

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST STEPHEN AND ST MARY

MOUNT WAVERLEY

WELCOME



**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**20 December 2020**

## *Christmas Services*

### **Christmas Eve 24th Dec**

10.00am Final Advent Service - in person

5.00pm Family service - in person and live-streamed

11.00pm Midnight Mass - in person and live-streamed

### **Christmas Day 25th Dec**

9.00am - in person only

No need to book in, just come! Bring a mask - you need to wear it to sing.

**Sunday Dec 27th - 9.45 am** - in person only

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:

Gracious God,  
whose eternal Word took flesh among us  
when Mary placed her life at the service of your will:  
prepare our hearts for his coming again  
and keep us steadfast in hope,  
that we may be ready for the coming of his kingdom;  
for his sake, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

9.00 am (Sung Eucharist)

Preaching & Presiding:

Revd Derek

Liturgy Setting:

Missa Emmanuel

Processional:

**'A Wife So Long Childless' (Tune: 287)**

Sentence:

This child will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.

First Reading:

Romans 16: 25-27

Gospel Acclamation:



Text © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL. All rights reserved. Used with permission.  
Music: Owen Alstott, © 1977, 1990, OCP. All rights reserved.

Gospel:

Luke 1.26-38

Offertory:

**TIS 497 'Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence' Vs 1, 2, 4**

Choir Anthem:

The Angel Gabriel (Basque Carol)

Composer: Richard Shepherd

Recessional Hymn:

**TIS 276 'There's A Light Upon The Mountains' v. 1,3,4**

All music is reproduced with permission under ONE LICENSE A-604739, SJMP or CCLI # 569473

mainly music

resumes Wednesday 3rd February 2021  
10.30 am in person.

**Kids' Church**

restarts in person on 31st January 2021.  
Activity packs are available in the Narthex.

First Reading: Romans 16: 25-27

25 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 26 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— 27 to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

Gospel Reading: Luke 1.26-38

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, 27 to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of **David. The virgin's name was Mary.** 28 And he came to her and said, '**Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.**' 29 But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. 30 The angel said to her, '**Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God.** 31 And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32 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. 33 He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' 34 **Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?'** 35 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.** 36 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. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God.' 38 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.

## THANK YOU

We had a wonderful response to the Special Christmas Appeal for the Monash Waverley CIS and Asylum Seekers Centre. Approximately 50 boxes including individual hampers of various shapes and sizes have now been delivered. The two organisations were most appreciative of your generosity.

They will certainly bring some Christmas Cheer to many people who have been doing it tough throughout this year.

Thank you again from the Social Justice and Mission Group



### Afternoon Meditation Gatherings

1st Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm in the Chapel, based on Ignatian Spirituality. A Sacred Space where you can find rest and stillness, listen and centre yourself. Spiritual food is offered to aid reflection and meditation. Contact Val Dyke. Next session will be on 6th January 2020.

### Evening Meditation Gatherings

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month meditation sessions are offered, via Zoom, in the Contemplative Traditions of Christian Meditation. The sessions start at 7.30pm but you can enter into the gathering after 7.15pm. Interested parishioners can contact Michael Mosley for more information. The next session will be on Thursday 28th January.

## From Your Vicar

Annunciation stories that we have just heard are a regular literary form. There are a number of such stories in the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament), for example the birth of Isaac, Samson and Samuel, and of course, Luke has already recorded the annunciation of John the Baptist. The purpose of the annunciation story is to let the reader know what role that person whose birth is announced will play in salvation history. In this sense, they are a device rather than a strictly historical narration, although clearly based on ancient memory.

In the annunciation of the birth of Jesus, however, there are elements that surpass all other annunciation stories. **The emphasis is on the creative action of the Holy Spirit, Mary's cooperation with God's will, and it establishes Jesus' transcendental origins.** The role that the child to be born is to play in salvation history is defined in terms of Davidic messiahship and in this last Sunday of Advent we stand on the brink of the fulfilment of the promise made to Mary of messianic hope for the world. The tension of the waiting of Advent is almost over.

Pax (peace)

Dianne

Office Closed 23rd December until 12th January 2021

Due to staff being on Annual Leave, the Office will be closed from 23rd December 2020 until 12th January 2021. There will be no pew leaflet on Sunday 3rd January and Sunday 10th January.

Service Booklets will be available. The service on January 3rd will be at 10.00am in church and also live-streamed. On January 10th the service will again be at 10.00 am in church and will also be live-streamed.

### Fourth Sunday of Advent



## Finding strength in love after fleeing Syria

Life was already tough for Syrian refugees living in Jordan. And now, the economic crisis unfolding as a result of the coronavirus has made the situation even worse. This Christmas your gifts will help refugees in Jordan to stay safe through the pandemic. Your kindness will translate into lifesaving food rations, hygiene kits and medical care. What a wonderful way to share God's love. **Please give today.**



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



PROCESSIONAL HYMN  
'A Wife So Long Childless' (Tune: 287)

1. A wife so long childless,  
a girl still unwed,  
two kinswomen facing  
the journey ahead  
two mothers in waiting,  
each bearing a boy,  
two infants, two secrets,  
one promise of joy.
2. When Mary set foot in  
**Elizabeth's home,**  
her greeting was heard by  
the child in the womb.  
When John, with a leap,  
showed he knew who was there,  
his mother gave voice  
to her Spirit-filled prayer:
3. **"O blessed among women,**  
O blessed is your child,  
O blessed those believing  
**God's word is fulfilled."**  
And blessed the encounter,  
the hopeful embrace,  
the speech in the Spirit  
of women of grace.

Words: Elizabeth J. Smith

OFFERTORY HYMN  
TIS 497 Vs 1, 2, 4  
'Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence'

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence  
and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly-minded,  
for the blessing in his hand  
Christ our God to earth descending  
comes full homage to demand.
2. King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
as of old on earth he stood,

Lord of lords, in human vesture,  
in the body and the blood,  
he will give to all the faithful  
his own self for heavenly food.

3. At his feet the six-winged seraphs,  
cherubim with sleepless eye,  
veil their faces to the presence,  
as with ceaseless voice they cry,  
alleluia, alleluia,  
alleluia, Lord most high!

From the Liturgy of St James c.4th cent.  
tr. Gerald Moultrie 1829-85 alt.

CHOIR ANTHEM  
The Angel Gabriel (Basque Carol)

1. The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as  
flame;  
All hail, said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,  
most highly favoured lady," Gloria!
2. "For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be,  
all generations laud and honour thee,  
thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers fore-  
told,  
most highly favoured lady, Gloria!"
3. Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her  
head,  
to me be as it pleaseth God, she said,  
my soul shall laud and magnify his holy  
Name.  
Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!
4. Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born  
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,  
and Christian folk throughout the world will  
ever say --  
Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!

Composer: Richard Shepherd

RECESSIONAL HYMN

TIS 276 vv. 1,3,4

'There's A Light Upon The Mountains'

1. **There's a light upon the mountains, and**  
the day is at the spring  
when our eyes shall see the beauty and  
the glory of the King;  
weary was our heart with waiting, and the  
night-watch seemed so long,  
but his triumph day is breaking, and we hail  
it with a song.
2. He is breaking down the barriers, he is  
casting up the way,  
he is calling for his angels to build up the  
gated of day:  
but his angels here are human, not the  
shining hosts above;  
for the drum-beats of his army are the  
heart-beats of our love.
3. Hark, we hear a distant music, and it  
comes with fuller swell –  
the great triumph song of Jesus, of our  
King, Immanuel:  
Zion, go you forth to meet him: and, my  
soul, be swift to bring  
all your finest and your dearest for the  
triumph of our King!

Henry Burton 1840-1930 alt.

*Roster*

Christmas Eve 24 December 5pm

Welcomers Christine Mallouhi  
David Sharrock

Christmas Eve 24 December 11pm

Isaiah 9: 2 – 7 Irene Donohoue Clyne

Titus 2: 11 – 14 Ron Ritchie

Luke 2: 1 – 14

Intercessor Val Dyke  
Welcomers Nima Flora  
Shanti Lieversz

Christmas Day 25 December 9am

Isaiah 62:6 – 12 Elaine Fasken

Titus 3: 4 – 8a Sue Retschko

Luke 2: 1 – 14

Intercessor Revd Greg  
Welcomers Brian & Jill de Lacy

Sunday 27 December First Sunday after  
Christmas

Galatians 4: 4 – 7 John Russell

Luke 2: 22 – 40

Intercessor Graham Dellora

3 things from Parish Council

- The streaming of services via Zoom will be continued after a one week break on 27 December.
- It has been decided to change to the Victorian State Government QR Code for registration of parishioners who enter the Church.
- The Church is now fully compliant with the Diocesan OH&S policy and the Australian Standards.

# WHAT IS YOUR FESTIVE FOOTPRINT?

**EXPERTS REPORT UP TO A 50% INCREASE IN HOUSEHOLD WASTE DURING THE FESTIVE SEASON.**

Be mindful of the environment and think about how you are going to dispose of waste and packaging when choosing and buying food, gifts, toys and household items.

## FOOD

Think about how many people you are expecting to feed. Create a food plan that includes what you can do with leftovers.



## GIFTS

Opt for eco-friendly gifts where possible. Use wrapping that has already served a purpose like gift bags, boxes, pillowcases, and recovered wrapping paper. Food gifts could be wrapped in a tea towel. Avoid using sticky tape, glitter and foil sheets.



## WASTE

Avoid excess packaging and recycle what you can. Think about re-gifting unwanted items or donating them to charity.



**Please consider your 'Festive Footprint' this Christmas and help to keep our Planet in good shape**

**SOCIAL JUSTICE AND MISSION GROUP 2020**



# The Anglican Parish of St Stephen & St Mary Mount Waverley

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

Office hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9.30am - 2.30pm

Email: [parishoffice@stephenandmary.org.au](mailto:parishoffice@stephenandmary.org.au) Website: [www.stephenandmary.org.au](http://www.stephenandmary.org.au)

'Like' us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stephenandmary.mtwaverley](http://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

## Treasurer

Helen Warren

## Office Manager

Katherine Rushby

## Churchwardens:

Graeme Dellora

John Foster

Sue Retschko

## Parish Council:

Sugan Blanchard, David Bruce, Margaret Crawford, Rowena Ferguson, Judith Gibson, Jennifer Gracie, Nathan Kelly, Sherredan Maher, Helen Warren, Joan West

## Pastoral Care Ministry:

*Hospital Visiting:*

Clergy

*Funeral Ministry:*

The Vicar

*Contemporary Eucharist Contact:*

Rowena Ferguson

**Spiritual Directors:** Cath Connelly

Val Dyke

**Prayer Chain contact** Margaret Syfret

**SERVICES:** Sunday 9.45 am  
Thursday 10.00 am

Tamil Christian Church services  
January - 4th Sunday from 3pm

Joyriver Chinese Church  
Saturdays from 3pm