

## FUTURE DATES

### VICARAGE CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE:

Judy and I hope you can join us to celebrate Christmas at the vicarage, between 1pm and 5pm on **Saturday 31 December**.

David

**2017 PARISH RETREAT** from Friday 31 March to Sunday 2 April (weekend of Lent 5).

**A CHRISTMAS EDITION OF CONTACT** will be available. Notices should be in the office by 1pm Tuesday 20 December.

**A JANUARY EDITION OF CONTACT** will be available for the new year. Notices for this should also be in the office by 1pm Tuesday 20 December.

**TODAY** is the last day for Anglicare Christmas cards. Please see Ann Darlington.

**ANGLICAN CHURCH CALENDAR 2017**  
For sale \$12 each - proceeds go to **Anglican Overseas Aid**.

**THE 2017 PARISH RETREAT** will be held at Santa Casa, Queenscliff, from Friday 31 March to Sunday 2 April (weekend of Lent 5). Numbers are limited—please record your interest by contacting the Parish Office, or speaking with David.

## IN THE PARISH

Morning Prayer 8.30am;  
Liturgy of Light 5pm  
in the Chapel Monday to Friday

### TUESDAY 20 December

**12 noon** Eucharist in the Chapel  
**12.35pm** Staff meeting in Dempster Room

### WEDNESDAY 21 December

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

### THURSDAY 22 December

**10.00am** Cleaning silver in the vestry  
**2.00pm** Funeral for Mr Andrew Grummet in the church followed by refreshments in the Rutherford Room  
**3.00pm** Office closes for holidays—reopens 31 January 2017  
**7.30pm** Choir Practice

### FRIDAY 23 December

**9.00am** Church Preparations  
**10.00am** Christingle making in the Rutherford Room  
**12 noon** Set up Rutherford Room Annex for Christingle supper  
Set up Dempster Room for costumes for Christingle

### SATURDAY 24 December—Christmas Eve

**9.00am** Sanctuary Guild Flower arranging  
**5.00pm** Christingle  
**11.00pm** Carols by Candlelight  
**11.30pm** Midnight Mass followed by Champagne



# CONTACT WARTA JEMAAT

**ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, CAMBERWELL**  
The Fourth Sunday in Advent—18 December 2016

My Dear Friends,

In her excellent December TMA article, 'The Birth of Jesus often lost in a dull grey', The Reverend Professor Dorothy Lee observes that while in Holy Week we recognise the four gospels as distinct, at Christmastime we fail to show the same respect. At this time of the year the very different infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke – the deafening silence of Mark and the sublime mystical insight of John – are simply mashed together in a sentimentality blender. The result is profoundly impoverished.

Reclaiming the spiritual treasure of Christmas begins with allowing the integrity of Matthew's infancy narrative to be heard in its own right, with its own profound spiritual insights, begins with sifting out the elements which do not belong to Matthew: no manger or hay, no animals, no inn or innkeeper, no angel chorus in the sky, no sheep or shepherds, no 'lowing' cattle, no donkey travel across Palestine. Then we begin to see clearly that it is Joseph who plays the central role in Matthew's story.

Joseph, we are told, is a 'righteous man'. In the cultural milieu of his day, the fact that Mary is 'found to be with child' is a scandal beyond the pale. Joseph's legal and cultural right is to expose her as an adulteress, for which she ought to be stoned to death. His decision to 'dismiss her quietly' is the fruit of the conscience of a very good man, a man willing to forgo his rights, and even risk his own 'face', in the service of protecting a woman of now-dubious moral standing. This is remarkable. But the really outstanding feature of Matthew's infancy narrative comes when we pay close attention to the way in which Joseph's role develops in the course of chapters 1 and 2 of the gospel. Joseph repeatedly follows the advice of his dreams, in spite of the grave scandal: taking Mary as his wife; protecting Mary and the new-born son by flight to Egypt; and returning from Egypt when the time is safe.

Reading Matthew's story in its own right, it becomes clear that this is a story of scandal, in which Joseph is called upon to sacrifice his entire religious-cultural worldview. We read on to discover that Matthew's unique spiritual insight is that the presence of the newborn constellates dark negative energies, violent and murderous reactions, symbolised in the form of king Herod. Matthew alerts us to the confronting fact of the deadly reaction to the birth of God in human flesh, to that fear-filled and violent reaction against the new development. There is nothing sentimental here; only honest and realistic spiritual truth. Yet in the symbol of Joseph, Matthew assures us that God's creative Spirit will not be thwarted; that which is coming to birth in us will be protected. Truly an *evangelion*, good news!

With my love, David

PS: Let me know if you would like a copy of my Advent Quiet morning reflections on this.

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

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

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Website: [www.stjohnscamberwell.org.au](http://www.stjohnscamberwell.org.au)

**Vicar:** Father David Moore 9882 4851 (O) 0404 437 463 (M)

(Saturdays to Thursdays, and Sundays) Email: [vicar@stjohnscamberwell.org.au](mailto:vicar@stjohnscamberwell.org.au)

**Assistant Curate:** The Revd Kuncoro Rusman 9882 4851 (O) 0408 570 967 (M)

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

**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 Dr Michelle Trebilcock 9882 4851 (O)

**Director of Music:** Mr David Byrne 9836 5456

Email: [music.director@stjohnscamberwell.org.au](mailto:music.director@stjohnscamberwell.org.au)

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

Email: [children@stjohnscamberwell.org.au](mailto:children@stjohnscamberwell.org.au)

**Playgroup Coordinator:** Ms Jennifer Moore 9882 4851 (O)

**Parish Administrator:** Mrs Dawn Sullivan Email: [office@stjohnscamberwell.org.au](mailto:office@stjohnscamberwell.org.au)

## 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 following the 10am liturgy in the Rutherford Room, or for the evening meal following the 3pm liturgy.

**Lectons for Today:** *Isaiah 7.10-16; Psalm 80.1-7, 17-19; Romans 1.1-7, Matthew 1.18-25*

### 8am EUCHARIST

**President:** Helen Creed  
**Preacher:** Helen Creed  
**Reader:** Graham Pratt, Elizabeth Pratt  
**Intercessor:** Hans Ferdinands  
**Server:** Hans Ferdinands  
**Euch. Asst:** Graham Pratt

### 10.00am SUNG EUCHARIST *including Commissioning*

**President:** Helen Creed  
**Preacher:** Helen Creed  
**Deacon:** Kuncoro Rusman  
**Sub-Deacon:** John Manton  
**Readers:** Jonathan Way, Wendy Way  
**Intercessor:** Noela Manton  
**Cantor:** Ben Sharrock  
**Servers:** Ross Smith (MC), Robin Carter, Julian Rait, Neil Nyholm  
**Euch. Assts.:** Sub-Deacon, Janice Wong  
**Kidz@Church:** Liz Pratt, Wendy Way—  
Rehearsal for Christingle

### 3.00pm EUCHARIST *Bahasa Indonesia*

**President:** Kuncoro Rusman  
**Liturgis:** Kuncoro Rusman  
**Pengkotbah:** Kuncoro Rusman  
**Pembaca Mazmur:** Inez Hetharia  
**Pembaca P Baru:** Cliff Ohello  
**Pembaca Firman:** Ben Kalla  
**Pemain Musik:** Darius Hetharia  
**Setup PA Sys:** Cliff Ohello  
**Usher:** Albert Lengkong  
**Sekolah Minggu:** Helena Hutajulu  
**Konsumsi:** Iesje & Norma  
**Petugas kebersihan:** Luci, Christian, Tetty, Ferry

### 6.00pm LITURGY of LIGHT— David Moore

**LITURGY OF LIGHT:** During Advent we have been celebrating this lovely APBA (An Australian Prayer Book) rite on weekdays at 5pm - and will continue to do so in this final week of Advent. Commencing this evening, we will be praying this rite at 6pm on Sundays. **Note** that there will not be a 6pm liturgy on Christmas Day - the 6pm Liturgy of Light will recommence on Sunday 1 Jan. 2017.

**PARISH COUNCIL COMMISSIONING:** I am pleased to announce today the two additional Vicar's appointments, as per the provisions of the Parish Governance Act, and thank Greg Lee and Andre Lim for accepting my appointment. As you will recall, we commissioned the newly elected office bearers on Advent 2. Since, as it turned out, circumstances prevented three of the newly elected Council members from participating on that day, this morning we will commission both them and the two newly appointed members of Council. *David*

**PARISH COUNCIL 2017:** Vicar's Warden: Kerry Pratt. People's Wardens: Glenis Heath, Wendy Crouch. Parish Councillors elected: Greg Beeton, Cynthia Nyholm, Julian Rait. Parish Councillors appointed: Greg Lee, Andre Lim, Muriel Porter.

### WARTA JEMAAT

1. Kami ucapkan selamat datang untuk beribadah pada hari Minggu ini. Kami undang semuanya, terutama bagi yang baru pertama kali hadir, untuk berkumpul beramah tamah dan menikmati makan malam bersama di Rutherford Room setelah kebaktian selesai.
2. Kebaktian Malam Natal 24 Desember, jam 5pm kebaktian keluarga/anak-anak (Christingle). Jam 11pm puji-pujian (Carols). Jam 11.30pm Kebaktian Malam Natal.
3. Kebaktian Hari Natal 25 Desember akan diadakan jam 10am. Mohon perhatiannya bahwa pada hari itu kebaktian jam 8am, 3pm dan 6pm, ditiadakan.
4. Kabaktian tgl 1 Januari 2017 digabung dengan jam 10pagi. Jadi kebaktian jam 3sore ditiadakan.

**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.

**HELP NEEDED to Welcome at the 10am Christmas Day Service.** Please let Jonathan Way know if you can assist. Email - [wjway@bigpond.com](mailto:wjway@bigpond.com)

**LUNCH—CHRISTMAS DAY and/or NEW YEAR'S DAY:** If you would like to bring a savoury or sweet dish to share at 1pm in the Rutherford Room on Christmas Day and/or New Year's Day, please phone the office (9882 4851) or Keith Dempster.

**SILVER POLISHING:** Thursday 22 December. 10am in the Vestry. If you would like to participate, please speak with Dawn Harvey.

**MAKING CHRISTINGLES—10.00am Friday 23 December** in the Rutherford Room. No experience needed—just come along if you can.—Enquiries to Clare.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER ARRANGING: Sanctuary Guild—Saturday 24 December** at 9am. Enquiries to Wendy Way.

**ANGLICARE Christmas Cards—LAST DAY TODAY** for sale of these cards. Please see Ann Darlington.

**OFFICE CLOSURE** for holidays: The office will close on Thursday 22 December at 3pm. Reopens 10am Tuesday 31 January 2017. Phone will be monitored.

**CHRISTMAS LITURGIES FLIER:** Do you know someone who might appreciate receiving information about our Christmas liturgies? Fliers in today's Contact.

## CHRISTMAS EVE

**Christingle 5pm**

**Carols by Candlelight 11pm**

### 11.30pm MIDNIGHT MASS

**President:** David Moore  
**Preacher:** David Moore  
**Deacon:** Kuncoro Rusman  
**Sub-Deacon:** Cynthia Nyholm  
**Readers:** Adrienne Bolch, Cynthia Nyholm  
**Intercessor:** Wendy Crouch  
**Servers:** Ross Smith (MC), Rama Rusman, Arielle Rusman, Neil Nyholm, Robin Carter

**Euch. Assts.:** Sub-Deacon, Carole Nicholls

## CHRISTMAS DAY—One Liturgy only

### 10.00am SUNG EUCHARIST

**President:** Kuncoro Rusman  
**Preacher:** David Moore  
**Deacon:** David Moore  
**Sub-Deacon:** Ross Smith  
**Readers:** Kerry Pratt, Ross Smith  
**Intercessor:** Adrienne Bolch  
**Servers:** Geoff Vincent (MC), Alison Asquith, Sue Banting, Jenny Cook  
**Euch. Assts.** Sub-Deacon, Verona Lea  
**Kidz@Church:** Activities at the back of the church

## No 8am, 3pm or 6pm Liturgies this day.

**A JOURNAL OF SCRIPTURE & PRAYER** for December and January is available at the back of the church.

**YEAR'S MIND:** We remember before God, Elsie Kennedy, Valerie Pitts, Barbara Nixon, Dion Good, Elfreda Grove, William Webster, Kathleen Finnis, Rodney Gillam, Megan Tarry, and Fenton Mattingley, whose anniversaries occur at this time.