

# *A Coffee with Alessio*



## **Gaudete Sunday- The Third Sunday of Advent**

This Sunday marks the halfway point of Advent, and so we can 'let our hair down' so to speak. The organ can sound out more triumphantly and the colour of the liturgy today changes to rose.

One of my favourite Advent hymns is 'Come, O Jesus, Come O Lord' by James McAuley and Richard Connolly. The full hymn is in the original *Catholic Worship Book* and also in *Hymns for the Year of Grace* (published by Willow). The refrain is in *Catholic Worship Book II*, and can be used as a response to the Universal Prayer during Advent. I mention this hymn because recently Richard Connolly turned 90. As I've mentioned before I really do like his music. For his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday he was interviewed on ABC Radio and you can listen to the podcast here: <http://www.abc.net.au/radio/programs/sundaynights/second-hour-richard-connolly/7743702>

Just as we have begun a new liturgical year, the school year (in Australia) has come to an end. Today is the last day of school and school staff are very much looking forward to recharging their batteries over the break.

On this Gaudete Sunday, let us take the time to rejoice in all that the Lord has done for us. At the same time let us be thankful to Him and to those around us, who are there when we need someone the most. This Sunday is also an opportunity to have a festive coffee and cake. So, till next week, rejoice and enjoy your coffee and cake!

Alessio Loiacono  
Music Field Officer

Friday 15 December 2017