



ANGLICAN PARISH OF BOX HILL
10 December 2023
Second Sunday of Advent

Parish Link

Reverend Anne writes...

John the Baptizer emerged from the wilderness crying out "Prepare the way of the Lord!" just as Isaiah had predicted. God had sent Jesus the Messiah, and John would be the messenger to proclaim his coming. John was dressed in the clothes of a Prophet, and appeared in the wilderness. As a prophet, he urged the people to change their ways and prepare for the coming of the Messiah, who would bring peace to their land. Many were baptized by John, but he refused any kudos for his actions – instead he said "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit. Today we light the second candle – the candle of PEACE – as we prepare to welcome the Prince of Peace in the form of a tiny, vulnerable baby.

Blessings, Anne



Hymns: Introit: 269 • Psalm: hymn 45 • Gradual: 284 •
Offertory: 282 • Communion: 288 • Final: 270

4th Sunday of the month retiring collection for parish outreach

Advent 2

Lighting the Second Candle of Advent

Celebrant: Today we re-light the candle of HOPE.

Now we light the candle for the second Sunday in Advent.

This is the candle of PEACE.

From the Prophet Isaiah: "For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." *Isaiah 9.6-7*



Let us pray together:

Gracious God, Grant that we may find peace as we prepare for our Lord's birth. May division in ourselves and in our families be peacefully resolved. May there be peace in our cities and in the countries of the world. Help us to see the paths of peace in our lives, and then give us courage to follow them. Lord, let us remember that you only are the giver of lasting peace and that you are always with us. Amen

Advent Hymn – 286 verse 1 and 2.

Sentence: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together. Luke 3.4; Isaiah 40.5a

Prayer of the Day: Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Prayer for the new vicar: Bountiful God, we thank you for choosing a faithful pastor to serve as Vicar of our Parish. We pray for Reverend Victor Fan as he prepares to take up his appointment. Give us warm and generous hearts as we prepare to welcome him and his family into our community. **Amen**

First Reading: Isaiah 40.1–11

¹ Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' ⁶ A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the

people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. ⁹ Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' ¹⁰ See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

Psalm: 85.1–2, 8–13

¹ O Lord, you were gracious to your land: you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

² **You forgave the iniquity of your people: and covered all their sin.**

⁸ I will hear what the Lord God will speak: for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful ones, whose hearts are turned to him.

⁹ **Truly his salvation is near to those that fear him:
and his glory shall dwell in our land.**

¹⁰ Mercy and truth are met together:
righteousness and peace have kissed each other;

¹¹ **Truth shall flourish out of the earth:
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹² The Lord will also give us all that is good: and our land shall yield its plenty.

¹³ **For righteousness shall go before him: and tread the path before his feet.**

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3.8–15a

⁸ But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. ¹¹ Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹² waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³ But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. ¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ¹⁵ and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given to him,

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Mark, Chapter 1, beginning at verse 1

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

¹ The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight”’, ⁴ John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸ I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

For the Gospel of our Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Prayer of the Week: Merciful God, who sent your messenger John the Baptist to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: give us grace to heed his warning and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Years Mind

Elizabeth Jones, Frances Forward, Stella McKenzie, and Paul Hoare, whose anniversaries occur at this time.



Prayer Points

The Church: The Parish of the Holy Name of Jesus, Vermont South (Changying Wang); Church Schools & Church Kindergartens; Diocesan Provincial Council; Pastoral visits: St John The Baptist Lilydale – (Abp Philip Freier); Tamil Christian Congregation of Victoria Christmas Service – Anglican Parish of St Stephen and St Mary Mt Waverley (Abp Philip Freier); The Church of Pakistan (United) - Bishop Azad Marshall.

The Parish: Give thanks for our community of Christian fellowship.

The World: Pray for the protection of children caught up in violence or neglect.

The Nation: Pray for those struggling to find a home or afford enough to eat.

Daily Readings

Monday	Isaiah 34.1-10	Ps 85.8-13	Luke 5.17-26
Tuesday	Isaiah 40.1-11	Ps 96.7-13	Matthew 18.12-14
Wednesday	Isaiah 40.25-31	Ps 103.1-5	Matthew 11.28-30
Thursday	Isaiah 41.13-20	Ps 145.8-13	Matthew 11.11-15
Friday	Isaiah 48.17-19	Ps 1	Matthew 11.16-19
Saturday	Malachi 4	Ps 80.14-19	Matthew 17.10-13



If you have anything you would like included in the Parish Link Notices, please let Cecilia know in writing by Thursday at anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com

REMEMBERING LOVED ONES (please note change of date)

There will be people missing from our Christmas celebrations this year for the first time, so there will be an opportunity to remember them, and others who have died, at a special service on **Tuesday 19th December, at 7.00pm**. Please let me know the names of those you wish remembered at this service. Reverend Anne.

RSL LUNCH 13 December, 11.30am

Only 20 places are booked for this annual lunch so please let Jan know as soon as possible if you want to be there. There are still a few places left. Ring Jan 0425757778 to book.

Sunday, Dec 17, 7.30pm

Festival of Nine

LESSONS
AND
Carols

at **ST PETER'S**

Supper to follow



(If you can bring a plate to help with the supper after the service, please talk to Jan so we can work on the planning. Jan 0425757778)

TO MAKE YOU SMILE...

Q: How do you feel when you can't get the chocolate from the advent calendar?
A: Foiled!

According to the chocolate advent calendar I bought yesterday, there are only three days until Christmas...

Just got home and found all the doors and windows wide open and everything gone... What kind of sick person would do this to my Advent calendar?

THE CHRISTMAS CHECKLIST

FOR CHURCHES



DIG OUT THE CRIB FIGURES



DECORATE THE TREE AND CHURCH



CHOOSE PEOPLE TO READ THE LESSONS



MAKE SURE THE CHORUS IS READY



DELIVER THE CHRISTMAS PUBLICITY LEAFLETS



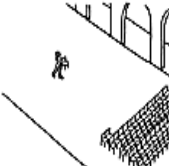
CLEAN EVERYWHERE



DECIDE WHICH CLERGY DO WHICH SERVICES



BUY PRESENTS FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE WORKED HARD



CARRY IN EXTRA CHAIRS



REHEARSE THE NATIVITY PLAY



WRITE ALL OF THE SERMONS



PREPARE THE CANDLES



MAKE THE CHRISTINGLES



COPY THE ORDERS OF SERVICE



ORDER SUPPLIES FOR VICAR'S POST-CHRISTMAS BREAK



Week Ahead

SUNDAY 10.12.23

Second Sunday of Advent

9.30am Eucharist, with window dedication

9.30am Farsi Service, *kindergarten*

11.30am Mandarin service

2.00-3.00pm Alpha Course, *office*

2.30pm Dinka service

2.30-4.30pm Prayers in Mandarin, *St Aidan's*

MON 11.12.23

6.30-8.30pm Tai Chi *hall*

6.30-9.00pm Narc Anon *Undercroft*

TUES 12.12.23

8.30am-12.30pm Office open

9.00 onwards Parish People at Work

6.00-8.00pm Bellydancing *hall*

WED 13.12.23

10.30am service

9.30-11.30am Play group, *on holidays*

10.00-11.30am Tai Chi *hall*

8.00-9.00pm Choir practice, *Undercroft*

THU 14.12.23

6.30-9.30pm Crossways ESL, *hall*

FRI 15.12.23

8.30am-12.30pm Office open

5.30-9.30pm Mandarin Prayer Group

SAT 16.12.23

10.30am-1.30pm Sat School, *hall & Undercroft*

11.00-2.00pm Student piano concert

SUNDAY 17.12.23

Third Sunday of Advent

9.30am Eucharist, with window dedication

9.30am Farsi Service, *kindergarten*

11.30am Mandarin service

2.00-3.00pm Alpha Course, *office*

2.30pm Dinka service

2.30-4.30pm Prayers in Mandarin, *St Aidan's*

For the Diary

December 12

Parish Council Meeting, U'croft

December 13

Mothers Union Christmas lunch, RSL

December 19

Tuesday

Special service of remembrance

7.00pm

Christmas Services

Dec 17 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols, 7.30pm.

Dec 24 Sunday Eucharist 9.30am

Dec 24 Christmas Eucharist, 10.30pm

Dec 25 Christmas Eucharist, 9.30am

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OUR INFORMATION

FIRST AID KIT – Located in the office and kitchen.

TOILETS – Located in the Church Hall and in the church building through the church doors front right.

WHEELCHAIR – Located near the toilet for the disabled upstairs.

FIRE & EMERGENCY – Please make yourself aware of the nearest escape route in the event of an emergency or fire.

OH&S – Please ensure that any incidents/accidents are reported to the Vicar or Wardens and incident report completed.



ST PETER'S

1038 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill.

Parish Office: 9899 5122

E anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com

W www.anglicansboxhill.org.au

Usual Office Hours:

Tues 8.30am – 12.30pm

Fri 8.30am – 12.30pm

Mission Statement

Sharing the Good News
Telling the story afresh
Expressing God's love
Serving the community
Nurturing and sharing faith
Equipping to serve

Vision

To ensure that there continues to be a living, committed, communal Anglican presence of liturgical celebration, nurture and outreach in Box Hill.

Reporting Child Abuse

All child safety concerns must be reported to
Kooyoora Professional Standards
1800 135 246

Vicar

Reverend Anne Kennedy (Acting Vicar)

T 0429 123 478

E vicar@anglicansboxhill.org.au

robann29@bigpond.com

Associate Clergy

Reverend Esther Zhang

T 0405 602 439 E esther_win@hotmail.com

Honorary Clergy

Reverend Betty Bracken 9939 5881

Reverend Alasdair MacKinnon-Love SCP

0438 323 059

E alsadair@mackinnonlove.com

Sudanese Ministry

Reverend Joseph Arou

T 0431 541 535

E aroujoseph18@gmail.com

Wardens:

Margaret Dooley 0438 129 161

Garry Male 0421 056 706

Linda Boyd

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Roster for Sunday 9.30am service

	Today 10.12.23	Next week 17.12.23
SIDESPEOPLE	Rob K, Noel W	Michele M, Barbara P
SERVERS	Judy J, Elizabeth B, <i>Kim C</i>	Rosemary S, Judy J, <i>Garry M</i>
READERS	Laurence L, Judy J	Jan G, Edwin C
INTERCESSOR	Rosemary S	Michele M
COUNTING	Margaret R, Hilary B	Margaret R, Elizabeth B
MORNING TEA	Rosemary S , Peter W, Barbara M	Cecilia , Margaret R, Jan G, Jenny F

St Peter's is part of the Anglican Church of Australia and the worldwide Anglican Communion.

St Peter's church is on the land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation and we acknowledge them as the traditional custodians of this land.