



## ANGLICAN PARISH OF BOX HILL

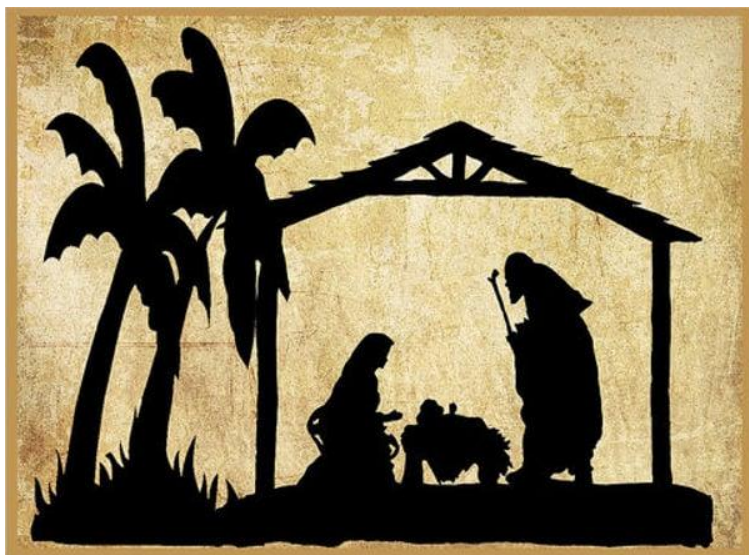
24 December 2023

Christmas Eve

# Parish Link

Reverend Anne writes...

The Messiah was promised by God, and came not as a warrior king, but as a tiny baby, born in a stable and then laid in a humble manger. Everyone who gazed at him then could sense that this child was special, the Son of God, the Prince of Peace. Pray that the Good News of Jesus touches the heart of everyone, and that the Hope, Peace, Joy and Love he brings to this earth may surround us all. Christmas blessings to you all! Blessings, Anne



**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month retiring collection for parish outreach**

**Sentence:** The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; for to us a child is born, to us a son is given. Isaiah 9.2, 6

**Prayer of the Day:** Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 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

<sup>1</sup> O sing to the Lord a new song: sing to the Lord, all the earth.

<sup>2</sup> **Sing to the Lord and bless his holy name:  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**

<sup>3</sup> Declare his glory among the nations:  
and his wonders among all peoples.

<sup>4</sup> **For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised:  
he is more to be feared than all gods.**

<sup>5</sup> As for all the gods of the nations, they are mere idols:  
it is the Lord who made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup> **Majesty and glory are before him:  
beauty and power are in his sanctuary.**

<sup>7</sup> Render to the Lord, you families of the nations:  
render to the Lord glory and might.

<sup>8</sup> **Render to the Lord the honour due to his name:  
bring offerings and come into his courts.**

- <sup>9</sup> O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness:  
let the whole earth stand in awe of him.
- <sup>10</sup> **Say among the nations that the Lord is king:**  
**he has made the world so firm that it can never be moved;**  
and he shall judge the peoples with equity.
- <sup>11</sup> Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad:  
let the sea roar, and all that fills it:
- <sup>12</sup> **Let the fields rejoice, and everything in them:**  
**then shall all the trees of the wood shout with joy before the Lord;**
- <sup>13</sup> For he comes, he comes to judge the earth:  
he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

## 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**

Prayer of the Week: Give us, O God, such love and wonder that, with shepherds and pilgrims unknown, we may come to adore the holy Child, the promised King, and with our gifts worship him, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### Years Mind

Christopher Hill, Alan Andrewartha, Margaret Robinson, Warwick Sheffield, Mary Wood, and Nellie Packer, whose anniversaries occur at this time.



### Prayer Points

**The Church:** St Matthew's Anglican Church Ashburton (Kurian Peter); Ministry to the Defence Force (Bishop Grant Dibden, Chaplains & Members of the Defence Forces); Examining Chaplains (Christopher Appleby, Rowan Callick, John Forsyth, Jane Freemantle, Noelene Horton, Philippa Lohmeyer-Collins, Gail Pinchbeck, Yvonne Poon, Nigel Pope, Alexander Ross, Heather Schnagl, Malcolm Tadgell, Dawn Treloar, Victor Yu); St Paul's Cathedral - Christmas Eve Service (Abp Philip Freier); The Episcopal Church in the Philippines – The Revd Brent Alawas.

**The Parish:** Give thanks for friends, family, neighbours and fellowship.

**The World:** Pray that the spirit of peace descends on all the world.

**The Nation:** Pray for comfort for all those alone or distressed at this time.

### Daily Readings

Monday	Isaiah 9.2-7	Ps 9	Luke 2.1-20
Tuesday	2 Chronicles 24.17-22	Ps 31.1-8	Matthew 10.17-22
Wednesday	Proverbs 8.22-31	Ps 97	John 20.2-8
Thursday	Jeremiah 31.15-20	Ps 124	Matthew 2.13-18
Friday	1 John 2.3-11	Ps 1-6	Luke 2.22-35
Saturday	1 John 2.12-17	Ps 96.7-9	Luke 2.36-40

May God bless you this Christmas with peace and joy



*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](mailto:anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com)*

### FOR YOUR INTEREST...

For those interested, Fr Derek Jones, is holding a performance of "The Crucifixion" by Sir John Stainer, in March 2024. Anyone interested in **singing** in this is invited to contact Fr Derek, email [derekclizjones@gmail.com](mailto:derekclizjones@gmail.com), or Ph: 0412 025 695 so he can prepare rehearsal dates.

### SERVICE TIMES DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

**No 10.30am service on Dec 27**

**All other services** will proceed as usual:

Sundays 8.00am & 9.30am, and Wednesdays 10.30am.



Christmas  
Bowl

## Share God's love through the Christmas Bowl



Christmas  
Bowl



Thank you for joining with churches across Australia as we share God's love through the Christmas Bowl.

Since 1949, the Christmas Bowl has brought together committed Australian Christians with dedicated local partners around the world to give hope to people uprooted by conflict and disaster. By sharing this tradition, you are helping build a world where all people have a safe place to belong. **Thank you.**



**CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: [christmasbowl.actforpeace.org.au](http://christmasbowl.actforpeace.org.au)**



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

**Christmas Bowl Appeal** – Please give generously to this worthwhile cause. Envelopes are available in the foyer.

## TO MAKE YOU SMILE...

Q: On Christmas night, how many angels appeared to the shepherds, and what were their names?

A: There were two angels, and their names were 'Lo' and 'Behold.'  
Doesn't the Bible say, "Lo and Behold, the angels, appeared to the shepherds"?



ANY IDEA HOW UNITED GOT ON?

## Week Ahead

### SUNDAY 24.12.23

#### Christmas Eve

- 9.30am Eucharist
- 9.30am Farsi Service, *kindergarten*
- 11.30am Mandarin service
- 2.30pm Dinka service
- 2.30-4.30pm Prayers in Mandarin, *St Aidan's*
- 10.30pm Christmas Eucharist

### MONDAY 25.12.23

#### Christmas Day

- 9.30am Eucharist
- 6.30-9.00pm Narc Anon *Undercroft*

### TUES 26.12.23

- 8.30am-12.30pm Office open
- 6.00-8.00pm Bellydancing *hall, on holidays*

### WED 27.12.23

- No 10.30am service today
- 9.30-11.30am Play group, *on holidays*
- 10.00-11.30am Tai Chi *hall, on holidays*

### THU 28.12.23

- 6.30-9.30pm Crossways ESL, *on holidays*

### FRI 29.12.23

- 5.30-9.30pm Mandarin Prayer Group

### SAT 30.12.23

- 10.30am-1.30pm Sat School, *on holidays*

### SUNDAY 31.12.23

#### Epiphany

- 8.00am Eucharist, 9.30am Eucharist
- 9.30am Farsi Service, *kindergarten*
- 11.30am Mandarin service
- 2.30pm Dinka service
- 2.30-4.30pm Prayers in Mandarin, *St Aidan's*

## For the Diary

### Christmas Services

**Dec 24** Christmas Eucharist, 10.30pm

**Dec 25** Christmas Eucharist, 9.30am



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

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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](mailto:anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com)

**W** [www.anglicansboxhill.org.au](http://www.anglicansboxhill.org.au)

The Office will be closed until  
January 19, 2024

## 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.

## Vicar

Reverend Anne Kennedy (Acting Vicar)

**T** 0429 123 478

**E** [vicar@anglicansboxhill.org.au](mailto:vicar@anglicansboxhill.org.au)  
[robann29@bigpond.com](mailto:robann29@bigpond.com)

## Associate Clergy

Reverend Esther Zhang

**T** 0405 602 439 **E** [esther\\_win@hotmail.com](mailto:esther_win@hotmail.com)

## Honorary Clergy

Reverend Betty Bracken 9939 5881

Reverend Alasdair MacKinnon-Love SCP  
0438 323 059

**E** [alsadair@mackinnonlove.com](mailto:alsadair@mackinnonlove.com)

## Sudanese Ministry

Reverend Joseph Arou

**T** 0431 541 535

**E** [aroujoseph18@gmail.com](mailto:aroujoseph18@gmail.com)

Wardens:

Margaret Dooley 0438 129 161

Garry Male 0421 056 706

Linda Boyd

## Reporting Child Abuse

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

## Roster for upcoming services

	<b>Tonight 24.12.23 Christmas Eve</b>	<b>Dec 25 morning</b>	<b>31 December</b>
<b>Sidespeople</b>	Barbara P, Cecilia J	Peter W, Rosemary S	Rosemary S, Martin F
<b>Servers</b>	Michele M, Judy J <i>Garry M</i>	Michele M, <i>Kim C</i>	Michele M, Elizabeth B <i>Garry M</i>
<b>Readers</b>	Dianne A, Linda B	Rosemary S, Jan G	Linda B, Charles B
<b>Intercessors</b>	Michele M	Michele M	Keith W
<b>Counting</b>	<i>Not rostered</i>	<i>Not rostered</i>	Michele M, Garry P
<b>Morning Tea</b>	<i>Not rostered</i>	<i>Not rostered</i>	<i>No rostered morning tea</i>

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.