

THIS WEEK

Monday 8.30am: Morning Prayer
5.00pm: Evening Prayer
Monday **Christmas Eve services:**
7pm Children's service
11pm Carols
11.30pm Midnight Mass
Tuesday **Christmas Day:**
9am Holy Communion
Wednesday NO Wednesday Communion this week
Friday RECTOR'S DAY OFF
10am-1pm: Pandora's CLOSED
Saturday 10am-1pm: Pandora's CLOSED

NEXT SUNDAY

Readings: Isaiah 63: 7-9 Psalm 148 Hebrews 2: 10-18 Matthew 2: 13-23
Rosters: Cleaning: Volunteer
Flowers: Val Reeves
8am: Sidespeople: volunteer
Reader: Clive Lowes
10am: Sidespeople: Grace Barnes & Hardy Palethorpe
Readers: 1st Doug Bannerman, 2nd Ann Morris Bannerman
Communion Servers: Denise & volunteer
Morning Tea: Roster resumes in February

Pandora's income from 14 & 15 Dec \$239
Reserved for future development of the Parish & Pandora's

Welcome to St Philip's

Sunday 23 December 2007
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8am Eucharist

10am Eucharist

The service begins on page 119 of the Green prayer book

Readings:

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

10am Hymns: *Together in Song* 275, 286 v.1-4 (candle lighting), 497, 326, 316

Visitors are welcome to receive Holy Communion. At 10.00am Communion bread is administered first, then the small cup for intinction (dipping). The two common cups for sipping follow.

***Food for food parcels may be placed in the basket! Many thanks!
ALSO Please give to the Northbourne Community Centre Christmas Party***

Rector: Rev'd Rob Lamerton

P: 61617334 F: 61617322 P.O. Box 6022 O'CONNOR, A.C.T. 2602

E. stphil@grapevine.co_m.au www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au

Hon. Priests: Rev. Doug Bannerman & Rev. Jeannette McHugh.

Hon. Deacon: Rev. Linda Anchell

Flowers today are given in thanksgiving for Peter Blaseotto.

TODAYS SERVICES

Presiding: Rev'd Rob Lamerton

Preaching: Sarah Gowty

Rosters: Flowers: Kerry-Anne Cousins
8am: Lay Minister: Stephen Billett
Sidespeople:
Reader: Shane Woodburn
10am: Deacon: Linda Anchell
Organist/Pianist: Colin Forbes
Sidespeople:
Readers:
Children's Ministry:
Communion Servers:
Morning Tea:

Greetings to all!

Welcome to Chris Cheah to deliver the address today!

So often the focus of the stories of Christmas is Mary, the mother of Jesus!

In Matthew's gospel however, the story of Jesus' birth takes the spotlight OFF Mary and paints a picture which seems to balance out the Mary/Joseph content!

Remember that it is ONLY in Luke's gospel that we read the story of the angel's appearance to Mary and all that goes with that. Neither Mark nor John's Gospel mention Mary and the story of the birth of Jesus!

So in this year of reading Matthew's gospel, we learn that there was another viewpoint in telling the story of Jesus. The gospel of Matthew is directed to the Jews, the People of Israel! Ch.1 verses 1-17 tell how Jesus is a descendant of the father of the faithful, Abraham, through the great king, David! Immediately from verse 18 we have the story about the roles of both Mary AND Joseph.

Through Ch.2 we read about the coming of the wise men from the East, the escape to Egypt and the return to Nazareth in the "district of Galilee". In all this, Joseph is seen to play a very active role in all that happens!

We so emphasize the "virgin birth" and "mother Mary" at the expense of Joseph's masculine role model in the life of Jesus! Matthew wants his people to recognize Jesus as the fulfiller of his people's history linked back to both Abraham AND David. As such he is the fulfiller of both sacred and secular, of religion and politics! As we approach Christmas, Matthew's gospel calls us to think about Jesus as human and divine, unifying God and humanity!

Rob Lamerton.

Weekly Offering/Income needed to operate our Parish \$1690 per week,
excludes rental income.

Offerings received 16 December \$1164 + EFT \$508 = \$1672 **Shortfall \$18**
CAMRA \$500 Missions \$92.20 Anglicare Christmas Cards \$300 Northbourne C. C. \$81.65

NOTICES

Northbourne Community Centre Christmas Party Monday 24th December

Please make your gift in cash to ensure the success of this event and the enjoyment of all who attend!

Readers are still required for tonight's Carols service. Please put your name on the list beside your readings!

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Today 7.30PM Readings and Carols Service

Followed by Supper in the courtyard

Monday Christmas Eve services:

7pm Children's service

11pm Carols

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Tuesday Christmas Day:

9am Holy Communion

Tears of the oppressed

"tears of the oppressed" is an organization which works for justice for Christians who are oppressed or imprisoned because of their faith. Their newsletter outlining some of their achievements in 2007 is available in the porch.

Oro Province PNG cyclone aftermath.

Further information about the situation in Oro province in PNG and the response is available at:

<http://www.abmission.org/appeals/view-appeals>

Copies are also on the notice board!

Wet suits and 'The Queen' DVD!

Have you borrowed any of these from the Lamertons???

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The World: For peace to prevail amidst the unrest in Pakistan and through elections in Kenya, that both countries may move forward.

In Australia: Pray for: The Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, Leader of the Opposition, Brendan Nelson, Members of Parliament. For policies which enable affordable housing.

The Community: Give thanks for those completing their school years and receiving UAI results. We pray for travellers and safety in all areas of travel. For police, ambulance and emergency services. Those who work in the justice system.

The Church: Diocese of Tasmania:

Those in need: Merykl Bovis, Doreen Odom, Joan Kearidge, Lynn Edwards, Janet and family, Wendy Woodbridge, Michael, Sandra Patch, Frank Faulkner, Bp. Owen Dowling, Megan Brocklehurst, Betty Lamerton, Hannah Newbold, Claude Woodbridge, Stewart Barrett, Toni O'Brien, Michael Cockayne, Tony Kildea, Jill Scott, Yoko and Jutaro Murase, Ian Wright, Merv McInnes, Mira Barratt, John Cunliffe, Joyce Braithwaite.

The Departed: Alice Isabel Saylor d.20/12/88

Ministry Teams at St Philip's

Wardens: Hardy Palethorpe, Roger Sharp, Doreen Odom

Secretary: Fiona Dyer

Treasurer: Shane Woodburn

Buildings and Maintenance: Roger Sharp

Liturgy: Rob Lamerton

Pastoral Care: Doreen Odom

Social: Hardy Palethorpe