



Advent Chant
Composer: Phil Porter

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Twilight then darkness, night falls and candles glow
 gently surrounding us a new birth of hope.
 Watching, waiting, awakening a new birth of hope.

Advent Litany

Composer: Bernadette Farrell
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Word of justice, Alleluia,
 come to dwell here. Maranatha!
 Word of mercy, Alleluia,
 live among us, Maranatha!
 Word of power, Alleluia,
 live within us, Maranatha!
 Word of freedom, Alleluia,
 save your people, Maranatha!

Word of healing, Alleluia,
 heal our sorrow, Maranatha!
 Word of comfort, Alleluia,
 bring us hope now, Maranatha!
 Word of gladness, Alleluia,
 fill our hearts now, Maranatha!
 Word of wisdom, Alleluia,
 Come renew us, Maranatha!

Word we long for, Alleluia!
 Word we thirst for, Maranatha!
 Key of David, Alleluia!
 Son of Mary, Maranatha!
 Promised Saviour, Alleluia!
 True Messiah, Maranatha!
 Cry of prophets, Alleluia!
 Hope of ages, Maranatha!

Light of nations, Alleluia!
 Light in darkness, Maranatha!
 Risen Saviour, Alleluia!
 Lord of glory, Maranatha!
 You we long for, Alleluia!
 You we thirst for, Maranatha!
 Here among us, Alleluia!
 Living in us, Maranatha!

CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- * Christmas carols special
- * Same-sex unions threat to society
- * Santa girls farewell Sr Judith in style
- * Win a great Taste Ireland hamper
- * Kamahl's 'beautiful album' of inspiration
- * Catholic Health chief moves out after 14 years
- * Irish Radio celebrates 10th anniversary on-air Mass
- * Golden anniversary for Robert and Clare
- * Cardinal backs 'good science, good ethics'
- * Nativity scene in Parliament House foyer
- * Win tickets to a great musical
- * Pray for Middle East peace – call by archbishop
- * Catholic health – 'it's in pretty good shape'
- * Christmas cash winners
- * Young Writers Competition – winning entries
- * Welcome the season of faith, hope and charity: reflection
- * Christmas Mass times in the city
- * Mark Schwarzer scores goal with students
- * CW Catholic jobs online
- * Liturgy Matters
- * Exploring the Scriptures
- * CCD Noticeboard
- * CW Catholic gifts on line

Cause for rejoicing

When my oldest boy James was about eight years old he had his heart set on a pushbike for Christmas. I used to say to him, 'Well, if you're really good, help Mum and Dad, be good to your brother, who knows?' He tried very hard to be good, and on Christmas Day he came running out to the lounge room and looked under the Christmas tree ... only to find no bike. I just looked at him not knowing what his reaction would be, and I said to him, 'Sorry, mate'. He looked down for a second, then lifted his head, gave me a smile and said, 'Well, maybe I'll get one on my birthday.' I said, 'Yeah, sure, we'll see', and he was over it in that moment. I can't tell you how proud I was of James that day. As I said, I didn't know what his reaction would be, but his was the one that as a parent you hope for. About five minutes after this I said to him, 'Mate, can you do me a favour? Go down to the back shed and get me a screwdriver. The Christmas tree is falling over. It needs tightening'. So off he went. He came back with the biggest grin and gave us –my wife and me – the biggest hug. You see, I had put the bike in the shed. I hope I react as well when God our Father allows me to be tested. I think we can learn a lot from children.

(Michael) from *Peoplespeak*

The **World Youth Day Cross & Icon** will be the focus of a program of activities at Mt Schoenstatt, Mulgoa, this weekend with a special Family Day TODAY.
 Details: www.parra.catholic.org.au

OPEN YOUR HOME TO WORLD YOUTH DAY PILGRIMS THROUGH HOMESTAY



We have been approached to be part of the Homestay Host program for the pilgrims arriving for World Youth Day.

The days in question will be known as "Days in the Diocese" and will be from 10-14 July 2008.

Brochures are on the seats today. Please take one. If you cannot be involved with the billeting side of the Days in the Diocese you might be able to put your name down for the refreshment crew. This will involve packing a drink and fruit bar or even baking a cake, something for the pilgrims to take out with them each day. Forms are available from Michelle and Marilyn after Mass today for billeting of the pilgrims.

212 Days to Go to WYD 08

Father Mac's Heavenly Puddings



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