



ANGLICAN PARISH OF BOX HILL
First Sunday of Advent
2 December, 2018

Parish Link

Our Vicar Writes...

Welcome to worship today! Welcome to the start of the Christian year – the start of Advent! For me, the season of Advent provides one of those few opportunities when our behaviour as Christians; disciples of Jesus is different from the general behaviour of those around us. There is no doubt that the race to Christmas has begun – with advertising telling us if not shouting at us about what we should buy; what we should eat; how we should decorate and celebrate. The lead up period to these ‘spending opportunities’ has become longer and longer and we need to say as Christians – NO! – We will wait; we will spend quality time waiting and retelling the story of salvation and we will take time to remember that we are people of HOPE; our hope in a faithful God who will come again. As always, Barbara Brown Taylor's words inspire and move me on this first day of a new church year, as we long for a new heaven and a new earth, but seek to live our lives right here, right now, in ways that are pleasing to God and utterly trusting in God's goodness: "Every morning when you wake up, decide to live the life God has given you to live right now. Refuse to live yesterday over and over again. Resist the temptation to save your best-self for tomorrow." ("On the Clouds of Heaven" in *The Seeds of Heaven*).

Morning tea is served in the undercroft after the 9.30am service.
Please join us.

Mission Statement

Sharing the Good News
Telling the story afresh
Expressing God's love
Nurturing and sharing faith
Equipping to serve
Serving the community

Vision

To ensure that there continues to be a living, committed, communal Anglican presence of liturgical celebration, nurture and outreach in Box Hill.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

FIRST AID KIT – Located in the office and kitchen.

TOILETS – Located in the Church Hall and in the church building through the church doors front right.

WHEELCHAIR – Located in the toilet for the disabled upstairs.

FIRE & EMERGENCY – Please make yourself aware of the nearest escape route in the event of an emergency or fire.

OH&S – Please ensure that any incidents/accidents are reported to the Vicar or Wardens and incident report completed.

Advent Credo

It is not true that creation and the human family are doomed to destruction and loss—
This is true: **For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life;**
It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction—

This is true: **I have come that they may have life, and that abundantly.**

It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word, and that war and destruction rule forever—

This is true: **Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, his name shall be called wonderful councilor, mighty God, the Everlasting, the Prince of peace.**

It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world—

This is true: **To me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and lo I am with you, even until the end of the world.**

It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the Church before we can be peacemakers—

This is true: **I will pour out my spirit on all flesh and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions and your old men shall have dreams.**

It is not true that our hopes for liberation of humankind, of justice, of human dignity of peace are not meant for this earth and for this history—

This is true: **The hour comes, and it is now, that the true worshipers shall worship God in spirit and in truth.**

So let us enter Advent in hope, even hope against hope. Let us see visions of love and peace and justice. Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith, with courage: Jesus Christ—the life of the world.

From *Walking on Thorns*, by Allan Boesak, Eerdmans, 2004.



Advent comes from the Latin word 'adventus' meaning 'Coming.' Advent begins the church year starting four Sundays before Christmas. The season of Advent has been set aside as a time of preparation since the 6th century. Advent is a time for preparing for Christ's second coming, even as we remember and celebrate his first coming at Christmas. This is why the colour of the season of Lent is used, purple, the colour of forgiveness and repentance.

Advent

O God, by whose word all things are sanctified, pour forth your blessing upon this wreath, and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from your abundant graces. Through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

First Candle: The Patriarchs, Abraham, the Old Testament ancestors of Jesus

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord

Thanks be to God

Today is the First Sunday of Advent, in which we recall the hope we have in Christ. God told Abraham that through him all the nations of the world would be blessed, because he trusted and put his hope in God. The Old Testament spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a Saviour would be born, a king in the line of King David. He would rule the world wisely and bless all the nations. We too believe in God's promise to send Jesus again to this world to establish his kingdom upon the earth. Hope is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

Let us pray:

God of Abraham and Sarah and all the Patriarchs of old, you are our Father too. Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Son of God, and Son of David. Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth, to make our hearts ready and to place our hope in you. Help us today and every day to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your hope with others. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. **Amen.**

Sentence

Stand up and raise your heads; your redemption is drawing near. Luke 21.28

Prayer of the Day

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.

Readings

First Reading: **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.'

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

Psalm: **25** in the *APBA* prayer book, **p.244**

Second Reading: **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.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke, Chapter 21, verses 25-38

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 our Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Welcome to the Lord's Table.
All are welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion
or to come forward for a blessing.

Years Mind

George Boshnakoff, Alma Locke, Dru Ferdinands,
Irene Bracken, Marlene Mack, Hazel Addison

whose anniversaries occur at this time.



Prayer Points

The Church: Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain (Bp Carlos López-Lozano); Diocese of Melbourne (Abp Philip Freier, Bps Bradly Billings, Paul Barker, Genieve Blackwell, Kate Prowd, Clergy & People); Caulfield Grammar School (Ashleigh Martin, Principal; Laurie Barton, Ryan Holt, Chaplains); St Andrew's Corio - Norlane (David Milford, Kaw Moo Ba Cho); St Luke's Vermont – pastoral visit (Bp Paul Barker); St Barnabas Glen Waverley – Confirmation Service (Bp Paul Barker); Parish of St George, Queenscliff (Bp Brad Billings); St Catherine's Caulfield South – pastoral visit (Bp Genieve Blackwell); St Peter's Eastern Hill – Holding the Light Ecumenical Service (Bp Genieve Blackwell); St Stephen's Karen Congregation (Bp Kate Prowd).

The Parish: Pray for all our clergy, lay assistants, and servers and give thanks for their service to God in our community.

The World: Pray for all children made orphans by war or natural disasters and give thanks for those who work to house and protect them.

The Nation/Community: Pray for our nurses, doctors and health workers who support the sick in our community.

Prayer of the Week

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came among us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

ABM Pew Reflections

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.

Daily Readings

Monday	Isaiah 2.1-5	Ps 122	Matthew 8.5-11
Tuesday	Isaiah 11.1-10	Ps 72.1-7	Luke 10.21-24
Wednesday	Isaiah 25.6-10	Ps 23	Matthew 15.29-37
Thursday	Isaiah 26.1-6	Ps 118.19-25	Matthew 7.21-27
Friday	Isaiah 29.9-17	Ps 27-31	Matthew 9.27-31
Saturday	Isaiah 30.19-26	Ps 147.1-6	Matthew 9.35-10.1, 5-8



*If you have anything you would like included in the Parish Link Notices, please let Cecilia know in writing **before** Thursdays or email anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com Please keep notices succinct and to the point as space is limited.*

ADVENT BOOKLETS

At the back of the church you will find Advent booklets for use in private reflection. Provided by Anglican Overseas Aid there are booklets in English, Mandarin and Dinka. Please take one.

WATCHING AND WAITING IN ADVENT: TAIZE-STYLE

7.30 pm Sunday 9 December 2018

Take time out from the pre-Christmas rush, yet preparing for Christmas in a reflective, expectant Advent liturgy of prayers, readings, chants and silences. This includes the great "O Antiphons" of Advent (referring to the titles and Coming of the Lord). Maranatha.

FROM THE VICAR FOR THE SEASON OF ADVENT:

One of the beautiful parts of the Christian year is the different liturgical seasons we celebrate. We start the season of Advent today and immediately you will have noticed the different colour 'purple' – to mark it as a penitential season in preparation for the celebration of Christmas. We also have the traditional Advent wreath on which we have the Advent candles to be lit over the course of this season.

To further mark this season as well we have a new Advent hymn which we will sing each week of the season. The words are provided in this [LINK](#).

I am also for this season using a different 'Thanksgiving Prayer,' each Sunday. The congregational responses are the same and will be led by the choir with organ as per usual; however, the words that I will pray are different. I encourage you to put the prayer book down at the appropriate point in the service and listen carefully to the words of the prayer. They are written by the Reverend Dr Samuel Wells, Vicar of St-Martin-in-the-Fields, London. The words of this prayer each week of Advent are more strongly focussed on the themes and words of the readings set for each Sunday. A copy of the Thanksgiving Prayer I will pray can be provided later to anyone who asks for one for reflection.

These additions and changes are *only* for the season of Advent and are intended to strengthen our appreciation of the different nature of this season and to facilitate our entering more fully into liturgical worship of Advent.



ELECTION DAY STALL

Thank you to everyone who helped at the election day stall on last Saturday. It was a cool and windy day so your support is especially appreciated. Our profit is over \$1,100.

It's that time again – I will be putting the 2019 Jan-June Roster together in the next couple of weeks so would appreciate if you could let me know if you can assist with any of the rostered duties i.e. Flowers, Sidespersons, Readers, Intercessors, Counting or Morning Tea. Also advice on confirmation/availability of those currently on the rosters would be appreciated. Please contact Michele on themitchells01@bigpond.com.au or 9890 4387.

2018 ROSTER UPDATE

ANNUAL MEETING 2018 DRAFT MINUTES

The Minutes for last Sunday's Annual Meeting have been drafted and a copy will be placed on the Undercroft noticeboard.

If you would like an electronic copy, please contact Keith Wilkins at secretary@anglicansboxhill.org.au



ANGLICARE'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL – Christmas Gifts and Food Donations

Donations of toys and food are wanted for Anglicare's Christmas Appeal. Gifts are wanted for adults and children and there is a basket for them at the back of the church. These gifts should *not* be wrapped. Vouchers for teenagers are especially welcome but please hand these directly to Margaret Payne, Fr Shane or Cecilia.



WINE DRIVE

Thank you for your generous support for our wine drive, we really appreciate all the orders. Bottles will be available **next Sunday, December 9**. If you have difficulties collecting your wine please contact Charles or Hilary on 9899 7553.

JAMS AND CHUTNEYS

There are some jams, marmalades and chutneys available for sale. A list of what is available is on the notice board in the undercroft. People can contact Margaret Dooley on 0438 129 161 to let her know what they want to buy.





First Sunday of Advent



Bringing hope in times of disaster

Your gift to the Christmas Bowl will bring hope to families in Vanuatu to help them plan, prepare, and act when a disaster strikes. **Please give to the Christmas Bowl today.**

CALL: 1800 025 101
VISIT: actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188

CHRISTMAS BOWL APPEAL

Envelopes will be available soon at the back of the church.

unWrap!
JOY

HEY SIRI!
SET A REMINDER
FOR THE
SECOND COMING
OF JESUS.



Hymn for Advent

Comfort, comfort now my people;
speak of peace - so says your God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness,
burdened by a heavy load.
To Jerusalem proclaim:
God shall take away your shame.
Now get ready to recover;
guilt and suffering are over.

Here the herald's proclamation
in the desert far and near,
calling all to true repentance
telling that the Lord is near.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
For your God prepare a way;
let the valleys rise to meet him
and the hills bow down to greet him.

Straighten out what has been crooked,
make the roughest places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble,
live as fits God's holy reign.
Soon the glory of the Lord
shall on earth be spread abroad,
all the world shall surely see it,
God is ready to decree it.

Music: Louis Bourgeois (c.1510-1561),
Isaiah 40: 1-5, adapted Johanees Olearius (1611-1684)



What's on this Week

TODAY 2.12.18

First Sunday of Advent

8.00am **Holy Communion**

9.30am **Holy Communion**

11.30 **Mandarin Service**

2.30-5.00pm VMTA piano concert

7.30pm Al Anon, *hall*

MON 3.12.18

4.00-5.30pm **Prayer Group**

7.30pm Narcotics Anonymous, *St Aidan's*

TUES 4.12.18

8.30-11.30pm **Men at Work**

10.00-1.00 **Joyful Chinese**, *hall*

8.30am-12.30pm **Office open**

6.00-8.00pm **Sudanese Prayer**

WED 5.12.18

10.30am **Eucharist**

12.00-2.00pm **Chinese Dancing**, *hall*

2.00pm **Set up for Play Group**, *hall*

6.00-7.00pm **Chinese Dancing**, *hall*

No Choir Practice tonight, SEE Thurs

THU 6.12.18

10.00-2.00pm **Office open**

9.30-11.30am **Play Group**, *hall*

6.00-8.00pm **Sudanese Prayer**, *church*

8.00-9.00pm **Choir Practice**, *u/croft*

FRI 7.12.18

7.30am **Eucharist**

4.30-10pm **Blackburn HS arrival,**

rehearsal and concert, *church*

5.00-9.00pm **Chinese Prayer Group**,

u/croft

SAT 8.12.18

9am-12pm **Homework Club**, *hall*

3.00-6.00pm **VMTA piano concert**

7.00-9.00pm **VMTA piano concert**

SUN 9.12.18

Second Sunday of Advent

8.00am **Holy Communion**

9.30am **Holy Communion**

11.30 **Mandarin Service**

2.00pm **Dinka Service**

7.30pm Al Anon, *hall*

For the Diary

5 December

Mother's Union End-of-Year Lunch

9 December

7.30 pm Taize-Style for Advent

Christmas Services

16 December

7.30pm Festival of Nine Lessons
and Carols

24 December

6.00pm Crib Service

11.00pm Holy Communion

Christmas Day

9.30am Holy Communion



Prayers and Readings from *A Prayer Book for Australia*, Copyright Broughton Publishing 1995.

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ST PETER'S

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W www.anglicansboxhill.org.au

Office Hours:

Tues 8.30am – 12.30pm

Thu 10.00am – 2.00pm

Before the service, speak to God.

During the service, let God speak to you.

After the service, speak to one another.

Vicar

The Reverend Shane Hübner

T 0432 681 177

E vicar@anglicansboxhill.org.au

Honorary Clergy

The Rt Rev George Hearn,

T 9840 7816

Reverends:

Betty Bracken 9939 5881

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Harry Kerr 9893 4946

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E alasdair@mackinnonlove.com

Sudanese Ministry

Reverend Joseph Arou

T 0431 541 535

E lokagai@hotmail.com

Chinese Ministry

The Reverend Esther Zhang

T 0405 602 439

Family Minister

Barbara Plumridge

T 0405 193 122

E barbara.plumridge@gmail.com

Baptism, marriage & funeral by arrangement.

Clergy are available for confession / counselling by appointment.

Roster 9.30am Service

SIDESPEOPLE	Today 2/12/18 Ted G, Rob K, Dianne A W	Next week 9/12/18 Ken McD, Phil D, Barbara P W
SERVERS	Today 2/12/18 Sophia E, Michele M	Next week 9/12/18 Sophia E, Keith W
READERS	Today 2/12/18 Ken McD, Gwen F	Next week 9/12/18 Hilary B, Barbara P
INTERCESSOR	Today 2/12/18 Betty B	Next week 9/12/18 Keith W
MORNING TEA	Today 2/12/18 Cecilia M , Lilian L, Lyn B, Gwen F	Next week 9/12/18 Gwen McD M , Janet H, Rosemary S, Peter W