



The Vicar writes...

Welcome to worship today – both online and at last with open doors – IN CHURCH! We travel once more with John the Baptist into the wilderness and hear his prophetic message to prepare the way of the LORD. While we live in the most abundant and prosperous era in human history an argument could be made that under the veneer of civilisation there is a deep abiding spiritual wasteland. Many people today would not pay much attention to John or his message. But we should pay attention, because John is telling us important things, things we need to know as we wait for the Lord. He is telling us to be faithful to the Lord and faithful to the reign of God. He is telling us that life can be a wilderness in which it is hard to hear God's word. John is telling us to be prophetic and speak the word of the Lord. He is telling us not to be overly concerned with exterior things like our appearance, but to concentrate on the condition of our souls. Lastly, John is telling us to keep tuned in to the reality of God's reign and to tell others about the coming of the Lord, no matter how hopeless we think the cause may be.

Another short reflection/prayer for us as we worship together today:

O God, Father, holding me in being.

O God, eternal Son, enfolding me with your love.

O God, Holy Spirit, filling me with your life.

God beyond me, God beside me, God within me, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are ever to be worshipped and adored.

Open my heart to your presence here today. Amen

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.



SUNDAY SERVICE [Here](#)

Or go to

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NFjai8tHIs&feature=youtu.be>

The Second Candle of Advent: Peace

Sentence

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together. Luke 3.4; Isaiah 40.5a

Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 40.1-11

¹ Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' ⁶ A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. ⁹ Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' ¹⁰ See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

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

Psalm: 85.1-2, 8-13

¹ O Lord, you were gracious to your land:
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

² You forgave the iniquity of your people:
and covered all their sin.

⁸ I will hear what the Lord God will speak: for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful ones, whose hearts are turned to him.

**⁹ Truly his salvation is near to those that fear him:
and his glory shall dwell in our land.**

10 Mercy and truth are met together:
righteousness and peace have kissed each other;

**11 Truth shall flourish out of the earth:
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

12 The Lord will also give us all that is good:
and our land shall yield its plenty.

**13 For righteousness shall go before him:
and tread the path before his feet.**

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3.8-15a

⁸ But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. ¹¹ Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹² waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³ But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. ¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ¹⁵ and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given to him,

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Mark, Chapter 1, verses 1-8

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

¹ The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight" ', ⁴ John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

⁵ And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing

their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸ I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

For the Gospel of our Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Years Mind

Dru Ferdinands, Irene Bracken, Marlene Mack, Hazel Addison, Elizabeth Jones whose anniversaries occur at this time.



Prayer Points

The Church: Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain (Bp Carlos López-Lozano); Yarra Valley Grammar School (Mark Merry, Principal); The Parish of the Holy Name of Jesus, Vermont South (Victor Fan); St Dunstan's Camberwell – Pastoral Service (Bp Genieve Blackwell).

The Parish: Give thanks that we can now all gather together again for worship.

The World: Pray for the Australian armed forces and people of Afghanistan.

The Nation: Pray for all our state premiers and federal leaders.

Names of those in our parish who need our prayer:

Emma, Miriam, Phil and Sandra, Joan, Alistair, Freya, John, Lauren, Mark, Sue, Nola, Lorraine, June, Gayle, Nigel, Nancy, Kate, Russ, Betty, Jessie, Don, Alma, Muriel, Faye, Eileen, Nola W, Margaret, John W, Colin, Roderick, Wendy and Judy, Annette, Dot, Rohan, Fr. Philip Newman, Reverend Betty, Bishop George.

Prayer of the Week

Merciful God, who sent your messenger John the Baptist to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: give us grace to heed his warning and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Daily Readings

Monday	Isaiah 35.1-10	Ps 85.8-13	Luke 5.17-26
Tuesday	Isaiah 40.1-11	Ps 96.7-13	Matthew 18.12-14
Wednesday	Isaiah 40.25-31	Ps 103.1-5	Matthew 11.28-30
Thursday	Isaiah 41.13-20	Ps 145.8-13	Matthew 11.11-15
Friday	Isaiah 48.17-19	Ps 1	Matthew 11.16-19
Saturday	Malachi 4	Ps 80.14-19	Matthew 17.10-13

ABM Pew Reflections

Scholars believe that Mark was the first Gospel written and as such he created the term Gospel meaning a written account concerning Jesus. The other Evangelists begin their narratives at various beginnings. Matthew and Luke with the birth of Christ, and John with the ultimate beginning even before the beginning mentioned in Genesis. However, in Mark, Jesus the Messiah bursts onto the scene to be baptised and begin his mission. In fact, *immediately* is a favourite word of Mark's and indicates the urgency that the mission be begun and fulfilled. Give us grace to repent and hear the Good News afresh. Give thanks for the work and witness of the Anglican Church of Kenya.



*If you have anything you would like included in the Parish Link Notices, please let Cecilia know in writing **before Thursday** anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com*

BREAD DELIVERY AND FOOD DONATION

Groceries are being collected and passed on to St Thomas' Burwood who have a food bank for in-need international students.

Drop off time: 10.00-11.00am Sat morning, Undercroft

The following items have been requested:

Cooking oil (not olive), Long Life Milk, Tea & Coffee, Cereal, Breakfast Spreads: Jams, Honey, Vegemite, **Pasta & Pasta Sauce, Rice, Lentils, Chick peas, Tinned Meals** (ring top preferred), **Tinned Vegetables/Fruit** (ring top preferred), **Toiletries, Toilet Paper, Tinned Tuna** (ring top preferred), **Washing Powder, 2 Minute Noodles, Tinned Soups** (ring top preferred).

2021 LECTORIANIES

Copies of *An Australian Lectionary 2021* are available from the office for \$14.00. It contains all the appointed readings for each day. Please contact the office or Cecilia if you would like a copy. Limited numbers. anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com

DIARIES and CHRISTMAS CARDS

Mothers' Union diaries and Christmas cards will be available to order soon. Let Jan know if you are interested. Ph: 98906528 or 0425 75 7 778.



ADVENT STUDY

Join in the Advent study which takes place in the church office on Sundays at 4.00pm.

SOPHIA'S WALK FOR REFUGEES

A warm thank you from Sophia for the support for the UNHCR November Step With Refugees Appeal. The 238 Km goal for the walk was reached on 29th November, and \$870 has been donated - the goal was \$700 - for the ever increasing needs of those displaced by violence, famine and natural disasters. Thanks everyone!



Nunawading
Civic Centre

Can you help with
cakes, biscuits, jams,
chutneys or sauces?
Or volunteering time
and help on the day?
7am - 1.30pm

Contact
Hilary 9899 7553
or 0400 635 600

As there are **food handling changes** we need to change our labels.

LABELS: Ingredients sequenced in highest quantity first

Known allergens must be clearly highlighted. "Use By" and "Best By" dates

Labelling queries to Margaret Dooley on 9890 9141, 0438 129 161.

Margaret also has a stock of lids and jars for any needing them.

Margaret and I will go home after the market is over, sit down with a cuppa and watch the 9.30am service! I am happy to collect goods from you before Sunday 13 December. Any queries and comments welcome.

ANGLICARE VICTORIA TOY AND FOOD APPEAL

Our parish is urging all parishioners and friends to support the annual Anglicare Victoria Christmas appeal. Normally we would ask for donations to be brought to the church but this year are asking for you to go online and make a donation:
<https://www.anglicarevic.org.au/donation/anglicare-victoria-toy-and-food-appeal-2020/>



CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING GOODS FROM JAN

With no fete, Jan has still been busy making things. These hand towels and Christmas goodies are now for sale. The hand towels come in a variety of designs for \$5 each or \$6 a double. Christmas food, including biscuits, shortbread, mince pies and fruitcake are all available for sale.

Contact Jan with requests and orders 042 575 7778.

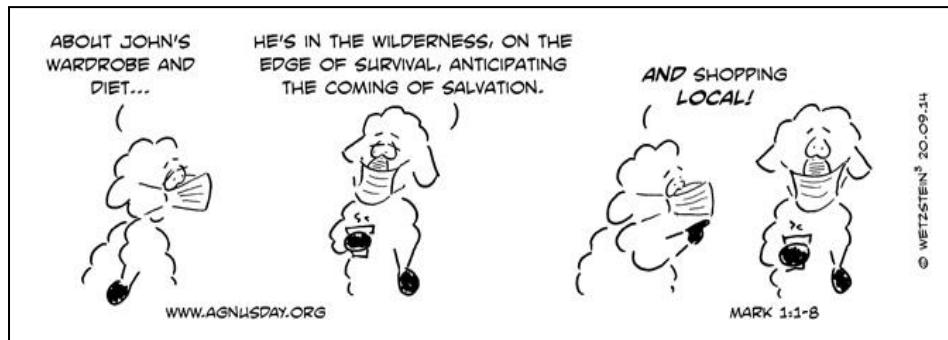
Thank You

Many thanks to all those who purchased wine through our recent fundraiser.

TO MAKE YOU SMILE...

Mrs. Smartt was fumbling in her bag for her offering when a large television remote fell out and clattered into the aisle. The curious sidesperson bent over to pick it up for her and whispered, "Do you always carry your TV remote to church?"

"No," she replied, "but my husband refused to come with me this morning, and I decided this was the most evil thing I could legally do to him."



This Week

SUN 6.12.20

Second Sunday of Advent

9.30am service

11.30am Mandarin service

2.30pm Dinka service

4.00pm Advent Study, Office

MON 7.12.20

TUES 8.12.20

8.30am – 12.30pm Office OPEN

WED 9.12.20

1030am Eucharist

THU 10.12.20

10am – 2.00pm Office OPEN

FRI 11.12.20

7.30am Eucharist

SAT 12.12.20

10-11.00am Food drop off

SUN 13.12.20

Third Sunday of Advent

9.30am service

11.30am Mandarin service

2.30pm Dinka service

7am-1.30pm Farmers' Market

Nunawading Stall



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

Harry Kerr 9893 4946

Alasdair MacKinnon-Love

0438 323 059

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

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

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ST PETER'S

1038 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill.

Parish Office: 9899 5122

Email

anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com

Website www.anglicansboxhill.org.au

Office Hours:

Tues 8.30am – 12.30pm

Thu 10.00am – 2.00pm

Wardens:

Margaret Dooley 0438 129 161

Sophia Errey 9878 6297

Garry Plumridge 9898 5193

Reporting Child Abuse

All child safety concerns must be reported.

Kooyoora Professional Standards 1800 135 246