



Our Vicar Writes...

I express my deepest warm greetings to all the parishioners of Box Hill this Christmas season. As is the want of many in society today the lead up to Christmas is the important matter and Christmas ends on Christmas Day and we are on to the next secular events: New Year's Eve and then Australia Day! For us in the Church however we need to realise that this night/day marks the start of this Christmas season – not the end! Having experienced a holy Advent – waiting in eager anticipation - we can now 'let our hair down' and rejoice and celebrate 'God-with-us' – Emmanuel. We sing the Christmas carols with gusto and we remind ourselves of the truth that God is always with us – in all the mess of our daily living; in all the disappointments and sorrows; in all the joys and triumphs; in all the ordinary and extraordinary moments – God is with us. We recall that Jesus did not stay the cuddly babe wrapped in swaddling bands in the manger – a lovely scene but one that does not move or challenge us. Jesus grew up and in his life and in his death and in his resurrection we find our life! May this blessed Christmas season be the time for all of us to take stock of God's gracious gift to all and may our faith be deepened as we start 2019.



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.

Sentence

I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, Christ the Lord. Luke 2.10-11

Prayer of the Day

All glory to you, gracious God, for the gift of your Son, whom you sent to save us. With the angels, let us praise your name, and tell the earth his story, that all may believe, rejoice, and proclaim your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings

First Reading: **Isaiah 9.2-7**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

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

Psalm: **96** in the *APBA* prayer book, **p.323**

Second Reading: **Titus 2.11-14**

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke, Chapter 2, beginning at verse 1

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

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

Athol Kennedy, Christopher Hill, Mary Wood,
Alan Andrewartha, Nellie Packer

whose anniversaries occur at this time.



Prayer Points

The Church: Diocese of Bathurst (Bp Ian Palmer, Clergy & People); Working Group on Aboriginal Matters (NATSIAC); Parish of St John's, Flinders w. St Marks Balnarring (Jennifer Furphy); Confirmations at Pageant and Family Service, St Peter's Eastern Hill (Bp Genieve Blackwell); Melbourne Assessment Prison – pastoral visit (Bp Kate Prowd); Diocese of Bendigo (Bp Matt Brain, Clergy & People); ABM Australia; Footscray Parish (Chaplain Soma, Gabriel Mayen, Duku Wolikare); St Peter's Brighton Beach – pastoral visit (Bp Paul Barker); Broadmeadows-Dallas Parish – pastoral visit (Bp Kate Prowd).

The Parish: Pray for all of our congregations, Mandarin, Dinka and English speaking, and give thanks for the spirit of love and co-operation among us.

The World: Pray for better understanding between nations and for an end to conflict.

The Nation/Community: Pray for all on the margins of society, that the message of Christmas may give hope to those who feel rejected and despairing.

Prayer of the Week

O Lord, raise up your power and come among us, and with great might succour us, that, whereas through our sins and wickedness we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

ABM Pew Reflections

Our time of eager, patient, and watchful anticipation has come to an end for in a manger on the outskirts of Bethlehem, a Child is born! What joy fills our hearts as shepherds, angels, and kings come to adore him! We are drawn to this pure, perfect, and loving babe who has chosen to live among us, as one of us, bringing us out of darkness into the bright celestial light of a loving and caring God. For now, it is enough to bask in the glow of his light. *Venite adoremus!* Pray that all may experience the light of Christ's life and love. Pray for the Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East, giving thanks for the work they do to further God's mission in the world.

Daily Readings

Monday	2 Samuel 7.1-5. 8-11, 16	Ps 89.18-29	Luke 1.67-69
Tuesday	Isaiah 9.2-7	Ps 96	Luke 2.1-20
Wednesday	2 Chronicles 24.17-22	Ps 31.1-8	Matthew 10.17-22
Thursday	Proverbs 8.22-31	Ps 97	John 20.2-8
Friday	Jeremiah 31.15-20	Ps 124	Matthew 2.13-18
Saturday	1 John 2.3-11	Ps 96.1-6	Luke 2.22-35



*If you have anything you would like included in the Parish Link Notices, during the holidays, please let the Vicar know in writing **before** Sundays or email him at vicar@anglicansboxhill@org.au*



Peace on earth and goodwill to all



ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION
Working for Love, Hope & Justice

ABM'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2018

CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL

Language & Training Centre at St Peter's Bible School

In the Diocese of Taungoo, the Church of the Province of Myanmar is committing to the education program outlined in its strategic plan. 170 miles from Yangon, there are many young people and children from low income families desperate to access English language and computer courses, and music training for better opportunities.

HOW TO DONATE

Envelopes are available at the back of the church.

Online:

<https://www.abmission.org/appeals.php/129/abms-advent-christmas-appeal-2018>

Mail: you can enclose a cheque/money order (made out to the Anglican Board of Mission - Australia. Please include the campaign name 2017 Advent and Christmas Appeal/project with your donation) and send it to:

Anglican Board of Mission – Australia
Locked Bag Q4005
Queen Victoria Building NSW 1230



Christmas Day

Merry Christmas!

Today, we invite you to share the joy of your Christmas with a brother or sister in urgent need around the world. Please give a gift today to provide food, shelter and support.

Thank you for sharing God's love through the Christmas Bowl.

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



Envelopes are available at the back of the church.

BIBLE STUDY

Please join us for this Bible study based on Seven Stories: *Exploring the nonviolent Bible*. Our first series of three for 2019 will begin on February 7. Studies will be on **Thursdays, 7.30pm** in the **Undercroft**.

Contact Janet Hubner for more information or if you need help with transport:
janet.hubner@hotmail.com



What's on this Week

24.12.18

Christmas Eve

6.00pm Crib service and nativity play

11.00pm **Holy Communion**

25.12.18

Christmas Day

9.30am **Holy Communion**

Wed 26.12.18

Stephen, deacon and martyr

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

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

Thurs 27.12.18

John, apostle and evangelist

Play Group in recess until February

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

Fri 28.12.18

Holy Innocents

5.00-9.00pm **Chinese Prayer Group**

Sat 29.12.18

Thomas Becket, archbishop of Canterbury, martyr

Homework Club in recess until Feb

Sun 30.12.18

First Sunday after Christmas

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Holy Communion

11.30am Mandarin Service

7.30pm Al Anon, hall

Tues 1.1.19

2.00pm **Dinka Service**

For the Diary

22 January

Office reopens for 2019

27 January

Morning teas after the 9.30am service resume

joy
to
the
world
the
Lord
has
come

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

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ST PETER'S

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E anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com

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

John Stockdale 0418 536 284

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 Christmas services 11.00pm and 9.30am

SIDESPEOPLE	24/12/18 Noel W, Elizabeth B, Dianne A W	25/12/18 Ken McD, Ted G, Gwen McD W
SERVERS	24/12/18 Sophia E, Michele M	25/12/18 Sophia E, Keith W
READERS	24/12/18 Linda B, TBA	25/12/18 Rosemary S, Janet H
INTERCESSOR	24/12/18 Janet H	25/12/18 Elizabeth B
MORNING TEA	24/12/18 <i>In recess</i>	25/12/18 <i>In recess</i>