

# The Word Became Flesh

For John the logos referred to that expression of God's innermost nature which poured forth to create and be immanent in the world, giving the world order and expression, and which was to be most closely experienced within the human soul. It was a way of explaining how God, who was transcendent to creation, could also be immanent within creation.

John A Sanford *Mystical Christianity*

In the new humanity which is begotten today the Word prolongs the unending act of his own birth; and by virtue of his immersion in the world's womb the great waters of the kingdom of matter have, without even a ripple, been endued with life. No visible tremor marks this inexpressible transformation; and yet, mysteriously and in very truth, at the touch of the supersubstantial Word the immense host which is the universe is made flesh. Through your own incarnation, my God, all matter is henceforth incarnate... We are all of us together carried in the one world-womb; yet each of us is our own little microcosm in which the Incarnation is wrought independently with degrees of intensity, and shades that are incommunicable. And that is why, in our prayer at the altar, we ask that the consecration may be brought about *for us*: That it may become for us the Body and Blood.

Teilhard de Chardin *Hymn of the Universe*

In Jesus, God's self communication to creation explodes into history. Evolution assumes an explicit direction. God evolves the universe and brings to it its completion through the instrumentality of human beings. Jesus is the Christ, the climax of that long development whereby the world becomes aware of itself and comes into the direct presence of God.

Ilia Delio *The Emergent Christ*



# CONTACT

## ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, CAMBERWELL Epiphanytide 2015

The birth event remains an 'in-house' affair until foreigners and outsiders are drawn to the Christ. The Feast of the Epiphany – or 'the manifestation of Christ' – in the Western church recalls the visit of the Magi to pay homage to the Christ child at Bethlehem. In the church of the East, however, Epiphany is more revered than Christmas, and is focussed around the Lord's baptism, the manifestation of Jesus as God's well-beloved Son. Nevertheless, in both East and West it is *Christology* that matters – *Who* is this 'Christ'? *Where* has he come from? *What* is he for? To what does he invite us?

The word 'epiphany' means 'a *showing* of God's presence', and so the revealing to the Magi at the Crib was really just one of many epiphanies. Therefore, during the Sundays of Epiphany we reflect on this revealing of God's presence, meditating upon who this is that John identifies as the 'light that is coming into the world' – through the visit of the Magi; in Jesus' baptism in the Jordan; in John's declaration that there is one who is coming who will baptise with Holy Spirit and fire; in Jesus' first sign at Cana; in Jesus' declaration in his hometown synagogue that Isaiah's prophecy has been fulfilled; and, finally, in the presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple at Jerusalem, on the last Sunday of Epiphany, CandleMass.

The Christmas Crib remains our central seasonal symbol until Candlemass (2 February). The white and gold colours of Christmas adorn our worship area. We continue to sing Christmas songs, because in these Sundays of Epiphany we are reflecting on the many showings of Incarnation. Epiphany is not merely an exercise in history, however interesting that may be. Epiphany reminds us that God reveals God-self to *us*, here and now, by many and varied ways.

Like the Magi, we are to use knowledge and reason in order to find the Christ child, yet in the end the journey that leads to Christ can only be completed by risk – which is the gift of faith – offering to Christ *the gold of our love, the incense of our prayer, and the myrrh of our willingness to bear the cross.*

O God,  
the source of all insight,  
whose coming was revealed to the nations  
not among men of power but on a woman's lap:  
give us grace to seek you where you may be found,  
that the wisdom of this world may be humbled,  
and discover your unexpected joy.  
Amen.

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

Ph.9882 4851 Fax 9882 0086 *Office closed during January. Phone monitored.*

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

**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:** Mother Emily Fraser 9882 4851 (O) 0408 383 699 (M) (Until 23/01/2015)

(Tuesdays to Fridays and Sundays) Email: [curate.emily@stjohnscamberwell.org.au](mailto:curate.emily@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 0437 002 455 (M)

**Hon. Assoc. Priest:** The Revd Michelle Trebilcock 0408 511 397 (M)

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

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

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

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

**Parish Administrator:** Mrs Dawn Sullivan 9882 4851 Email: [office@stjohnscamberwell.org.au](mailto:office@stjohnscamberwell.org.au)

**WELCOME!** to this sacred space—may you find fresh encounter here with the Holy. 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 liturgy in the Rutherford Room.

#### **NEW YEARS DAY : THURSDAY**

**1 JANUARY: EUCHARIST** at 12 noon followed by shared lunch in the Rutherford Room at 1pm. Please enter details on the notice at the back of the church if you intend coming to the lunch.

#### **SUNDAY LITURGIES at St John's.**

- 8am
- 10am
- 3pm Indonesian Congregation
- 6pm Contemplative Service

#### **January 4 : The Epiphany**

*Isaiah 60.1-6; Psalm 72.1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3.1-12; Matthew 2.1-12. (Holy Baptism at 10am)*

#### **January 11 : Baptism of Christ**

*Genesis 1.1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19.1-7; Mark 1.4-11*

#### **January 18 : Epiphany 2**

*1 Samuel 3.1-10; Psalm 139.1-5, 12-18; 1 Corinthians 6.12-20; John 1.43-51*

#### **January 25 : Epiphany 3**

*Jonah 3.1-10; Psalm 62.5-12; 1 Corinthians 7.29-31; Mark 1.14-20*

#### **February 1 : CandleMass**

*Deuteronomy 18.15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8. 1-13; Mark 1.21-28*

**COMMUNION AND CURRY** is on January 7. Commencing at 6.30pm in the Chapel for the Eucharist followed by a curry meal in the Rutherford Room. All are welcome.

**CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS-EPIPHANY:** A resource booklet is available in the Narthex to help you keep this important season - **Advent-Christmas-Epiphany: a Guide to the Season.**

**OFFICE ARRANGEMENTS** in January. The Parish Office will close at 12 noon on Christmas Eve and will re-open at 10am on Wednesday 28 January. During this time clergy will be available and the office phone will be monitored.

**THE CHURCH** will be open as usual with the following exceptions: Friday 26 December; Monday 26 January, when the church will be closed.

**MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER** is prayed on weekdays at 8.30am and 5.00pm respectively.

**TUESDAY EUCHARISTS** continue at **12noon.**

**WEEKLY WEDNESDAY EUCHARISTS** at 11.30am resume on 7 January. BYO lunch in the Dempster Room follows.—Tea/coffee provided.

**VICAR ON LEAVE:** David is on annual leave from Monday 5 January to Tuesday 13 January inclusive. Mother Emily will be Priest in Charge.

**"CONTACT"** will resume on Sunday 1 February. Notices should be in the office by 1pm on Thursday 29 January.

**TMA The Melbourne Anglican** is not published in January.

**PRAYER JOURNAL: Advance Notice:** Watch out for the Journal of Scripture and Prayer for February/March—CandleMass to Holy Week— which will be available in late January.

**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.

#### **DIARY DATES**

**FAREWELL** for Emily Fraser Sunday 25 January.

**OFFICE RE-OPENS:** Wednesday 28 January at 10am.

**KIDZ@CHURCH** resumes on 1 February.

**LITTLE SEEDS PLAYGROUP** commences on 4 February at 9.30am.

**PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING DAY 14 February**— 1pm to 5.00pm.

**PATRONAL FESTIVAL:** 19 April, 12 noon followed by lunch. (NB The only Liturgy on this day.)

**ASCENSION DAY 14 May**—6.30pm

#### **OFFICE BEARERS—2015**

**Vicar's Warden:** Kerry Pratt

**People's Wardens:** Noela Manton and John Lester

**Parish Council:** Natasha Bolch; Jascha Gunawan; Glenis Heath; Lucky Kalonta; Indra Karmawan; Andrew Porter; Muriel Porter; Jude Westrup; Alicia White.

**Incumbency Committee:** Georgina Porter; Ross Smith

#### **ECUMENICAL LENT STUDIES:2015**

**Session 1—Tuesday 24 February**  
7.30pm at Our Lady of Victories

**Session 2—Tuesday 3 March**  
7.30pm at Camberwell UCA

**Session 3—Tuesday 10 March**  
7.30pm here at St John's

**Session 4—Tuesday 17 March**  
7.30pm—Venue to be advised

**YEAR'S MIND:** We remember before God, those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

#### **W/comm. 4 January:**

Norman McPhee, Ivor Morgan, and Pauline Brown. Mary Rowe, Arthur Nickson, William Barnett, Kevin Curnow (Priest), Selwyn Hooper, Brian Sergeant, and Lorna Dobney.

**W/comm. 11 January:** Olga Louch, Thea Aston, Beth Withington, Ivon Bromilow, Mary Bagnall, Ken Lenton, Stella Pratt, and William Kemp.

#### **W/comm. 18 January:**

Marguerite Putnam, Gwen Legg, Geoff McCombe, Margery Scott, John Dempster, and John Wilson (Bishop).

#### **W/comm. 25 January:**

Marcus Galbraith, May Barrow, Reginald Bailey, and Amanda Leech.

#### **CONTEMPLATIVE EUCHARIST**

6pm Sunday 15 February 2015, in the chapel. This contemplative Eucharist incorporates a period of silent meditation in the style of the World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM). All are welcome. Enquiries: David Moore

**USED STAMPS** are of value to the Church Missionary Society. They sell to stamp dealers and the money raised is used to support the Mission's work. There is a container on the table at the back of the church to leave stamps.

#### **LENT AND HOLY WEEK 2015**

**Ash Wednesday—18 February**  
11.30am; 7.00pm

**Palm Sunday—29 March**

**Holy Thursday—2 April—8.00pm**

**Good Friday—3 April—9.30am**

**Easter Vigil—5 April— 6.00am**