



# *St Paul's Anglican Church*

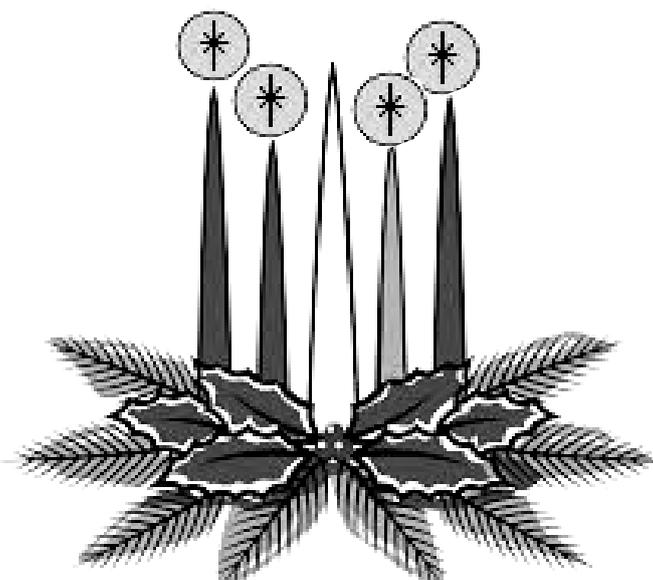
*A caring community of Christ worshipping God,  
engaging the community and building connections  
between people of all ages and cultures.*

2 Margaret Street, P.O. Box 352, Canterbury Vic 3126 Tel: 9830 0729

Website: [www.stpaulscanterbury.org.au](http://www.stpaulscanterbury.org.au) Church Office: [office@stpaulscanterbury.org.au](mailto:office@stpaulscanterbury.org.au)

21st December, 2014

## **Fourth Sunday of Advent**



This week we begin to get the sense that the powerful coming of Jesus about which we have been hearing in the last three weeks might be in a surprising form. An angel comes to a young, powerless, marginalized woman in an outlying province of the world's largest empire and announces the birth of a son. Yet this story is full of surprising reversals: the powerful Messiah will come as a helpless baby, and at the same time, powerless Mary is filled with more power than anyone on earth when she consents to become the mother of our Lord

Mr J Woodfin

Copyright Anglican Board of Mission 2014

**Hymns: 289 Instrumental 276 265**

Setting: *Agnus Dei* only Lotti

Psalm 89 vs1-4, 19-26: chant Hopkins

Anthem: *The tree of Life Poston*

Postlude: *Nun komm der Heiden Heiland* BWV 661 J S Bach

# Notices of the Day

*Welcome to worship and to our St. Paul's faith*



If you are new, we hope you enjoy being a part of this community of faith in worship. Please join us for a cuppa in the Parish Centre after the service.

## Prayer Corner

*“Great Spirit, we remember the land and its first people with respect and dignity. May we live in harmony with all those who share this sacred earth and be thankful. Amen.”*

### **We pray for the World:**

- Pray that we may consent to God's work in us, however surprising it may be
- Pray for the *Iglesia Filipina Independiente*, the Philippine Independent Church, giving thanks for the work they do to further God's mission in the world
- Pray for Pakistan, mourning the loss of 141 people, most of them children, killed in a Taliban attack on a military-run school in the country's northwest.
- Pray for the victims, survivors and their families, of the siege in Martin's Place, Sydney.

### **We pray for the worldwide Church:**

- Diocese of Kontagora
- The Diocese of Grafton
- St Laurence Community Services Barwon Inc
- St Johns Healesville
- St Johns Upper Beaconsfield
- Canterbury Baptist

### **A Parish Prayer for our discernment of our vision and mission here at St Paul's:**

Renew in us, O God, the zeal of your love. Let our parish come alive with the power of your Spirit. Where we have failed, forgive us. Where we have persevered, encourage us; When we are in doubt, direct us! Help us to see new opportunities for witness and service. For the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*We give thanks for our local community of which St Paul's is very much a part.*

### **We pray for those in need:**

- David Chambers
- Joan Harrington-Johnson
- Hayley Dickson
- Helen's family - Anne and lens Shaw
- Christine Ruggles-Brise
- Maggie
- Bob Thompson
- Helen
- John Brace (Anne Harding's Dad)
- Helga



### **We pray for the upcoming marriage of:**

Kathryn Smith and Edward Smith on Saturday  
3rd January

**Notice** Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

# Parish Events for the Week

**THIS SUNDAY**      **21ST DECEMBER: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**OUR PREACHER IS KATE LORD**

---

8.00am              Eucharist  
10.00am            Sung Eucharist, followed by morning tea in the Parish Centre

**MONDAY**            **SUSANNE'S SABBATH, SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

**TUESDAY**

**WEDNESDAY**      **CHRISTMAS EVE**  
10.00am            Eucharist followed by morning tea, Parish Centre  
5.00-6.00pm      Christingle Children's Service  
11.00pm-12.00    Christmas Eve Service

**THURSDAY**        **CHRISTMAS DAY**  
9.00am-10.30am Christmas Day Sung Eucharist and Christmas Carols

**FRIDAY**            **BOXING DAY, SUSANNE ON LEAVE**

**SATURDAY**

---

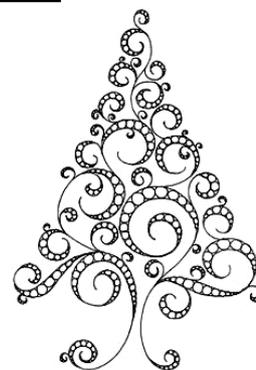
**NEXT SUNDAY**    **28TH DECEMBER: FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**  
**OUR LOCUM PRIEST IS EMILY FRASER, ASSISTANT CURATE AT**  
**ST JOHN'S, CAMBERWELL**

9.00am              Sung Eucharist, followed by morning tea in the Parish Centre

---

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY:

4th            Epiphany  
30th          Susanne returns from Leave  
31st          New Year's Eve  
1st            New Year's Day  
10th          Susanne on Leave  
18th          Susanne returns from Leave



---

## POST-CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SERVICES:

Please note:      9am services after Christmas til the 18th January.  
                         25th January resume 8am and 10am services.  
                         1st February is Start Up Sunday, with Choir and Sunday  
                         School resuming; and Kate's last Sunday.

---

## A NOTE FROM THE CHAMBERS FAMILY:

It's been quite a year for us as well as many of you with changes in health, fitness and work situations. I, Susanne was very grateful for the care you gave me when I was laid up for three months! We are entering this Christmas period with hope and joy for the birth of the Christ-child. With the birth comes new life, new possibilities, and new starts!

May God continue to bless each and every one of you.

Warm regards, Susanne, Jonathan, Callum and Nick

## **2 Samuel 7.1-11, 16**

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you.' But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

## **Ps 89. 1-4, 19-27**

(APBA p315)

## **Romans 16.25-27**

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith - to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

## **Luke 1.26-38**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will

name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.’ Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’ The angel said to her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.’ Then Mary said, ‘Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.’ Then the angel departed from her.

## THE ADVENT WREATH

The origins of the Advent wreath are in the folk practices of pre-Christian northern Europe, where, during the cold darkness of winter, people made wreaths of evergreen and lit fires as signs of hope of life in spite of the dark and cold of winter. Christians kept these traditions alive and by the 16<sup>th</sup> century, Christians in Germany used evergreens and fire as symbols to celebrate Advent and renewed hope in the birth and person of Christ.

There is rich symbolic meaning in the Advent wreath. The wreath in the shape of a circle reminds us of the eternity, mystery and endless grace of God. The green colour of the boughs that compose the wreath points to the hope in new and everlasting life. The candles symbolize the light of God coming into the world through the birth of the Christ who is the light that shines in the darkness.

Often each of the four Sundays of Advent is assigned a theme in the following order: hope, peace, joy, and love. The last candle to be lit, the central Christ Candle (often white), symbolizes the purity, peace, and centrality of Christ.

**Advent 4** (light four candles): Joy

One: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.  
 Choir: We are easily distracted by the darkness of isolation and fear.  
 All: Source of light, shine in our lives and in your world with your unending love.

Christmas  
at St. Paul's

enr Church and Margaret Sts.  
Canterbury

Phone: 9830 0729



14<sup>th</sup> December  
Advent Carols Service  
at 8.00p.m.

Christmas Eve  
Children's Christingle  
Service at 5.00p.m.

Christmas Eve  
Eucharist and Carols  
at 11.00 p.m.

Christmas Day  
Eucharist and Carols  
at 9.00 a.m.

**Next week's readings for First Sunday after Christmas:**

Isiah 61.10-62.3 Ps 148 Galations 4.4-7 Luke 2.22-40

## NOTICES

### **PARISH COUNCIL FIRST MEETING:**

We met for the first time after our AGM last Tuesday night. The wardens have elected Mark Lamb as treasurer and the council elected Rosemary O'Shea as the secretary. I invited Stuart Bales to come on board and he accepted my invitation which I am so pleased. We also authorised the Lay Assistants at Holy Communion which always happens at this first meeting of parish council.

We have much to discuss and celebrate as a community of faith in Canterbury. We spent quite some time looking at many questions and queries following the AGM and parish council will be responding to those in the near future. Thank you all for your commitment to the mission of our parish. Susanne Chambers

### **ADVENT:**

The Advent reflections on Wednesday night, have begun and we are learning about Contemplative living with Thomas Merton.

### **A BIG THANK YOU:**

A big thank you to Robin and Liz Reid (neighbours), June McKay, Ros White and John DeAraugo whose generosity of effort, energy, and funds, has enabled the beautification of the garden beside the hall.

### **GIFTS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED:**

Thank you everyone for donating such wonderful gifts for men and women and children in refuges. Kate sorted them and Jonathan took them to Anglicare for distribution.

### **JOIN IN THE FUN!:**

This Tuesday, 23rd December, we will be having a get-together to decorate the Christingle oranges, ready for the Children's service on Christmas Eve.

We would be delighted to have you join us in the Parish Centre for an hour or so from 10.00 a.m.

Please let Kate know if you can make it :)

### **A GIFT FOR KATE LORD:**

If you would like to contribute towards a gift for Kate, there are special envelopes in the narthex. We will be saying thank you and goodbye to Kate on the 1<sup>st</sup> February at our Start Up Sunday service.

A reminder that Kate will be ordained on the 7<sup>th</sup> February, 1030am at St Paul's Cathedral and we are all invited!

### **PASTORAL CARE AT CHRISTMAS:**

If you know of anyone who needs a visit, home communion or a casserole please let Susanne know.

### **PEW SHEET DEADLINE:**

Please ensure your notices for the pew sheet are received in the office by 5pm on Wednesday. Thank you!

## **ST PAUL'S KINDERGARTEN:**

It is with sadness to announce that our Director Susie Rosback has resigned from the kinder. Susie has been at the kinder for 8 years; 5 of those years as Director. Susie and I have built up the relationship between the parish and the kinder community and together with the vice presidents and wardens have established the Covenant between us.

Susie will be the CEO of an early learning hub and we wish her every blessing. She will be greatly missed. The process of advertising for and selecting a new Director and teacher has commenced and I will be involved in that selection.  
Susanne Chambers

## **FAREWELL:**

Last Sunday at the 8am service we farewelled Lyn Sullivan. Lyn has been wonderful over the years bringing her mum, Gwen Towart, and Nance Moresby to the 8am service every Sunday. Both Gwen and Nance are now living at Fabersham House and so it is time for Lyn to find a parish closer to where she lives. We will still see Lyn from time to time but we ask God's blessing on her as she makes this transition.

## **ST PAUL'S FAIR - 9 MAY 2015:**

The planning team is on the job and excitement is building as great ideas are emerging. Thus far the following ideas.....

### ***Main Attractions:***

Animal Farm  
Quilting & Embroidery Display  
(items from St Paul's parishioners)  
Open Garden  
( Cnr Highfield Rd and Church St)  
Commercial Stalls (e.g. jewellery,  
fresh flowers, handmade soap,  
children's clothing, Twisty Taters,  
decoupage, cards, wine, knitted scarves)  
Car Boot

### ***St Paul's Stalls/Activities:***

Bio-organic Fruit  
Books  
Cakes & Preserves  
Children's activities  
Devonshire Tea  
Plants  
Recycled Clothing  
Sausage Sizzle  
Silent Auction  
"Fast Food" & Drink, Hall Kitchen

### ***How can you help?:***

- ❖ Plan to provide stock for stalls. ie books, quality bric-a-brac and clothing, cakes & preserves, potted plants, donations for raffles and silent auction
- ❖ Help organise attractions
- ❖ Join rosters to "man" stalls on the day
- ❖ Invite your friends & family
- ❖ Help clean up after the event

Organisers for each activity are being sought and will be confirmed early in the new year, if not before.

The Planning Team - comprised of Jill Bales, Margaret Irvine, Bert Lillywhite, Margaret Capper, Laura Dean, Kaye Rands and June McKay – is keen to receive any further ideas, feedback and assistance. Please speak to Jill Bales about Books and Bert Lillywhite about donations for Raffles and Silent Auction.

# St. Paul's Ministry Teams

**This Week's Ministry Team.**  
**21st December: Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**8.00 a.m. Service**

**Sidesperson** Bruce Brown  
**Reader** Trish Cain  
**Liturgical Asst** Tom Lambert

**Flowers**

**Brass** June McKay

**10.00 a.m. Service**

**Sidespersons** Val Sayers & Gail White  
**Reader** Julie Houghton  
**Intercessor** Jonathan Chambers  
**Welcomer** ALL  
**Liturgical Asst** Andrew Ham  
**Server** Alistair Tweeddale  
**Refreshments** Winifred Nahed & Henrietta Barclay  
**Coll. Counters** Debbie Riley & Douglas Stevens

**Next Week's Ministry Team.**  
**28th December: First Sunday After Christmas**

**9.00 a.m. Service**

**Sidespersons** Jill and Stuart Bales  
**Reader** Tom Lambert  
**Intercessor** Debbie Riley  
**Welcomer** ALL  
**Liturgical Asst** Tom Lambert  
**Server**  
**Refreshments** Gail White & Val Sayers  
**Coll. Counters** Hamish White & Douglas Stevens

*Copies of full rosters are available in the Narthex.*

## LIGHTING A CANDLE



Did you know...?

If you light a candle and say a prayer during church on Sunday, your prayer continues all week.

Candles that are lit on Sunday mornings are relit at morning and evening prayer each day, and during the Wednesday Eucharist and Meditation services.

The people you pray for today will be held up to God in prayer throughout the week.

<b>Parish Priest:</b>	<b>Reverend Susanne Chambers</b> vicar@stpaulscanterbury.org.au	<b>9830 0729</b>
<b>Youth and Family:</b>	<b>Kate Lord</b> familyminister@stpaulscanterbury.org.au	<b>0425 730 042</b>
<b>Co-coordinator of Pastoral Care:</b>	<b>Carla Reid</b>	<b>9890 3768</b>
<b>Pastoral Lay Minister:</b>	<b>Rowan Litchfield</b>	<b>9813 4147</b>
<b>Director of Music:</b>	<b>Elizabeth-Anne Nixon</b> music@stpaulscanterbury.org.au	<b>9507 5201</b>
<b>Vicar's Warden:</b>	<b>Ros White</b>	<b>0400 173 727</b>
<b>Church Warden:</b>	<b>Andrew Flint</b>	<b>0419 313 047</b>
<b>Church Warden:</b>	<b>Kaye Rands</b>	<b>0418 967 256</b>