



**St Paul's Kyneton  
& St John's Malmsbury  
2nd November 2018**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**ABM** Anglican Board of Mission - Australia  
Working for Love, Hope & Justice

The First Sunday of Advent—Year C begins today

- Jeremiah 33.14-16; Psalm 25.1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3.9-13; Luke 21.25-38

Happy New Year! Today, our new liturgical year that honours the Gospel of Luke begins with Advent, that season of eager, patient, and watchful anticipation. Jeremiah sets the stage with God's promise of a saviour who will rule with justice and righteousness, bringing safety and peace to Jerusalem (and to our world). Embers of hope glow in our hearts as we wait and watch for the signs of His coming.

- Pray for those who wait in the darkness of illness, want, and need, both physical and spiritual.
- Pray for the Nippon Sei Ko Kai, the Anglican Church of Japan, giving thanks for the work they do to further God's mission in the world.

*Text: The Rev Laurette Glasgow, Special Advisor for Government Relations for the Anglican Church of Canada and the Diocese of Ottawa. © Anglican Board of Mission, 2018*

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We are also grateful for the assistance of our retired clergy: The Revds Charles & Peta Sherlock, Wendy Hudson & Greg Magee

**On the lighter side.....**

An elderly man in Oklahoma calls his son in New York and says, "I hate to ruin your day son, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are getting a divorce; 45 years of marriage... and that much misery is enough!" "Dad, what are you talking about?" the son yells. "We can't stand the sight of each other any longer," the old dad explained. "We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Hong Kong and tell her!". Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. "Like heck they're getting divorced," she shouts, "I'll take care of this." She calls her elderly father immediately, and screams at him, "You are not getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, you hear me?" she yelled as she hung up the phone. The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. "Okay", he says, "it's all set. They're both coming for Christmas and paying their own airfare."

**PARISH HEALING LIST:**  
*Please pray for*

Bali, Anna, Keith, Herbert, Prudence, Brian, Allan, Kirrili, Alicia, Libby & Luke, Ben, Chrissie, Glen, Cameron, Peter, Louise, Maddie & Paul, Allan, Ny, Pru, Jan, Rhonda, Stephen, Verena, Helen, Ian, Gerald, Carmel, Bernard and Claire.

Anniversaries:  
 Ian Barasi (2016)

*Please let Fr Ian know of any inclusions or updates of people on the healing and/or anniversaries list.*

**HYMNS**

Sheet: Come to greet the Advent Season  
 265 O come, O come Emmanuel  
 497 Let all mortal flesh keep silence  
 609 May the mind of Christ my Saviour

**MUSICIAN:**  
 Rosemary Howarth

**ROSTER THIS SUNDAY**

Lay Reader: Betty Jenner  
 Eucharist Assistant: Ruth Murphy  
 Server: James Howarth  
 Reader: Joan Willis  
 Prayers: Fr Ian  
 Sides People: Tim & Veronica Maniford  
 Morning Tea: Anne Piggott

**ROSTER NEXT SUNDAY**

Lay Reader: Ruth Murphy  
 Eucharist Assistant: Elizabeth Hannah  
 Server: Rosemary Love  
 Reader: Naomi Berry  
 Prayers: Elizabeth Hannah  
 Sides People: Jean Stringer & Norma Proctor  
 Morning Tea: Naomi Berry

*Let us worship joyfully,  
 serve God faithfully,  
 care for one another  
 lovingly and outreach  
 enthusiastically with our  
 words and actions this*

**ST JOHN'S: This Sunday**

Cleaning: Peter & Ling  
 Reader 1: Allison  
 Reader 2: Georgina

**ST JOHN'S: Next Week**

Cleaning: Warren & Judi  
 Reader 1: Arthur  
 Reader 2: Stephen

**READINGS NEXT WEEK**

**Advent 2**  
 Malachi 3:1-4  
 Song of Zechariah  
 Philippians 1:1-11  
 Luke 3:1-6

## Priest's Ponderings

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Welcome to worship as we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent. Advent is a significant season of preparation amidst for many people, frantic shopping, lots of parties and end of year functions. Balancing the spiritual and the temporal at this time of year can be challenging, but not impossible. There are still some very important things we can do.

- As we write our Christmas Cards, buy presents and wrap them, we can think and pray for those who will receive them.
- The time it takes to stand in shopping queues we can offer silent prayer for the people around us and those who work at checkouts and in other parts of stores.
- Join in a Lenten Advent Study and/or read the study material at home.
- As Christmas approaches take time to contemplate The Incarnation and how Christ fills our lives with hope, peace, joy and love (the themes of our Advent Season).
- Taking time to catch up with people we may only otherwise do Periodically.
- Use the themes of the coming season to spark conversations that might help someone else to engage meaningfully in the spirit of Christmas.
- Think and do something about how we can give to others less fortunate through Advent and Christmas Appeals.

May we journey well with Christ through the Advent Season. Fr Ian

## COMING EVENTS

8 December—Next Kyneton Farmers Market

9 December—Advent Restive Reflections

14 December—Cinema@St John's 7pm "The Man who invented Christmas

16 December—Next Parish Council Meeting

16 December—VEWS 5pm Christmas with a Twist + Christmas Supper

20 December—Open House at the Rectory come anytime between 5pm & 7pm.

23 December—Kyneton Community Carols with Kyneton Municipal Band  
(St Paul's 7.30pm)

CHRISTMAS EVE: 5pm Family Christmas Liturgy & Communion (St Paul's)  
7.30pm Christmas Eucharist (St John's)

11.30pm Midnight Mass (St Paul's) and supper

CHRISTMAS DAY: 9.00am Christmas Eucharist (St Paul's) + Refreshments

## THIS WEEK:

**TODAY:** 8.45am Holy Eucharist—St John's Advent Sunday  
10.30am Sung Eucharist— St Paul's Fr Ian

Tuesday: 8.10am Holy Eucharist—Braemar College  
5.00pm Evening Prayer (St Paul's)

Wednesday: 9.00am Morning Prayer (St Paul's)  
10.00am Holy Eucharist (St Paul's)  
3.30pm Holy Eucharist (R.M. Begg)  
5.00pm Evening Prayer (St Paul's)

Thursday: 9.00am Morning Prayer (St Mary's)  
11.00am Holy Eucharist (BUPA)  
2.00pm Advent Study Group (Rectory)  
5.00pm Evening Prayer (St Paul's)

Friday: 9.30am Morning Prayer (St John's)  
10.00am Malmsbury Knitters (Malmsbury Merchants)  
5.00pm Evening Prayer (St Paul's)

Saturday: 8.30am-1.00pm Kyneton Farmers Market

**NEXT SUNDAY:** 8.45am Holy Eucharist (St John's Malmsbury) Advent 2  
10.30am Sung Eucharist (St Paul's Kyneton) Fr Ian  
5.00pm VEWS—Advent Restive Reflections

## MACEDON RANGES TOYSHOP

New toys or vouchers for children and teenagers who would otherwise go without for Christmas are still being received. A box to receive donations is available near the entrance to each church. Please leave gifts unwrapped & bring by next Sunday.

## CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Donations of Christmas food or cash are now welcome to help provide Christmas hampers for families who come in need.

## CINEMA@ ST JOHN'S—Friday 14th December commencing 7pm

Come along to the screening of 'The Man who Invented Christmas.' There are still fliers available for people to use to invite others. Entry by donation to the Christmas Bowl.

**CAKES 'N' BAKES**—Next Saturday at the market focussing on Christmas food. James would welcome people to contribute baked goods e.g. Gingerbread, Shortbread, White Christmas, Fruit Mince Pies; anything 'Christmassy'.

## The story of the Christmas Bowl Remembrance

In the Gospels, time and time again, Christ calls on us to show mercy, welcome the stranger and hunger for peace. Jesus told the story of the Good Samaritan to emphasise our responsibility to care for and walk with those facing suffering and injustice.

On Christmas Day in 1949, the Reverend Frank Byatt of Victoria asked his dinner guests to act on this duty. He placed an empty bowl on the dinner table and asked his companions to reflect on their good fortunes and contribute something to help those who had fled the horrors of World War II.

He couldn't have known that this simple act of charity would grow to become one of Australia's best-loved and longest running ecumenical appeals: the Christmas Bowl.

Through the Christmas Bowl, we heed God's call to share our blessings and bring love, hope, peace, joy and light to our brothers and sisters in urgent need.

### **God's Love in Action**

#### **Bringing hope in times of disaster: Vanuatu**

When your home and livelihood are destroyed, how do you find strength to start over? You need hope - the ability to trust in God's love and the goodness of God's plan for your life. This is what your Christmas Bowl gifts bring to women in Vanuatu, who are struggling to keep their families resilient through worsening natural disasters.

May is a mother of five who knows all too well the destruction a cyclone causes. One has torn through her village in Vanuatu almost every year of her life. Through your support of the Christmas Bowl, May is now teaching others in her community how to stay safe and keep their faith through the next calamity.

## **CHRISTMAS BOWL and the Lighting of THE ADVENT WREATH**



### **PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

#### **COME TO GREET THE ADVENT SEASON**

Stuttgart 87.87

1. Come to greet the Advent Season,  
let us all now here prepare,  
for the coming of the Christ Child,  
God's own company appear.
2. Fill the world with hope-filled longing,  
justice, kindness, be good news,  
rather than all selfish striving,  
generosity come through.
3. With your presence peace can flourish,  
if we help it overcome,  
any hatred and denial  
of community as one.
4. Joy is found far flung and nearby,  
good and bad times, we can learn,  
that in life we need to offer,  
openness and deep concern.

*The remaining two verses of the hymn will be sung after the following lighting of the Advent wreath and prayers*

## **Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Prayers**

### **First Sunday of Advent: HOPE**

The Psalmist prayed: "Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long."  
(Psalm 25:4-5).

Let us wait upon God, the one who fills our souls with hope, who leads us in the paths of justice and generosity, who restores us to be a people of hope in the world.

Voice 1: Today is the first Sunday in Advent, so we light the first Candle in which we celebrate hope.

Voice 2: Love sows the seeds of hope and where hope springs up, there is life.

Voice 1: Generosity and justice keep hope alive, enabling it to blossom and bear fruit.

Voice 2: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13).

God of hope and justice, we read the signs of the times like the leaves of the fig tree. We see the effects of climate change. We hear stories of new beginnings, the recovery of dignity and hope. We pray for the people of Vanuatu, as they face the dangers of climate change, as they struggle to assert the dignity of all their people, especially as women seek to exercise leadership. Strengthen them in hope by the power of your Holy Spirit. AMEN.

*we sing the last two verses of the hymn*

5. In the coming festive season,  
love should win and challenge all,  
from complacency or discord,  
by all who accept your call.

## **Bible Reflections from [www.episcopaldigital.org](http://www.episcopaldigital.org)**

### **1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

This letter is written by Paul to one of the early church communities. I wonder, in our position as members of the Anglican Communion, how often we think this way of our fellow churches. I suspect the practice of writing encouragement to one another has ceased, partly because we are in a world where written letters are not the fastest forms of communication – and partly because we simply forget to encourage and thank God for one another. Following God's call is difficult. We need to lift one another up, to encourage one another in our callings, even when we don't immediately see eye to eye.

- How might we lift up one another?
- In what ways can we encourage one another in our callings and ministry? May we abound in love for one another and have our hearts strengthened in holiness.

### **Luke 21:25-36**

It is hard for me to read this gospel lesson of the signs of the coming of man and not connect it to some of the doom and gloom teachers and preachers who love to talk about the end of time and draw lines in the sand over who will be saved. After reading it through a few times, though, I find this passage not to be about living in fear but rather about standing in our truth as Christians. Jesus' instructions are not to spend time worrying and preparing for this coming, but rather to "stand up and raise your heads" when these things come to pass.

- Are we ready to stand strong in our faith? Why or why not?
- "Heaven and Earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." How can we hold more firmly to the everlasting words of Jesus and let go of the things that will pass away?

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*This Bible study, written by Jazzy Bostock,*

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

‘There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in a cloud” with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.’

Then he told them a parable: ‘Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

‘Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.’

Every day he was teaching in the temple, and at night he would go out and spend the night on the Mount of Olives, as it was called. And all the people would get up early in the morning to listen to him in the temple.

For the Gospel of the Lord,  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

6. Hope, peace, love and joy are signs of  
God in Spirit here to stay,  
gifts to bring us ever closer,  
to a new life-giving way.

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*The Liturgy continues with the Invitation to the Confession*

When the Lord comes,  
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.  
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

*Kyrie form of Confession*

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations  
into the peace of your kingdom:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You come in word and sacrament  
to strengthen us in holiness:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You will come in glory  
with salvation for your people:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Priest: God forgives you.

Forgive others.

Forgive yourself. AMEN.

*the Collect & readings follow.*

**Collect:**

Eternal God, you have taught us that the night is far spent and the day is at hand: keep us awake and alert, watching for your kingdom, and make us strong in faith, so that when Christ comes in glory to judge the earth we may go out joyfully to greet him; and, with all your saints, may worship you for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING**

A reading from Jeremiah (33:14-16)

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

Hear the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 25:1-10**

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
O my God, in you I trust; ♦  
**let me not be put to shame;**  
**let not my enemies triumph over me.**  
2 Let none who look to you be put to shame, ♦  
**but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.**  
3 Make me to know your ways, O Lord, ♦  
**and teach me your paths.**  
4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, ♦  
**for you are the God of my salvation;**  
**for you have I hoped all the day long.**  
5 Remember, Lord, your compassion and love, ♦  
**for they are from everlasting.**

6 Remember not the sins of my youth  
or my transgressions, ♦  
**but think on me in your goodness, O Lord,**  
**according to your steadfast love.**  
7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; ♦  
**therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.**  
8 He will guide the humble in doing right ♦  
**and teach his way to the lowly.**  
9 All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth ♦  
**to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

**SECOND READING**

A reading from 1 Thessalonians (3:9-13)

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Hear the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia. Alleluia!**  
Let us see O Lord, your mercy  
and show us your saving help.  
**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL READING**

+ The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke (21:25-38)