



ANGLICAN PARISH OF BOX HILL
17 December 2023
Third Sunday of Advent

Parish
Link



Hymns: Introit: 264 • Psalm: Hymn 180 • Gradual: 272 •
Offertory: 279 • Communion: 281 omit v4 Final: 273

4th Sunday of the month retiring collection for parish outreach

Advent 3

Lighting the Third Candle of Advent

Celebrant: Today we re-light the first two candles of the Advent wreath, the candle of HOPE and the candle of PEACE.

Now we light the third candle of Advent.

This is the candle of JOY.

As the coming of Jesus, our Saviour, draws nearer, our joy builds with our anticipation of his birth.

From the book of Isaiah we read the words of our Lord:

“But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.” *Isaiah 65.18*

Let us pray together:

We joyfully praise you, O Lord, for the fulfilment of your promise of a Saviour and what that means in our lives. Thank you for the gift of salvation through the birth of your son, Jesus. Create us anew as we wait, and help us to see your glory as you fill our lives with our loving spirit. Amen

Advent Hymn – 286 verse 1, 2 and 3.

Sentence: Bind up the broken-hearted, proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, the day of vengeance of our God. *Isaiah 61.1–2*

Prayer of the Day: Eternal God, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for the coming of your Son: grant us wisdom to see your purpose and openness to hear your will, that we too may prepare the way for Christ who is coming in power and glory to establish his rule of peace and justice; through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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 61.1–4, 8–11*

¹ The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; ² to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³ to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.



They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. ⁴ They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. ⁸ For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹ Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. ¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

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

Psalm: 126

¹ When the Lord turned again the fortunes of Zion:

then were we like those restored to life.

² **Then was our mouth filled with laughter: and our tongue with singing.**

³ Then said they among the heathen: 'The Lord has done great things for them.'

⁴ **Truly the Lord has done great things for us: and therefore we rejoiced.**

⁵ Turn again our fortunes, O Lord: as the streams return to the dry south.

⁶ **Those who sow in tears: shall reap with songs of joy.**

⁷ They that go out weeping, bearing the seed:

shall come again in gladness, bringing their sheaves with them.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5.12–28

¹² But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labour among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; ¹³ esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. ¹⁴ And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. ¹⁵ See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. ¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹ but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²² abstain from every form of evil. ²³ May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this. ²⁵ Beloved, pray for us. ²⁶ Greet all the brothers and sisters with a holy kiss. ²⁷ I solemnly command you by the Lord that this letter be read to all of them. ²⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John, Chapter 1, beginning at verse 6

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ¹⁹ This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' ²⁰ He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' ²¹ And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' ²² Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' ²³ He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord"', as the prophet Isaiah said. ²⁴ Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵ They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' ²⁶ John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷ the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' ²⁸ This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

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

Prayer of the Week: Almighty God, you have made us and all things to serve you: come quickly to save us, so that wars and violence shall end and your children may live in peace, honouring one another with justice and love; through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord, who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Years Mind

Maxwell Abbott, Viola Errey, Edna Usher, Jean Lemont, Thelma Leggett, and Athol Kennedy, whose anniversaries occur at this time.



Prayer Points

The Church: St Matthew's Anglican Church Wheelers Hill (Gerald Crispin); The Diocese of Ballarat (Bp Garry Weatherill, Clergy & People); Ecumenical Affairs Committee; The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea – The Revd Nathan Ingan.

The Parish: Pray for all our clergy and give thanks for all their service.

The World: Continue to pray for peace in the Middle East and in Ukraine.

The Nation: Pray for students leaving school and beginning a new path.

Daily Readings

Monday	Jeremiah 23.5-8	Ps 72.15-21	Matthew 1.18-24
Tuesday	Judges 13.2-7, 24-25	Ps 71.17-22	Luke 15-25
Wednesday	Isaiah 7.10-14	Ps 24.1-6	Luke 1.26-38

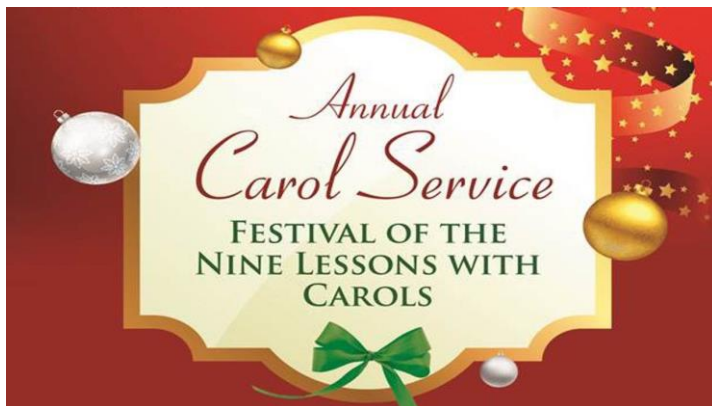
Thursday	Zephaniah 3.14-18	Ps 33.17-21	Luke 1.39-45
Friday	1 Samuel 1.24-28	Song of Hannah (APBA p.429)	Luke 1.46-56
Saturday	Malachi 3.1, 4.2-3	Ps 25.3-9	Luke 1.57-66



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.



Sunday, Dec 17, 7.30pm

at St Peter's

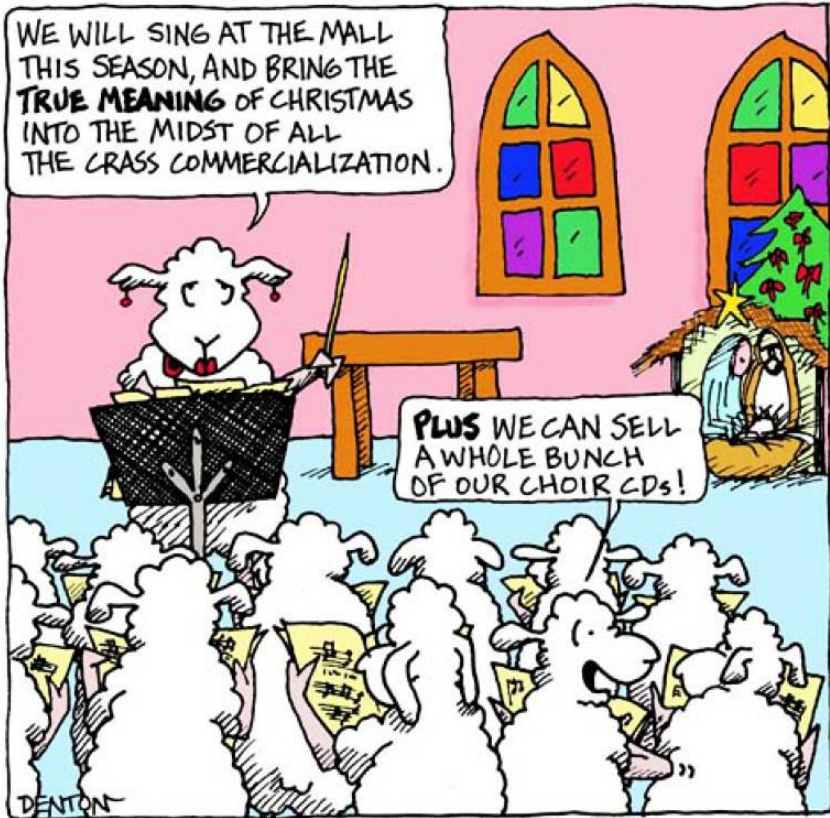
Supper to follow

OFFICE HOURS December - January

- 8.30-11.30am Tuesday 19 December
- 8.30-11.30am Thursday (not Friday) 21 December
- Office closed December 22 – January 18
- Office reopens Friday, January

TO MAKE YOU SMILE...

Why did no one bid for Rudolph and Blitzen on eBay?
Because they were two deer!



Week Ahead

SUNDAY 17.12.23

Third Sunday of Advent

8.00am Eucharist, 9.30am Eucharist

9.30am Farsi Service, *kindergarten*

11.30am Mandarin service

2.30pm Dinka service

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

7.30pm ***Festival of Lessons & Carols***

MON 18.12.23

6.30-8.30pm Tai Chi *hall, on holidays*

6.30-9.00pm Narc Anon *Undercroft*

TUES 19.12.23

8.30am-12.30pm Office open

9.00 onwards Parish People at Work

6.00-8.00pm Bellydancing *hall, on holidays*

WED 20.12.23

10.30am service

9.30-11.30am Play group, *on holidays*

10.00-11.30am Tai Chi *hall, on holidays*

8.00-9.00pm Choir practice, *Undercroft*

THU 21.12.23

8.30am-12.30pm Office open

6.30-9.30pm Crossways ESL, *on holidays*

FRI 22.12.23

5.30-9.30pm Mandarin Prayer Group

SAT 23.12.23

10.30am-1.30pm Sat School, *on holidays*

SUNDAY 24.12.23

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Christmas Eve

9.30am Eucharist

9.30am Farsi Service, *kindergarten*

11.30am Mandarin service

2.30pm Dinka service

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

10.30pm Christmas Eucharist

MONDAY 25.12.23

Christmas Day 9.30am Eucharist

For the Diary

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

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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 17.12.23	Next week 24.12.23
SIDESPEOPLE	Michele M, Barbara P	Sandra L, Dianne A
SERVERS	Rosemary S, Judy J, Garry M	Michele M, Elizabeth B, Garry M
READERS	Jan G, Edwin C	Martin F, Rosemary S
INTERCESSOR	Michele M	Keith W
COUNTING	Margaret R, Elizabeth B	Lyn B, Charles B
MORNING TEA	Cecilia , Margaret R, Jan G, Jenny F	No rostered morning tea

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.