

Welcome to St Philip's

The Anglican Church of St Philip's O'Connor, Canberra, ACT, Australia
We are delighted you are here (especially visitors on the web!)

Visitors are welcome to receive Holy Communion
Services on Sunday: Holy Communion 8am and 10am. Wednesday 10am

[Advent Calendar Newsletters](#) | [CAMRA](#) | [Parish Council September notes](#) |

Sunday 5th December 2004 Advent Two



Give Courage!
Give Hope!
Give Peace!

Give to the Christmas Bowl
Freecall: 1800 025 101 Web: www.ncca.org.au

8.00am and 10am Holy Communion APBA p119

Readings:

- Isaiah 11:1-10
- Psalm 72:1-7, 18-21
- Romans 15:4-13

- Matthew 3:1-12

Hymns at 10am: Together in Song 276, 294, 289 (v 1, 2 and chorus at candle lighting), 282 (tune 411), 283
Organist: Colin Forbes

Food for food parcels may be placed in the basket! With thanks! Extras for Christmas gratefully received!

From Rob

Hi Everyone,

We are really on the downhill run to Christmas when we hear that Westfield Belconnen will be open for 32 hours straight at one stage in the lead up to Christmas! What does this say about our need to have all the toys, gifts, decorations, food, wine and drink and Christmas trimmings? Where have we gone wrong? Our whole way of life appears to be built upon this mad cycle of buying and selling, and as we have been reminded recently our dependence on credit and debt! Surely we as Christians have something to say amidst the expectation to spend and to have more and more. In the midst of Advent as we prepare for Christmas we are asked to reflect on those whose needs are greater than ours.

The Christmas Bowl Appeal draws our attention this week to the indiscriminate killing of civilians by military forces in the Philippines and to the needs of the many who are refugees from the conflict in Southern Sudan. It is a conflict which has been going on for about 25 years with numerous promises of peace agreements and ceasefires but which have lead to nothing.

Today's story is about Asunta who at twenty eight has had more than a fair share of struggle and suffering. She says

"I am here in Kenya because of disease and hunger all caused by the war. We have no seeds for agriculture or tools for farming. There are no hospitals or schools in our area It has taken me just over two months to get here, me and my seven children. My milk has dried up because we have not enough food. My little baby is starving and may die."

"My husband was recently killed in the fighting. He was a wonderful

man, gifted by God; but now he is gone. We have to walk carefully at night. If the government forces see a group of people walking towards Kenya, they bomb us. This is a most fearful thing for a mother."

"We Christians of the southern Sudan need the help of the Christmas Bowl. Even if you refuse to give us any thing, please listen to us. Please listen to our story and share our suffering. Please pray for us."

"I worry about my baby. Each night I ask myself: Will she wake up tomorrow? Why are the Arabs doing this to us? And why is the world letting it happen?"

Our reading today from Isaiah shows his hope for a new king "a shoot from the stump of Jesse" one from the lineage of David (Jesse is David's father) and will rule with "the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord." Harmony and peace are emphasized by Isaiah and in the reading from Romans. In the gospel John seems to be very provocative and confronting as he announces the nearness of the kingdom of heaven. His whole message is about the need for real and genuine change in preparation for the ministry of the one who is coming! This is why we hear so much about justice as we prepare for the celebration of the Lord's birth.

Rob Lamerton

NOTICES

FUNDS FOR MISSION PROJECTS

Pre show drinks & suppers for the season of "The Sorcerer" has raised \$1000. We plan to purchase a small refrigerator for the church and the balance will be for the Parish Mission Projects. Thanks to all our servers/helpers: Shane, Tim, Sarah, Margaret, Rosemary, Alison, Rob & James.

Thanks to Pat Forbes, Denise Manley and Shane Woodburn for organizing the Advent Dinner on Friday evening!

Angels.

Angels are available for those who would like to purchase them.

Prices are: Pens \$4 and Angels \$2

These are the last available!

THE ADVENT CANDLE

Today we light the second purple candle of the Advent Wreath! Although I normally ask families with young children to light the candle. I have asked Washington and Catherine to do so today and to tell us about their family back in Kenya. They have five children: Rebecca, Anne, Debra, Zedekiah (Zeddy) and Isaac. Washington and Catherine also care for a niece and nephew Lucy and Yunis following the death of Catherine's sister.

Thanks be to God for a large family to help with their care!

CAMP PELICAN

Camp Pelican has been the Diocesan Youth Camping program since 1979.

Each year over the Christmas holidays at Tathra four week long camps are held for young people in Years 516, 718, 9/10 and 11/12 plus.

This year the Year 516 camp begins on 26th Dec with Kathryn Ranger (Director) and Dimitri Markotsis as part of the leadership team.

The teams are to be commissioned tonight at St James Kippax.

If you know anybody interested or who we could assist to attend a camp please let me know!

STAMPS

All Christmas Card stamps can be deposited in the box in the porch to raise funds for Anglican Board of Mission (ABM).

TREES LOPPED

For safety reasons we have had the trees around St Philip's trimmed and dead trees removed.

WE PRAY FOR:

The many suffering and those still held hostage in Iraq.

Those in need of healing: Glad Williams, Ian Wright, Guy Lucas, Glen Burns, Juan Sillano, Belinda Ketley, Shirley Barrett, Eric Mahoney, Linda Kennedy, Bryan Little, Ruth Horn, Sarena, Merv McInnes, Paul Mitchell, Mira Barratt, Jutaro Murase.

The departed: Andrew, apostle and martyr; Frances Perry, founder of the Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne

TODAY'S ROSTER:

Readers 8am: 1st Devin Combs Bowles 2nd John Girdlestone

10am: 1st Beryl Holder 2nd Joyce Webster

Sidespersons:

8am: John Girdlestone

10am: Chris Cheah and Roger Sharp

Morning Tea 10am: Dimitri and helpers

THIS WEEK

Monday: Rob's day off

Tuesday-Friday: 8am: Morning Prayer 5pm: Evening Prayer

Tuesday: 10.30am Holy Communion @ Kankinya

Wednesday: 10am Holy Communion

7-30pm Parish Council Meeting at the Rectory

Thursday: 6.00pm Meal and Study Group

Friday: 10.00am -1.00pm Pandora's Open

Saturday: 10.00am -1.00pm Pandora's Open

SUNDAY 12th December 2004
ADVENT THREE

8am and 10am Holy Communion

Readings:

- Isaiah 35:1-10
- *for the Psalm* Song of Mary p31
- Romans 5:7-10
- Matthew 11:2-11

Rosters:

Cleaning: Washington Oloo

Flowers: Colleen Rischbieth

Readers

8am: 1st Elizabeth Allinson 2nd Rhonda Evans

10am: 1st Sarah Gowty 2nd Jean Pound

Sidespersons:

8am: John Cunliffe

10am: Leighton Mann and Hardy Palethorpe

Morning Tea 10am: Dimitri and helpers

Weekly Offering Required \$1565
Offerings banked 30/11/04 - Envelopes and Loose \$609.24, EFT \$345
Christmas Bowl \$40, Anglicare Angels \$12 Pandora's \$115.50

Food for food parcels may be placed in the basket. With thanks!

Please take a pewsheet home and pass one on to someone else.

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