAY FOR...
Please keep in your prayers all the members of this community who are sick especially Sr Virginia Mahony, Bernard Mahony, John Bartels, Sam Barker and Niamh Inkster and all the sick of the Parish. God bring them peace of mind and a recovery to good health and guide those who care for them. We pray today for all those who have died recently especially Mgr James Murray, Joe Morrison and Elizabeth Hall, and for all whose anniversaries are at this time and for all those who have gone before us from this world to the fullness of life with God. May God have mercy on them all and help us to be faithful to their memory.

PRIVACY LEGISLATION
In 2001, the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments introduced legislation that deals with the manner in which public and private sector organisations may record, use, store and disclose information, including health information, collected from individuals. The Parish of St. Ambrose is committed to upholding and implementing the Privacy Principles set out in the legislation. A copy of the Parish’s Privacy Policy is available to any Parishioner by contacting Bernadette at the Parish Office.

CHURCH ROSTERS

| Readers       | Nov 29th                           | Angela Grinton                     |
|              | Nov 30th                           | Michelle Carrucan & David Mercer   |
|              | Dec 6th                            | Margaret O’Meara                   |
|              | Dec 7th                            | Hilton Somerville & Terry Fitzpatrick |
| Special Minisers | Nov 29th                           | Any Special Minister present.     |
|               | Nov 30th                           | Any Special Minister present.     |
|               | Dec 6th                            | Pat McHenry & Angela Grinton      |
|               | Dec 7th                            | Rhonda Loret, Martin Prior & Kate Mason |
| Church Cleaning | Dec 1st                           | Leanne McGowan                    |
|               | Dec 8th                            | Parish Office                     |
| Church Flowers | Dec 5th                           | Lucia Brick                       |
|               | Dec 12th                           | Rhonda Scanlon                    |

COLLECTIONS
Presbytery Collection (1st collection)  $418
[This collection covers running costs of Presbytery and Priest’s stipend.]
Church (envelopes) collection  $785
[This collection covers the Church capital costs, and on going maintenance.]
Catholiccare Special Collection  $502.50

ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP QUOTES
These quotes explore the spirituality and personality of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. She had wisdom and insight and her words will help us to live the Gospel in TODAY’S world. Ah! God was good to me. I can see it all now more plainly than ever. 1897.

GOSPEL REFLECTION
Living in a land often gripped by drought, we all know how grasslands wither and crops dry up. Such is our infidelity to God that Isaiah compares us to withered leaves, blown away by the wind. We long for the Lord to come like rain on parched land. But in the gospel, Jesus warns us that this coming may be unexpected, so we need to stay awake and be ready.

MONDAY AT THE MANOR
Call in at John & Judy Wills house at Lot 6 Adam Close, Woodend at midday each Monday for a sandwich and a chat. All welcome. Anyone needing transport can call John & Judy Wills on 54272287.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION
Our lives are so busy, many of us are planning our time—our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, everyday, and listen to what God is saying to you.
**AMBROSE CARE**

Once again this year Ambrose Care is providing help to families who might find Christmas a struggle. The little "giving" tree is at the front of the church with stars, with the age and gender of a child. If you take a star could we ask that the gift be returned by Sunday December 14th or to the Parish Office by Monday 15th December. We require donations of toys for boys and girls of different ages and all gifts need to be new and up to $20 in value. Cash donations are also welcomed, you will find envelopes on the table as well.

As always your generosity is most appreciated.

For further information or if you would like to help call Bernadette at the Parish Office 54272690.

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**MACEDON RANGES RURAL AUSTRALIANS FOR REFUGEES**

‘Christmas BBQ and Food collection’ for refugees and asylum seekers

*Saturday 6th Dec, 9.30–12 outside Coles Woodend*

You can help by having a food collection in your workplace or friendship group, helping to cook the sausages, helping to encourage Coles shoppers to add an item to our food trolley or just coming along and buying a sausage. Cash donations are also being accepted. All donations will be going to the Asylum Seekers Resource Centre in Footscray. You can drop food off at the BBQ or to 20 Corinella Road Woodend (on the front porch anytime).

Contact: Rosie Baker grhildebrandt@aapt.net.au

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**LECTIO DIVINA**

A contemplative reading of scripture. The season of Advent is an opportunity to prepare anew for the coming of the Son of God into the world and into our hearts. You are invited to reconnect with the meaning of Christmas this year by joining each Tuesday evening throughout Advent for the experience of Lectio Divina.

Lectio Divina (Latin for Sacred Reading) is an ancient monastic practice designed to enable a prayerful personal engagement with the deeper meaning of scripture. Each week we will take as our focus the Gospel reading for the coming Sunday.

**Dates**: Tue 2nd Dec, Tue 9th Dec & Wed 17th Dec.

**Time**: 7.30pm

**Location**: St Ambrose Church.

Enquiries: Chris Knauf 54271527 or chrisknauf@bigpond.com

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**ORGANS OF THE BALLARAT GOLDFIELDS**

9th—18th January 2015

A festival of Fine Music in historic venues.

Please see flyers in church foyer for full program.

**Bookings**: 0429327097

**Emails**: orgfest@hotmail.com

**Info**: www.ballarat.com/organs

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**DECEMBER T@P EVENT**

Monday 2 December, 6.30pm-9pm

Pumphouse Hotel, 128 Nicholson St, Fitzroy

Help cap off a wonderfully successful year at T@P with a panel of experts including priests and lay people answering your questions on any topic of interest. Please email to T@P any questions you may have and these pre-prepared questions will be answered by a nominated panelist.

Further details to follow as to the composition of the Panel. No serious question will be placed in the 'Too Hard Basket' provided it is forwarded in advance to contact@theologyatthepub.com.au.

Contact: Neil on 0409 171 459 or Collin 0438 643 070

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**SHINING A LIGHT ON ACCESSIBILITY -VILLA MARIA AND TRANSURBAN OUT & ABOUT FAMILY FUN DAY**

Sunday 30 November, 10am–3pm Albert Park

Victoria’s biggest celebration of accessible communities is preparing to challenge community perceptions of social inclusion with a huge line up of all abilities and all ages activities. Out & About Ambassador, comedian Tim Ferguson, singer Kate Ceberano and Australian cricket legends Dean Jones and Damien Fleming will be joining the free community event that enables everyone to experience life as it should be – 100 per cent accessible. Some of Australia’s top Paralympians will be sharing their inspiring stories. There will be a range of free modified sports plus a 2km all abilities walk around Albert Park Lake. At 11am, we’re aiming to create the largest all abilities Flash Mob to show that no matter a person’s age or ability, everyone can participate and have fun. Throughout the day there will be free exercise classes including tai chi and chi ball, two minute massages, an animal farm, jumping castle and face painting. Great prizes are on offer for people who complete a Mission Possible activity passport. Participants access the activities for free when they collect a free wristband from the event area. More info: www.outandaboutday.com.au