STAY AWAKE



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 1st December 2024

COMMISSIONING OF WARDENS AND PARISH COUNCIL



ST PETER'S BOX HILL 圣公会博士山圣彼得堂 ANGLICAN CHURCH

> 03 9899 5122 www.anglicansboxhill.org.au anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com 1038 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill 3128

Preparing for Today's Eucharist

Gospel: Your Freedom is Coming Soon (Luke 21:25–38)

Today begins the Year of Luke, with most Sunday readings coming from his Gospel. We start at the end of Luke's narrative, where he uses the destruction of Jerusalem as a symbol of both judgment and hope—pointing to the ultimate freedom of Christ's return.

Luke describes this moment with vivid imagery: chaos in the cosmos, raging seas, and the collapse of what seems unshakable. The fall of Jerusalem to the Romans was a decisive moment in Church history. It ended the Church's connection to Judaism and opened the way for the Gentile communities Luke addressed in his Gospel.

This event also symbolizes Christ's final victory over evil. Though we don't know when this will happen, the Bible warns it will come suddenly, like a trap or a thief in the night. Let us live in readiness, preparing for the ultimate day of liberation.

Questions for Discussion and Reflection:

- 1. What types of persecution have you experienced because of your faith?
- 2. Perhaps you have been insulted, embarrassed or ridiculed. How do you react in these situations? What did you say or do? How did you bear witness to Jesus?

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Please all stand

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 264

SIGN OF THE CROSS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

GREETING

The Lord be with you. And also with you!

ST PETER'S PARISH PRAYER

Let us pray:

Almighty and Everlasting God, who has gathered us at St. Peter's to worship you in the beauty of Anglican liturgy, grant that we may nurture faith in our diverse community and share your love with all people. May we serve with compassion and grace, reflecting your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Today is the first Sunday in the season of Advent. Advent means "coming," and in this season we prepare for the coming of Christ. One of the ways we can celebrate Advent is by making an Advent wreath and lighting its candles to remind us of the coming of Jesus Christ who is the light of the world.

Let's pray.

Lord God,

your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Saviour, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin. Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath; may their light reflect the splendour of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

A young person asks: Why do we light the first candle?

Another person and the congregation reply:

"Today we light the first candle, to remind us of the people of God who in every age waited for the coming of the Messiah.

As we light the first candle let us say together:

Jesus said: 'I am the light of the world. Those who follow me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'



(the first purple candle is lit, then say together)
Brothers and sisters, listen to the words of the prophet Isaiah:
'The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined.
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 9:2, 6)
For the word of the Lord: thanks be to God.

Tor the word of the Lord. thanks be

Let us pray together:

Lord Jesus, your coming was proclaimed by the prophets of old. The prophet Jeremiah tells us, "The days are surely coming, says the LORD." (First Reading), we accept the Lord Jesus as the offspring of the House of David.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Lord Jesus, you come among us now, to make us "increase and abound in love for one another and for all" (Second Reading).

Come, Lord Jesus.

Lord Jesus, you will come again in glory, as you warned us: "the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory". (Gospel)

Come, Lord Jesus.

Our Father who is in heaven, we need the light of peace and love to shine in our world. Help us to prepare our lives and homes to receive the Messiah. Come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen.

HYMN TIS 289 Christmas is coming (V1)

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE TWO GREAT COMMANDMENTS

"Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." Jesus said: "This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself."

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

The Lord comes, bringing to light things now hidden in darkness, and disclosing the purposes of the heart. *Silence*

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

TRISAGION

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY / COLLECT

Let us pray.

Eternal God, you have taught us that the night is far spent and the day is at hand: keep us awake and alert, watching for your kingdom, and make us strong in faith, so that when Christ comes in glory to judge the earth, we may go out joyfully to greet him; and, with all your saints, may worship you for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD *Please be seated for the reading*

FIRST READING

The Prophet assures the people that God will send the promised one, the Messiah. A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah 33:14-16.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

Hear the word of the Lord, thanks be to God.

PSALM 25:1-10 APBA

1 In you, O Lord my God, have I put my hope: in you have I trusted, let me not be ashamed, nor let my enemies triumph over me. 2 Let none who wait for you be put to shame: but let those that break faith be confounded and gain nothing. 3 Show me your ways, O Lord: and teach me your paths. 4 Lead me in the ways of your truth, and teach me: for you are the God of my salvation. 5 In you have I hoped all the day long: because of your goodness, O Lord. 6 Call to mind your compassion and your loving-kindness: for they are from of old. 7 Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: but according to your mercy think on me. 8 Good and upright is the Lord: therefore will he direct sinners in the way. 9 The meek he will guide in the path of justice: and teach the humble his ways. 10 All the paths of the Lord are faithful and true: for those who keep his covenant and his commandments. SECOND READING Paul Prays that the Lord may deepen the love the Thessalonians have for each other, and thus prepare them for the second coming of Christ.

A reading from the First letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Hear the word of the Lord, thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 272 VS 1,2

GOSPEL (Please stand)

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. (Ps 85:7)

Alleluia.

The Lord be with you! And also with you!

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke 21:25-38

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

Every day he was teaching in the temple, and at night he would go out and spend the night on the Mount of Olives, as it was called. And all the people would get up early in the morning to listen to him in the temple.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

GRADUAL HYMN 272 VS 3,4

SERMON

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

cf Ephesians 3

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION please kneel/sit

God is the hope and joy of people in every age. With confidence, let us bring our needs before God.

(At the end of each section) Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Conclude the prayer with:

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers:

Grant that what we have asked in faith, we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF APPROACH

[Let us pray.]

We do not presume to come to your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies.

We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy.

Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

THE PEACE

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest. (*Luke 19:38*)

The peace of the Lord be always with you. And also with you. Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Please all stand

OFFERTORY HYMN 273

The offering is collected during the hymn. The gifts of the people, Bread and Wine and collection of money, are brought to the Lord's Table.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Blessèd are you, Lord God of all creation: Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER (ADVENT)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, ever-living God.

- We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who was looked for by the prophets, heralded by the Baptist announced by an angel, born of the Virgin Mary, and revealed at last to men and women of every race.
- By his death on the cross and rising to new life, he offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.
- Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:
- Holy, holy holy Lord, God of power and might,Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.
- Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.
- On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'
- After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new

covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

(Let us proclaim the mystery of faith)

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded: proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again, we celebrate, with this bread and this cup, his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son, and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,

we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray, each in our preferred language:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

BREAKING THE CONSECRATED BREAD

As this broken bread was once many grains, which have been gathered together and made one bread so may your Church be gathered from the end of the earth into your kingdom.

AGNUS DEI

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

THE INVITATION

The gifts of God for the people of God. Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

God invites everyone to gather around his table. We extend an invitation to all baptised Christians to come forward and receive this Holy Sacrament. Others are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing by crossing arms over chest.

DURING COMMUNION: 266

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

The Lord be with you. And also with you!

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen!

DISMISSAL HYMN 315



Parish Link Notices & Information First Sunday of Advent

Parish Office: 03 9899 5122 E anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com W www.anglicansboxhill.org.au Usual Office hours: Tue & Fri 8.30am – 12.30pm

St Peter's, 1038 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill. Vicar: Rev'd Victor Fan

Years Mind

Catherine Chong, Iris Vollenhoven, Arthur & Alma Locke, George Boshnakoff, Peter Lovett, Dru Ferdinands, and Irene Bracken, whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Prayers for the Church

Surfcoast Anglican Parish (Sharon Valentino); The Diocese of Perth (Abp Kay Goldsworthy, Asst Bps David Bassett, Hans Christiansen, Kate Wilmot, Clergy & People); Archdeaconry of Melbourne (Yvonne Poon); Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Bp Justin Badi Arama); Pastoral services: St Mark's Templestowe (Bp Kate Prowd); All Saints' Rosebud w St Katherine's McCrae (Bp Paul Barker); Confirmation services: Mount Eliza Anglican Parish (Bp Paul Barker); St Columb's Hawthorn (Bp Genieve Blackwell); St John's Epping (Bp Brad Billings).

Prayer of the Week

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came among us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

Daily Readings

Monday	Isaiah 35.1-10	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	Matthew11.16-19
Saturday	Malachi 4	Ps 80.14-19	Matthew 17.10-13
Sunday	Malachi 3.1-14	Song of Zechariah	Luke 3.1-6

ABM Pew Reflections

As Advent begins, the words of the ancient prophets ring clear for us today as they did when first heard thousands of years ago. God's purposes will be worked out and God will make known the righteousness and justice and mercy which is at the heart of God's love and desire for all people. • We pray that we may hear God's call to righteousness and justice, and so live by this way that we are agents too of God's good news of peace and love for all people. • Give thanks for the work and witness of the Anglican Church of



Papua New Guinea, remembering especially today the Bishop-Designate of Port Moresby, the Very Rev'd Wilfred Kekea, as well as the recently-appointed new Principal for the Bishop Newton School of Theology, the Rev'd Dr Ishaya Anthony, as well as the other staff and students.

Congratulations!*

to ANNE KENNEDY

This week marks the 10th year of ordination as a priest for the Reverend Anne Kennedy who was ordained on Nov 29, 2014. Many congratulation to her and we have been blessed to have her ministry amongst us.

Happy birthday to Miriam

who celebrates her birthday this Sunday, December 1.

ANNUAL LUNCH AT THE RSL

There will be a lunch at Box Hill RSL on Wednesday, December 4. Jan has booked 20 places so please contact her if you would like to attend. 0425 757 778.

DONATED GIFTS and FOOD FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas Food Ideas: Biscuits: savoury or sweet (180- 250g) / Chocolates/Sweets (120-375g) / Christmas Cakes (250-500g) / Christmas Pudding (250-500g) / Tinned Ham/Meat (220–340g) / Tinned Fruit (400–825g) / Mince Pies / Long Life Custard / Long Life Cordial, Fruit Juice, Soft drinks, Jelly sachets / Long Life Milk-Full Cream (1Lt) / Pasta (500g) / Pasta Sauce (500g) / Spreads (220-500g): Honey, Jam, Vegemite, Peanut Butter, Cranberry Sauce / Breakfast Cereals (500g-1.2kg) / Sugar (500g-1kg) / Canned Soups / Tinned Tuna (90g-425g) / Tinned Meals - Chunky / Coffee (50 or 100 g) / Instant Noodles / Plain Flour (500g) / Tinned Vegetables (400g) / Nut Bars

Also, **Christmas presents (unwrapped) are wanted**. Vouchers for children or adults are also requested.

Please note: the last Sunday to bring presents and Christmas food is Dec 8.

TREE OF REMEMBRANCE

There is a tree in the baptistry and you are invited to hang a card with the name of a person you want remembered on it. There are cards near the tree for you to use.

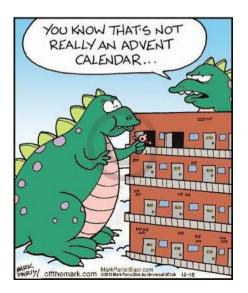
VICARAGE CHRISTMAS PARISH GATHERING

December 15 at 5.00pm. 51 Monash Street, Box Hill South Please bring a plate. RSVP before Dec 15 to vicar@anglicansboxhill.org.au

TO MAKE YOU SMILE



- Q: how do you drain pasta at Christmas?
- A: with an Advent Collander!



ROSTER	Today 1.12.24	Next week 8.12.24
SIDESPERSON	Martin & Jennifer	Dianne A
SERVERS	Michele, Jeff G, Rosemary, Hena P	Michele, Michael Z, Judy J, Garry M
READERS	Linda B, Barbara P	Edwin C, Dianne A
INTERCESSOR	Elizabeth B	Marly F
COUNTING	Michele M, Garry P	Elizabeth B, Hilary B
MORNING TEA	Elizabeth B, Laurence L. Lyn B	Rosemary S, Peter W, Barbara M

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.

Mission Statement

At St. Peter's, we celebrate Anglican liturgical worship, nurture Christian faith within our diverse community, share God's love across all communities, and serve with compassion and grace to all people. **Vision**

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

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.

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

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Week Ahead

SUNDAY 1.12.24 9.30am Eucharist 11.30am Mandarin service 2.00pm Dinka service, *church* 9.30pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

MONDAY 2.12.24 Vicar's day off 6.30-9.00pm Narc Anon *Undercroft* 6.30-8.30pm Celestial Tai Chi, *hall* 9.30pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

TUES 3.12.24 8.30am-12.30pm Office open 9.00 onwards Parish People@Work 6.00-8.00pm Bellydancing, *hall* 9.30pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

WED 4.12.24 9.30-11.30am Playgroup, *Kindergarten* 10.30am Eucharist 10.00-11.30am Wellways Tai Chi, *hall* 8.00-9.00pm Choir practice, *Undercroft* 9.30pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

THU 5.12.24 6.30-9.30pm Crossways ESL, *hall* 6.30-9.00pm Sudanese prayer group, *church* 9.30pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

FRI 6.12.24 8.30am-12.30pm Office open 9.00-11.00pm Sudanese Bible study, *church* 9.30pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

SAT 7.12.24
10.00am Bible Study, office
10.30am-1.30pm Sat School, U'croft, hall
10.00-2.00pm Student piano concert, church
3.00-6.00pm Student piano concert, church
7.15-8.45pm Concert supper, U'croft
9.30pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

SUN 8.12.24 8.00am Eucharist, 9.30am Eucharist 11.30am Mandarin service 2.00pm Dinka service, *church*

For the Diary

December 4 Parish Annual Lunch, RSL

December 7 Student piano concerts: 10.00am-2.000pm & 3.00-6.00pm, *church*

December 15 Vicarage Christmas gathering, 5.00pm

Christmas services 2024

Dec 22 7.00pm, Nine lessons and carols, Supper in Undercroft Dec 24 6.00pm, Family service 11.00pm First service of Christmas Dec 25 9.30am, Eucharist

This week: Friday Lucy, martyr (d. c.304) Saturday John of the Cross, mystic & teacher (d. 1591)

CLERGY

Vicar Reverend Victor Fan T 0402 948 390 E vicar@anglicansboxhill.org.au

Honorary Clergy

Reverend Betty Bracken Reverend Anne Kennedy

Sudanese Ministry

Reverend Joseph Arou

WARDENS: Margaret Dooley Garry Male Linda Boyd CHILD SAFE OFFICER Cecilia Joyner 039 899 5122