

Psalm 126

- 1 When the Lord turned again the fortunes of Zion:
then were we like those restored to life.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter:
and our tongue with singing.
- 3 Then said they among the heathen:
'The Lord has done great things for them.'
- 4 Truly the Lord has done great things for us:
and therefore we rejoiced.
- 5 Turn again our fortunes, O Lord:
as the streams return to the dry south.
- 6 Those who sow in tears:
shall reap with songs of joy.
- 7 They that go out weeping, bearing the seed:
shall come again in gladness, bringing their sheaves with them.

Our Prayers

Ecumenical Cycle: Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Togo. Give thanks for those who search for ways to provide clean water.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Western North Carolina - (IV, The Episcopal Church)
The Rt Rev'd Granville Taylor.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Diocese of Gippsland: Bishop John McIntyre, Clergy and People

Gungahlin: Michael Dasey, Andrew Taylor, Graham Lindsay. Burgmann Anglican School, Gungahlin: Principal, Steven Bowers; the IceBurg Café.

St Simon's, Kaleen-Giralang: Paul Wallis, John Harris, Adam Mannion.

St Paul's, Ginninderra: Doug Newman, Russell Bielenberg, Clem Watts.

St Barnabas', Charnwood: Trish Stuart-Smith, Helen Dean.

Diocesan Schools Council: Chair, Rod Sutherland; Deputy Chair, Beth Heyde; CEO, Graham Willard

Pray for: The work of Christian education in all schools, and for the continuing development of accessible schools in the Diocese.

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

We remember and give thanks for: Peter David Blaseotto (d.10/12/03); Dorothy Moore (d.12/12/84), Joseph Horace Heaton (d.13/12/88)

The Saints: Lucy, martyr & virgin (d.304); John of the Cross, mystic & teacher (d.159)

from the St Philip's Advent Calendar (thank you Brian)

God of love, Father of all,

the darkness that covered the earth

has given way to the bright dawn of your Word made flesh.

Make us a people of this light.

Keep us faithful to your Word

that we may bring your life to the waiting world.

We ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

—International Committee on English in the Liturgy

From our Rector

Dear Friends,

In our Gospel reading this Sunday we have that wonderful character John the Baptist. John comes across as a no nonsense, tell it like it is prophet who is very clear about his mission and message. One of the ways John achieves this is by knowing who he is, and who he is not. The authorities ask John a question: Who are you? John knows the answer, simply and deeply. He first knows who he isn't. I always find it fascinating to look at the Greek. In John's Gospel are all those I am sayings of Jesus – "I am the way", "I am the truth", "I am the life" to name just a few. And finally there is Jesus famous line – *ego emei* -I am. That short phrase that echoes the great I am of God in the book of Exodus. In our passage today John uses the phrase *ego ouk emei* – I am not. So throughout the Gospel we have Jesus declaring I am and John declaring I am not. John knows who he is and who he isn't. He knows he is not the messiah. Instead he is the voice, the witness. He is the one who will testify to the light. This is such an important message for those of us in the church. We have the same task as John. We must point to Jesus the Christ in all we do, not ourselves. We need to witness to Jesus the light and be a voice that helps each other see the triune God in all reality - God with us and coming to us. May the light of Christ shine in our lives this Advent.

On another very celebratory note it is with great delight that I inform you that the Rev'd Robin Moore, one of wonderful deacons here at St Philip's, has won a 2011 National Volunteer Award, in the Individual Volunteer Award category. The award was part of the federal governments National Volunteer Awards Campaign and was handed out at Volunteering ACT's International Volunteers Day celebrations. The award ceremony was held at the Albert Hall.

It is wonderful acknowledgment for many, many years dedicated and faithful ministry. Robin accepted her award was interviewed by the media and went back to the centre to feed another 80 or so people....

Robin was not the only St Philipian who received an award this week. Congratulations to Tracy Barralet who received a Canberra Youth Refugee Award, 'for Consistent high level of Commitment'! This award was presented at CIT Centre for Health, Community and Wellbeing Prize Night 2011.

I would also like to draw your attention to the notice board in the foyer of the church where there is a two-page reflection by Patricia Abbott about the 2011 synod. Patricia is one of our parish representatives and her reflection is very insightful and interesting.

Finally I hope you can be with us next Sunday, 18 December, for our 50th celebrations. Our diocesan bishop, Stuart Robinson, will be presiding and preaching and we will be joined by visitors who have had a long connection with St Philip's. Mostly it is a wonderful occasion to celebrate our history and common life together.

Peace & Blessings, Rebecca.

This Week @ St Philip's

- Monday:** St Philip's Care @ Northbourne Community Centre – including lunch
- Wednesday:** 10am: English Language Holy Communion
7.30pm: Parish Council @ the Rectory
- Friday:** 10am – 1pm: Pandora's @ O'Connor – OPEN
- Saturday:** 10am – 1pm: Pandora's @ O'Connor – OPEN

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

Left: Rev'd Robin receiving her award from Gai Brodtmann MP

Right: Rebecca & Robyn

Anglicare's annual Christmas Lights Tour is on again.

Don't waste time driving yourself around looking at Christmas lights. Take a pre-planned guided bus tour that includes a visit to The Anglicare House – a lights display dedicated to the Anglican Church's own charity. Proceeds from the Christmas Lights Tour will go Anglicare's Christmas Appeal, which this year is being split between our "older pets for older people" project and providing Christmas cheer for children in Foster Care.

The bus tour leaves St Barnabas', Charnwood at 8.15pm sharp and returns by 10.30pm. The tour is on 3 nights – Dec 15, 16 and 17. Refreshments are included. Tickets are \$18 and **PRIOR BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL**. Phone 6245 7100 and pay by credit card or go to www.anglicare.com.au and book online.

ABM REFLECTIONS

CONFIDENCE, HUMILITY AND KNOWING ONESELF ARE THE CORNERSTONE FOR DOING GOD'S MISSION. THE WORD TAKES THE FORM OF THE HUMAN – MEANING CHRIST HUMBLER HIMSELF AS GOD TO TAKE OUR NATURE. JOHN THE BAPTIST HAS NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT WHO HE IS, SIMPLY THE VOICE OF THE ONE WHO IS CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS. SO SMALL, NOT EVEN WORTHY TO UNTIE THE THINGS OF THE PERSON HE IS SUSPECTED TO BE.

- GRANT YOUR CHURCH O LORD A SENSE OF TRUE HUMBLENESS AND SELF KNOWLEDGE TO DO YOUR MISSION.
 - GIVE THANKS FOR THE *HONG KONG SHENG KUNG HUI* (THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF HONG KONG), FOR ITS ARCHBISHOP, PAUL KWONG, AND FOR HIS CLERGY AND PEOPLE.
- TEXT: THE REVD VONGAI MKARONDA, GENDER CO-ORDINATOR FOR THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA. © ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION, 2011*

Today

Celebrant:	Rev'd Rebecca Newland	Preacher:	Rev'd Linda Anchell
Rosters:	Flowers:	Jeannette McHugh	
8am:	Bible Reader:	Rhonda Evans	
	Sidespeople:	Volunteer	
10am:	Liturgical Assistant:	Chris Cheah	
	Musicians:	Colin Forbes	
	Soloist:	Tanuja Doss	
	Bible Readers:	1 st Brian McKinlay, 2 nd Jack Adams	
	Sidespeople:	Louise McKay & Leighton Mann	
	Chalice Servers:	Ruth McGorman-Mann	
	Morning Tea:	St Philip's children	

St Philip's Solar Electricity Generation

Kwh (kilowatt-hours) generated from our panels for the last 12 months: 5680Kwh
Daily average generated: 13.92Kwh per day
Income generated (feed in tariff): 5680Kwh x 45.7cents per Kwh = \$2595.76

Kwh used for last 12 months = 18547Kwh
Daily average: 50.67Kwh per day
Total gross charges last 12 months = \$2910.25

Nett electricity charges for 12 months \$314.49

Ask Fred Anchell if you have any further question & how to read the meter (yes, it is complicated).

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 in the Foyer to see you own any of the items leftover from the Fair.

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).

Bishop Stuart's Christmas Youtube message

The video is a brief Christmas message and the announcement of the new Bishops.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n-cWMuWbIZQ&feature=player_profilepage