

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](#) |
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Sunday 12th December 2004
Advent Three



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

Hymns at 10am: Together in Song 121, 184, 289 (v 1, 2 and 3 and chorus at candle lighting), 692, 447

Organist: Colin Forbes

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

Flowers are given today to remember Peter Blaseotto (d. 10/12/03) and Joseph Heaton (d. 31/12/88)

From Rob

Hi Everyone,

After neglecting to make note of Linda Anchell (Deacon), our preacher last week, I should acknowledge Chris Cheah our preacher this week! Chris has chosen some un-traditional hymns for this Third Sunday of Advent however they all have the Advent themes very much woven through them. Through Advent we will hear of the Advent themes of preparedness and expectancy, hope peace, love and joy from our various speakers. The Rev'd Jeannette McHugh is our speaker for Advent 4. Thanks also to Jeannette who is presiding at the Eucharist at Calvary Hospital with the St Philip's Team on the first Sunday of each month.

Each week in Advent we have been reflecting on the Christmas Bowl Appeal and the way in which it gives courage hope and peace. However this week I was very very much moved by the article from the [Ahli Arab Hospital](#) in Gaza which I have reprinted on the Advent Prayer sheet. I would put it in the "When you think you are having a hard time" department. Is it any wonder people turn to terrorism or total despair when we read such news and yet they ask us to pray for the peace Jesus came to give then close with a Christmas Blessing. Such faith and hope in the darkness is what Christmas is

surely about!

Isaiah records the joy of the return of God's people and the evidence among them of healing and newness while James counsels patience. Surely joy should be tempered with patience! Jesus asks his questioners what do they see happening and they see the healing and newness of God at work in him. This what we rejoice in, wait for, hope for!

Rob Lamerton

NOTICES

Christmas Flowers – Donations are needed of predominantly white and yellows for arranging on Friday 24th Dec. Donations of Holly are also needed!

Rosters Rosters and more Rosters!

The Morning Tea Roster will be having a break in January! A new roster for 2005 is being drawn up as we speak! Please contact Ryanna Tarlington on 62472008. The more helpers the less often you work!

The Cleaning Roster is being drawn up for 2005! Please contact JanineStudholme on 62415894 to be sure of the best places! Please remember that volunteer cleaners save the parish about \$2000 per year.

Servers in the Sanctuary! More are needed! This is not limited to any age group so please if you have wondered about this vital ministry in our worship please talk to me as soon as possible.

**St Philip's Carols Service
Sunday 19 December 7-30pm**

Anglicare also has a Christmas Appeal and promotion with Anglicare Angels.

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

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

These are the last available!

Zara Mann is one year old! Happy Birthday Zara! I believe we are having a small celebration after church today.

NORTHBOURNE COMMUNITY CENTRE CHRISTMAS PARTY

To enable Robin Moore to make the Northbourne Community Centre Christmas celebration a special occasion, we need gifts of money and light fruit cakes. Please mark your donation "Northbourne CC Christmas Party."

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 5/6, 7/8, 9/10, and 11/12 plus.

This year, the Year 5/6 camp begins on 27th December with Kathryn Rainger (Director) and Dimitri Markotsis as part of the leadership team.

STAMPS

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

LETTER BOX DELIVERERS NEEDED!!

To deliver our Christmas leaflets in the O'Connor area. Leaflets and maps are available in the porch. The leaflets need to go out this week to let people know about the Service of Carols and Readings next week!

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: Peter Blaseotto (d.10/12/03); Joseph Horace Heaton (d.3/12/88); Nicholas of Myra, bishop and philanthropist; Ambrose of Milan, bishop and teacher; Richard Baxter, pastor and spiritual writer.

TODAY'S ROSTER:

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

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 19th December 2004
ADVENT FOUR

8am and 10am Holy Communion

7-30pm Carol Service (Carols and Readings)

Readings:

- Isaiah 7:10-16
- Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
- Romans 1:1-7
- Matthew 1:18-25

Rosters:

Cleaning: Barbara Dowley

Flowers: Sandra Lamerton

Readers

8am: 1st Mark Boyle 2nd Carola Parke

10am: 1st Ann Munro 2nd Washington Oloo

Sidespersons:

8am: Clive Lowes

10am: Grace Barnes and Peter Andersson

Morning Tea 10am: Rhyana and Amanda

Weekly Offering Required \$1565

Offerings banked 7/11/04 - Envelopes and Loose \$854.40, EFT \$345

Christmas Bowl \$70, Anglicare Angels \$11, Pandora's \$186.50, Church hire and photocopying (The Sorcerer) \$630, Parish Mission Projects (The Sorcerer's suppers and Advent Dinner) \$896.40

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

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

Interview with Ms. Suhaila Tarazi, Director
Ahli Arab Hospital, Gaza
December 4, 2004

Today the situation is critical. There is so much uncertainty about the upcoming elections, and the siege continues to take place. There are

concerns about personal security and we are living in a chaotic situation. We need to push for negotiations to continue, and for peace. We need this push for peace because there is too much suffering here and most people have lost hope. We are afraid of the continuation of such suffering, that it will lead to violence, and that Gaza will explode again - and this time it will not end.

Nevertheless, Ahli Arab Hospital is still active and doing our best to reach those in need. We have outreach clinics nearly every week, and are targeting new areas with new missions. There are still hundreds that we are unable to reach due to a shortage of funds. We are grateful to all who have support this project, and have participated in putting a smile on the face of so many ill Gazans. We have expanded the surgical services in the hospital, especially in the area of urology, and we hope to expand this work even more in 2005.

During the October incursion of the Israeli military into north Gaza, one of our hospital members lost her home. Ezzia and her family are refugees, and had just moved into a new home in Jabaliya, only moved in six months before. They are still paying on their debts for their home and had done nothing. This home, along with ten others, was in the way of the route the tanks decided to follow, abandoning the roads in the process. They were unable to get anything out; no personal papers, jewelry, or anything. The bulldozer began to demolish the balcony while they were still inside, and one daughter was in the shower. Ezzia and her husband escaped with only their six children. Her husband has been ill with a brain tumor as well, and does not move quickly. Ezzia works as a nursing assistant at the hospital and is the only one to support the family. One of her children was shot in the neck during the incursion and was treated at Ahli Arab Hospital, and fortunately does not have any permanent damage. Prior to the demolition of their home, her nephew had been killed a few days before.

The adolescent child of another staff member went to go help his friend, who has been shot by an Israeli sniper during the October incursion, and was killed himself. He was seventeen. His father has experienced such psychological trauma, that he has not been able to return to work. He works to save the lives of others, but was not able to save the life of his child.

Ahli Arab Hospital is a small family, and we have suffered so much, just from the October invasion of Jabaliya Camp. Imagine how many others have suffered? Please ask all peace lovers to pray for the people of Palestine. Jesus come to give us peace. Palestine is the hometown of Jesus, and he talked about peace. He was crucified for

this. We ask you to pray, and to talk about our suffering, and to work to help us achieve peace.

We convey our Christmas greetings to all our friends, all over the world. May the blessing of Christmas be with you now and forever.

For further information and additional digital photos, please contact:

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Wardens: Chris Cheah, Janine Studholme, Devin Combs Bowles

CHRISTMAS

- Sunday 19 December 7.30 pm St Philip's Service of Carols and Readings.
- Friday 24th December: **Christmas Eve**
 - 7pm Children's Service
 - 11pm Carols
 - 11.30pm Sung Eucharist: "Midnight Mass"
- Saturday 25th December: **Christmas Day**
 - 9am Holy Communion
- Sunday 26th December (St Stephen)
 - 8am Holy Communion
 - 10am Family Holy Communion

This web site is designed and maintained by Linda Anchell. lindafrd@pcug.org.au