

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST STEPHEN AND ST MARY

MOUNT WAVERLEY

WELCOME

Advent Sunday

29 November 2020



Christmas Services

Carol Service 6th Dec

5.00pm outside - max 50 people BYO Chairs

Christmas Eve 24th Dec

10.00am - max 72 people

5.00pm family service outside - max 50 people BYO chairs

11.00pm Midnight Mass - max 72 people

Christmas Day 25th Dec

9.00am - max 72 people

Masks must be worn at all services

No Thursday Eucharist 31st Dec, 7th and 14th Jan 2021

Recommence 21st January



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, the people of the Kulin nation, and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

This parish is committed to Child Safety and complies with Diocesan and State requirements. This is a shared responsibility of staff and parish. Please see the back of pew leaflet for contact details.

At Worship Today:

**Faithful God,
whose promises stand unshaken through all generations:
renew us in hope,
that we may be awake and alert
watching for the glorious return of Jesus Christ,
our Judge and Saviour,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

9.45 am (Sung Eucharist)

Preaching & Presiding: Revd Greg
Liturgy Setting: Missa Emmanuel
Processional: TIS 265 'O come, O come, Emmanuel' vv.1,3 & 5
Sentence: 'Heaven and earth will pass away,' says the Lord, 'but my words will not pass away.'
First Reading: 1 Corinthians 1.1-8
Gospel Acclamation:



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Gospel: Mark 13: 24-37
Offertory: 'Darkness lay upon the waters'
Communion song: "Draw Near to God" - Achor
Recessional Hymn: TIS 271 'The advent of our God' vv. 1,4 & 6

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NOTICE: Update re Advent Quiet Day

Due to Coronavirus and the rules that have been issued by the Government and the Diocese it is not possible to have the **Advent Quiet Day** as planned on Saturday 5th December in the Parish. Although small groups now can meet in the church due to the implementation of the rules it is too difficult for us at this time due to all the requirement of cleaning.

Looking ahead to 2021 the Inner Stillness Meditation will hopefully take place on the 1st Wednesday of the month. There will be a Lenten and Advent Quiet Day and also the Annual Retreat in July have been booked. The 2021 brochure setting out the dates and themes will be available in December this year so you can enter the dates into your diaries.

Please contact Val Dyke

First Reading: 1 Corinthians 1.1-8

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.

Gospel Reading: Mark 13: 24-37

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.'

*Roster***Sunday 6 December Advent 2**

2 Peter 3: 8-15a John Russell

Mark 1:1-8

Intercessor Val Dyke

Sunday 13 December Advent 3

1 Thess 5: 12 – 28 Joanne Burns

John 1: 6- 8; 19 – 28

Intercessor Sue Retschko

Sunday 20 December Advent 4

Romans 16: 25 – 27 Jenny Brown

Luke 1: 26 – 38

Intercessor Michael Mosely

Dear friends and lovers of music .. I have misplaced my harmony edition of TIS.. This collection is unavailable according to my sources and I need a copy desperately. I was thinking that someone might have same and be willing to sell it to me .. \$92 was the last price I saw !! Please call me or return an email to me if you can help.. Kind regards Allan Washington 0413439722

From Your Assistant Curate

Happy new year! We celebrate the first Sunday of the Christian calendar in the season of Advent. This is a season in which think about the theme of 'waiting' – as God's people of Israel waited for the coming of the Messiah who proclaims, "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free..." (Luke 4:18).

As God's people of new Israel, we also wait for the coming of the Messiah. We wait as our Lord Jesus has promised to return to fully liberate us, free us from the shackles of sin, and recovery of both spiritual and physical sight, setting us free from physical limitations both in us, as well as God's creation which is in decay.

With so great a promise, we wait patiently. Patience is indeed counter-cultural to us 'moderns'. We want a sort of magic, and we wanted it yesterday! We want obvious, recognisable answers from God to everything in life. But this is how we carry and lead an infant who understands little. Leading an adult is different; we communicate so they understand and apply wisdom such that they make decisions without the hand-holding in every instance.

So as we prepare for Christ's second coming, may we wait patiently, with wisdom. As Christ is the power and wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 1:24), he is Wisdom personified. As we read, mark and learn the Scriptures, and inwardly digest them, then the more we know God's heart and our own, the more we understand ordered creation and its times and seasons. In doing so we do not desire quick answers, but wait patiently as God offers us wise character, hard won over a lifetime of faith. Thus we will gain more wisdom to determine how best to wait and prepare well for Christ. May it be so for us in these weeks of Advent, as well as beyond.

Grace and peace,
Rev'd Greg

First Sunday of Advent



Hope for school girls in Afghanistan

The coronavirus is making it even harder for girls in Afghanistan to get an education and realise their dreams. Schools closed in March and most children don't have internet, TV or radio to learn remotely. Act for Peace's local partner is distributing self-learning packages to children, advocating for girls' education, and getting schools ready to reopen. You can help this vital work. **Please give today.**

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



Christmas Bowl

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

TIS 265 'O come, O come, Emmanuel' v.1,3,5

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Rejoice! rejoice!

*Emmanuel shall come to
you, O Israel.*

2. O come, O key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high
and close the path to misery.

Refrain

3. O come, O dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by your advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Refrain

Anon., Latin, 18th cent. or earlier
based on Antiphons from 9th cent. or earlier
tr. John Mason Neale 1818-66 alt .

OFFERTORY HYMN

'Darkness lay upon the waters'

1. Darkness lay upon the waters
and the starless heavens swirled,
as the formless earth awaited
the creating of a world.
Over all the Spirit brooded,
like a patient mother bird,
for the leaping of the morning
at the speaking of a word.

2. In another age of darkness
children stumbled, blind from birth,
as the Word of God, incarnate,
moved again upon the earth,
with the re-creating promise

that the sightless would be healed,
and perceive the new creation
that the light of God revealed.

3. Every soul will sit with darkness,
every eye will long for light,
every heart will lose direction
in the swirling, starless night.
Still the one who speaks the morning
moves beside us on the way;
knowing this we know that darkness
always holds the hope of day.

words: Michael Hudson

RECESSIONAL HYMN

TIS 271 'The advent of our God' vv. 1,4 & 6

1. The advent of our God
with eager prayers we greet,
and singing hasten on his road
his coming reign to meet.
2. As judge, on clouds of light,
he soon will come again,
his scattered people to unite,
with them in heaven to reign.
3. Praise to the incarnate Son
who comes to set us free,
with Father, Spirit, ever one
to all eternity.

Charles Coffin 1676-1749
tr. John Chandler 1806-76 and others

Annual Meeting Today 11am via Zoom

Please stay logged on after the service.

A small number of people without the
internet who have already spoken to
Dianne and will be in the church itself for
the meeting.

ROWENA FERGUSON

Secretary, Parish Council



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS & MWCIS

We know there will be many families doing it tough this Christmas. Our Parish Alms Baskets this year were significantly reduced due to COVID-19 - so let's make a special effort to help the Asylum Seekers Centre and Monash Waverley Community Information and Support (MWCIS).

What to do:

1. Find a suitable box
2. Make up your own Hamper with a variety of Christmas treats
3. Choose something for your hamper every time you go shopping.
4. Return your hamper:
 - at the Carol Service on Sunday 6 December, or
 - deliver it to the Vicarage porch anytime by Thursday 10 December.
 - Home pick up can also be organised if needed
5. Make it a fun activity that the whole family can join in!

Suggestions for your Hamper:

Cereal, UHT milk, tea, coffee, rice, pasta, pasta sauce, simmer sauce, tins of fish (tuna, salmon, sardines), rice, pasta, lentils, tinned tomatoes, sweet corn, chickpeas, lentils, beans, sweet and savoury biscuits, cordial, Christmas cake, mince pies, chocolates, sweets, tinned and dried fruit, tooth paste and brushes, soap, sanitiser, soap, hand lotion, toothbrushes and paste, deodorant, sunscreen.

An initiative of the Social Justice and Mission Group



2020 WAVERLEY HELPMATES CHRISTMAS TREE DRIVE

Our parish has been a loyal supporter of this fundraiser for several years. The Helpmates do a marvellous job mowing our lawns every fortnight. Please consider purchasing your tree from the Waverley Helpmates this year.

The trees are available for Pick-up or Delivery -- on Fri 27th Nov or Fri 11th December.

12- 14 Mavron Street, Ashwood. 3147.

Ring 9807 1155 for details on prices.

or go to www.waverleyhelpmates.org.au and click on ' News'.



Waverley Helpmates is a not-for-profit, Supported Employment & Training Program for people with disabilities. They have been providing affordable lawn mowing, ironing and cleaning to the community and body corporates for over 3 decades and are a registered NDIS provider.

Mothers' Union Next Meeting

After months of meeting via email and on line, MU will meet on Monday November 30th at 2pm at Jells Park.

We will be having afternoon tea , lots of fresh air and the joy of seeing each other face to face (wear a mask if you feel safer)

Bring your own food and drink

Please bring an item to add to the Parish Christmas food hampers for people in need.

As the weather may be warm , do not bring food that might melt such as chocolate.

Phoebe will also be selling jams, sauces and chutneys to raise money for the Parish.

If you need transport please ring Irene or Marg Taylor.



Iris Fundraiser

The multi-talented Phoebe is offering her home grown iris bulbs in mixed bags of 10 for \$10. This is a fundraiser for the Mothers' Union-supported Parenting Program in Papua New-Guinea. Due to Covid 19, we have so far been unable to send money to assist families experiencing the stresses of life in one of the poorest countries in the world. Contact Phoebe to order your bulbs for a magnificent and colourful display in your garden.



EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION NEEDED

A Christian family (a mother and two teenage girls) are requiring emergency housing for about 4 weeks in the area. If you have a room or two, or a granny flat that might be available please contact Marg Crawford

The Anglican Parish of St Stephen & St Mary Mount Waverley

383-385 High Street Road, Mt Waverley, 3149. Phone: 9807 3168

Office hours: Currently Closed

Email: parishoffice@stephenandmary.org.au Website: www.stephenandmary.org.au

'Like' us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/stephenandmary.mtwaverley

Priest

(Day off - Monday)

The Venerable Dianne Sharrock

Assistant Curate

(Tues, Wed & Thurs mornings, Fri, Sun)

The Revd Greg Wong

Children's and Families' Minister

(Tues 10.00 am - 3.00 pm, Wed 9.30 am - 2.30 pm, Sun 10.30 am - 12.30 pm)

Lisa Eames

Child Safety Compliance Officer

Elaine Fasken

Covid19 Compliance Officer

Sugan Blanchard

Music Director

Brian Copple

CE Music Coordinator

Greg Ellsmore

Treasurer

Helen Warren

Office Manager

Katherine Rushby

Churchwardens:

Graeme Dellora

John Foster

Judith Gibson

Parish Council:

Sugan Blanchard, David Bruce, Margaret Crawford, Rowena Ferguson, Jennifer Gracie, Nathan Kelly, Frances Ludgate, Sherredan Maher, Helen Warren.

Pastoral Care Ministry:

Aged Care Chaplaincies:

Hospital Visiting:

Clergy

Funeral Ministry:

The Vicar

Contemporary Eucharist Contact:

Rowena Ferguson

Spiritual Directors:

Cath Connelly

Val Dyke

Prayer Chain contact

Margaret Syfret

SERVICE: Sunday 9.45 am