

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Morning & Evening Prayer is prayed in the Chapel on weekdays at 8.30am and 5pm respectively.

TUESDAY 23 December

- 10.00am** Christingle Making in Rutherford Room
12 noon Eucharist in the Chapel
12.45pm Staff Meeting
3.15pm Liturgy Meeting

WEDNESDAY 24 December—Christmas Eve

- 11.30am** Eucharist in the Chapel
12 noon Office closes (Reopens 28 January)
12.15pm BYO Lunch in Dempster Room
5.00pm Children's Christingle Service
11.00pm Carols by the Choir
11.30pm Midnight Eucharist

THURSDAY 25 December—Christmas Day

- 9.00am** Sung Eucharist
10.30am Morning Tea
12.30pm Christmas Lunch in Rutherford Room

FRIDAY 26 December

Church closed

SATURDAY 27 December

- 1-5pm** Open House at the Vicarage

THE OFFICE will be closed from noon on 24 December and will reopen at 10am on Wednesday 28 January 2015. The office phone will be monitored during this time.

NEXT SUNDAY - 28 December, 2014

Holy Innocents

Jeremiah 31.15-20; Psalm 124;
1 John 1.5—2.2; Matthew 2. 13-18

8am EUCHARIST

- Presider:** David Moore
Preacher: David Moore
Reader: Geoff Vincent
Intercessor: Hans Ferdinands
Server: Geoff Vincent
Euch. Asst. Hans Ferdinands

10am SUNG EUCHARIST

- Presider:** David Moore
Preacher: David Moore
Deacon: Kuncoro Rusman
Sub-Deacon: Cynthia Nyholm
Readers: Sue Banting; Keith Dempster
Intercessor: Muriel Porter
Servers: Ross Smith (MC)
Jenny Cook, Robin Carter, James Moorhouse
Euch. Assts. Noela Manton
Kidz@Church: In recess. Activities at the back of the church.

12 noon The Angelus in the Chapel

3.00pm INDONESIA EUCHARIST

Kuncoro Rusman

6.00pm CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE—Keith Dempster



CONTACT

ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, CAMBERWELL

Fourth Sunday of Advent—21 December 2014

Today we reach the fourth Sunday of Advent, the final Sunday before Christmas Day. Our prayerful journey towards the Nativity is almost at its end, but not quite – there are things to hear and ponder in our hearts in the days to come before we begin rejoicing in the birth of Christ.

The readings of the day are full of prophecies; from the Second Book of Samuel, in which Nathan speaks to David a prophecy about the land in which Israel will settle; the Letter to the Romans, which speaks to the importance of prophetic words – through them great things are revealed and people are drawn to faith in God.

Finally, in today's Gospel we hear the annunciation of the Angel Gabriel to Mary, which could be called the prophecy of prophecies. Gabriel greets Mary, and announces to her that she will bear the Christ. Mary hears the words of the Angel, receives them with wonder and amazement, and responds 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.'

Mary represents many different things to different Christians, and has for many generations; she is celebrated for her obedience, for her willingness to become the theotokos, the God-bearer; and for her purity, in her child being immaculately conceived. In addition to these, she can also be revered for her boldness, in that she heard the words of the angel, did not fear Gabriel's news, and accepted the words of the prophecy – and what followed – with thoughtfulness and awe.

In Mary we have a young woman who heard God's call, pondered her vocation, and responded with joy, despite the unknown path to which this would lead. Thanks be to God for Mary's joyful response, for her daring to make that response.

With many blessings in these final days of Advent in which we look with increasing eagerness to the coming of the light of Christ into the world on Christmas Day,

Emily

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- Hon. Assoc. Priest:** The Revd Dr Brian Porter 0407 552 425 (M)
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- Parish Administrator:** Mrs Dawn Sullivan 9882 4851 Email: office@stjohnscamberwell.org.au

SERVICES TODAY

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 in the Rutherford Room following the 10 am liturgy.

8.00am Eucharist

Presider: Emily Fraser
Preacher: Emily Fraser
Reader: Graham & Elisabeth Pratt
Intercessor: Hans Ferdinands
Server: Hans Ferdinands
Euch. Asst. Graham Pratt

10.00am Sung Eucharist

Presider: David Moore
Preacher: Emily Fraser
Deacon: Kuncoro Rusman
Sub-Deacon: Neil Nyholm
Readers: Wendy & Jonathan Way
Intercessor: Noela Manton
Servers: Ross Smith (MC)
Neicia Shaw, Robin Carter
Geoff Vincent
Euch. Assts. Verona Lea
KIDZ@CHURCH: Clare Tomasov, Wendy Way

12 noon The Angelus
3.00pm Indonesian Congregation
Kuncoro Rusman
6.00pm Contemplative Service
Keith Dempster

ADVENT-CHRISTMAS information is available in two booklets on the table.

EMILY FRASER'S last Sunday with us is **January 25**. There will be a special lunch in the Rutherford Room to say farewell to Emily. There is a list on the noticeboard for you to put your name if you intend being present at the lunch and also what food you could bring. If you would like to contribute to a gift for Emily place it in a clearly marked envelope in the Sunday offering.

Readings for the Day

2 Samuel 7. 1-11, 16; Psalm 89;
Romans 16. 25-27; Luke 1. 26-38

ORGAN at 10AM.

Pre service: Chorale Prelude "Nun komm der Heiden Heiland" by Dietrich Buxtehude.
Post service Chorale Prelude "Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland" by J S Bach

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 Monday 22 Dec. Your duty would commence 30 minutes before the times listed below.
Christmas Eve: 11.00pm – Carols
11.30pm – Christmas Eucharist
Christmas Day: 9.00am - Sung Eucharist
Any queries or phone offers to Jonathan Way 9898 2108.

EPISCOPAL APPOINTMENT: The Right Reverend Genieve Blackwell has been appointed Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Melbourne. The commencement date is yet to be agreed. Bishop Blackwell is presently the Rector of Wagga in the Diocese of Canberra Goulburn as well as Assistant Bishop in the diocese. Please pray for Bishop Genieve, her husband John and their two children as they prepare for this transition.

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

SERVERS NEEDED: At present we have a shortage of Altar Servers whose ministry is assisting the clergy at the liturgy in the sanctuary at St John's. If you are interested in joining the serving team please speak with the vicar or Ross Smith. Training will be provided.

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.

HAVE LUNCH WITH US on

- **Christmas Day** (Eucharist 9am, Morning Tea 10.30am, Lunch 12.30pm) and
- **New Year's Day** (Eucharist 12 noon, Lunch 1pm)

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

THE AUSTRALIAN ANGLICAN

CALENDAR: We are sold out. If you have not paid for your calendar please leave the payment at the Parish Office. Thank you for your support of Anglican Overseas Aid.

SUNDAY MORNING VACUUMING:

At the end of Sunday morning's hospitality in the Rutherford Room the floor is always in need of a once-over with the vacuum. More vacuumers are needed. If you can assist please contact the Hospitality Coordinator, Penny Galbraith.

ADVENT-CHRISTMAS DATES of SERVICES and INFORMATION—A flyer is available at the back of the church and on the noticeboard. Please take a copy.

WORKING BEE— Thank you to all who assisted in the working bee.

YEAR'S MIND: We remember before God, William Webster, Kathleen Finnis, Rodney Gillam, Megan Tarry, Fenton Mattingley, Edward Bradshaw, Christine Petrie, and Ronald Paterson, whose anniversaries occur at this time.

ENVELOPES are available for donations to The Christmas Bowl (Act for Peace) and also for ABM Advent 2014. See noticeboard for more details of their programs.

ADVANCE NOTICE: 2015 PARISH RETREAT:

Conductor: The Revd John Stewart
Booked at Pallotti College for the weekend of Friday 27 February to Sunday 1 March.
All are welcome and warmly encouraged.
Full details to come.

FUTURE DATES

CHRISTINGLE making 10am Tuesday 23 December.
OFFICE CLOSURES 12 noon on Christmas Eve and reopens on Wednesday 28 January 2015 at 10.00am.
CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH in Rutherford Room 12.30pm.
NEW YEAR'S DAY LUNCH in Rutherford Room 1pm.
EMILY'S LAST SUNDAY at St John's will be 25 January.