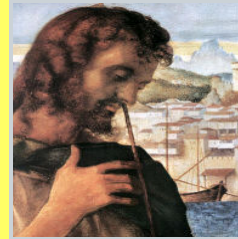




Secretary: Doris Sciberras
 P.O. Box 467
 Gisborne Vic 3437
Email: secretary@st-brigids-gisborne.org.au
Website: www.st-brigids-gisborne.org.au
Parish Office Hours: 9.00am –3.00pm
 Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

**Second Sunday of
 Advent**
(Year B)
4th December 2011



Fr Gerard Spillane
 66 Aitken Street
 Gisborne Vic 3437
Phone: 5428 2591
Fax: 5428 3835

In Our Prayers We pray for the wellbeing of all parishioners, their families and friends who are currently in ill health. We pray for the recently deceased, especially Brother Anthony O'Brien, Cecilia Grande and Felicia Savelli, and also for those whose anniversary occur at this time especially Brother Nilus Kenny



"May they rest in Peace"

**In preparation for our Christmas liturgies a
 Communal Service of Forgiveness
 will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 21st December
 At St Brigid's Church**

The annual collection for the Melbourne Overseas Mission will take place next weekend 10th & 11th December.
Please give generously

Macedon Ranges Food Bank Thank you to those who have been bringing food or grocery items for the food bank. Leading up to Christmas, they would welcome Christmas food items to give to people in need. Other food and grocery items are welcomed and needed as well. The last collection for the year will be on December 12 and the food bank collection will begin again when school starts. Warmest thanks from Iris and Ken Ross at the Riverside Christian church for all your contributions over the year God Bless
Many Thanks-Anne Earley (St Brigid's), Mae Smith (St Patrick's) and Carolyn Peterson (St Ambrose's)

Enrolments for the Catechetics Program for 2012 will take place at St. Brigid's Church on Tuesday 6 December, 2011 at 7.00pm.
 This program is for children who attend non-Catholic schools.
 Please spread the word around to those who may be interested.

For further information contact:
St Brigid's Parish Office 5428 2591
Robyn Angarano (Parish Facilitator) 0418 993 991

Or go to our website:
www.st-brigids-gisborne.org.au

Humour / Thought for this week
After the christening of his baby brother in church, little Johnny sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, "That priest said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I want to stay with you guys."

Departing Parishioners -
 We'll miss you.

Please notify the presbytery.



Gospel: Mark 1: 1-8
 Until Mark wrote his Gospel, people would have heard oral accounts of the life of Jesus and some would have had letters from St Paul. The letters offered insights about Jesus as the Christ - and offered help and advice for the new Christians - but they did not offer much in the way of detail about what Jesus actually said and did.
 This was to be the work of the Gospels. They took incidents from the life of Jesus and through them developed their theology - or, more precisely, a Christology... a "study" of who the Christ is.

Some story-tellers lead you gently into a story - setting the scene - introducing characters - unfolding the plot - building up the tension - leading you inexorably to the climax. Mark is not such a story-teller! The whole of his Gospel is summed up in the opening sentence: this is the beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Mark does not set out to write a biography of Jesus - nor is he writing an epic in praise of a great hero. Mark is inventing a whole new form of writing in which he takes events from the life of Jesus and through them, helps his readers to learn about the person of Jesus - but also to absorb His teaching. He leads his readers through the events - and brings them to the foot of the cross where a Roman soldier repeats the words of the opening sentence we hear today "This was the Son of God"... (remember that Mark was writing for a Roman community who would welcome the significance that it was one of their own how made such a declaration)

Today's proclaimer is, however, of the Jewish tradition - following in a long line of prophets who have been waiting for the one who is to come. At this stage, John the Baptist has not met Jesus - but he knows he is coming. Perhaps his own disciples were trying to convince John that he was the promised one - but John knows otherwise. He is not the Lord - but is commissioned to prepare His way. He is to baptise with water for the forgiveness of sins - but the one who is to come will give His life for the forgiveness of sins - and will baptise His followers with the Holy Spirit.

Though this is the Good News about Jesus, He has not yet appeared - the world is still waiting...

What does it mean for me?

- What does the Gospel teach us about our role in preparing the way of the Lord?

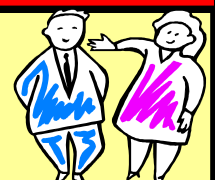
Text © 2008 Wellspring



Gisborne Carols by Candlelight
*This year's Carols by Candlelight will be held on
 Sunday 11th December 2011 at 7.30pm at the
 Gardiner Reserve in Gisborne.*

New Parishioners -
 Welcome to St Brigid's Parish.

Please register at the Parish Office.





Rosters and Events



Ministers for next weekend's Masses:

6.00pm Mass: St Brigid's

Readers: Joe Farrugia
Offertory: Munroe Family
Eucharist: M. Clifford & M. Morris

9.30am Mass: St Patrick's

Readers: M. Collins & M. Garvey
Offertory: To be chosen on the day
Eucharist: B. Stanchinotti & D. Port
Children's Liturgy: J. Port & C. Trist



8.00am Mass: St Ambrose's

Welcomer: Max McMahon
Readers: Stephanie Goodchild
Offertory: To be chosen on the day
Eucharist: Paul Lawry



11.00am Mass: St Brigid's

Readers: T. Armstrong & M. O'Connor
Offertory: Laetitia Porcher
Eucharist: A. Earley & K. Sleight
Children's Liturgy: C. Cribbes & D. Egan
Flowers: Mel Kays



Counters: Joe Farrugia & M. Langmaid
Please keep both sides of envelopes together.

Scholarships

Xavier College is offering a range of scholarships for students entering Years 7, 9 and 11 in 2013.

The closing date for applications is 3 February 2012. for registration and information see Xavier's website

www.xavier.vic.edu.au/scholarships or contact

The Registrar, Mrs Di Odgers at Xavier on (03) 9854 5307

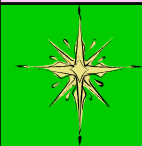
St Brigid's "Camino" Walk—the "Cross to Cross"

Many thanks to all who contributed to the success of St Brigid's Camino Walk.

As at 29th November the total figured raised was \$5879.15

A really great effort by everyone.

Thank you from the Columban Partnership Group



Vinnies Christmas Appeal

"May Saint Vincent de Paul inspire us to do better"

This Christmas you can help by supporting Vinnies Christmas Appeal 2011

Your generous donation to the Christmas Appeal will provide a welcoming relief not only to families and individuals in need of assistance within the community but also reaching far beyond our region to support struggling families in India-Did you know The Gisborne Conference is twinned with Christ the King conference in Nedumangal (Kerala)

Your continuing support for our work is greatly appreciated.
Thank you

Donations can be made online or by mail-envelopes can be found in the porch of all churches.

Gisborne Conference

2012 Columban Calendars

Available at all of the Parish Church centres.

Cost is \$8.00—please place money on the Poor Box.

ROSARY

We invite you to pray the Living rosary on Tuesday mornings at 11am at St Brigid's Church. Bring your personal prayer requests.

We welcome you to experience the PEACE given by this miraculous meditative prayer.

Weekday Masses: Tues 6th Dec-Friday 9th Dec

Tues: 5.00pm

Wed: 9.15am

Thur: 8.00am

Frid: 9.15am



Reconciliation & Spiritual Direction: Saturday 9.00 - 10.00am

ADVENT GIVING TREE 2011

The Malate Medical Centre is located in a 4-storey building at the rear of Our Lady of Remedies Parish in inner-city Manila. The ground floor has recently been renovated to house the clinic and a soup kitchen. It is quite basic but clean and functional. Inside the clinic there is some short-stay accommodation for patients who are undergoing treatment. The clinic offers the following services; gynaecological, dental mental health, nutrition education and vaccinations.



On the second floor of this building there is a centre for children with cerebral palsy, down-syndrome and other disabilities. The third floor is home to a nursery school for children whose families can afford 100p(\$2.50 per month). These children are considered reasonably privileged, wear uniforms and are well behaved. The fourth floor has nursery school for street children. They are beautiful and free spirited and just want to be hugged. These children have nothing-thank god for the Columbans and their supporters. Trained volunteers from the Malate parish are on duty to make appointments for patients and to organise the clinics. Looking after the Malate parish was the first work to be taken on by the Columban Fathers in 1929 when they started their mission work in the Philippines over 80 years ago.

This information has been sourced from Janette Mentha, Director of Mission Programs; Philip King, Ferntree Gully and Kathryn Boyle, ACU Melbourne. www.columban.org.au/e-news-vol.-2-no.-2/its-better-than-no-clinic/

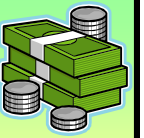
The Parish Columban Partnership team invite you to support this worthy venture through the Advent Giving Tree. We also wish to thank you for your recent support of our Cross to Cross Camino

St Brigid's Parish Weekly Thanksgiving

Total Amount Received \$681.50

Total Amount Pledged \$2028.00

Presbytery Collection \$705.85



*Thank you for your ongoing support through the Thanksgiving Program.
May the Lord bless you all.*