



ANGLICAN PARISH OF BOX HILL

3 December 2023
First Sunday of Advent

Parish Link

Reverend Anne writes...

Welcome to the first day of our new Church Year! As we light the first candle on our Advent wreath, we recognise HOPE as the word that gives us light and keeps us going as Christians.

Today we dedicate the new Chapel Windows and this is a sign of our Hope for the future of the Anglican Church in Box Hill. We give thanks to God for all those who have helped facilitate this addition to our Church, in memory of people they have loved and appreciated. We give thanks to God for the skills of the artists and craftspeople who have made and installed them. And we give thanks to God that we can celebrate the life in this place through symbols that delight the eye and bring joy to the heart of all who look at them. May they give glory to God, now and always!

We welcome all those who have come on this special day, and invite you all to join us for morning tea in the Undercroft at the end of the service.
Blessings, Anne



Hymns: Introit: 474 • Psalm: 80 • Gradual: 787 *on sheet* •
Offertory: 275 omit v4 • Communion: anthem • Final: 276

4th Sunday of the month retiring collection for parish outreach

Blessing of the Advent Wreath

In this season of Advent,
we are here to watch and wait and pray
for the coming of light into the world.
We long for the day when things of darkness –
selfishness and greed, suffering and oppression –
shall be no more.



Lord, by your presence, light up the past
that we might learn from it with thankfulness.

Light up the present
that we might live in it with love.

Light up the future
that we might prepare for it in hope.

As we watch and wait and pray,
**may we be always ready to encounter the Lord
who is already and always with us.**

God of the past, present and future,
we ask for your blessing on this Advent wreath.
As we count down the weeks of Advent
in anticipation of welcoming you into our midst,
may this Advent wreath be a symbol to help us
to prepare our hearts and minds to welcome you with fullness of joy.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Advent 1

Lighting the First Candle of Advent

Celebrant: We gather around our wreath to begin the celebration of Advent. Let us ask our Father in heaven to fill our hearts with grace.

Silent pause for prayer.

Let us pray together:

Heavenly Father, as we begin this Advent, give light to our eyes and peace to our hearts. May the Lord find us watching and waiting in joy when he comes. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Advent Hymn – 286 verse 1.

Sentence: 'Heaven and earth will pass away,' says the Lord, 'but my words will not pass away.' Mark 13.31

Prayer of the Day: Eternal God, through long generations you prepared a way for the coming of your Son, and by your Spirit you still bring light to illumine our paths: renew us in faith and hope that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts and claim our love; to whom be glory for ever. **Amen.**

Prayer for the new vicar: Bountiful God, we thank you for choosing a faithful pastor to serve as Vicar of our Parish. We pray for Reverend Victor Fan as he prepares to take up his appointment. Give us warm and generous hearts as we prepare to welcome him and his family into our community. **Amen**

First Reading: Isaiah 64.1–9

¹ O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence – ² as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil – to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! ³ When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴ From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. ⁵ You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. ⁶ We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷ There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. ⁸ Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹ Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

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

Psalms: 80.1–7, 17–19

¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that led Joseph like a flock:
you that are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine out in glory;

² **Before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh:
stir up your power, and come to save us.**

³ Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:
show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

⁴ **O Lord God of hosts:
how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?**

⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears:
and given them tears to drink in good measure.

⁶ **You have made us the victim of our neighbours:
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

⁷ Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:
show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

¹⁷ **Let your power rest on the man at your right hand:
on that son of man whom you made so strong for yourself.**

¹⁸ And so we shall not turn back from you:
give us life, and we will call upon your name.

¹⁹ **Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:
show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1.1–9

¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind – ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you – ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Mark, Chapter 13, beginning at verse 24

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

²⁴ ‘But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶ Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. ²⁷ Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ²⁸ ‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰ Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³² ‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴ It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵ Therefore, keep awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶ or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

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

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.**



Years Mind

Arthur and Alma Locke, George Boshnakoff, Dru Ferdinands, Irene Bracken, Marlene Mack, and Hazel Addison, whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Prayer Points

The Church: St Mark's Anglican Church Templestowe (Lui Wong); The Diocese of Sydney (Abp Kanishka Raffel, Regional Bps Chris Edwards, Michael Stead, Peter Hayward, Peter Lin, Malcolm Richards, Gary Koo, Clergy & People); Diocesan Liturgical Committee; The Church of North India (United) – The Revd Bijay Nayak; pastoral visit -St Andrew's Corio/Norlane (Abp Philip Freier).

The Parish: Give thanks for the generosity of those who donated towards our new stained-glass windows.

The World: Pray for peace in the Middle East.

The Nation: Pray for those who live and work in our aged care homes.

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 118.19-35	Matthew 7.21-27
Friday	Isaiah 29.17-24	Ps 27.9-17	Matthew 9.27-31
Saturday	Isaiah 30.19-26	Ps 147.1-6	Matthew 9.35-10, 5-8



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

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Thank you to all those who stayed for this important meeting, and we welcome Linda Boyd and Judy Jensen onto the new Parish Council. We will commission them, and all parish leaders, for the coming year at the 9.3am service next Sunday.

CHRISTMAS CAKES

Thank you for Sandra's Christmas Cake bake off! These great looking and scrummy-tasting, finger licking good cakes have raised \$462.00. Well done Sandra and to all those happy cake eaters.

CELEBRATIONS

Felicity Horwood has celebrated a marvellous birthday this week. Congratulations Felicity!

REMEMBERING LOVED ONES

There will be people missing from our Christmas celebrations this year for the first time, so there will be an opportunity to remember them, and others who have died, at a special service on Wednesday **20th December, at 7.00pm**. Please let me know the names of those you wish remembered at this service. Reverend Anne.

ANGLICARE DIXON HOUSE APPEAL – last days

Christmas gifts for parents given by luncheon patrons and MU members and parishioners for Dixon house and Mission House need to be given to myself or Margaret Payne **before Wednesday, 6th Dec.** Jan Gunst. 0425757778.

2024 ROSTERS

Michele will be working on the January-June 2024 roster in the coming weeks. Please advise if you wish to be included in any of the categories i.e., Flowers, Sidespersons, Servers, Crucifers, Readers, Intercessions, Counting, Morning Tea. Alternatively, if you no longer feel able to assist and are currently on the roster, please let her know asap.

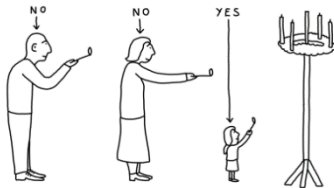
RSL LUNCH 13 December, 11.30am

Only 20 places are booked for this annual lunch so please let Jan know as soon as possible if you want to be there. Ring Jan 0425757778 to book your place.

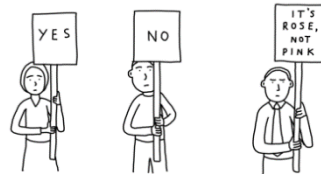
TO MAKE YOU SMILE...

ADVENT

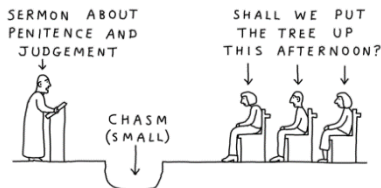
CONTROVERSIES



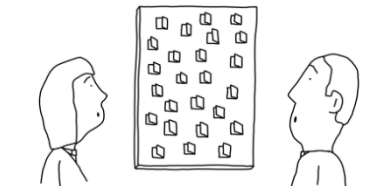
WHO WILL LIGHT THE CANDLES
ON THE ADVENT WREATH?



SHOULD THE WREATH HAVE
ONE PINK CANDLE?



WHETHER TO PREACH ON
CHALLENGING ADVENT THEMES



WHO COULD HAVE EATEN THE
VESTRY ADVENT CALENDAR CHOCOLATES?

Week Ahead

SUNDAY 3.12.23

First Sunday of Advent

9.30am Eucharist, with window dedication

9.30am Farsi Service, *kindergarten*

11.30am Mandarin service

2.00-3.00pm Alpha Course, *office*

2.30pm Dinka service

2.30-4.30pm Prayers in Mandarin, *St Aidan's*

MON 4.12.23

10.00am-5.00pm Installation of windows

6.30-8.30pm Tai Chi *hall*

6.30-9.00pm Narc Anon *Undercroft*

TUES 5.12.23

8.30am-12.30pm Office open

10.00am-5.00pm Installation of windows

9.00 onwards Parish People at Work

2.00pm Funeral

6.00-8.00pm Bellydancing *hall*

WED 6.12.23

10.00am-5.00pm Installation of windows

NO 10.30am service today

9.30-11.30am Play group, *kindergarten*

10.00-11.30am Tai Chi *hall*

8.00-9.00pm Choir practice, *Undercroft*

THU 7.12.23

9.00am-5.00pm Installation of windows

6.30-9.30pm Crossways ESL, *hall*

FRI 8.12.23

8.30am-12.30pm Office open

5.30-9.30pm Mandarin Prayer Group

SAT 9.12.23

10.30am-1.30pm Sat School, *hall & Undercroft*

1.30-3.30pm Student piano concert

SUNDAY 10.12.23

Second Sunday of Advent

9.30am Eucharist, with window dedication

9.30am Farsi Service, *kindergarten*

11.30am Mandarin service

2.00-3.00pm Alpha Course, *office*

2.30pm Dinka service

2.30-4.30pm Prayers in Mandarin, *St Aidan's*

For the Diary

December 3

Advent Sunday

Dedication of new windows
in chapel during the **9.30am service**
(**No** 8.00am service on this day)

December 13

Mothers Union Christmas lunch, RSL

December 20

Special service of remembrance
7.00pm

Christmas Services

Dec 17

Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols,
7.30pm. Supper to follow

Dec 24 Christmas Eucharist, 10.30pm

Dec 25 Christmas Eucharist, 9.30am

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OUR 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 near 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.



ST PETER'S

1038 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill.

Parish Office: 9899 5122

E anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com

W www.anglicansboxhill.org.au

Usual Office Hours:

Tues 8.30am – 12.30pm

Fri 8.30am – 12.30pm

Mission Statement

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

Vision

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

Reporting Child Abuse

All child safety concerns must be reported to
Kooyoora Professional Standards
1800 135 246

Vicar

Reverend Anne Kennedy (Acting Vicar)

T 0429 123 478

E vicar@anglicansboxhill.org.au

robann29@bigpond.com

Associate Clergy

Reverend Esther Zhang

T 0405 602 439 E esther_win@hotmail.com

Honorary Clergy

Reverend Betty Bracken 9939 5881

Reverend Alasdair MacKinnon-Love SCP
0438 323 059

E alasdair@mackinnonlove.com

Sudanese Ministry

Reverend Joseph Arou

T 0431 541 535

E aroujoseph18@gmail.com

Wardens:

Margaret Dooley 0438 129 161

Garry Male 0421 056 706

Linda Boyd

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Roster for Sunday 9.30am service

	Today 3.12.23	Next week 10.12.23
SIDESPEOPLE	Dianne A, Sandra L	Rob K, Noel W
SERVERS	Rosemary S, Michele M, Garry M	Judy J, Elizabeth B, Kim C
READERS	Kim C, Dianne A	Laurence L, Judy J
INTERCESSOR	Elizabeth B	Rosemary S
COUNTING	Garry P, Michele M	Margaret R, Hilary B
MORNING TEA	Elizabeth B , Laurence L, Lyn B	Rosemary S, Peter W, Barbara M

St Peter's is part of the Anglican Church of Australia and the worldwide Anglican Communion.

St Peter's church is on the land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation and we acknowledge them as the traditional custodians of this land.