

Next Sunday

Readings: Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11 Psalm 126
1 Thessalonians 5.12-28 John 1.6-8,19-28

Rosters: Flowers: Jeannette McHugh
8am: Bible Reader: Rhonda Evans
Sidespeople: Volunteer
10am: Liturgical Assistant: Chris Cheah
Bible Readers: 1stBrian McKinlay, 2ndJack Adams
Sidespeople: Louise McKay & Leighton Mann
Chalice Servers: Ruth McGorman-Mann & Hardy Palethorpe
Morning Tea: St Philip's children

St Philip's Diary

Parish Council @ the Rectory Wednesday 14 December, 7.30pm

Special Eucharist & Brunch Sunday 18 December, 10am

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Dedication & 30th anniversary of the Consecration of St Philip's Church building. Bishop Stuart Preaching & Presiding.
This will be a combined Dinka & English service.

We are seeking people to contribute food for the Brunch, if you can supply some finger food e.g. Mini quiches, pastries, sausage rolls, fruit platter, cheese platter, savoury muffins, scones, etc., then please let Denise Manley know today or email leighton.ruth@grapevine.com.au

St Philip's Carol Service Wednesday 21 December, 7.30pm

The Christmas story celebrated with Bible readings, choir pieces and carols sung by everyone. *Please bring a plate of Christmas food to share for supper.*

Christmas Eve Saturday 24 December

Children's service 6.00pm

It will be a short service with some carol singing and the telling of the nativity story. The service has an emphasis on story telling in a focused and peaceful way. It invites the listeners to use their imagination. *Bring a plate to share afterwards*

Carol Singing 11pm

Holy Communion (Midnight Mass) 11.30pm

Christmas Day Sunday 25 December

Holy Communion 9.00am

New Years Eve Party Saturday 31 December, from 8pm

You are welcome to the party of the year: Chris, Roger, Leighton, Ruth & Zara's New Years Eve Party. At Chris & Roger's home 139/15 Coranderrk St, Canberra City. VIP guest – Sarah Gowty! *Please bring a plate of food to share, your swimmers/bathers if you want a dip.* Come and have some fun with a cocktail or two!! RSVP to leighton.ruth@grapevine.com.au

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

P. 6161 7334 M. 0450 960089 P.O. Box 6022 O'CONNOR, A.C.T. 2602

Rector: Rev'd Rebecca Newland

Dinka Language Congregation Leader: Daniel Duot Deng

Hon. Deacons: Rev'd Linda Anchell & Rev'd Robin Moore (St Philip's Care)

Hon. Associate Priests: Rev'd Steve Clarke (Director of Mission & Justice, Anglicare) & Rev'd Jeannette McHugh



St Philip's Come & See

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 4 DECEMBER 2011

8am & 10am: English language Eucharist

1pm: Dinka language Service

Readings: Isaiah 40.1-11 2Peter 3.8-15 Mark 1.1-8

Candle Liturgy

Today we relight the candle of HOPE.

Now we light the candle for the second Sunday in Advent. This is the candle of PEACE.

As we prepare for the coming of Jesus, we remember that Jesus is our hope and our peace.

From the prophet Isaiah: *"For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."* (Isaiah 9:6-7)

From the Gospel of John: *"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."* (John 14:27)

Let us sing: (Hymn TIS 278 refrain only)

O what a gift, what a wonderful gift!

Who can tell the wonders of the Lord?

Let us open our eyes, our ears and our hearts:

it is Christ the Lord, it is he!

Let us pray: **Gracious God, Grant that we may find peace as we prepare for our Lord's birth. May divisions in ourselves and in our families be peacefully resolved. May there be peace in our cities and in the countries of our world. Help us to see the paths of peace in our lives, and then give to us courage to follow them. Lord, let us remember that you only are the giver of lasting peace and that you are always with us. Amen.**

Items for the Pew bulletin and names for the Prayer list (add or remove), please forward to Leighton by **Thursday 12 noon.** leighton.ruth@grapevine.com.au or 61617133

10am Music:
Hymns; Together in Song: **203, 647, 270, 447**
During Communion: "He shall feed His flock/Come unto Him"
Messiah, G.F. Handel

Psalm 85.1-2,8-13

- 1 O Lord, you were gracious to your land:
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- 2 You forgave the iniquity of your people:
and covered all their sin.
- 8 I will hear what the Lord God will speak:
for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful ones, whose hearts are
turned to him.
- 9 Truly his salvation is near to those that fear him:
and his glory shall dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth are met together:
righteousness and peace have kissed each other;
- 11 Truth shall flourish out of the earth:
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The Lord will also give us all that is good:
and our land shall yield its plenty.
- 13 For righteousness shall go before him:
and tread the path before his feet.

Our Prayers

Ecumenical Cycle: Cape Verde, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal.
Pray for refugees who seek shelter and safety in The Gambia and for those who
work to meet their needs.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Western Kansas - (VII, The Episcopal Church) The Rt
Rev'd Michael Milliken

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Diocese of Ballarat: Diocesan Administrator, Bishop
Philip Huggins, Clergy and People
North Goulburn: Brad Lovegrove & Louise; Wollondilly Gardens Self Care Units;
New South Wales Police Chaplains: David Hilliard, David Ruthven, Harvey Sloane,
John Thomas, Vanessa Bennett; Goulburn Base Hospital Chaplaincy: Vanessa
Bennett and West Goulburn Parish team; Goulburn Correctional Centre: Theresa
Angert-Quilter.

Pray for: Spouses and families of clergy and lay ministers

Those in need: Meg Colwell, Pat Forbes, Michael Sawyer, Baden Williams, Claude
Woodbridge.

We remember and give thanks for: Peter David Blaseotto (d.10/12/03)

The Saints: 6th Dec Nicholas of Myra, bishop & philanthropist (d.c.342); Ambrose
of Milan, bishop & teacher (d.397);

For World AIDS Day (1st December)

We remember all whose lives are blighted by HIV and AIDS, and hold them
lovingly in our thoughts, members with us and with Jesus in the human family.
We remember too those who tend the sick and the dying, those who search for
new treatments and a cure...

O God, healer and comforter, be with all who suffer
and all who strive to end the suffering.

May your Advent hope be made real

to those who struggle with sickness and despair.

And God, when the world's griefs make us weary, help us still to care.

We ask this in the spirit of Jesus.

Cliff Reed

Today

Celebrant & Preacher: Rev'd Rebecca Newland

Rosters:	Flowers:	Ethel McInnes
8am:	Bible Reader:	John Girdlestone
	Sidespeople:	John Girdlestone
10am:	Liturgical Assistant:	
	Musicians:	Colin Forbes
	Soloist:	Madeline Rowland
	Bible Readers:	1 st Fiona Dyer, 2 nd Rebecca Palethorpe
	Sidespeople:	Chris Cheah & Roger Sharp
	Chalice Servers:	Tim Gowty & Denise Manley
	Morning Tea:	Ann Munro & Helpers please!

From our Rector

Dear Friends,

Today it is two years and two days since I became the rector of St Philip's. I have had the most wonderful time here and have found this community to be truly life giving and enriching. I sing your praises whenever I get a chance so eventually every bishop, priest and deacon in the diocese will be convinced what a marvellous church this is! One could say that I am just being blindly optimistic and positive, as I am a glass half-full sort of girl. But I have worked in other institutions and circumstances that have been quite frankly extremely trying and difficult. My ministry supervisor who sees many different ministers from many different denominations and circumstances, tells me how rare it is for a person in my position to be so consistently energised and joy-filled in their work.

So I want to thank you all for being such an extraordinary community, for being open to my leadership and willing to work with me as we live out our life together as Christ followers, people of the way. I want to thank you for your friendship, support, insight, strength, honesty, commitment and hard work. Mostly I want to thank you all for being a truly welcoming, inclusive, Spirit filled community. By Spirit filled, I mean a community of faith, hope, love and joy. I also thank God from the depths of my being for his graciousness, mercy and blessing.

As I look to the year ahead I hope we can continue to be a place of light and love. It is sometimes difficult to achieve this when we must deal with our own imperfections and the difficulties that confront the earth and all human beings yet as one of my favourite sayings goes, *"God does not ask us to succeed or be perfect, God just asks us to be faithful"*. In January I will be spending time, as I always do, prayerfully planning the year ahead and gathering with members from our vision/mission and master planning groups to determine next steps as we faithfully live out our call as Disciples of Christ.

With love and blessings, Rebecca.

This Week @ St Philip's

Monday:	St Philip's Care @ Northbourne Community Centre – including lunch
Wednesday: 10am:	English Language Holy Communion
Friday: 10am – 1pm:	Pandora's @ O'Connor – OPEN
Saturday: 10am – 1pm:	Pandora's @ O'Connor – OPEN

St Philip's Advent Calendar 2011

Visit the St Philips website (www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au) to explore the St Philip's Advent Calendar, with a page of Bible readings, poetry, music and prayer for every day in Advent.



Twilight Fair bits'n'pieces

Please check the Foyer to see if you own any of the items leftover from the Fair.

Brunch with the Bishop

Sunday 18 December, following 10am Eucharist.

We are seeking people to contribute food for the Brunch, if you can supply some finger food e.g. Mini quiches, pastries, sausage rolls, fruit platter, cheese platter, savoury muffins, scones, etc., then please let Denise Manley know today or email leighton.ruth@grapevine.com.au

New Sunday Roster in 2012

In 2012 we are introducing a new combined roster for all Sunday morning tasks. In January/February you will have the opportunity to put your name down for whatever task/s you would like to participate in.

The new Roster will include Liturgical Assistant, Sidespeople, Welcomer, Bible Readers, Communion servers and Morning Tea.

(Please note: Liturgical Assistants & Communion servers need to be licensed, if you are interested in either of these tasks please talk to Rebecca).

Anglicare Fund Raiser

International awarded blues musician Fiona Boyes (and Steve Clarke's wife) is using the Canberra launch of her new album "Blues for Hard Times" to raise money for Anglicare in the ACT.

For the past three years Fiona has been a final five nominee in the Memphis-based Blues Music Awards. She is the only Australian ever to be nominated in these awards, which are widely recognised as the Grammys of the Blues.

The CD launch will be held on **Friday 9 December**, at **Sour Cherry Cafe, City Walk Canberra City, from 6.30pm**. Fiona will be supported on the night by Allison Penney.

It should be a really fun night. Entry is \$10, while \$5 from all album sales will go to help the young people at our Walla Refuge to celebrate Christmas.

The Advent Wreath Symbols

THE CIRCLE OF THE WREATH: The eternity and endless mercy, of God, without beginning, nor end.

THE GREEN OF THE WREATH: Our hope of newness, renewal and eternal life.

LIGHT OF THE CANDLES: The Light of God that came into the world through Christ to bring newness, life and hope.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES: The progressive departure of darkness from the world as the more and more light is shed through the candles.

FOUR CANDLES: The four weeks of Advent, representing the four centuries between the time of the Prophet Malachi and the birth of Christ.

THREE COLOURED (PURPLE) CANDLES: A period of waiting, expectation and preparation.

THE FIRST CANDLE: A time of expectation and hope.

THE SECOND CANDLE: The peace that is to come.

THE PINK (OR ROSE) CANDLE FOR THE THIRD WEEK: It symbolizes joy for the promise is almost fulfilled.

THE FOURTH CANDLE: The love of God for humanity.

THE FIFTH WHITE CANDLE: Called the "Center Candle", it is lit on Christmas Eve or Day to display that the light of Christ has come into the world in fulfillment of the prophecies.



ABM REFLECTIONS

There is no doubt that John the Baptist "shakes the hell" out of his hearers in an effort to prepare them for the most important event they were going to experience: the coming of the Messiah, the re-direction of history. Today, the world waits for the final event in history albeit at times it does not know – the Second Coming of Christ. How are we, as the Church, preparing ourselves and also others for the final event?

- Pray for those people in our churches who are charged with preparing people for baptism, confirmation, marriage and ministry of the laity and ordained.
- Give thanks for the *Nippon Sei Ko Kai* (The Anglican Church in Japan), for its Archbishop, Nathaniel Uematsu, and for his clergy and people.

*Text: The Revd Vongai Mkaronda, Gender Co-ordinator for the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea
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