

FUTURE DATES

Working Bee: 9am Morning Prayer; 9.30am Church & Grounds Preparation
Christingle making—10am Wednesday 23 December in Rutherford Room
Office closing: 3pm Wednesday 23 December—Reopens Wednesday 27 January
Christmas Eve
Christingle—5pm
Carols—11pm
MIDNIGHT MASS—11.30pm
Christmas Day—9am
12.30pm—Lunch with us
New Year's Day (Friday) 12 noon Eucharist followed by Lunch with us at 12.30pm
Vicarage CHRISTMAS Open House—Saturday 2 January 1-5pm

Welcomers needed for Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Services.

No previous experience required! Your offer for assistance would be gratefully received. Please enter your name on the list at the back of the church and I'll contact you to confirm by Tuesday 22 Dec. Your duty would commence 30 minutes before the times listed below.

Christmas Eve: 11.00pm—Carols;
11.30pm—Midnight Mass

Christmas Day: 9.00am - Sung Eucharist
Any queries or phone offers to Jonathan Way .

IN THE PARISH

Morning & Evening Prayer will be prayed in the Chapel Monday to Friday—8.30am and 5pm respectively unless otherwise noted below.

TUESDAY 15 December

11.00am Eucharist at Broughton Hall
12 noon Eucharist in Chapel
12.35pm Staff Meeting in Dempster Room
3.15pm Liturgy committee meets
5.30pm 'Preparing for Sunday' in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY 16 December

11.00am Eucharist at Broughton Hall
11.30am Eucharist in the Chapel followed by BYO lunch in Dempster Room

THURSDAY 17 December

7.30pm Choir Practice

SATURDAY 19 December

9.00am Morning Prayer
9.30am Church & Grounds Preparations
6.00pm Indonesian Band No. 2 practice

HAVE LUNCH WITH US on

- **Christmas Day 12.30pm**
(Eucharist 9am)
- **New Year's Day 12.30pm**
(Eucharist 12 noon.)

Please put your names on the boards at the back of the church.

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 9882 4851 (O) 0404 437 463

(Saturdays to Thursdays and Sundays) Email: vicar@stjohnscamberwell.org.au

Assistant Curate: The Revd Dr Brian Porter 9882 4851 (O) 0408 570 967 (M)

(Tuesdays to Saturdays, and Sundays) Email: curate.kuncoro@stjohnscamberwell.org

Hon. Assoc. Priest: The Revd Dr Brian Porter 0407 552 425 (M)

Hon. Assoc. Priest: The Revd Helen Creed 9882 4851 (O)

Hon. Assoc. Priest: The Revd Michelle Trebilcock 9882 4851 (O)

Director of Music: Mr David Byrne 9836 5456

Email: music.director@stjohnscamberwell.org.au

Children's Ministry: Clare Tomasov 9882 4851 (O)

Email: children@stjohnscamberwell.org.au

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



CONTACT WARTA JEMAAT

ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, CAMBERWELL Third Sunday in Advent—13 December 2015

My Dear Friends,

John turns upon the whole 'crowd' who have come out to be baptised: "You brood of vipers!" We struggle to make sense of this abrasive voice. In a week when a former Prime Minister has publicly declared: "We should be ready to proclaim the clear superiority of our culture to one that justifies killing people in the name of God", John's abrasive voice is more than a little embarrassing.

Though we may have convinced ourselves that ours is a religion of love, the thousands of abrasive, even violent, texts littered throughout the Hebrew Scriptures ('Old Testament') and the Christian Scriptures ('New Testament') pooh-pooh our self-justifying protest. As anyone can see, an increasing number of people are increasingly convinced that all three Abrahamic faiths foster violence. We have more in common than we prefer to admit.

John goes on to tell the crowds about trees being cut down, about the Messiah's winnowing fork, about unquenchable fire. And it's no use claiming that Jesus is not like that, since there are simply far too many gospel texts quoting him with language as inflammatory as John's.

It's crucial to remember how sacred Scripture works. The rich variety of modes of speech and its even wider variety of symbols and images are always to be read through the primary lens. In the case of the Hebrew Scriptures, that primary lens is the Hebrew people's experience of deliverance from slavery in Egypt. In the case of the Christian Scriptures, the primary lens is the utterly unexpected experience of Paschal Mystery. Every text is to be interpreted by viewing it, hearing it, interpreting it through this lens. The mystery of the Pascha declares that grasping of every kind leads to death; and that life is received when it is voluntarily, freely, and joyfully relinquished. In this light, it is simply impermissible to read any scriptural text in a way that supports literal violence of any kind.

The next crucial thing to recover from the lost-and-found of Christian history is how the early church Fathers (and Mothers) read sacred Scripture. They discerned the difference between texts to be taken literally ('give freely and generously', 'build just structures'), and texts to be read symbolically. There is a very great need in our time to recover the symbolic imagination. What violent people in all three Abrahamic faiths have in common is an inability (or possibly even a refusal) to read their sacred Scriptures symbolically.

When we read today's story of John the Baptist with the symbolic imagination a whole new world of life-giving good news becomes accessible.

With my love, David

WELCOME! SELAMAT DATANG! WOMINJEKA!

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 in the Rutherford Room following the 10am liturgy, and for an evening meal following the 3pm liturgy.

TODAY EUCHARIST

8am
Presider: Kuncoro Rusman
Preacher: David Moore
Reader: Penny Galbraith
Intercessor: Peter Forwood
Server: Hans Ferdinands
Euch. Asst.: Penny Galbraith

9.00am BREAKFAST

10am SUNG EUCHARIST

Presider: David Moore
Preacher: David Moore
Deacon: Muriel Porter
Sub-Deacon: Neil Nyholm
Readers: Andrew and Georgina Porter
Intercessor: Barbara Fary
Cantor: Howard O'Brien
Servers: Neicia Shaw (MC), Sue Banting, Alison Asquith, Julian Rait
Euch. Assts.: Sub-Deacon, Neicia Shaw
Kidz@Church: Clare Tomasov, Alicia Palfreeman

11.30am Reconvened Annual Meeting

3pm EUCHARIST

Presider: Kuncoro
Liturgis: Kuncoro
Pengkotbah: David
Pembaca Mazmur: Christian
Pembaca P Baru: Christine
Pembaca Firman: Sue
Pemain Musik: Darius
Setup PA Sys: Ben
Usher: Albert
Sekolah Minggu: Holly
Konsumsi: Holly and Christine
Petugas kebersihan: Luci, Christian, Tetty

6pm CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE- Keith Dempster

A JOURNAL of SCRIPTURE & PRAYER—
Advent to Candlemas—is available at the back
of the church. Please take a copy.

TODAY'S LECTIONS

*Zephaniah 3:14-20; A Song of Isaiah
Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3: 7-18*

NOTICE is given of the reconvening of the adjourned 22nd November annual meeting, to **Sunday 13 December 2015 at 11.30am** in the Rutherford Room. The business is to accept the 2015 audited accounts and appoint auditors for 2016. It is vital that a quorum can be attained so please ensure that you are there.

THANK YOU for **HELPING ST ALBAN'S ANGLICARE EMERGENCY RELIEF.** The response following the theft of their supplies and Christmas gifts has been wonderful. The gifts from the Parish will be delivered during the week.

WARTA JEMAAT

1. Bagi yang pertama kali hadir beribadah disini, mohon berdiri dan memperkenalkan diri.
2. Kebaktian keluarga akan diadakan dirumah Yolanda/Cliff. Hari Sabtu ini, 19 Desember jam 12.30 siang. Alamat 213 Lady Nelson Way, Taylors Lake 3038. Mohon kedatangannya.
3. Kebaktian Natal tgl 24 Desember jam 5 sore untuk keluarga dan anak-anak (Christingle). Mohon anak-anak datang antara jam 4pm-4.30pm untuk dipakai baju Natal.
4. Kebaktian Malam Natal tgl 24 Desember: 11pm Carols dan 11.30pm Midnight Mass.
5. Kebaktian pada hari Natal tgl 25 Desember jam 9 pagi.
6. Gereja kita St John's Camberwell baru saja menyumbang \$1,063.85 ke CMS (Church Missionary Society). Untuk misi pelayanan di Indonesia.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS. Parishioners are invited to give a donation towards the cost of the celebratory flowers we have at Christmas. Donations can be put in the box at the back of the Church or handed in to the Office during the week. Any enquiries to Wendy Way.

WORKING BEE—Saturday 19 December

9am Morning Prayer
9.30am Church and Grounds Preparations.

CHRISTINGLE MAKING—Wednesday 23 December at 10am in the Rutherford Room. The Christingle Service is at 5pm on Christmas Eve in the Church.

VICARAGE CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Judy and I extend a warm invitation to everyone at St John's to join us for a Christmas celebration at our home. Come any time between 1pm and 5pm on Saturday 2 January. Please bring only the gift of yourselves (i.e. nothing else). We look forward to welcoming you all. *Fr David.*

PROF. DOROTHY LEE: We extend warm congratulations to the Revd Canon Professor Dorothy Lee, Dean of Trinity College Theological School, who has been elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in recognition of her outstanding international reputation as a New Testament scholar.

NEW-LOOK WEBSITE: The new St John's Camberwell website is online. The new site has a more up to date look and is mobile responsive—www.stjohnscamberwell.org.au

VICAR'S REPORT on December Parish Council meeting is enclosed with these notices and also in the narthex.

2016 PARISH RETREAT: See brochure with these notices or in the narthex.

NEXT SUNDAY, 20 December

Fourth Sunday in Advent

*Micah 5.2-5a; Song of Mary;
Hebrews 10.5-10; Luke 1.39-45*

8am EUCHARIST
Presider: Kuncoro Rusman
Preacher: David Moore
Readers: Graham & Elisabeth Pratt
Intercessor: Keith Dempster
Server: Neil Nyholm
Euch. Asst.: Graham Pratt

10am SUNG EUCHARIST

Presider: David Moore
Preacher: David Moore
Deacon: Kuncoro Rusman
Sub-Deacon: Cynthia Nyholm
Readers: Jonathan and Wendy Way
Intercessor: Muriel Porter
Servers: Ross Smith (MC), James Moorhouse, Geoff Vincent, Robin Carter

Euch. Assts. Sub-Deacon, Jonathan Way
Kidz@Church: No organized session on Advent 4, Sunday 20 December. Instead, there will be D.I.Y. activities for children available near the Font.

3pm LITURGY OF THE WORD

Presider: Kuncoro
Liturgis: Kuncoro
Pengkotbah: Kuncoro
Pembaca Mazmur:
Pembaca P Baru : Holly
Pembaca Firman: Elly
Pemain Musik: ICC2 Band
Setup PA Sys: ICC2 Band
Usher: Norma
Sekolah Minggu: Luci
Konsumsi: Evie & Iesje
Petugas kebersihan: Nicky, Nora, Sue

6pm CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE- Keith Dempster

YEAR'S MIND: We remember before God, Bert Hulme, Roger Ridley (Priest), Wilfred Bishop, Elsie Kennedy, Valerie Pitts, and Barbara Nixon, whose anniversaries occur at this time.