

CONTACT



ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, CAMBERWELL
Candlemas—The Presentation of Christ
4 February 2018

Open to the Light

In today's gospel reading from Luke, and embedded in yet another dramatic and revealing episode in the one great story of God's salvation we have been contemplating through Christmas and Epiphany, is a message about the importance of cultivating openness to receive the Light of Christ.

Simeon and Anna are a good and holy 'tag team' in the temple, when two faithful, obedient, and poor parents come to present their 40-day old infant. Simeon who has long been attuned to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, always looking for God's coming, and constantly listening with the ears of his heart to God's word to him, is moved by the promptings of the Spirit to come into the temple at that very moment. His eyes and heart are already open to recognise the divinity of the human infant and his arms are open to embrace this child as the Light of the World.

And Anna, the prophet with an impressive family tree, is also moved by the Spirit to appear at the point that Mary and Joseph come in. It has been many years since her husband died. Seven years was all she had with him, and the sharpness of grief has yielded to faithfulness in the shadows of the temple. She has prayed continuously in the Women's Court section of the temple -she has not been allowed any further- where she has waited with desire for God's salvation in what will become an incarnational space. When she woke that day she did not know that this day would be like no other. And yet it would be the one she had caught glimpses of as she meditated on the scriptures, soaking herself in the promises of God's deliverance, and praying without ceasing- the true prayer of the heart. This was what enabled her to be open to the irruption of divine Light in the infant Jesus. This was openness forged in the crucible of daily life through a passionate commitment to prayer and worship. And so she, like Simeon, had come to believe that at the heart of all reality is a Love which is not exhausted- the Love from which we all exist.

May we also in the midst of our everyday life, cultivate that openness to the Love of God in Christ that enables us, moment by moment, to recognise the Light of his presence with us, within us, and in those around us.

Wendy Crouch

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Morning (9.30am) and Evening Prayer (5pm)
Tuesdays to Fridays
unless otherwise mentioned below.

TUESDAY 6 February

12 noon Eucharist in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY 7 February

6.30pm Eucharist and Curry
7.00pm Parish Council Meeting in
Dempster Room (*Note: 1 week*
early due to date of Ash
Wednesday)

SATURDAY 10 February

9.00am-3pm Anglican Overseas Aid using
Chapel to start then the Dempster Room

TMA—The Melbourne Anglican—
February issue—is available at the back of
the church. Please take a copy.

On page 4 see the article about Brian Porter
retiring as Book Editor of TMA after 25
years.

On page 11 there is an article about the
honour recently awarded to Julian Rait.

PARISH WEBSITE: A reminder that you
can find St John's 'Contact' for each Sunday,
as well as the sermon, on the parish website:
www.stjohnscamberwell.org.au

FUTURE DATES

Asylum Seeker & Refugee Support
Group—Monday 12 February—4pm

Pastoral Care Support Team meeting—
Tuesday 13 February—9.30am

Illawarra Home Group—Tuesday 13
February—time to be advised.

Ash Wednesday—14 February—Liturgy of
Ashes -11.30am and 8.00pm

Lent Studies

'Listening to the wisdom of the desert' –

Thursdays at 12 noon (BYO lunch)

15 February to 22 March

Sundays at 6pm 18 February to 18
March

'The Year of Mark' –

Two Lent Sundays, 11.30am-12.30pm

4 March 'Mark's Spirituality', Father
John Stewart

11 March 'Mark's Story', Professor
Dorothy Lee

"Supporting Children to stay with their
family" - What Anglicare is doing—Speaker
Darren Youngs—**2.15pm Monday 26 February**

World Day of Prayer—St John's Hosting.
1.30pm Friday March 2.

St John's Anglican Church, 552 Burke Road, Camberwell, 3124

Ph.9882 4851 Fax 9882 0086 (Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10am-3pm)

Email: office@stjohnscamberwell.org.au

Website: www.stjohnscamberwell.org.au

Vicar: Father David Moore

On Leave

Locum Vicar: Fr Ken Hewlett

9882 4851 (O) 0427 772 003 (M)

(Sundays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays) *Email: kjhewlett@bigpond.com*

Locum Asst. Priest: The Revd Anne Kennedy

9882 4851 (O)

(Wednesdays (morning), Fridays) *Email: curate@stdunstans.org.au*

Locum Asst. Priest: The Revd Trevor Smith

9882 4851 (O)

(Wednesdays (morning), Thursdays) *Email: trevors@connexus.net.au*

Hon. Assoc. Priest: Fr Richard Wilson

9882 4851 (O) 0417 014 595 (M)

Email: richard@goodbusinessproject.org

Hon. Assoc. Priest: The Revd Dr Brian Porter

0407 552 425 (M)

Hon. Assoc. Priest: The Revd Helen Creed

9882 4851 (O)

Director of Music: Mr David Byrne

9836 5456

Email: music.director@stjohnscamberwell.org.au

Hon. Verger: Bruce Williams

9882 4851 (O)

Children's Ministry: *Email: office@stjohnscamberwell.org.au* 9882 4851 (O)

Parish Administrator: Mrs Dawn Sullivan *Email: office@stjohnscamberwell.org.au*

WELCOME! We are glad to have you join us in the sacred liturgy. With generations of Christ's followers we are all welcomed around the banquet table of the Word made flesh—regardless of gender, race, colour, sexual orientation, social status or any other distinction. And you are warmly invited to join us for morning tea following the 10am liturgy in the Rutherford Room.

SERVICES TODAY

8.00am EUCHARIST

President: Ken Hewlett
Preacher: Wendy Crouch
Reader: Hans Ferdinands
Intercessor: Geoff Vincent
Server: Hans Ferdinands
Euch. Asst. Geoff Vincent

CANDLES FOR BLESSING: Please put the candles you have brought for blessing into the candle basket near the font before the 10am liturgy begins.

10am SUNG EUCHARIST

President: Ken Hewlett
Preacher: Wendy Crouch
Deacon: Wendy Crouch
Sub-Deacon: Cynthia Nyholm
Readers: Brian Porter, Sue Banting
Intercessor: Andrew Porter
Cantor: Muriel Porter
Servers: Ross Smith (MC), Sue Banting, Robin Carter, Neil Nyholm
Euch. Assts.: Sub-Deacon, Carole Nicholls
For children: Please make use of activities at the back of the church.

6.00pm LITURGY of LIGHT

LECTIONS FOR THE DAY

*Malachi 3:1-4; Psalm 84;
Hebrews 2: 14-18; Luke 2: 22-40*

St John's 'Parish Covenant' is the basis for all relationships, social interactions, and patterns of behaviour within and concerning the Parish. It is on display in the narthex and available on the parish website. All parishioners are encouraged to sign the Covenant, demonstrating their public commitment to a safe and healthy parish community.

LENT

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 14 February – just 10 days away! Now is the time to get ready!

LENT STUDIES: Two weekly Lent study programs are planned in the parish, both using 'Listening to the Wisdom of the Desert', an excellent booklet by Garratt Publishing (\$8 a copy).

- Thursdays at 12 noon, commencing on 15 February – BYO lunch
- and Sundays at 6pm, commencing on 18 February.

Please sign up on the lists in the narthex as soon as possible, so we can order copies of the booklet.

LENT QUIET MORNING: Saturday 24 February, 9.30am – 12.30pm.

LENT RESOURCES:

- The parish's Lent-Easter calendar is available in the narthex today. (The parish Lent-Easter resources booklet will be available next week.)
- Recommended reading for Lent: *Say it to God: in Search of Prayer*, by Luigi Giovia, a Benedictine monk. It is the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2018. Copies are available for \$20 either from Muriel Porter on Sunday mornings or in the parish office during the week.

TWO SUNDAY MORNING SESSIONS on Mark's Gospel:

- Sunday 4 March at 11:30am – 12.30pm. Father John Stewart will speak on Mark's spirituality.
- Sunday 11 March at 11.30am – 12.30pm. Professor Dorothy Lee will speak on Mark's story.

PALM CROSSES: Bring your palm crosses from last year to church next Sunday morning, when they will be burnt to create ash in readiness for Ash Wednesday.

PRAYER JOURNAL: The Journal of Scripture & Prayer for February-March is available today. Please take a copy.

2018 BOOKMARK: The 2018 parish bookmark, with the key dates for Lent-Easter and the 2018 Spring Series is available today. Please take one and keep it on hand through the year.

“SUPPORTING CHILDREN to REMAIN WITH THEIR FAMILY.”

Darren Youngs—a Regional Director of Anglicare Victoria will tell us what Anglicare is doing in this area at our first meeting for 2018 on MONDAY 26 FEBRUARY at 2.15pm. Afternoon tea will follow.

ANGLICARE VICTORIA PARTNERSHIP GROUP ST JOHN'S CAMBERWELL

ST JOHN'S to host the 2018 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FRIDAY 2 MARCH—1.30pm

Come and share in this ecumenical gathering

Other Camberwell Churches participating: Camberwell Baptist, Camberwell Uniting Church, Our Lady of Victories Catholic, St Dunstan's Anglican, Salvation Army, South Camberwell Anglican.

Speaker—David Lepore from The Bible Society.

THE REVD KUNCORO RUSMAN will be inducted as Priest-in-Charge of All Saints Church Kooyong at noon on Saturday 17 February, 2018.

PASTORAL CARE SUPPORT TEAM will meet on the 2nd Tuesday in February, 13th at 9.30am

NEXT SUNDAY —11 February 2018

Last before Lent

2 Kings 5:1-14; Ps 30;

1 Corinthians 9: 24-27; Mark 1: 40-45

8am EUCHARIST

President: Richard Wilson
Preacher: Richard Wilson
Reader: Penny Galbraith
Intercessor: Peter Forwood
Server: Hans Ferdinands
Euch. Asst. Penny Galbraith

9am BREAKFAST

10am SUNG EUCHARIST

with burning of last year's Palm Crosses

President: Ken Hewlett
Preacher: Richard Wilson
Deacon: Richard Wilson
Sub-Deacon: Neil Nyholm
Readers: Carole Nicholls, Adrienne Bolch
Intercessor: Keith Dempster
Servers: Ross Smith (MC), Alison Asquith, Carole Nicholls, Geoff Vincent
Euch. Assts.: Sub-Deacon, Verona Lea
For children: Please make use of activities at the back of the church.

6.00pm LITURGY of LIGHT

CONGRATULATIONS JULIAN RAIT

OAM! The parish heartily congratulates Associate Professor Julian Rait on the award of the Order of Australia Medal in the Australia Day honours. The citation is 'For service to ophthalmology, and to the development of overseas aid'. Julian, who is a prominent eye surgeon, also is strongly committed to overseas aid. He has been chair of Anglican Overseas Aid since 2012.

YEAR'S MIND: We remember before God, Ella Pearse, Marion Hale, Dot Oxley, Ilse Morgan, Roscoe Wilson (Priest), and Beverley Webster, whose anniversaries occur at this time.